



Photo by Robert W. Rizzo

### The first lady's court

Reville V joins in a yell with the seniors in the boot line at the Texas A&M football season-opener against Louisiana State University. Seniors form

the boot line at home football games during half-time between the locker room and the Aggie bench, making a path for the players.

## Man opens mail package, finds billfold after 50 years

Tattered wallet brings memories to owner

PLAINVIEW (AP) — It's almost like a letter that showed up a lifetime after it was mailed. Or a borrowed book returned decades later.

Clyde Stovall opened a package from his hometown and found a tattered billfold and a driver's license — sent to him by the proprietor of a Plainview theater in which he lost it 50 years ago.

"Oh, yes, I was surprised," says Stovall, who left Plainview as an adult to work in the Houston shipyards and later went into the grocery business in Lubbock, where he retired about a bout with cancer in 1973.

"But what really surprised me is that signature," he says. "When I saw it, it looked exactly like my writing today. I would have thought a signature would change through the years, but it's exactly the same."

"I called my family and sisters and told them about it. They wanted to come and see the billfold and everything."

It disappeared from his pocket at the Fair Theater — one of several thriving city movie houses of the 1930s. He's sure he lost the wallet while on a date at about age 16.

"I remember, just barely," he says. "I think I recall something about losing it."

"That was the first driver's license I ever had." He carried it to the shows, because he drove to them. "We had a 1931 Chevrolet at home, which they let me drive every once in

a while, usually to take on a date," he says.

But he doesn't think anyone profited from finding his wallet.

"That's very doubtful," Stovall says. "I didn't carry too much. About that time I delivered the *Herald*, charging 30 cents a week. I made about 8 cents out of each customer's charge. I had 122 people on my route."

The only other contents — a toy sheriff's badge — did bring back some memories.

"I remember I got that out of Cracker Jacks," Stovall says. "I bought Cracker Jacks at the show."

The old badge carries a pre-World War II "Made in Japan" imprint.

Stovall spent quite a few Saturday evenings at the Fair — then known as the Plainview Theater — but he spent even more time at the Granada Theater, a block down the street, where he led a band that played during intermission. Their pay was free admission to the midnight feature.

Stovall recalls that the Fair was less expensive than the Granada and sometimes had more current movies, though both were operated by the same owner.

The Granada was the more plush of the two theaters, and the theater at which he and the crowd he associated with felt most comfortable performing. Viewers could lean back and explore the ceiling, black-

ened except for tiny lights to recreate the stars and the moon, accurate down to placement of the big dipper and other constellations.

By today's standard, the Fair — though in need of refurbishing and not in use — is, perhaps, more historically significant than its sister-theater. Unlike the Granada, which has been remodeled as a twin cinema, the Fair retains the look and feel of the period, with its ornamental plaster balcony jutting out over the main seating area, its stage and orchestra pit unchanged through the years.

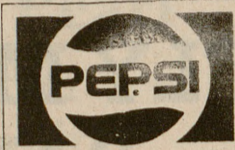
The Fair has been vacant in past months, except when workmen began repairs and found the wallet.

V.D. "Shorty" Duzan, the carpenter who found the wallet, theorized it was stolen, or found and discarded.

"I think someone must have thrown the wallet up there, maybe emptied it of money first," he says. Pointing up to the bare rafters where it lay hidden in a bed of insulation for years, Duzan says he also found a second, empty billfold nearby.

Jack Oswald, who operates Oswald Printing and Office Supply next door, recently bought the old theater from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He learned of Stovall's new address and forwarded the old wallet to him.

## DELTA CHI FALL RUSH SCHEDULE



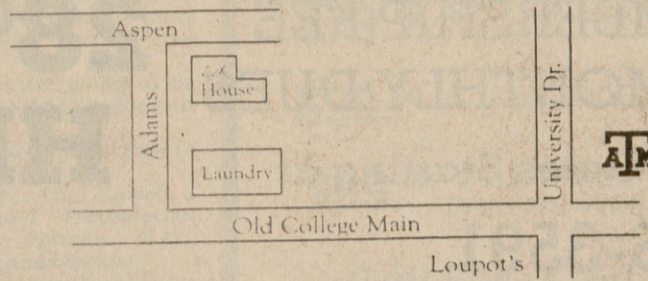
**PRIVATE PARTY AT ROCCO'S**  
Monday, September 7th, 7:30 p.m.  
(invitation only)

**DELTA CHI SMOKER**  
Thursday, September 10th, 7:00 p.m.  
(SHARP)  
at the House.  
(Coat and Tie required, invitation only)

**"SWALLOW IT WHOLE"**  
Wednesday, September 9th, 7:30 p.m.,  
Annual Seafood Party.  
At the House.

**PARTY AT LAKE SOMERVILLE w/DELTA ZETA**  
Saturday, September 12th, meet at the House at noon (invitation only).

Attire for all functions except the final smoker and the lake party is "collegiate casual".  
For more information, call the House-(409) 846-5053.




**MSC**

**CINEMA**

**GO AHEAD...**

AGGIE



**JOIN Aggie CINEMA and MAKE MY DAY!**

FIRST MEETING  
MONDAY 9/7/87  
7PM 401 RUDDER

OPEN MEMBERSHIP

## WELCOME HOME AGGIES

# 12<sup>TH</sup>

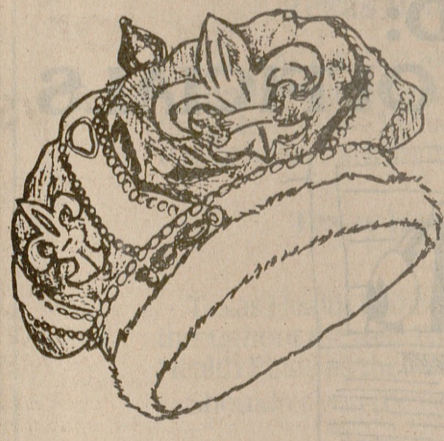
# MANN

## STUDENT CHECKING

- NO MINIMUM BALANCE.
- NO MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE.



**711 University Drive**  
College Station, Texas  
846-8751  
MEMBER FDIC



MSC ❖❖❖  
**TOWN HALL CLUB**  
PRESENTS

Pre-Yell Party!

## WITH JOE "KING" CARRASCO

**FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 18TH 8:30 p.m.**  
DeWare Fieldhouse  
Tickets \$5.50 - TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE TAMU BOX OFFICE 845-1234