

The New Guard Takes The Watch

Today's edition of The Battalion marks the changing of the guard for the 1966-67 school year. Only three more issues are scheduled for this year, but it is appropriate, as a new staff takes over, for a brief summarization of what to expect when school re-opens in the fall.

The Battalion has won more than its share of awards this year, but we will not be satisfied, for any newspaper that becomes stagnant and complacent surrenders its sacred responsibility to its readers and its community.

Our guidelines will be simple — fairness, truthfulness and accuracy. We pledge ourselves to reporting the news in as impartial and unbiased manner as humanly possible. We further promise to serve no single student faction to the disadvantage of the students as a whole.

We intend to speak up and be heard as far as we are permitted, regardless of the popularity of our stand. And regardless of the abuse and criticism they might produce, we will always take a stand. Our intention is not necessary to be liked. We rather are interested in provoking thoughtful discussion on pertinent issues among our readers.

Our efforts will be aimed toward the betterment of the university and its elements, even though we realize before we embark that oftentimes the university will strongly feel the opposite is true. But only by questioning and at times opposing can we ever hope to achieve the purposes we intend.

We will be neither pro-administration nor anti-administration, but will instead be motivated by what we believe the proper course to follow.

There will be times when we will step on toes, and there will be times when we will toss bouquets. At times we will be hated and cursed, and perhaps a time or two we will be praised, but we intend to follow the dictates of our conscience and let the chips fall where they may.

A newspaper is not published with the intent of being popular. It cannot please everyone, and we do not intend to try. If we must criticize then so be it, but our criticism will never be without meaningful purpose. We will feel obligated on occasion to propose unpopular ideas and support unpopular beliefs, but we will never fail to take a stand because we feel we will meet with criticism. Since we will sometimes object, we expect our readers to object, and their comments will always find space in our pages.

The Battalion will no doubt be scorned by various segments of the university community at times, but whether we are roundly condemned or lavishly heaped with praise, we intend to be heard.

And if our opinions engender discussion, be it pro or con, then we have accomplished our objectives as a newspaper, for the greatest measure of a paper's success is the ability to evoke comment from its readers. We intend to do just that.

Sound like a mighty big job to achieve? Right. But we shove off on a new year today, filled with expectation and determination.

It should be an interesting year.

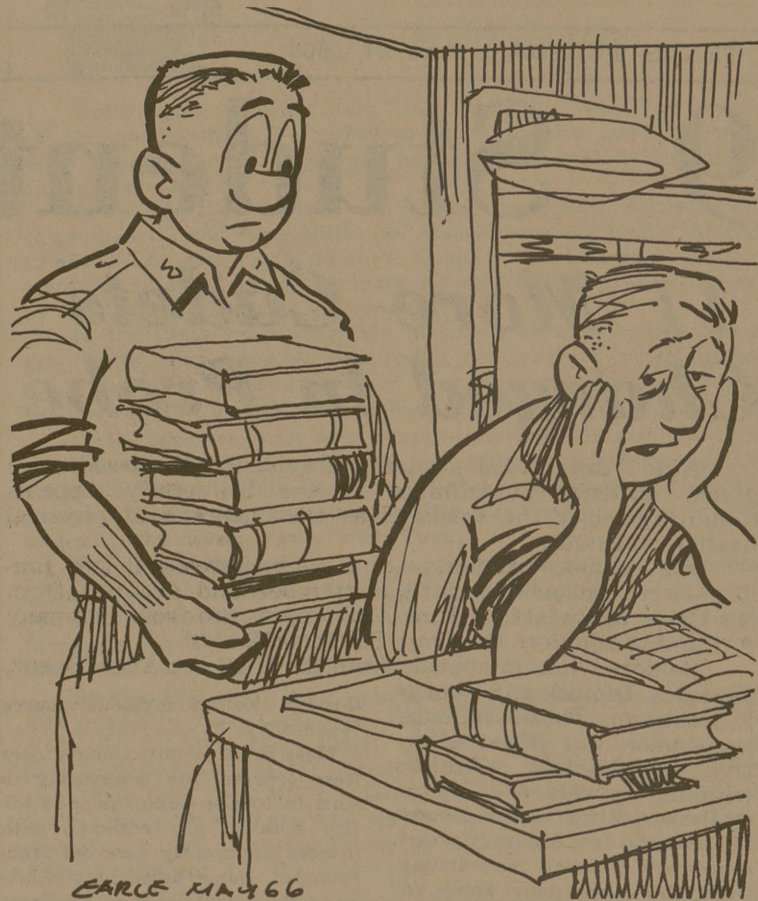
Two Categories Of Aggie Drivers

Drivers on and around campus seem to come in two categories: Those who tear out at all speeds and those who poke along at almost no speed.

At the rush hour at the new four-way stop, there seems to be an overabundance of drivers who, even when the traffic cop bows to let them go, just sit there in a trance. Timidity is not a virtue with the volume of cars at that time.

On the other hand, automobiles have been seen going in excess of 50 miles per hour down Military Walk with pedestrians having to jump to safety. Overaggressiveness is not a virtue with the volume of pedestrians at that time.

Streets are crowded, especially this time of year, so conditions are marginal at best. A little common sense and concern on the part of drivers could help make the situation almost bearable.



"I'm not much more prepared for finals now than last week, but it's a comfort to know that I have only one half as much time to sweat them!"

— Sound Off —

Editor, The Battalion:

I thought graduating from A&M was difficult—having to put up with the "thing's" you "men" pull is harder. My buddies from Texas really eat it up.

When I was there in '60-'65, everyone griped. So new dorms were made for our convenience. I never lived in the new dorms, but when you stop and think about it, nobody but a bunch of Aggies would tear them up with

mud and the likes of that.

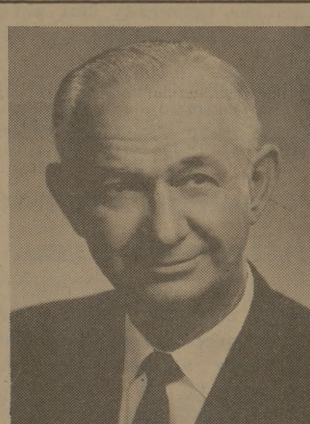
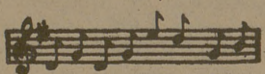
I don't enjoy hearing stuff like that—now I don't mean beating off handles, I mean fish that want all the privileges of being an Aggie but don't want just a little tradition. I was proud to go back to my room (or hole) and see blood on my shorts after being whipped with a saber.

But people are always looking at you for the slightest little incident to ridicule us about because they are jealous of us for being Aggies.

Don Frye '64



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EDITOR TOMMY DeFRANK
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