

# MIDNIGHT YELL RETURNS

Season's first yell practice based on history, tradition

By Jan Higginbotham  
THE BATTALION

Midnight yell practice is one tradition that almost every Aggie knows about. The yell leaders lead a few yells and tell a fable, the War Hymn is played and then the lights go out so everyone can kiss their dates. This practice is necessary because of the tradition that says when the team scores on the field, Aggies score in the stands.

But there is more history behind the tradition than most people realize.

As early as 1913, companies in the Corps of Cadets learned and practiced yells.

The first midnight yell practice was held in 1931 before the A&M — University of Texas game. A group of cadets suggested to senior yell leaders Horsefly Berryhill and Two-Gun Herman that all the freshmen meet on the steps of the YMCA Building the night before the game to practice yells.

The yell leaders said they could not authorize the meeting, but that they might show up if all the cadets were there. Rumors soon spread about the yell practice, and a new tradition was born.

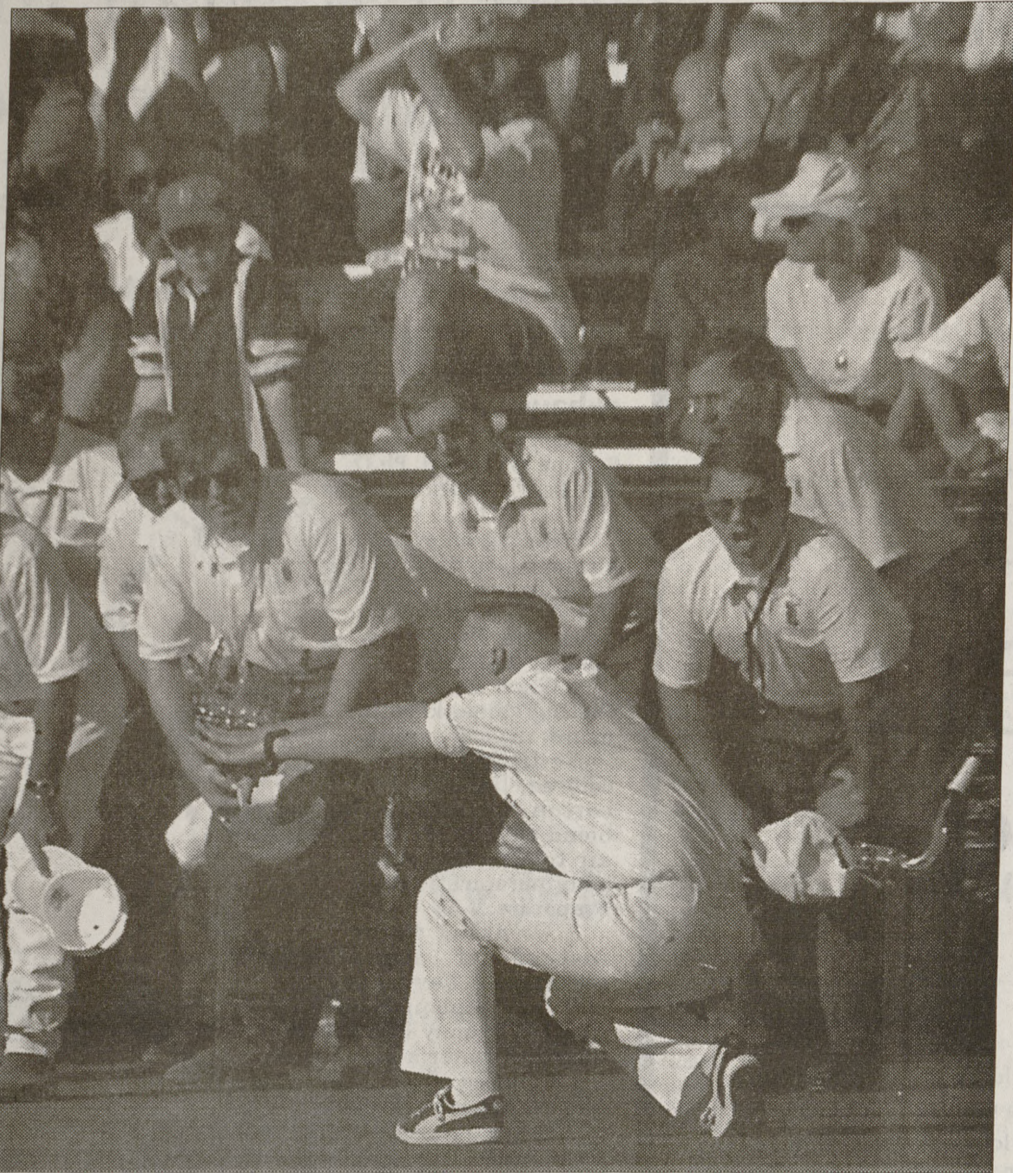
Midnight yell practice is held in the horseshoe of Kyle Field the night before a home football game. The yell leaders lead the Aggie Band and Company E-2, the company responsible for Reveille VI's care, into the stadium.

Yell practices for away football games are held at the Grove, near the intersection of Old Main Drive and Wellborn Road. Yell Practice is also held in the town of the opposing team the night before the game.

Senior Yell Leader Henry Hewes said yell practice is all about showing support for the A&M football team.

"Yell has been called the largest organized riot allowed by law," Hewes said. "We cram about 40,000 Aggies into Kyle Field to show support for the football team. We want to show them that the Twelfth Man is there for them."

Hewes said the tradition started when A&M did not have a successful football team. "It was a good-bull time for all the Ag-



Battalion File Photo

The yell leaders will lead tonight's yell practice in the horseshoe of Kyle Field.

gies," he said. "Whether we were going to win or lose, yell practice gave everyone a chance to come together to share in the Aggie Spirit."

Laurie Hearn, a senior agricultural journalism major, said yell practice has always been one of her favorite traditions.

"It is a great feeling," Hearn said. "It's

more than just a chance to practice yells and mug with your date, it's a time to really feel the Aggie Spirit."

Hewes said midnight yell practice is one way to keep all Aggies close as a group.

"What's friendlier than to bring 40,000 people together for a celebration of the Aggie Spirit?" he said.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Simon and Taylor reunite for benefit show

WEST TISBURY, Mass. (AP) — Fans of Carly Simon and James Taylor say nobody does it better. The two singers — who were divorced in 1981 — appeared onstage together Wednesday night for the first time in 16 years.

Their benefit concert on Martha's Vineyard raised \$200,000 for the local Agricultural Society's new barn.

Simon let Taylor know there were no hard feelings about their breakup, according to Sara Ed-



Simon

wards, a reporter for Boston television station WHDH who attended the concert. Cameras and working media were kept outside.

"This is how I feel about James Taylor," Simon reportedly said, breaking into a version of her hit song "Nobody Does it Better."

Fans gave the show a thumbs-up.

Simon and Taylor are long-time residents of the island, a favorite retreat of the rich and famous.

Struggle with addiction marked Garcia's death

NEW YORK (AP) — Jerry Garcia died smiling.

"It's strange to say, but he looked so peaceful," Deborah Koons Garcia wrote in the Sept. 21 issue of Rolling Stone.

"I said to the guy at the fu-

neral home, 'Look, he's smiling. Did you do that to him?' And he said, 'No, that's exactly the way I found him.' His face was so at peace."

The magazine invited Koons to write a column after Garcia died of a heart attack Aug. 9 at a drug rehabilitation clinic at age 53.

The Grateful Dead leader decided last summer to confront his heroin addiction, his widow wrote.

"It's a pain in the butt. ... I don't want to do it for the rest of my life," she quoted him as saying.

Garcia checked into the Betty Ford Clinic in late July, spent two weeks there and checked himself out, she wrote.

He then checked into Serenity Knolls near San Francisco when "he found himself drawn back, wanting to do drugs again because his body hurt so much." He died at that clinic.

Garcia had used heroin shortly before his death but hardening of the arteries killed him, a coroner said.

Slater's new arrival may be a super girl

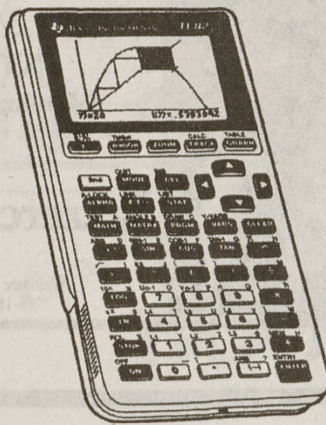
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Helen Slater's new daughter will be a super girl if she takes after her mom.

Slater, who starred in *Supergirl* and also has appeared in *Ruthless People* and *City Slickers*, gave birth to Hannah Nika Watzke on Monday.

Slater, 31, is married to filmmaker and editor Rob Watzke. She recently signed with Viacom Productions to star in a television series based on *Operating Instructions*, Anne Lamott's autobiographical account of the birth and first year of her son's life.

Hannah weighed in at 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

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* DESPERADO (R)	12:15 2:45 5:15 7:45 10:15
THE POSTMAN (PG)	12:20 3:00 5:30 7:50 10:30
* MAJIC IN THE WATER (PG)	11:45 2:15 4:45 7:25 9:45
MORTAL COMBAT (PG-13)	12:00 2:40 5:00 7:30 10:00
* BEYOND RANGOON (R)	12:30 2:50 5:20 7:50 10:20
DANGEROUS MINDS (R)	11:05 1:15 4:20 7:00 9:40
BABE THE GALLANT PIG (G)	11:25 1:50 4:00 6:30 9:15
* AMAZING PANDA ADVENTU (PG)	12:05 2:10 4:15
BABYSITTERS CLUB (PG)	7:10 9:50
A KID IN KING ARTHUR (PG)	11:15 2:30
VIRTUOSITY (R)	4:50 7:35 10:20
NINE MONTHS (PG-13)	12:00 2:15 4:45 7:40 10:25
A WALK IN THE CLOUDS (PG-13)	11:20 2:05 4:30 7:20 10:10
SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT (R)	11:25 2:00 4:25 7:00 9:40
CLUELESS (PG-13)	11:35 2:20 4:45 7:30 9:50
APOLLO 13 (PG)	11:00 1:55 4:55 7:55 10:55
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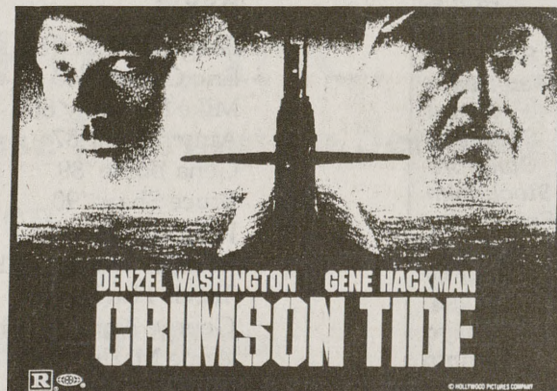
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5 - 7 p.m.	PHYS 218	CH. 1-3	CH. 4	CH. 5	PRAC TEST
7 - 9 p.m.	CHEM 101	CH. 1,2	CH. 3,4	CH. 4	PRAC TEST
9 - 11 p.m.	PHYS 201	CH. 1,2	CH. 3,4	CH. 5	PRAC TEST
11 - 1 a.m.	CHEM 102	CH. 15 A	CH. 15 B	CH. 16	PRAC TEST

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