

BATTALION EDITORIALS

A Proposal

Formal consideration of the proposed name-change for Texas A&M will be taken soon after the holiday recess. And since there is but a matter of hours remaining before the break, The Battalion submits the following proposal in regard to the issue.

The proposal is directed primarily to the Name Change Committee, which will make a recommendation to the A&M College System Board of Directors. But it is also open to rebuttal or approval, as always, from the student body, the exes, the faculty and the anonymous.

Recognizing the worth of the ideas and the opinions of these various factions, we submit the following proposal:

and Mechanical" are limiting, but they are a paramount emphasis in the curriculum on the Texas A&M campus.

Moreover, we are aware of the decades of tradition behind the name of Texas A&M. We are also aware of the accomplishments of the College under that name since the first 50 cadets gathered Oct. 4, 1876 for the formal dedication of Texas A&M.

But tradition cannot stand alone as an opposing argument.

Therefore, The Battalion believes that the formal title of the school should be "Texas State University" but that the "Agricultural and Mechanical College" be retained in lieu of 84 years of tradition.

First. The name of Texas A&M should be changed to include the word "university."

By definition, a "college" is a learning institution where only one subject material is studied, such as the college of agriculture or the college of arts and sciences. A "university", on the other hand, is an institution composed of several "colleges."

Texas A&M is such an institution.

A dictionary definition is not the only reason behind the necessity of a name-change. The extra monies received through grants and aids; the quality of faculty and students that would be attracted; and the added prestige of simply being a "university" virtually eliminates the arguments against a name-change.

Second. The name should be changed to "Texas State University and the Agricultural and Mechanical College."

True, the terms "Agricultural

Third. The Battalion submits finally, that the words "Agricultural and Mechanical College" be retained to preserve the three main characteristics of the school that should, by tradition, remain constant.

These characteristics are the senior ring, the nickname "Aggies", and the school songs and yells. All three are symbols of the school and are the direct subject of the tradition argument.

The name "Texas State University and the Agricultural and Mechanical College" should in no way alter these characteristics of Texas A&M College as we know them.

Any name-change will doubtless bring salt to the mouths of students and exes, but The Battalion believes that this proposal can satisfy the necessity for a new name to include the word "university" and still preserve the three tradition-flavored characteristics of the school.

Social Calendar

The following clubs and organizations will meet on campus:

Tonight

The Bryan Garden Club will hold its annual Christmas Pilgrimage from 4-8 p.m. The Pilgrimage will include two homes, those of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Farrar, 1020 Francis St. in College Station and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Varisco on Jones Bridge Road. Tickets good for both homes may be obtained for \$1 from the following places: Lester's Downtown and Townshire, Jarrott's, Townshire and Varner's Jewelry or from any Garden Club member.

The Panhandle Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 204 of the Academic Building.

The Midland Hometown Club will hold a meeting in Room 201 of the YMCA Building at 7:30 p.m.

The Grayson County Hometown Club will meet in the Main Lobby of the YMCA Building at 7:20 p.m. Plans for the Christmas Party, picking the club sweetheart and this year's picture for AggieLand, '61.

The Galveston County Home-

town Club will meet in the Brooks Room of the YMCA at 7:30 p.m.

The El Paso Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 229 of the Academic Building.

The Amarillo Hometown Club will hold an extremely important meeting in Room 206 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

The Deep East Texas Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 20 of the Memorial Student Center.

The Fayette-Colorado County Hometown Club will meet in Room 307 of the Academic Building at 7:15 p.m.

The Richardson Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 204 of the YMCA Building.

The Galena Park Hometown Club will meet in the lobby of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

Lavaca County Hometown Club will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 108 of the Academic Building.

The Ft. Bend County Hometown Club will meet in Room 223 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

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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 as a community newspaper and is under the supervision of the director of Student Publications at Texas A&M College.

Members of the Student Publications Board are L. A. Dueswall, director of Student Publications, chairman; Allen Schrader, School of Arts and Sciences; Willard L. Truettner, School of Engineering; Otto R. Kunze, School of Agriculture; and Dr. E. D. McKurry, School of Veterinary Medicine.

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BILL HICKLIN EDITOR
Joe Callicotte Sports Editor

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Farle FIFTH IN A SERIES



"... I'm a little high-waisted."

Sound Off

Editor, The Battalion:

It seems to us The Battalion, the administration and a handful of students are not satisfied with the name of their school and feel the school is suffering because it is called Texas A&M College.

We feel safe in saying not a single student here today decided to come to Texas A&M because of its title alone. We are also more than sure there are very few, is any, students attending other institutions merely because the name A&M didn't appeal to them.

In choosing a school we believe that a person looks at the school's academic standing and the courses offered rather than closely analyzing the school's name.

It Texas A&M keeps its present name, which undoubtedly has achieved great prestige throughout the state and nation, and continues to offer prospective students a first-rate education at a comparatively low rate, we cannot see how the suggested change can be of any helpful significance.

John L. Mogford, '62
Boe W. Martin, '62
Joe B. Harvey, '62

Editor, The Battalion:

For the past few days, the subject of changing Texas A&M's name has been on the minds of many individuals, including myself.

Should the name of Texas A&M be changed? If so, for what good reason?

A main and important factor for those opposed is tradition. Tradition as we know it is an inherited culture and to students it is among our most cherished possessions. Just as students before us have handed them down to us, we owe it to ourselves to

do the same for future students. Is this not so? This is a question of "art for art's sake."

Changing the name will abolish many of our traditions but at the same time boost someone's own personal gains, be it administration, faculty or businessman. These traditions have helped our standards to be among the best (who can deny it). And should the name be changed, we will have to start at the bottom rung of the ladder. For this reason I don't believe the name of Texas A&M should be changed.

I do not believe that changing the name will draw more students. If they haven't heard about Texas A&M, which has been around since 1876, how do you expect them to hear about it under a new name?

If what they want is more students, why don't they have a better public relations group that really goes campaigning for students instead of sitting on their laurels? I'm almost sure the junior college 20 miles from my hometown had better public relations than Texas A&M.

I do not think the name should be changed for it will be the stepping-stone for coeducation and integration and eventually the downing of our standards.

For example, our "D" in courses may no longer be a 70-75 but might be changed to confirm (sic) with other colleges and universities of 60-70 for a grade of "D."

I do not think the name should be changed because as a student made mention in Dec. 9 "Sound Off" that Texas A&M is mainly agricultural and mechanical.

I feel that the name change should be brought up before the whole student body and let them decide for themselves.

This is not asking too much, is it?

Miguel P. Garcia, '61

TRIANGLE'S LUNCHEON MENUS

Thursday

- Deep Fried Gulf Trout75
- Smothered Swiss Steak w/creole sauce85
- Baked Ham w/raisin gravy95
- Chicken Fried Steak95

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Friday

- Deep Fried Red Snapper75
- Sliced Bar-B-Q Beef85
- Chicken Fried Steak95
- Braised Beef Tips95

(Served w/two vegetables, salad, hot rolls, coffee or tea)

SERVING HOURS
12:00 to 1:00 — 5:00 to 8:00 P. M.

The TRIANGLE

3606 S. College Bryan TX 77802

Panama Has Colorful History Story; Canal Is Factor In Economic Growth

(Editor's Note: Fifth in the series of articles on South American countries, this was written by William E. Ferro, Jr.)

By WILLIAM E. FERRO, JR.

Three hundred and eighty-five years after the first survey was completed for an artificial waterway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the steamship "Aucon" became the first ocean-going vessel to make a commercial transit of the Panama Canal.

A lot of things had happened in Panama before this great event and a lot has taken place since.

The first discoverer of the Isthmus of Panama was Rodrigo de Bastidas, who was later followed by the famous Vasco Nunez de Balboa. A year later Christopher Columbus visited the coasts of the present day province of Veraguas and established in them the first colony, named Santa Marie de Delen, but the colony was short lived.

The present day Panama City was founded in 1673. The ruins of the old city still stand today, and it is known as "old Panama."

One of the last countries to proclaim its independence was Panama.

Therefore, on Nov. 28, 1821, the people of Panama denounced Spanish authority and proclaimed themselves independent.

The Republic then became a part of Colombia. Then on Nov. 3, 1903, one year before the canal was started, Panama proclaimed itself independent from Colombia.

One of the most notable forerunners of the present day canal was a railroad built across the Isthmus. Completed in 1855, five years after it was begun, the road was a spectacular but short-lived commercial success.

By 1858 it had not only earned back the \$8 million cost of construction, but also showed a net profit of \$6 million.

However, the road prosperity was to come to an end because it was based on the fact that thousands of men were flocking from the eastern United States to California in search of gold.

When the rush was over and the Union Pacific railroad was completed across the United States, the Panama Railroad died.

The first actual effort to dig a canal across the Isthmus was begun in 1880 by a French company under the leadership of Ferdinand de Lesseps who had estimated it would take 80 years and \$168,500,000.

Eight years later, \$260 million had been spent, and less than one-third of the canal was completed! Funds were exhausted and the project was abandoned. Then another French company was formed but it also failed.

Disease was a primary reason for these failures. Thousands of men had died from yellow fever and malaria in the earlier building of the Panama Railroad. But this number was small compared to the number of men who fell victim to those diseases during the two French attempts.

In 1904 the United States tackled the task of pushing a canal through the jungle. A treaty was signed with the Republic of Panama by which the United States was granted the use, occupation and control of a zone of land extending five miles one each side of the center line of the canal, and any other lands and water outside that zone which might be necessary for the construction and protection of the canal.

In return, Panama received a cash payment of \$10 million and an annual payment of \$250,000 beginning nine years after the date of the treaty and increased to \$430,000 in 1936.

The actual payment now is \$1 million.

Ten years later, on Aug. 15, 1914, the first ship sailed through the canal. Today more than a million ships have gone through

it.

Nov. 4, 1960, for the first time in the history of Panama's independence, there was a parade of Panamanians through the Zone and the Panamanian flag now

flies permanently in the Canal Zone by executive order of President Eisenhower.

These action have done a lot to increase and improve good relations between the United States

and Panama. And although there may still be some points of disagreement between both countries, they are both moving forward toward a better understanding of each other.



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