

Ranger: Campus Legend; His Memories Will Remain

The Aggies lost a good friend yesterday. Ranger, often referred to as the "campus dog," died at 5:20 p.m. Thursday after a sudden illness.

He was officially President Earl Rudder's pet, but belonged just as much to the A&M student bodies of the past seven years.

The story of Ranger will certainly go down as a Texas A&M legend — a story filled with humor, love and greatness.

It would definitely include:

—Resistance to confinement. The only time Ranger was tied up in the Rudder backyard, he developed a skin disease. After that episode he made the campus his home, visiting the Rudder domain occasionally to keep in touch with the president's family, especially Rudder's son, Bob, who was perhaps most fond of the pet bulldog.

—Self-reliability. Ranger had a way of taking care of himself in a fashion that few dogs have ever possessed. He ate in the mess halls, slept in dormitory lounges and rooms, attended class when he so desired and made friends easily. As a result he was among the best-fed, well-rested, highly-educated, dearly-loved animals in the history of dogdom.

—Self-confidence. Ranger claimed an

air of self-confidence that left him strutting proudly to the day he died. He never turned his back on a fight with mess hall management, janitors or automobiles, because he seemed to know his friends would come to his aid.

—Courage. The trait which will best enshrine Ranger in the annals of A&M folklore is courage. His courage produced the most laughs, the most admiration from his friends. His exploits — whether stopping cars, appearing underneath girls' formals, charging basketball officials, romping on the football field, suffering through kidnapping incidents or parading all over campus with messages — are tales in themselves.

Ranger lived a dog's life, but not an ordinary one.

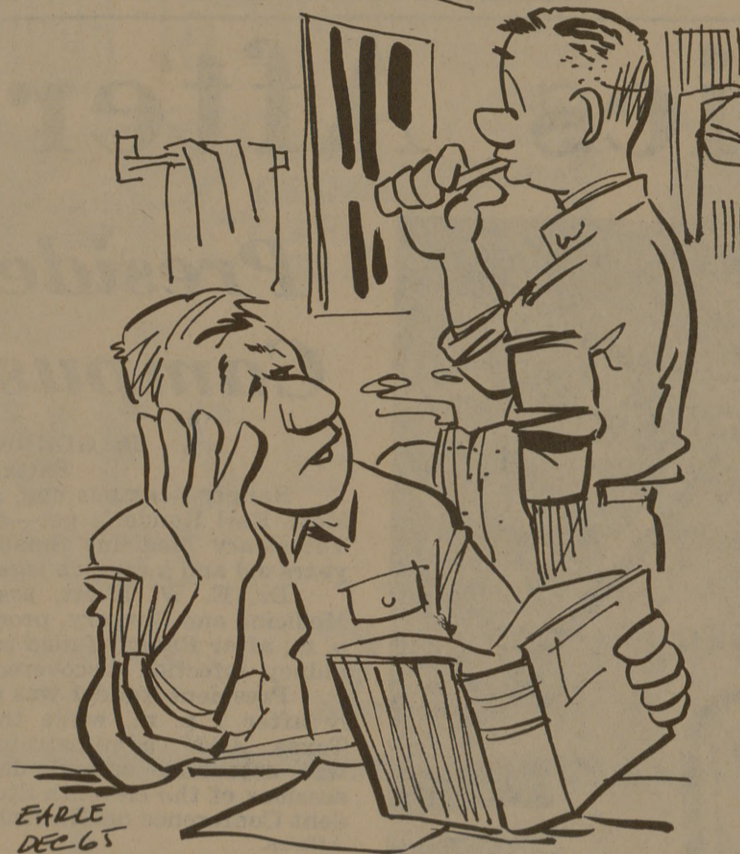
He was a dog among dogs, a legend in his own time.

In an effort to preserve this legend and to pay tribute to a dog that meant so much to student life at this university, The Battalion and Yell Leaders have initiated a fund to supply Ranger's grave with a marker on behalf of the A&M student body.

Contributions may be made at the Student Publications Office in the YMCA Building basement.

It is the least we can do for a friend.

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"Last week I was countin' th' days 'til the holidays, now I'm countin' th' major quizzes."

Action Needed To Curtail Pet Stealing

Lani Presswood

Man is supposedly the highest animal but his actions at times make you wonder.

The organized stealing of pets to furnish the mills of scientific research has reached the level of a national disgrace and the time has come for meaningful corrective action.

If you thing the number of animals required for research is insignificant, take a loog at these figures, which come from an article in an October issue of Parade:

Laboratories and hospitals which are partially subsidized by federal grants spent between \$30 and \$50 million last year on dogs and cats. Tax-supported institutions bought over 1.7 million dogs and 500,000 cats last year alone.

Biological research is big and getting bigger. I'm not attacking the use of animals in this research, although reports continue that the lives of many animals are being needlessly wasted by unconcerned researchers.

No, my quarrel is with the weak statutes which permit the organized theft of pet dogs and cats for this research.

How serious a problem is it? Here's an excerpt from the Parade article:

"A congressional committee recently heard one dog-and-cat farm described as an animal 'Dachau,' as horrifying as the notorious Nazi gas-chamber camp. Investigators found 700 dogs jammed into a dozen 10-foot-square pens. One pen contained more than 70 dogs, so closely packed they couldn't even wag their tails for their rescuers. Some 400 cats were crammed into stacked chicken crates. Dead and diseased animals lay among the living."

Dog and cat rustlers operate in a variety of ways besides simply snatching a pet from its owner's yard when he's not looking or using food to lure the animal away from home.

Some of these dealers a misery go from door to door begging for pets "for needy children" or they actually send children out to do their dirty work for them.

Others pose as dogcatchers or use the front of kennelkeepers. The kennel racket is especially vicious. When a vacationer returns to the kennel for his pet he is told that the animal died from sickness or escaped.

And there are reports that pounds, animal shelters and even some humane societies illegally sell pets to the dog and cat peddlers.

Whatever the pet peddler's source of supply, he disposes of the animals at actions where his remuneration for a stolen kitten or puppy may be as little as ten cents. But who can measure in material terms the value of a cherished pet to a child or an invalid?

To combat this sadistic crime Rep. Henry Helstoski of New Jersey introduced a bill in the last session of the House which would "authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the transportation, sale, and handling of dogs, cats and other animals intended to be used for purposes of research or experimentation, and for other purposes."

Similar legislation will likely be introduced again at the next Congressional session. There may be opposition to such action but I doubt seriously if it'll come from anyone who has ever had a dog or cat of his own.

State Capitol Roundup

AUSTIN — Fate of Texas' 63-year-old poll tax as a voting requirement rests in the hands of a three-judge federal court. They heard four hours of arguments here last week in an historic case to abolish the levy.

Judges announced that no immediate ruling would be made. They advised Texans who want to be eligible to vote next year to pay the \$1.75 fee before the January 31 deadline.

In frequent questions during the arguments, the judges indicated concern over several complex legal points.

Circuit Judge John R. Brown repeatedly speculated on the court's earlier position, in assessing an apparently unsupported congressional finding in the 1965 voting rights act, that the Texas levy discriminates against Negroes.

"How do we go about reviewing the basis for a congressional finding?" Brown wondered aloud. "Or does the case come to us as though Congress had not made these findings? This is a very unusual point of law."

Texas Atty. Gen. Waggoner Carr maintained that Congress had made its finding "without so much as a scintilla of evidence." He pointed out that U. S. Atty. Gen. Nicholas Katzenbach himself had testified before a Senate committee that he had no complaints of voter discrimination in this state. Katzenbach later filed the suit under terms of the voting rights act.

U. S. Justice Department Atty. Stephen J. Pollak, acknowledging that there is no overt refusal to give Texas Negroes voting rights, argued that due to basically inferior education, income of Negroes is lower and the tax, therefore, falls heavier on them.

One judge wondered, perhaps hopefully, if the U. S. Supreme Court might rule on some of the questions submitted in an earlier Virginia case before federal judges in Texas have to hand down their decision.

Hearing here was the first of four cases brought by the justice

department, under congressional direction, to challenge poll tax validity head-on. Others will be held in Mississippi on December 10; Alabama on December 20; and Virginia on January 17.

POLLUTION PROGRAM

Gov. John Connally has advised John Gardner, U. S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, that Texas plans to control pollution on its streams and in its coastal waters.

Such a certification is required by the new federal law aimed at stopping pollution of public waters throughout the United States. If states fail to get pollution control programs in operation by June 30, 1967, then Uncle Sam will take over and adopt its own programs and rules.

Connally's formal certification came as the Texas Water Pollution Control took its biggest step yet. It adopted rules and standards for discharges of municipal and industrial waste into the Houston Ship Channel. Industry spokesmen at the public hearing estimated Ship Channel industry will have to spend between \$50,000,000 and \$100,000,000 for treatment facilities to meet these standards.

Even then, Joe G. Moore, Jr., Chairman of the Board, estimated that the new requirements would eliminate only half the pollution in the Channel.

Mayor Seaborn Cravey of Baytown strongly protested against the Board plan to allow more pollution in the mid-Channel area above Baytown. He fears fish kills which sometimes make living unbearable in Baytown will continue when rains wash slugs of polluted water down the Channel.

But the Board unanimously adopted its three-zone plan, effective immediately.

A seventh member was added to the Board by Connally's selection of Howard Rose of Midland, his former administrative assistant. He will represent the public.

NEWS COMMITTEE

A nine-member committee stu-

dyng the role of the press in crime and court news coverage declared its opposition to legislation that would restrict news reporters in covering stories.

Lawmakers and news executives serve on committee set up by last Legislature. Group selected Felix McKnight, Dallas Times Herald editor, as chairman.

McKnight said the Committee hopes to establish guidelines to protect the rights of individuals named in court charges; also to preserve freedom of the press; and to avoid a fight over legislation.

AGGIE COEDS?

Board members of Texas A&M University denied a report that they voted to admit girls to the virtually all-male school on a non-discriminatory basis.

Chairman later said qualified women should be admitted if they could not get degrees at another university in fields they want to pursue. He said A&M President Earl Rudder was asked to study every coed application in order to guard against discrimination. He revealed a committee will report its findings on the question of co-education next April.

LAND PROGRAM ENDS

State Veterans Land Program ended Nov. 30 when the last commitment for purchase of property was issued.

Land Commissioner Jerry Sadler said 35,500 Texas veterans bought over 3,000,000 acres of land at average price of \$81 an acre. On Nov. 2 Texas voters turned down a constitutional amendment proposal designed to extend the long-term, low-interest, land purchase program.

— Sound Off —

Editor,

The Battalion:

I would like to make a comment on the behavior of some of the Aggies who watched the Aggie Talent Show last Friday.

There ought to be a difference between what a high school bum says aloud when he attends some cheap show, and the words of a college student when he goes to watch the A.T.S., regardless of what is on the stage and how many Go-Go Girls are involved. That is the difference between good bull and vulgarity, to say the least.

There was a 9 or 10-year old girl sitting right in front of me. I wonder what she thought of some of the "expressions of admiration" that she heard. There also were several other children and several adults, including several Aggies and their dates, who had the right to enjoy the show without having to suffer a number of extremely disgusting manifestations of irresponsibility, which were, perhaps, meant to express some of the Ole Army Spirit, but certainly missed their point.

Fernando J. Martinez, '67

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Editor,

The Battalion:

It has recently come to my attention that the Corps is no longer allowed to wildcat in the mess halls, or to call jodies en route to morning chow under the latest Trigon decree. Now, it seems to me that every year in the first issue of the Batt we read some statement from the Trigon hierarchy to the effect that the seniors are going to run the Corps, but about two weeks later the Trigon steps in and takes up where they left off, handing down its order to make the Corps a better place in which to live.

The order banning wildcatting is, according to rumor at least, supposed to give a better atmosphere in which the men may enjoy their food. If this is the aim, then there is another part of our dining hall procedure that needs to go. Mr. Trigon, Sir, why don't you cut out the "handles" used for the food? You know, bullneck, stud, baby, etc.

Now, dear Trigon, if you want to ram me 10 for protesting, go right ahead. It will never go through, you see, because I am a non-reg.

David L. Feray, '67

Mr. Feray: The order banning wildcatting in the mess halls came down verbally from the Corps Commander, not the Trigon. Or at least that is what both parties say. Perhaps your displeasure is directed against the wrong person.

SCONA XI At A Glance

By GERALD GARCIA

Battalion Managing Editor
This is the eleventh Student Conference On National Affairs at a glance:

The Memorial Student Center Food Service Department was given a vote of approval by most of the SCONA delegates Thursday. Delegates thought the way the food was prepared for the Smorgasbord Wednesday evening was "terrific." "I loved it." "The food was great. It was a delicious meal." These were some of the comments delegates expressed during and after the event which was sponsored by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation of Dallas.

Conference headquarters reported 161 delegates had registered for the conference as of late Thursday afternoon. The delegates represented colleges and universities from the United

States, Canada and Mexico. A delegate — by conference standards — is a person who has been assigned to a roundtable.

Craig Buck, SCONA XI chairman, patted all committees on the back for the excellent work they have done. He described the conference as going like "clock-work."

The Experiment in International Living program sent 20 Mexican students to SCONA XI as delegates. The students are from the School of Economics and the School of Political Sciences, both of the National University of Mexico. The 20 students are scheduled to visit in United States homes in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Hackensack, N.J., under the leadership of Alfonso Rey and James Ferrara.

John P. Armstrong, vice president of Pond and Co., Publishers, in Washington, D. C., thinks that

by having Texas A&M Foreign students as delegates the student conference receives an added flavor. The students can give first hand information during roundtable discussions and this helps the other delegates, he said.

"Viet Nam: It's a Mad War" the documentary film by NBC and narrated by Chet Huntley was well received by the delegates Thursday afternoon. The film showed many inside views how the war is fought in the Southeast Asia country. The hour-long color film replaced the second half of the roundtable scheduled after the Corps of Cadets review. Huntley closed the film by saying: "Theoretically, the United States is in the Viet Nam War to defend a free country, but actually it is trying to bring one into existence."

While on the topic of films, University Information at Texas A&M is doing a documentary on the university to be released this spring. The 20-minute color movie is being shot by the Sales International Film Company and produced by Joe Buser, assistant director of University Information. Buser and a camera crew took a few feet of film of SCONA proceedings Wednesday afternoon. The crew also took in the Corps review for the SCONA delegates Thursday afternoon.

The Review must have set some record. For the first time in three years, it did not rain before or during the review. The weatherman tried his best to continue the tradition, but he was a little late. College Station's Congressman Olin E. "Tiger" Teague, chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee, was the reviewing officer. He went on active duty with the infantry in 1940. In combat, Teague was commander of the First Battalion, 314th Infantry, 79th Division. His decorations include the Silver Star with two clusters, the Bronze Star with two clusters, the French Croix de Guerre with Plam, the Purple Heart with two clusters, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Army Commendation Ribbon.

At the Movies

with Lani Presswood

The worst thing about "King Rat" is its title.

A label like that hardly serves as a boxoffice magnet to someone who knows nothing about the show in advance.

Actually, title and all, "King Rat" comes across as a surprisingly good motion picture. The action never slackens and the audience's attention is held for the full two-hours-plus running time.

A Japanese prisoner-of-war camp near Singapore during World War II serves as the story's setting.

The camp confines over 2,000 prisoners, most of them British.

By Charles M. Schuk

There are a few American prisoners scattered through the camp though, including one Corporal King.

King, played skillfully by George Segal, lives in a state of near luxury compared to the other prisoners. They eat what the Japs hand out, King prepares his own meals. Nearly all are dressed in rags but King still sports a sharp uniform.

King keeps his weight up, never lacks for cigarettes, and is making money hand over fist.

How?

Simple. He's a crook.

This apparent nobody in civilian life turns an inventive mind and a burning ambition for power and wealth into a position of pre-eminence in the camp. He uses bribery, fraud, theft, just about anything in the books to feather his own nest.

Yet through the entire show, the guy remains vaguely likeable. He seems larcenous but not vicious, and you've got to hand it to him for his resourcefulness.

King is surrounded by other characters, each of which has been affected differently by the grueling prison camp ordeal.

There's the British colonel who accepts money from King for certain "services." And two other colonels who also compromise their principles while imprisoned. And Peter Marlowe, King's only real friend, whose sincere scruples contrast sharply with King's credo.

And the hard-bitten lieutenant who goes by the book and refuses to accept the reality that men must occasionally stray from the rule book to stay alive under certain circumstances.

Then there's the cynical, embittered doctor, the pathetic sergeant who serves as King's errand boy, the deranged prisoner who carries on imaginary conversations with his wife, and others.

"King Rat" may not have an all-star cast or a massive publicity campaign behind it, but it contains topflight acting, fast-paced action, and an absorbing, meaningful story.

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non tax-supported non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students at a university and community newspaper.

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