

Food director saw innovative services

Dollar retires after 22 years at A&M

By Kent Hawes
Reporter

Fred Washington Dollar, who was an instrumental force in creating and maintaining Texas A&M food services will retire Sunday after serving almost 22 years as its director.

Dollar began his career in food service as a waiter in Sbis and Duncan dining halls while he was a student in the early 1940s.

After graduating with a degree in agricultural administration, he joined the Army and served in World War II. He stayed in the Army 22 years.

Although he didn't plan to specialize in food service, the Army found a need for him in that field.

Before retiring as a lieutenant colonel, he received a telegram from Gen. Earl Rudder, a past president at A&M, asking him to direct the food service program.

He started Aug. 10, 1965 and has worked there ever since.

Dollar has been instrumental in creating programs in the food service system at A&M. In 1965, he started the student menu board, which is comprised of students who sample different brands of food and choose the one to be served.

"Though it's nice if the students choose a cheaper brand, we're more concerned with taste than cost," Dollar said.

Dollar said there have only been five styles of dining developed in the past 100 years, three of which were developed at A&M.

The "scramble," in which people go to separate stations to get different parts of their meal, and the "hol-square," in which the line for food forms a square, were the first two dining styles.

The "accordion" style, in which people get their meals at stations that close as the crowd decreases, and the "combination" style, which combines the accordion style with fast food items, were both developed at A&M.

The most recent system, "plate re-



Dietitian Cindy Zawieja, right, gives Col. and Mrs. Fred Dollar a gift in honor of his retirement.

Photo by Sarah Beth Cowan

ady," will allow people to see the entire listed overhead by use of large electronic letters.

This system, which is to be used when Duncan Dining Hall re-opens in 1988, should speed service and increase food variety for students. Dollar said he believes this system could easily become the prototype for group dining in the military and that the future holds more innovations.

"There is always more to do in the future than has been done in the past," he said.

Beautifully landscaped dining facilities and the use of panoramic 3-D television, along with automatic snack bars and limited use of robots could soon become reality, he added.

Dollar's replacement, assistant director Lloyd Smith, said he isn't

planning any major changes in the current system.

"I owe a lot to this institution," Dollar said. "It gave me my first job in the military and my second job in food service."

The university, he said, is "like good parents."

"No matter how hard you try," he said, "you just can't repay them for all they have given you."

Gramm: Reagan gives OK on 'supercollider'

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm said he learned Thursday that Reagan has decided to proceed with a \$6 billion "supercollider" to keep the United States the undisputed world leader in high-energy physics.

Texas is a prime contender among the 45 states competing to host the lucrative project, Gramm said.

Doug Elmets, chief spokesman for Energy Secretary John S. Herrington, said he could not confirm Gramm's statement. But Albert R. Brahear, a White House spokesman, said Reagan has not made a decision on funding for a supercollider.

Reagan and the Domestic Policy Council heard a plea from Herrington on Thursday to back the \$6 billion project to probe the deepest scientific secrets of matter.

The nation's physicists have eagerly been seeking such a machine for several years to explore the next layer of questions in their quest for ex-

planations of the physical world. Proponents say the machine is essential if the United States hopes to maintain the lead in physics research.

Gramm said the decision to go ahead with the program will also be a boon to modern technology in general and to the state that is picked to host the supercollider.

"The Houston Area Research Council and Texas A&M have been heavily involved in research on the superconducting supercollider, and since they have been involved, they stand a good chance of getting the project," Gramm, a former economics professor at Texas A&M, said.

"The advanced work done at HARC and Texas A&M should make Texas very competitive," Gramm said. "I will certainly work to promote that."

The supercollider would be a vast tunnel, almost circular, with a circumference of about 52 miles.

Powerful magnets would force counter-rotat-

ing beams of protons, one of the naturally occurring subatomic particles that make up the building blocks of all matter, to smash into each other with an energy of 40 trillion electron volts, more than 20 times the maximum energy of the most powerful existing accelerator.

The collisions would concentrate into a small space the energy density that some scientists believe must have existed at the moment of the "big bang" that created the universe. Out of that could come particles predicted by exotic theories of the origin of matter.

The DOE, which sponsors most accelerator research in the United States, has been spending about \$20 million a year for the past several years on planning the supercollider.

If the decision is made to go ahead, it would set off a scramble among congressional delegations to land one of the most desirable federal installations in years, with 3,000 jobs and an operating budget of about \$200 million a year.

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