

State and Local

Yell leaders receive praise, condemnation at symposium

By CHRIS SIGURDSON
Reporter

Complaints and compliments mixed freely as students questioned four yell leaders after a noon speech at Sully's Symposium Wednesday.

The yell leaders addressed a crowd of about 100 students and faculty members from a stand in front of the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue.

Praise for their performance at games and yell practices was interjected with condemnations for what one student termed ungentlemanly behavior in reference to the jokes told at midnight yell practices.

"I bring my mother and I don't want her to hear that," the student said. "She goes to church every week and she would be very offended by some of the things said."

Head Yell Leader Thomas Buford responded that he was not aware of many complaints, but he would consider the suggestions to tone the jokes down.

Marty Holmes, a junior yell leader, said that his mother also goes to church every week but has not been offended at the yell practices that she has attended.

"She knows that some things go on at college that don't go on in church," Holmes said.

Buford and Holmes were joined at the Lambda Sigma symposium by junior yell leader Tom Kelly and senior yell leader David Lawhorne. Barry Sowerwine, a senior yell leader, was not present.

Buford, who gave the main speech, told how he was elected and chosen for head yell leader and also discussed the activities of the yell leaders outside of their more visible duties.

He said the yell leaders, in addition to their appearances at games and yell practices, give presentations on Texas A&M, traditions and the student body to groups ranging from sororities to the Future Farmers of America.

After Buford's speech, the spectators were invited to comment and ask questions.

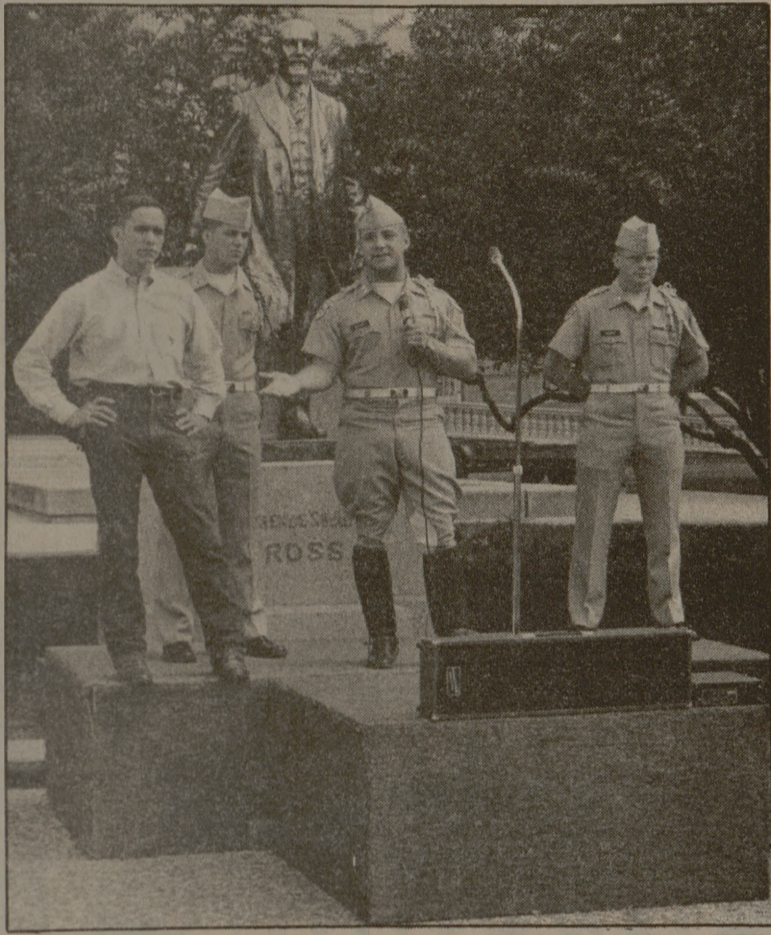


Photo by GREG BAILEY

Yell leaders David Lawhorn, Tom Kelly, Thomas Buford, and Marty Holmes speak at Wednesday's Sully Symposium.

When asked about Aggie traditions, Buford expressed concern. He said he didn't hear the "Howdy" greeting as much as he would like to and was distressed about the lack of attendance at Silver Taps.

"Silver Taps is our most important tradition," Buford said. "But after the first one, attendance drops off all the way to April."

Lawhorne, the only yell leader who is not a member of the Corps of Cadets, responded to a question about his status by saying that he doesn't feel special or different.

"We're just five Aggies working together to fire up the Twelfth Man," Lawhorne said. "The way that the student body should work together."

The audience suggested that the yell leaders stand farther from the wall during football games and that they give the spectators the signal to be quiet when the Aggie quarterback is calling signals. One woman asked the yell leaders to remind students that alcohol was not allowed in Kyle Field as she had seen some during a yell practice.

Juniors and Seniors Vets, Meds & Grads

It's your turn (OR IT'S ALMOST YOUR TURN)

Your yearbook photos will be taken from October 14 to November 1 at Yearbook Associate's studio above Campus Photo Center at Northgate.



No pictures will be taken at the Pavilion this year.