

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"It sure is heart-warming to know that T.U. was so accommodating in helping us make th' civilian weekend such a success, and especially our new baseball game tradition!"

Sound Off

Editor,
The Battalion,
First, let me say "Congratulations" to The Battalion for the long overdue expose of Corps Staff, Inc. I hope sincerely that this incident will receive top priority news coverage so that a true picture of the outcome of the proceedings will be presented to the entire student body as future litigation continues.

Although it is no secret that top-ranking Corps personnel have for several years enjoyed a special sanctuary from open criticism, this must be the first time that adequate publicity has been given to the wanton abuse of "R.H.I.R." by the Trigon puppets. I spent four years in the Corps, (Aggie Band), and I sincerely believe it is one of the finest organizations any Southwestern university has to offer to young men today. However, there's always a few wormy apples in every barrel. This slip-shop abuse of Cadet Court is an example of their inability to see their responsibilities to those who make their positions even exist (i.e. the thousands of good jokers that make up the majority of the Corps). This might well be the time to air some of the dirty laundry which has got pretty deep in higher echelons.

I'm not critical of the charges and if the accused is guilty he should pay dearly — for those are serious charges. Let us hope that "the powers that be" will review all aspects of this case and be fair to those involved and to Texas A&M. It might well be that a change from diamonds to buttons would aid considerably in the clearing of the rather odiferous atmosphere which has enshrouded Corps Staff for all too long a time.

Doug Johnson, '65

Editor,
The Battalion,
It is certainly the duty of The Battalion to report such incidents as the recent Cadet Court trial of Cadet Mike Martin. Your editorial was biased in favor of Martin, but one shameful element of truth is beyond dispute. The Cadet Colonel of the Corps debased himself and his proud office by appearing as plaintiff at a trial where everyone from the accused to the court president were his subordinates. A commander's word has to be accepted by those under him, for unquestioned yet carefully used authority is basic to any effective military structure. To believe that this authority can exist outside a courtroom and then, somehow, evaporate un-

der the formalities of a trial is to be very, very naive. In this situation Cadet Martin had to be found guilty — or cadet rank reduced to insignificance. I have no idea what really happened at the drive-in grocery where this unfortunate situation began, but I cannot believe that Cadet Martin's actions, however disrespectful, warranted this pitiful misuse of the privilege of student-administered justice.

Harry Hulen, '64

Editor,
The Battalion,
The Staff of The Battalion deserves a hardy congratulations for taking a stand on the Cadet Court issues. What should concern us, at this time, is were there irregularities in the Court, if there were irregularities were they fostered by the Corps Commander, and most important, did the Corps Commander use the Court for personal revenge against the Cadet in question. It is now of minor importance whether or not the charges are correct, but was the Court correct? We are not faced with the future of Cadet Court, if there were irregularities then the entire system should be reviewed, if not then the whole subject should be dropped.

This stand is a milestone in The Battalion's history and a great one. I hope that the Batt will continue to bring more controversial subjects before the student body of Texas A&M University. Name withheld by request.

Editor,
The Battalion,
Regarding Dean of Students James P. Hannigan's quote in the March 24 issue of The Battalion which said, "Cadet Companies are really little fraternities in all but name."

Fraternities are allowed to pick their new members on the basis of prestige which these new mem-

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Brenda Lee Tremendous In Town Hall Appearance

By LANI PRESSWOOD
Battalion Amusements Editor
Brenda Lee. Brenda, Brenda, Brenda.

As a senior with the calendar date May 28 circled in red, I can honestly say that Town Hall saved the best for last. Up to Saturday night, the Brothers Four and Peter, Paul and Mary were in just about a dead heat in entertainment memoryville over the four-year haul.

No longer. It's Miss Dynamite by the width of a refreshing smile, and by the length of a ringing, heartfelt note.

They billed her as the world's top female vocalist and a large, cheering Aggie crowd found out why Saturday.

Her performance was moving, stunning, explosive. She sang literally as if there were no tomorrow, as if this was her last performance. She seemed to throw all she had into each song, and the emotional and physical effort she put forth was something to see.

Brenda belted out no less than 21 numbers, and you had to wonder how she could possibly get her breath fast enough to run through them with a pause only for the enthusiastic applause between each one.

Decked out in a satiny white

evening gown and fairly radiating vitality and emotion, the 4-11 dynamo displayed a voice of almost unbelievable power. If White Coliseum has an acoustics problem you sure couldn't tell it while she was singing . . . and sing she did.

She knocked out all of her big hits, including "Jambalaya," "I'm Losing You," "All Alone Am I," "Sweet Nothings," and her blockbuster, "I'm Sorry."

It's easy to pick out the highlights of some shows but in her performance there were nothing but highlights. There wasn't a single slow moment in her entire act.

If anything, she seemed to get better and better as the evening wore on, and "The Walls of Jericho," "Bill Bailey," and "When The Saints Go Marchin' In" came across especially well toward the

end of the show.

Each of her songs was delivered in a deep, earthy, natural voice, packed with feeling. She roamed all over the stage, got down on her knees, almost bent over completely backwards several times, and slapped her right thigh unmercifully during her most frenzied numbers.

Through it all she was backed by The Casuals, a lively, talented six-man combo who put on a fine performance themselves the first half of the show.

In her dressing room, Brenda was calm, poised and friendly, expressed a personal preference for classical music, and revealed that she plans to perform in Viet Nam next summer.

And if her presence can't boost our war effort over there then it's high time we headed for the negotiating table.

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