

U.S. Army group names medal to honor Rudder

BY STUART HUTSON
The Battalion

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) will present The Maj. Gen. James Earl Rudder Medal, a new medal named in honor of the former president of Texas A&M who served from 1959 until his death in 1970, during its annual meeting in Washington, D.C. scheduled for Oct. 11.

Lt. Col. Randy Pullen, a spokesperson for the U.S. Army, said The Maj. Gen. James Earl Rudder Medal will be awarded to any current or former member of the Army Reserves who contributed "in a remarkable fashion to the seamless integration" of the Army Reserves and the active Army.

Pullen said Rudder has been honored because of his heroics as a reservist. Rudder was called to lead three battalions of reservists and active-duty soldiers, nicknamed Rudder's Rangers, up the 100-foot cliffs at Pointe De Hoc during the D-Day invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

He said the reservists' mission was to eliminate German troops armed with Howitzers before they could fire on American troops. During the advancement, Rudder was wounded twice but continued to lead his battalions.

Dr. Ed Davis, president of the A&M Foundation, said he could think of no greater symbol of the alliance of the active and reserve components of the Army than Rudder.

"I think it is a terrific step towards the recognition of his contributions," Davis said.

Pullen said that in addition to naming a medal after Rudder, the Army is also naming a new building for the 7th Army Command, located in Germany, after him.

Margaret Rudder, Rudder's widow, said these recent memorials show what a significant difference her husband made in the world.

"I think the fact that he has been gone 29 years and has two memorials dedicated to him just this last summer shows that he really was something special," she said.

Measuring up



Oscar Castillo (right), a senior civil engineering major, takes measurements while Kristen McFadden, a sophomore landscape architecture major, writes down the measurements Tuesday. The students are learning to survey around the Polo Fields as part of their engineering class.

STUDENT

Continued from Page 1

when we would always go down to Choke Canyon near Three Rivers to go catfishing," Matocha said.

Matocha said he was "a very devoted Christian and an all-around good person."

He said Higgs was a "big brother" to many people.

"You could always look up to him," he said. "If you ever had any questions about anything, he would be the one to turn to."

Matocha said that in addition to his outdoor activities, Higgs also worked out regularly and played intramural football and baseball.

Higgs also was involved in the Agricultural Systems Management Society and was a junior Agriculture Council representative.

"He had entrepreneurial leanings," Higgs' father said of his son's future plans. "He wanted to start his own business in the agricultural field."

Brian Nash, a senior agricultural systems management major said he has known Higgs since his freshman year.

"The Lord was strong in his heart," he said.

Nash said he and Higgs were always discussing going water skiing in the summer all throughout the spring semester.

"We knew he was bringing his

dad's boat up here for the summer," Nash said. "We were always talking about how much fun it would be since we would have more time during the summer."

Nash said after this summer, Higgs was going to be able to order his Aggie Ring.

Dr. Ann Kenimer, professor of Agricultural Engineering and an adviser to the Agricultural Systems Management Society, said Higgs was a very quiet student, but he also had many friends within the department.

"One of the things that most impresses me about him was that although he wasn't in the 'spotlight' as an officer, he was very actively involved in the organization (AGSM society)," she said.

"He was always interested in helping out in all aspects and served on many of the committees within the organization."

Brian Berry, a senior agricultural systems management major said that he got to know Higgs because of an agricultural systems management study group the two were a part of.

"He was a strong person inside and out," Berry said. "If you told him, he couldn't do something it just drove him more to accomplish it. His life was headed in the right direction."

Funeral services for Higgs will begin at 2 p.m. at the Ridgeway Baptist Church in Paige.

DANCE

Continued from Page 1

students' part that will continue for the rest of their time at A&M.

"Students can fill this requirement at anytime," Thomas said. "But we're really pushing for their first semester."

"We cut back on the kinesiology offered in the fall so that health and fitness would pretty much be the only thing open."

Thomas said out of the 3,600 health and fitness spots, 1,500 spots have already been filled.

Halimah Shaheed, a junior political science major, said she does not think the new requirement should be a burden for the new freshmen to handle.

"There are a lot of classes I'm required to take for my major that I don't want to take — but that's life," Shaheed said. "It's just one more thing you have to do in college."

Karla Wray, a senior accounting graduate student, said the requirement takes away from the whole point of kinesiology in college.

"Kinesiology is a break from the normal school routine," Wray said. "It is about getting exercise twice a week — not about sitting down and taking notes."

JAPAN

Continued from Page 1

Samurai (a member of the warrior class) made quiet conversation, each wondering what the other was thinking," he said.

"It's the Japanese way of communicating without saying anything."

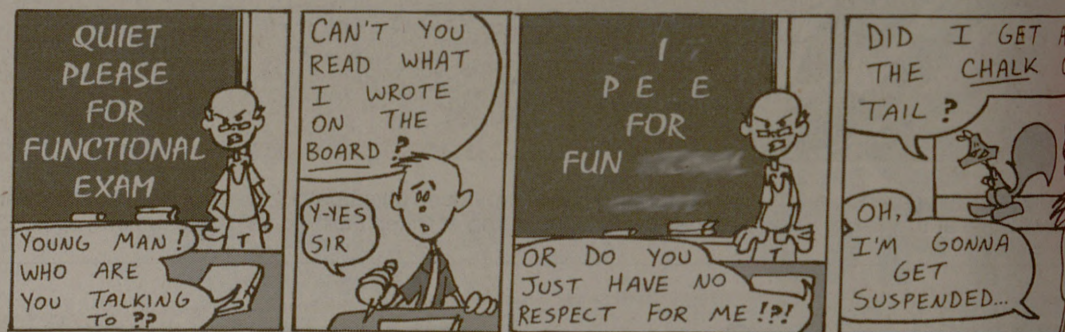
Nagasawa also presented pictures of the Holy Temple in Japan, which was built in 650 A.D.

"The building is over 1,340 years old," he said. "It is a large attraction for students taking group tours at the end of high school."

Nagasawa also spoke about the Golden Temple, another famous Japanese building, owned by a high priest. He said the architecture incorporated not only sand, grass and trees in the landscape but also water by including a pond on top of the temple.

"The high priest has to go up and down the stairs every morning and during the day to see Buddha," Nagasawa said, smiling. "It's very good for his health."

NUTZ



Father, son team to explore shipwreck

John Erskine, Class of '60, and Jeff are trying to learn more about family history by diving with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M.

The father-and-son team teamed up with Barto Arnold, director of Texas A&M's Institute of Nautical Archaeology, to explore the Denbigh, a blockade runner from the Civil War.

The elder Erskine's grandfather, Robert Horlock, served on the ship more than 130 years ago.

BY R. DELL

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