

## Fines For Cleanliness

Cleanliness is supposedly next to godliness, but it doesn't find much support on this campus.

Sure, the students try to keep the campus clean by stuffing waste paper in their pockets until they can find an empty depository.

Sure, they try to bathe and shave and brush their teeth at least twice daily to present clean personal appearances.

Sure, they tidy their rooms, polish their shoes, clean their fingernails.

And they try to wear clean clothes, too, but that's not always possible.

It is difficult, almost impossible, to maintain a neat, odor-free appearance on 23 pieces of laundry a week — the present allotment granted by the University Laundry.

The piece total was raised this year from 21 to 23, including four shirts instead of three. But even this increase is not sufficient to handle the average student's laundry needs during a normal week.

A student who changes T-shirts, socks, underwear, and shirts every day finds he

has already surpassed the limit by five pieces even if he doesn't send in any pants, sheets, pillowslips, towels, bath rags, pajamas, handkerchiefs or overalls.

Fees for this excess range from five cents to \$1.50, depending on just how clean a student wants to be or how indigent he has been in meeting his weekly deadline.

These fees, let's call them "Fines for Cleanliness," are in addition to the \$17 he pays each semester for laundry service.

A more realistic total would allow between 25-30 objects to be submitted weekly, with at least five or six shirts among the allotment.

Services at the University Laundry have been improved greatly during recent years, but students cannot reap full benefits of the improvements because of these "Fines for Cleanliness."

The so-called "wierdies," beatniks and slouches can exist on two sweatshirts and a pair of torn slacks, but A&M students cannot.

If civilian dress is to be enforced and Corps neatness made mandatory, then these "Fines for Cleanliness" must be put on a more practical scale.

## Super Conference

Whatever happened to the super conference?

As football teams trudge through another season, one is reminded of the hapless struggle teams like Rice, Baylor, TCU, SMU and Texas Tech make against such powers as Texas, Texas A&M and Arkansas.

The University of Texas threatened to pull out of the Southwest Conference two years ago and form a super conference of their own. Although the cries have diminished somewhat the past two years, A&M stands ready to join this elite group.

After all, what business do teams like Rice and Baylor have in the same league with Texas and Texas A&M?

Yes, these latter schools should pull out altogether because their records indicate they are far beyond even the dreams of other teams' greatness.

Perhaps they could persuade East Texas Baptist College, Trinity and McMurry to join with them unless, of course, the TU and A&M officials wanted to completely separate church and state schools.

If that be their reasoning, then Arlington State, Angelo State, Stephen F. Austin and Sam Houston might provide equal competition for the super conference.

## No Retaliation

The 13 Baylor freshmen who admitted connection in last week's painting of the A&M campus have been put on severe probation.

Any minor misconduct will result in immediate suspension from school which is what it probably would have automatically been if the offenders had been upperclassmen.

The senseless destruction and defacement of any campus can do no good—it only points out the immaturity of the students involved.

Unfortunately, these students had to learn the hard way. Fortunately, they have an opportunity to overcome this mistake and still continue in college.

Aggies who might be contemplating repaying the Baylor campus for this incident should first read Page 19 of University Regulations. It says:

Going to another college campus with the intent to paint or otherwise deface statues or buildings or commit other degradation will result in immediate suspension for not less than the remainder of the semester.

The Baylor freshmen will be suffering for the deed while in school this semester. Any revengeful action by A&M students will mean immediate suspension for the balance of this semester.

A&M has had a clean slate in difficulties with other schools so far this year. Let's keep it that way.

## Good Work, Band

The Fightin' Texas Aggie Band is due a special round of applause for its past two performances.

Its maneuvers Saturday not only kept everyone in the stadium ghastly awake during the intermission of a sedative-like football game, they also demonstrated the band's precision and ability that have gained the group national fame as a halftime performer.

The intricate drill at midfield was astonishing, almost unbelievable, and each member can rightly share the recognition for such an honorable performance.

Drum major Ellis Gill and his assistants, Ronnie Winn and Charles McGinnis, have done a tremendous job preparing the band for the halftime shows, but each individual member has done his share.

If one person fails to carry out his specific assignment in some of the more complex patterns, the drill is not successful.

Lt. Col. E. V. Adams is certainly to be commended for his direction of the band this season and for planning the drills that make each halftime performance interesting.

The Battalion tips its hat to the Aggie Band in appreciation of the entertainment provided the students, the recognition bestowed the university and the influence it has had in the field of precision drill. It hasn't lost a halftime yet.

## State Capitol Roundup

By VERN SANFORD  
Texas Press Association

AUSTIN — State attorneys are set to make a hard-nosed defense of the Texas poll tax law now under federal court attack.

Pre-trial conferences in the suit were held quietly here and in San Antonio last week. Trial date has been postponed from mid-November to Dec. 1 in order to allow both sides more time for preparation.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Hawthorne Phillips scheduled a flight to Washington this week to take a deposition from U.S. Atty. Gen. Nicholas Katzenbach in an effort to show that Katzenbach once testified before Senate Judiciary Committee that Texas' poll tax is not discriminatory toward Negroes.

In view of late trial date and certain appeals to U.S. Supreme Court regardless of initial ruling here, the three-judge trial court issued a statement in affect advising Texans who want to be sure they qualify to vote in state and local elections next year to pay their poll taxes.

Leaders of massive poll tax drives just now getting under way already had concluded there was no other safe course.

Outlook now is that if repeal is ordered, first major state and national elections affected will be those of 1968.

## College Board Meets

During its second meeting the new Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, unanimously endorsed proposed constitutional amendments to create \$85,000,000 student loan fund and to boost state property tax five cents for building purposes at 17 institutions.

Board also heard report that public junior colleges face potential financial crisis due to a 35 per cent jump in enrollments and fixed level of appropriations.

Members certified adequate financing is in sight for new higher education programs approved by Board's predecessor agency and gave clearance to a million dollar repair program for 1966.

They further agreed to participate in the new federal program to establish regional technical services and accepted job of administering the higher education facilities (building aid) act.

Board will meet again on November 15.

## Compensation Rate

State Insurance Board staff has recommended revised workmen's compensation rates that will result in average reduction of 2.9 per cent for Texas employers.

Rates for some 600 categories will advance, others will be substantially slashed. Overall effect is a decrease. Same rating formula produced a 2.3 per cent increase last year. Board Chairman Wm. Hunter McLean concluded that the industrial safety record of Texas businesses has improved.

Board Thursday (Oct. 21) held public hearing on the recommended slash, which would reduce premiums about \$4,500,000 next year.

## CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"This oughta stop those Aggie jokes for awhile! Th' biggest joke of all was TU posing as national champions!"

## Sound-Off

# Silver Taps Irreverence Criticized By Students

Editor,  
The Battalion:

Monday night at 10:30 we, the Fighting Texas Aggies, paid our last and final tribute to two departed comrades. Or at least most of us did. I did see several people in front of me standing with their hands in their pockets or looking around as if they'd lost something and I even saw one person smoking. To me this is not showing much respect for two fellow Aggies who fought for a week in a gallant attempt to live and perhaps return to A&M someday.

Silver Taps is the greatest single tribute this student body can pay to a fellow student who has passed from us, but some of us seem to take it too lightly. Perhaps it should be explained to those who are ignorant on the subject that it is proper to come to some semblance of attention after the firing squad arrives — which doesn't mean with your hands in your pockets or looking around at everyone else or up at the sky.

It was not that cool and one's hands wouldn't have become numb during the four or so minutes that it takes to fire a 21 gun salute and play Taps three times. And as for smoking, that should be done in your room before or after the service — not while it is in progress.

I did not know personally either Werdung or Wilson, but their loss was as grievous to me as it was to those who knew them. I suggest that if we intend to retain Silver Taps as the great final tribute that it is, that we show a little more common courtesy and respect for those of whom it is held.

Don Bagby, '66

Editor,  
The Battalion:

For the last three years, I have lived in a dormitory, and in the Cadet Corps. Now that I am a day-student, I had the opportunity to drive directly off of the campus immediately after the Silver Taps that was held tonight. I was shocked to find that most of the lights on the campus were still burning. Is the night staff of the buildings just not informed, or do they not care? It is a "serious offense" for a cadet to leave his lights burning during Silver Taps, and there is usually a derogatory remark or two concerning some "Non-reg" who has left his lights on. (Tonight I did not observe any lights in civilian students' rooms, and I am glad to be able to say that.)

Just as there is no acceptable excuse for an individual leaving the lights on in his dormitory room, there is surely no excuse for the lights on all floors of the Architecture Building, or the Chemistry Building, or Francis Hall, or the Agriculture Building, or any other building to be on.

Perhaps safety and security reasons will be given for the outdoor lights of the campus not being extinguished, but if we are going to hold a Silver Taps Ceremony and turn out the lights, let's turn out ALL of the lights.

Barry Mosesman '66

Editor,  
The Battalion:

Is Silver Taps like many other Aggie traditions that have been forgotten over the years? Traditions have come and gone here at A&M; some were not desirable, others were of no importance — however, traditions did make this school what it is today. This is one of the most tradition bound schools in the southwest. Compare us to the other schools that you are acquainted with — are they as closely knit, do they work together, do they know any of their fellow students? I believe that Texas A&M has something to be proud of. We need to keep our traditions, continue working together, and remain the best damned school in the southwest.

How are we to carry on tradition? It seems that the easiest way is to have the upperclassmen pass the word down to all new freshmen. The Corps does this; what about the civilians? Many Aggie traditions center around the freshman class: they speak first, meet others on campus, they are the largest class and provide the most spirit for the Twelfth Man, they carry the team off the field after home games, bonfire is "built by the freshman class", and I could name many others — these are not Corps responsibilities, the entire school must help to preserve its traditions.

As I remember, Silver Taps has always been something special — everyone quiet and reverent. Something has changed! It seems as if no one is interested in the death of a fellow Aggie — they gather in front of the Academic building but where did the reverence go? Many people seemed to have an impatient cough and scuffle at our last Silver Taps. The silence wasn't there.

After the ceremony, everyone seemed to "race" back home — I remember when cars drove slowly and quietly away, I guess no one can spare 45 minutes of their busy life for a departed Aggie.

Louis K. Obdyke, '67

## Gerald Garcia

# Lettermen Had No Good Reason For Complaining

The Lettermen had just completed the second Town Hall performance of the year and were sitting in the dressing room.

Two-thirds of the trio sat calmly and changed clothes getting ready for their jaunt to Louisiana.

Jimmy Pike, the other member of the entertaining group, wasn't very calm. He was busy criticizing the audience.

"The audience reaction was just terrible. I have never seen anything like it. I just wanted to walk off the stage right during the middle of the act," Pike complained.

Maybe the trio brought the "bad" reception on themselves. Well, they thought it was bad. I thought the reception was one of the best I've seen since I have been at A&M.

Most of the 6,000 plus who attended the show had never seen The Lettermen and when three young men walked on stage and played the "In Crowd," 99 per cent of audience thought they were The Lettermen, but no the trio was still in the dressing room preparing for the show.

The three persons on stage were the back-up group — the White Brown Trio.

The Lettermen made a mistake here. They should have had somebody introduce the first group. The audience should have been prepared.

Pike also claimed that he and Aggies resented their poor looks and long wavy hair which was smoothly combed back.

"I noticed that all (well, most of the people) who attend the college wear their hair short. This could have been the reason for the coolness we received," Pike remarked.

I just don't believe this was the reason Mr. Pike.

The biggest mistake The Lettermen made was not knowing what kind of audience to expect from the Aggies. During the intermission, they wanted to know something about A&M. The show should have found this out before the show.

Pike, the one who got the biggest ovation when he sang "People," said that he had received standing ovations at their last four college performances.

"Why didn't we get one here," he asked.

I have one question to ask Mr. Pike:

"Why aren't the other members complaining?"

By this time, Tony Butala, the short blonde singer, was outside the dressing room signing autographs and seemed to be enjoying himself.

Bob Engemann, the good looking tall one, was listening to the show tape very calmly.

Then why was Jimmy Pike striking at the audience?

By the reaction I heard, I see no reason why.

## Mortimer's Notes

FOR THE RECORD: Could it be true that some varsity athletes (I won't mention what sports) are not abiding by strict training rules . . .

Usually reliable sources have reported observing several infractions . . .

And what about the Hydro space Fiesta scheduled here Feb. 6-13 . . .

The committee seems to be having a hard time finding speakers for the week-end meet . . .

Even getting ONE has proved a problem . . .

And the topic of controversial speakers comes up again . . .

The Bryan - College Station Knife and Fork Club, not a university organization, hosted Herbert Philbrick Monday night . . .

If ever there was a controversial speaker, Philbrick is one . . .

And although the club would loudly claim no affiliation with Texas A&M, the meeting was held in the Memorial Student Center . . .

This controversial speaker may reach a head before long . . .

Some people are raising more than a little hell about the restrictions the higher-ups place on campus speakers . . .

FACTS AND FIGURES: The first A&M basketball game this year will be Dec. 2 against the University of San Antonio . . .

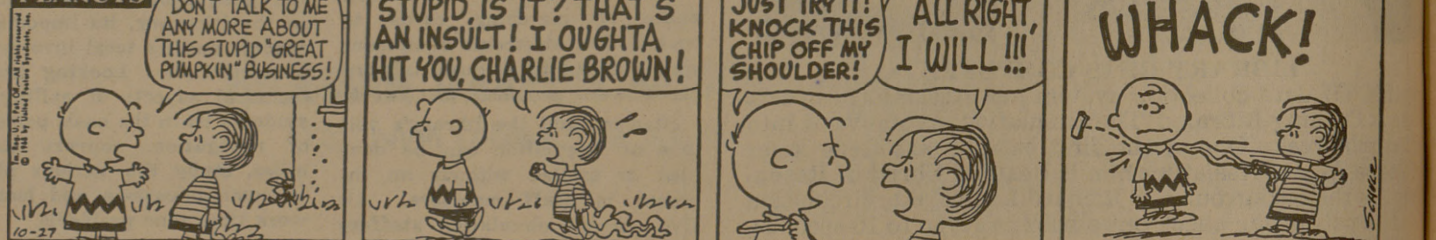
It will be a home game, and will all the first four dates of the cage schedule . . .

OFF THE RECORD: One of the funniest stories ever was told the Class of '66 during their fish year: "You will be enjoying a new library before you graduate." Now they're telling that old joke to the Classes of '68 and '69 . . . See Ya 'Round.

—MORTIMER

By Charles M. Schulz

## PEANUTS



## THE BATTALION

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The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M is published in College Station, Texas daily except Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

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Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas.

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News contributions may be made by telephoning 846-6618 or 846-4910 or at the editorial office, Room 4, YMCA Building. For advertising or delivery call 846-6418.

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year; \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 2% sales tax. Advertising rates furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 4, YMCA Building, College Station, Texas.

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