

# Athletics, Censure, Draft Jab A&M

Recent problems at A&M are beginning to resemble the Jimmy Ellis-Jerry Quarry heavyweight title fight of the past week.

Like Quarry, A&M has been given three solid right punches to the head—the school is staggering but as yet still strong enough to stand.

In the first round the Selective Service System threw a quick jab which will bleed graduate students away from master's and doctorate studies here.

Last February the system announced that deferments would no longer be granted for graduate work and that older men would be called into the service first. The new provisions will become effective July 1, and for a school which has received so much in research grants and scholarships for advanced studies in the past, it will smart.

In suspended animation of the fifth round, A&M sports had a punch thrown at it, which may or may not put A&M out of post-season football bowl competition next fall.

The pressure for a winning football season at any Southwest Conference school is heavy. Apparently some SWC coaches feel if they can't win on the gridiron they'll try badmouthing A&M from contention.

This weekend the SWC Faculty Athletic Committee will meet in Fort Worth to consider unproven charges that A&M violated recruiting regulations by offering inducements to athletes and high school coaches.

If the committee does apply sanctions to A&M, it will be the second time in three years that recruiting violations and subsequent probation has been effected.

But the biggest trouble came in the April 26th round when the American Association of University Professors censured A&M for "violations of academic freedom and tenure."

The story of Dr. Leon Gibbs of the College of Veterinary Medicine and his charges after being summarily removed from his classroom duties has been reported several times.

An offer to clarify charges was not followed up soon enough by action and so a "reluctant" AAUP censured the university until conditions are corrected.

Formal charges, which should have been made three years ago, are expected soon. There is the hope that with a proper hearing, A&M may be removed from the censure list by next year.

The censure warns higher education that there are violations of academic freedom and tenure at A&M, which is not the best bait for new faculty personnel.

What is difficult to understand is why the A&M Board of Directors, which is responsible to the people of Texas, has not yet made any public statement about the Gibbs case.

Each of these areas provides potential trouble—graduate deferments, athletic probation, and AAUP censure. A&M must hustle if its going to survive the fight and win a 15th-round decision.

# Aggie Hitchhiker Lauded By Host

Recently, a letter to the editors of the Houston Chronicle appeared in their columns describing the actions and appearance of an Aggie Hitchhiker.

The author, Thomas H. Shartle Jr., wrote: "On March 29, I visited the campus at Texas A&M. I found their campus to be neat and orderly. Also, I found the students were basically clean cut and dressed in a conventional manner. This is in contrast to the Rice University campus, where I found all of the current fads in appearance and most unconventional dress."

"On leaving Texas A&M, I picked up one of the students, who was hitchhiking to Austin. This young student got into the car, shook my hand and introduced himself as one of the freshman class. This young gentleman carried on a pleasant, polite conversation, was conventionally dressed, and looked neat. Besides this, his answers were predominantly respectable, "Yes, Sir," and "No, Sir."

"I felt my brief contact with the student body in general, and with this one student hitchhiker in particular, was a most rewarding experience. The impression that A&M left in general and this one student left with me, makes me write this letter as commendation toward A&M and the students who represent A&M."

Another letter with a copy of the above enclosed, was received by The Battalion the day after Aggie Muster.

Written by Keyes Carson, an A&M graduate and an auctioneer at Cuero, Texas, this letter concerned the Muster Speaker at Yoakum, Texas, which Carson attended.

Wrote Carson: "The speaker, Bobby Johnson, scholarship superintendent for the student aid office at A&M, read the enclosed letter . . . It inspired me greatly . . ."

"While I was at A&M I did much hitchhiking and I owe much for the improvement of hitchhiking, such as this Aggie has done . . ."

The Battalion is interested in contacting the student who hitchhiked to Austin with Thomas Shartle. This student should contact The Battalion, at the Student Publications Office, the Communications Building immediately.

## THE BATTALION

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EDITOR CHARLES ROWTON  
 Managing Editor John Fuller  
 Features Editor Mike Plake  
 Editorial Columnist Robert Solovey  
 News Editors Steve Korenek, Jim Basinger  
 Sports Editor Gary Sheper  
 Asst. Sports Editor John Platzer  
 Staff Writers Bob Palmer, Dave Mayes, Tom Curl  
 Photographer Mike Wright

# At The Movies

by Mike Plake

## THE SCALPHUNTERS

The advertisements say: "A scalphunter is the lowest, meanest, toughest, etc., man alive."

Then: "I hunt scalphunters!" says Burt Lancaster.

And he does. Burt Lancaster goes far in this film to prove that he's no bulging, retiring old man yet. The film is great entertainment, has solid acting and an adequate musical score.

The plot is simple; yet nowhere is there a time when you want to get up for popcorn.

BURT LANCASTER is Joe Bass, a trapper coming in from the mountain winters to sell a season's cache of furs. However, he doesn't quite reach any settlement to peddle his wares. He's surrounded by Two Crows and his band of Kiowas. Two Crows charges a high rent for Joe Bass's trespassing on his land and trapping his animals.

Bass is left with his horse, his rifle, no pack horse and no furs.

He acquires one other item in his "trade" with the Kiowas—a Negro slave.

Here's where "The Scalphunters" becomes similar to another race-oriented film—"In The Heat of The Night." As the critics at Playboy call it, "In The Heat of The Day." A factor substantiating this is that the film takes place out in some desert-mountain area, evidently on the way towards Mexico.

ANYWAY, the slave Joe Bass inherits, admirably played by Ossie Davis, is not a run-of-the-mill human pack horse or field hand. He was educated by his master on a Southern plantation, taught to "read, write, and cipher," and evidently had learned enough of his master's library that a man "is not a tool or an animal to be bought and sold."

So Lee, the Negro, knows what freedom is. And after he is captured by a group of mangy scalphunters, on the way to Mexico, he decides to stay with them. There is no slavery in Mexico.

The movie abounds with good humor. Caustic exchanges between Lancaster and Davis split your sides. Telly Savalas and Shelley Winters, who head up the scalphunters, make up the remaining composite of jokes.

BUT THE main point is not that humor exists. The main point of the movie is Joe Bass and his furs. After the furs are taken by the Indians, they are in turn swiped by the scalphunters. Using his wiles and sharp-shooting skill, he eliminates the gang, one by one, and comes close to getting the furs. Close, but not quite.

Does he finally get his furs? Does Davis find his freedom? Does Shelley Winters finish her cigar?

We'll leave that for you to see. One last comment. There exists a fight in that show, between Lancaster and Davis, the likes of which have not been seen since John Wayne's "McClintock." And with just as much mud.

THE GRADUATE  
 By Tom Curl

It would be ridiculous to say "The Graduate" portrays the modern American college man because very few of us are captains of the debate team, an honor student, member of the track team, and blessed with a neighbor like Mrs. Robinson.

The movie does show, however, the complex and bewildering world that many college graduates find themselves thrust into.

THE ACTING is exceptional, when you consider that two of the three main characters are

relatively unknown. Anne Bancroft had already won an Academy Award for "The Miracle Worker" and Katherine Ross will probably be chosen the sweetheart of several fraternities and military outfits. Dustin Hoffman could very possibly be the young women's replacement for the aging Paul Newman.

The performances of these three are outstanding (even the Oscar nominators agree), but the best performance is by Hoffman. His portrayal of a confused young man who is prone to beating his head against available hard surfaces when things go wrong is

an example of superb acting. Hoffman's spontaneity of comment and expression of emotion is something many actors never achieve.

Last, but certainly not least, comes the soundtrack. Although we heard such songs as "Sounds of Silence" and "Scarborough Fair" long before we ever heard of "The Graduate," they take on new meaning when applied to this movie setting. The hauntingly beautiful lyrics and harmony of Simon and Garfunkel contribute greatly to the mood and do much to carry the action of the whole movie.

# — Sound Off —

Editor

The Battalion: In Wednesday's Battalion you published a letter written by Jeff Daniel, spokesman for the SDS. In this article Mr. Daniel stated that his organization originated and circulated a petition demanding that the administration do everything in its power to rectify the AAUP censorship.

Tuesday night an identical petition was circulated and signed by 150 members of Dorm 20. At that time we had no knowledge of the SDS being the originator of

that petition.

Although we, the 150 members of Dorm 20, believe that the administration must do everything to correct the situation and restore A&M to its prior status, we DO NOT support the SDS organization in ANY way. We signed the petition without any knowledge of the SDS organizing and circulating this particular petition. That is, we DO believe the ideas stated in the petition submitted to us, BUT DO NOT support the philosophy of the SDS.

150 members of Dorm 20

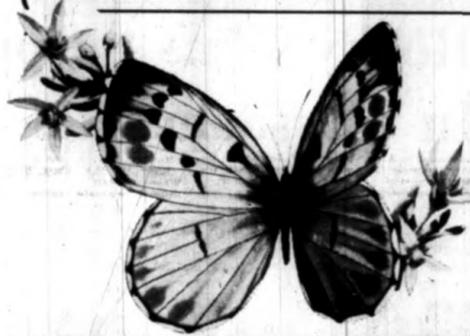
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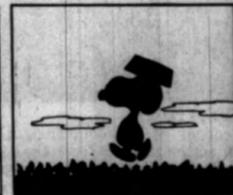
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# URGENT!

Juniors and Sophomores

May 3 is deadline for turning in proofs for 1968 AggieLand at the University Studio.

## PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz