



WELLS FARGO, BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION LOBBIES WILL BE OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9AM-GPM THRU SEPTEMBER 12TH,

HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER AGS!

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Thursday, September 4, 2003

STATE

THE BATTALION

Sausage man Jimmy Dean gets high school diploma

PLAINVIEW, Texas (AP) Wearing a red gown topped with a blue cap and a white stole, Jimmy Dean finally received something he's wanted for decades — a high school diploma.

The 75-year-old country western singer and sausage company founder dropped out of Plainview High School in 1944 to work and help his mother, who was a barber in the small community of Seth Ward, outside Plainview.

On Tuesday, Dean received his diploma at a community luncheon from Plainview School Board President Rocky Favila.

'You talk about a slow learner," an emotional Dean said. "This may have a comedic feel - a 75-year-old man graduating from high school — but this is very important to me."

"I have solid gold records on the wall of our home and a Grammy award. I have plaques and accolades from the President

of the United States on down. But none of that is as important as this," Dean said, clutching his

66 You talk about a slow learner ... but this is very important to me.

> - Jimmy Dean country western singer

Dean has said his mother was always upset that he never finished high school. Dean's wife Donna and a family friend worked with Plainview school officials to get Dean the diploma. A new state law gives schools

those who did not finish h school and went into the ame services between 1946 and 1951 Before starting the Jim

Dean Meat Co. in Plainvi in the late 1960s; Dean achiev fame as an entertainer. In 1961, the folksy singe

he wrote on a piece of cardbo during a flight from New Yorki Nashville, the Plainview Dal Herald reported in its Wednesda

The tale of a miner who save the lives of 20 trapped co-work ers while losing his own sold million copies, and was biggest selling record in the world that year.



Scam artist pleads no contest

dress as a priest to scam nearly \$25,000 worth of opened lines of credit. merchandise from San Antonio businesses has pleaded no contest to the thefts.

George Persyn will be required to repay all his victims and could serve up to two years in jail, prosecutors said. Sentencing was set for Oct. 24.

Persyn had a long-running scheme in which he ran up tabs for thousands of dollars on credit after convincing business owners he was a Catholic priest in need of donations.

Among the items he took from at least 13 businesses included \$2,149.85 worth of business suits, a golf cart, wall art, cell phones, furniture and about \$5,400 worth of police equipment.

Persyn, who was arrested in late July in Arizona, surprised even prosecutors with the quick plea.

According to court records, Persyn dressed as an anonymous tip.

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - A man who used to a priest and visited area businesses where a

Some businesses indicated they visited Persyn's storefront office. There, they claimed they met a woman who confirmed Persyn was: Catholic priest and assured merchants they wi be reimbursed by the Archdiocese of Sa

Authorities say that woman was Persyn's wife, Barbara Moreno. Her case is pending, San Antonio Express-News reported in its Wednesday editions.

Once the credit was issued, Persyn then went on a shopping spree, even bilking a religion supply store for about \$457 in religious tapestry and communion wafers. Persyn and his wife left the area earlier this year after a number of media

Police were led to them in Tucson, Ariz, by

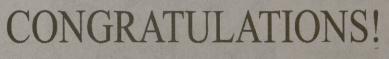
Are you getting your Aggie Ring today?

ggie Ring Delivery



portable hard o

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Today is a day to celebrate! While you celebrate we encourage you to do so responsibly to ensure your safety and the safety of your fellow Aggies.

RAD **Responsible Aggie Decisions**

Linda K. Hill President **Federation of TAMU Mother's Clubs**



Matt Josefy

Student Body President

WELLS FARGO

Traditions Council

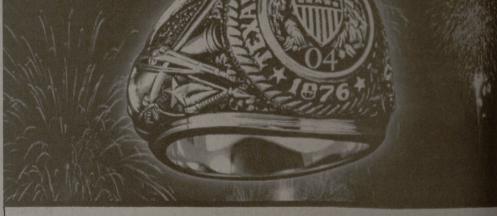
Kelli Hutka **Director of Campus Programs** The Association of Former Students

SWENSEN'S

Ice Cream & Fine Foods



THE CHOICE IS UP TO YOU. MAKE RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS. http://studentlife.tamu.edu/adep



CONGRATULATIONS!

Join the Celebration at the Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center

SEPTEMBER 4TH RING DELIVERY

Tickets distributed throughout the day, beginning at 7:15 a.m. You must have a numbered ticket to get your Ring.

FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 2 P.M. RING DISTRIBUTION STARTS AT 3 P.M. AND ENDS AT 6 P.M.

We encourage you to take the Bonfire or Replant bus routes that stop in front of the building.

Texas Aggie Artist, Benjamin Knox '90, personalizing the "Historic Aggie Ring"

You must bring your pink receipt and driver's license to pick up your Ring. If you do not have your pink receipt, please bring your student ID and driver's license.

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