

# Library opening marks new chapter in University's history

Former President George Bush sat with former presidents and their wives at the dedication of his presidential library yesterday, he said. "I feel like the luckiest person in the world," Bush said. "I celebrated the dedication of the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum surrounded by friends and family who helped me during my presidency. One thing is for sure, I did not lack for in-person support during those four years," he said.

Bush noted the achievements of former presidents and President Bill Clinton in leading the nation into the 21st century. Bush said he looks forward to the days ahead in his life. He said he is privileged to have been in high-level positions over the years, including the presidency. "But now that my political days are over," he said, "I can honestly say that the three most rewarding titles bestowed upon me are the three that I've got left — a husband, a father and a granddad." Former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, former first lady Nancy Reagan and Clinton spoke at the dedication, honoring the 41st President.

Reagan said Bush filled a role similar to the role she played in former President Ronald Reagan's life. "For nearly half a century, many have described me as my husband's loyal partner," Reagan said, "and I'm proud to have that title. But today, I want to tell you about his other loyal partner, George Bush." Reagan said the Thursday lunches Bush and former president Ronald Reagan had during Reagan's two-term presidency brought the two men closer together.



U.S. Army Golden Knights, with whom President Bush jumped earlier in the year, perform a parachute leap to conclude the library dedication.

PLEASE SEE **DEDICATION** ON PAGE 10.

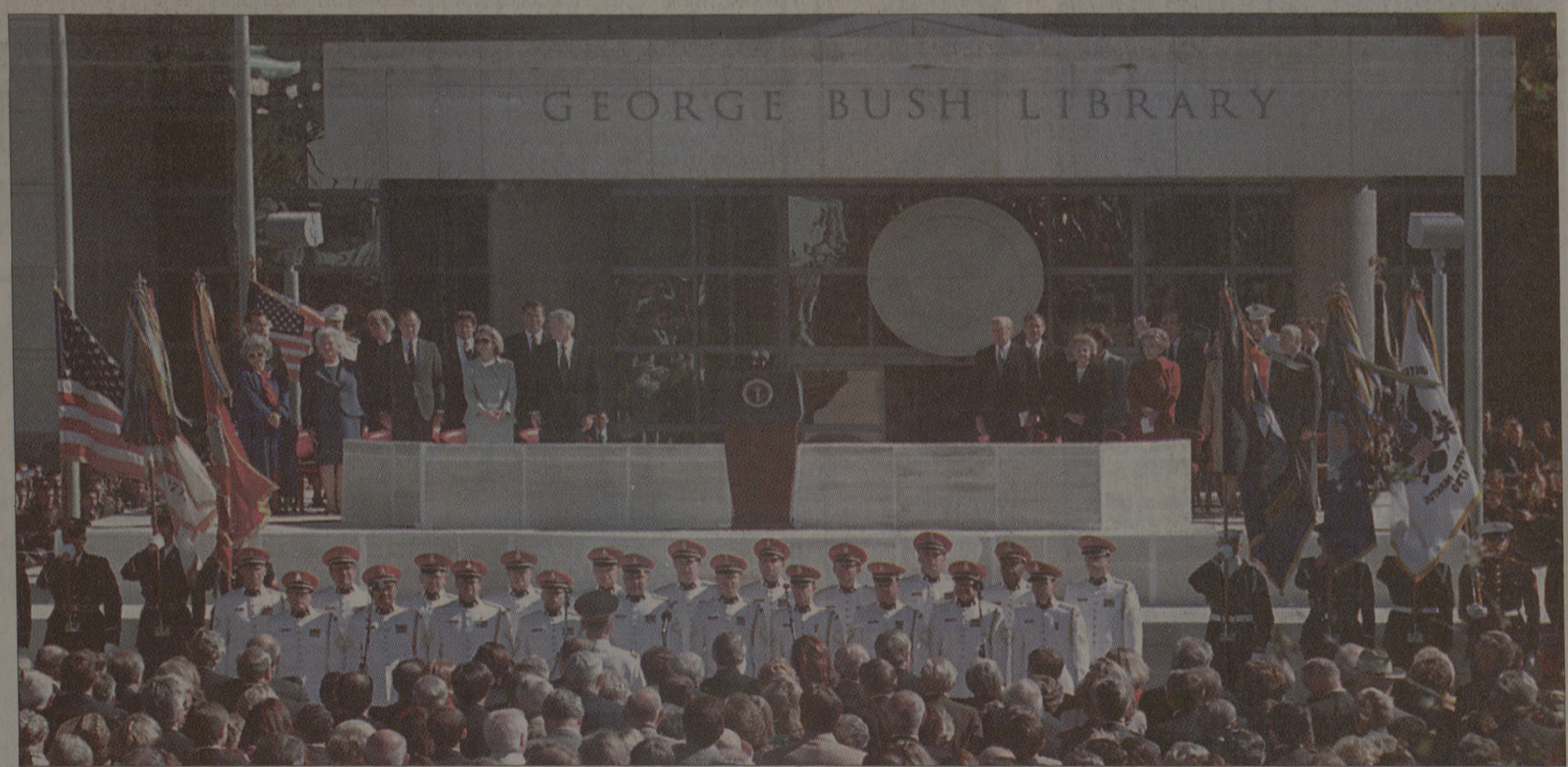


Former President **George Bush** and President **Bill Clinton** respond to the Aggie spirit.



Former President **George Bush**, President **Bill Clinton**, former Presidents **Gerald Ford** and **Jimmy Carter** greet to the 20,000 attendees as they take the stage.

United States Army Chorus performs the National Anthem while the color guard presents the flags.



Photography by **Dave House**

Stories by **Joey Jeanette Schlueter**

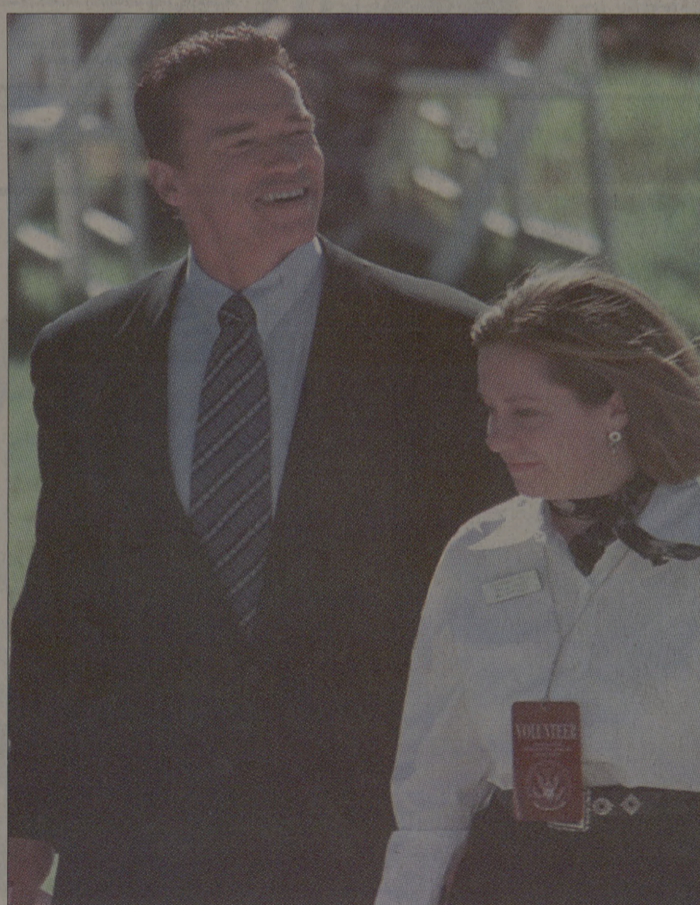
Please see extended coverage of the George Bush Presidential Library dedication in a special color spread, Pages 6-7.



**Billy Graham** speaks with **Caroline Schloesser**.

## Celebrities support Bush's endeavors

Celebrities were among the 20,000 faces in the crowd that gathered to celebrate the dedication of the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum yesterday. Most of them were invited because of their support of George Bush during his presidential campaign in 1988 and 1992. Arnold Schwarzenegger was one of the highlight celebrities at the event. Schwarzenegger was a supporter of the Republican Party and George Bush in his presidency. Just down the row from Schwarzenegger was star of the television series "Walker, Texas Ranger" and martial arts expert, Chuck Norris. Movie stars Kevin Costner and Wayne Newton also attended the library dedication. Other entertainers at the event were the Oak Ridge Boys, Michael Davis, Van Cliburn, Crystal Gayle and Loretta Lynn. These entertainers performed for former President Bush and his family and guests Wednesday night after a barbecue dinner. Ray Childress was master of ceremonies of the pre-dedication entertainment. Childress is an All-Pro Houston Oilers defensive tackle, a former A&M football player and Class of '85. Other dignitaries at the dedication were not from the entertainment field but from the political arena. Dignitaries included former British Prime Minister John Major, former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, former Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, former Polish President Lech Walesa, former Secretary of State James Baker III, former Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell and former vice president Dan Quayle.



Actor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** acknowledges the crowd which gave him a standing ovation as he is escorted to his seat.

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Reference stories from this week's Texas A&M Historical Series through The Battalion archives.