

Meet James Bower

Heading The Battalion next year will be a slim brown-haired journalist major from Victoria, James



JIM BOWER
 "You May Be Right,
 But I'm The Editor"

(Jim) Martin Bower. The 22-year-old Bower, formerly a pre-vet major before switching to Journalism two years ago, has served The Battalion this year as news editor. He also is associated with the Aggie-Land '56 as business manager.

Good things often come after hard work, Bower philosophizes, and this idea applies to him. For he will be married this summer, August 17, after summer ROTC camp. The bride-to-be is Miss Barbara McConnell, a resident of Dallas and now a sophomore advertising major at Southern Methodist University. The wedding will take place in Highland Park Methodist Church, Dallas.

Newspaper work was no stranger to the new Batt editor, as he worked as a reporter for his high school newspaper in Taylor, Tex. "I was only a reporter, but wrote the editorials," he said. "I even won a national award for an editorial on tuberculosis."

Bower also worked last summer

on an internship with the Denison Herald.

Born in McAlester, Okla., March 30, 1934, Bower lived in that state until he was nine years old, moving then to Texas. He was graduated from Taylor High School in 1952.

Activities he has thus far participated in while at A&M include membership in the A&M Band; executive secretary of the Southwest Conference Sportsmanship Committee; parliamentarian, Junior class; vice-president, Sigma Delta Chi; and editor of the Navasota-Examiner-Review during the Easter holidays this year. Bower led a group of A&M journalism students through one issue of the paper as part of lab work in a departmental course.

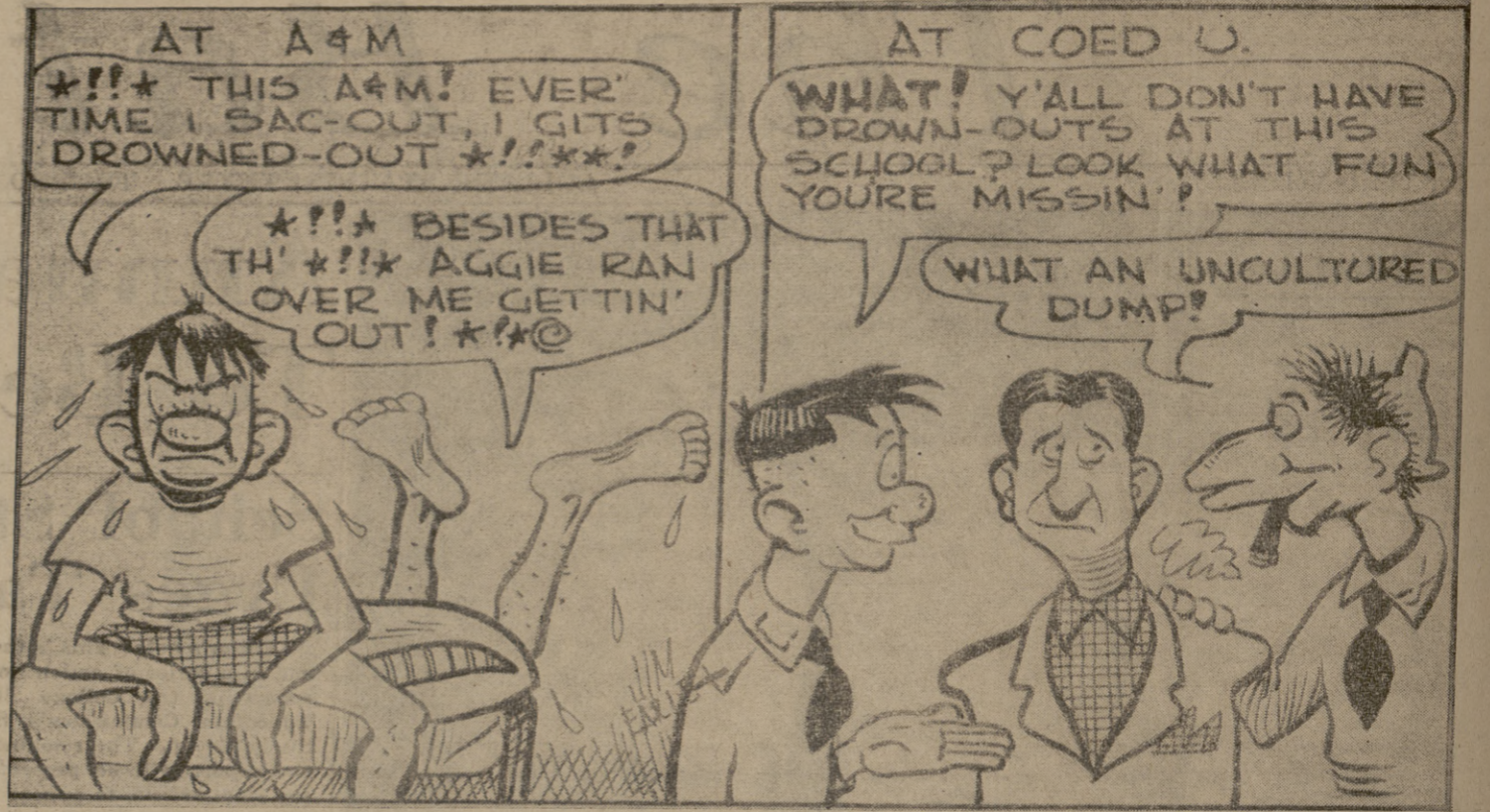
Bower will take over as editor of The Battalion next week, following a practice of year's standing that the new staff have about a month to get used to the new work before the "has-beens" are gone.

"I've been satisfied with Battalion policies this year, and basically, they will not be changed during the coming school year. I feel our main objective is to report everything we can find."

Being well-acquainted with the hours Battalion staff members normally keep, Bower informed his fiancée that he might not return home "very early, very often."

"Barbara didn't believe me," he said, "but she also added, 'I'm not worried'."

This summer while Bower is at summer camp and getting married, The Battalion will be headed by David McReynolds, junior agricultural journalism major from Palestine.



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Letter to Jim Bower

Editor To Be, The Battalion

I'm jumping the gun a little on your new job, but I'd like to take this way to offer my congratulations, plus a little free advice about some matters.

Just a few days short of a year ago, I took over the reins of The Battalion; now I am about to relinquish them to you. I'm still too close to my own efforts to decide what I accomplished. After I leave, it's possible I may not have the desire ever to evaluate this last year.

Your work—the way you fulfill your responsibilities—will depend quite a lot on the way you can evaluate this past year. You will be expected to retain any gains the paper may have made, and also to profit by the errors that we let slip in.

Trying to cover both the campus and the city is an impossible job, especially since you have course requirements to complete. And yet you must try to cover as much as possible, as well as possible, and put it in your four-to-eight-page paper. Some stories don't get in. You have to decide what the relative importance of each story is and the number of persons that a story concerns in deciding what you run.

Don't ever be scared by someone accusing you of not knowing what you are talking about. You will be in a position to keep many things in perspective. You won't begin to know it all; but you will find that many persons who accuse you of not knowing, come to you when they need information. Knowing information, more than you'll ever have need or time to use, is another of your jobs.

Another point which will be charged to you as a fault will be that The Battalion is just a "mouthpiece" for the administration. Don't worry about this charge; you'll find yourself expressing opinions that you do wish were the administration's "party line." The Battalion is in a middle position between the student body and the administration. Both sides have their own ideas about what is good for A&M College, and these ideas are not always—and often seem never—the same. You have to choose: you can take either, both, parts, or none of the opinions. You have to weigh the merits of "right" and "wrong" in making your decisions about what is best for A&M College—for what is best for A&M is your job.

Remember, however, what is best will entail both agreement and disagreement with others' ideas. The Battalion is not a publicity sheet; you report on what is happening, and you editorialize if need be for or against—whichever seems to be for the good of the school.

Try to be open minded about opinions besides your own. I do not mean, don't hold an opinion: make your considered decision, and stay by it. If facts prove you wrong, an open mind will then allow you to change your idea. To have no opinion is not having an open mind; it's having no mind at all.

I've got to cut this letter short, leaving out much I'd like to remind you of that I've throughout the year tried to supply you information with. Most of what you need you'll have to learn for yourself, for some knowledge you have to live.

Congratulations, and best wishes,
 Bill Fullerton.

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The Battalion

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The Battalion, daily newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published by students in the Office of Student Publications as a non-profit educational service. The Director of Student Publications is Ross Strader. The governing body of all student publications of the A&M College of Texas is the Student Publications Board. Faculty members are Karl E. Elmquist, Chairman; Donald D. Burchard, Tom Leland and Bennie Zinn. Student members are Derrell H. Guiles, Paul Holladay, and Wayne Moore. Ex-officio members are Charles Roeder, and Ross Strader, Secretary. The Battalion is published four times a week during the regular school year and once a week during the summer and vacation and examination periods. Days of publication are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year and on Thursday during the summer terms and during examination and vacation periods. The Battalion is not published on the Wednesday immediately preceding Easter or Thanksgiving. Subscription rates are \$5.00 per semester, \$8.00 per school year, \$8.50 per full year, or \$1.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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BILL FULLERTON

Editor

Buton hall
 THEATRE
 THRU FRIDAY

Lady Godiva
 MAUREEN O'HARA - GEORGE NADER
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 A UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

CAMPUS
 THURSDAY

ANYTHING GOES
 JEANMAIRE - PHIL HARRIS
 A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

CIRCLE
 THRU FRIDAY
 "MY SISTER EILEEN"
 — Also —
 "GUN FURY"
 Rock Hudson

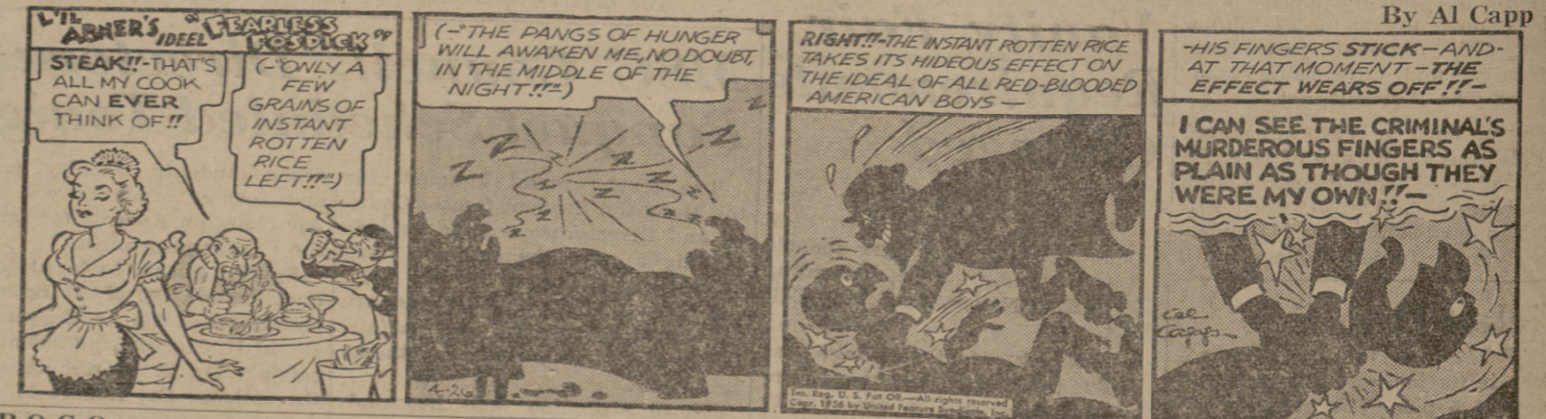
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