

Policies explained

Some students around the campus seem to hold misconceptions about *The Battalion*. Some of them are outlined in the letter appearing in today's "Listen Up." We feel it is unfortunate the misconceptions exist and hope they are not shared by a majority of the student body.

We are charged with printing inaccuracies, half-truths and lies. We strive to print only the truth, and it is hard. When we quote opinion, we try always to give a source and tell why that source is qualified to give an opinion. When we quote facts, we try to use reliable sources.

We have no double standard, either. Nor are we ultra-liberal or new left. If anything, we're slightly left of middle-of-the-road, but not by much. We try to print what is interesting or important. We try to keep opinion out of our news columns.

Aside from this, the editorial page, opinion to any degree is permitted only in sports and women's news, and then only within limits; columns by the editors of those pages are an exception.

We don't play partisan politics, nor do we attack the ROTC program and Texas A&M traditions. We sometimes question policies of the Corps of Cadets or ask people to think about what a tradition is and why they want to follow it, but somehow that doesn't seem like attacking to us.

The article questioned in the letter was not even one written by us, but one we quoted from another campus newspaper, one at Washington State. To assume the opinion it expresses is the one we hold is to err, because we do not print only that which we agree.

What it comes down to is that we like Texas A&M, and we want to see it grow and improve. The opinions and policies we advocate, on this page are those we believe will help move us toward those goals. But our beliefs do not carry over (as best we can determine) to our news columns.

Listen up

Battalion column attacked

Editor:

The *Battalion* article Jan. 28 concerning the "evils of ROTC" is replete with inaccuracies, half-truths and outright lies.

First, any individual who would voluntarily sign his name to an agreement without fully understanding what he is signing certainly can't be categorized as "bright." It clearly states in the contract that the individual is subject to immediate active duty upon breach of contract. "Bright" people know that any contract is equally binding upon both parties.

Second, there are no lower in-service standards than induction standards. Physical and mental standards for all are stated clearly in appropriate service regulations.

Third, the assumption of the mantle of "conscientious objector" for cadets who leave the ROTC program after one or two volunteer years more than smacks of hypocrisy.

I realize how popular it is today for *The Battalion* staff to

attack anything that doesn't align with the ultra-liberal or new left. This article is another example of *The Battalion's* double standard in its publishing policies.

In the past, Mr. Middlebrooke has spoken of justice, of A&M's need to progress, of how "this is the twentieth century" yet *The Battalion* is replete with biased, prejudiced articles typical of the slanted, "yellow journalism" of the nineteenth century.

Nevertheless, Mr. Middlebrooke and company in one respect have succeeded in keeping *The Battalion* in tune with the times. Attacking ROTC, mocking A&M's traditions and conservative tone, spewing out meaningless generalities and rhetoric are all very popular at universities throughout the nation; universities like U.T., Berkeley, etc. "Ride on" (sic) Mr. Middlebrooke and company, and maybe someday through your efforts A&M, instead of U.T. will be known as "Berkeley East."

Greg Vernon '72

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT
Sailing Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 110 of the Architecture Building.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 304 of the Physics Building.

Pre-Vet Society will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Vet Medicine Science Building. Activities include having picture for the Aggieldand taken.

Junior Class Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 113 of Nagle Hall.

TAMMBA will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the TAMMBA Building.

THURSDAY

Texarkansas Hometown Club will meet at 7:15 in front of the MSC to have pictures taken.

Texas A&M Motorcycle Club will meet at 7 p.m. in the Social Room of the MSC.

Pecan Valley Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Art Room of the MSC.

Texas A&M Model Airplane Club will meet at 8:15 p.m. in room 202 of the Physics Building to plan the spring contest.

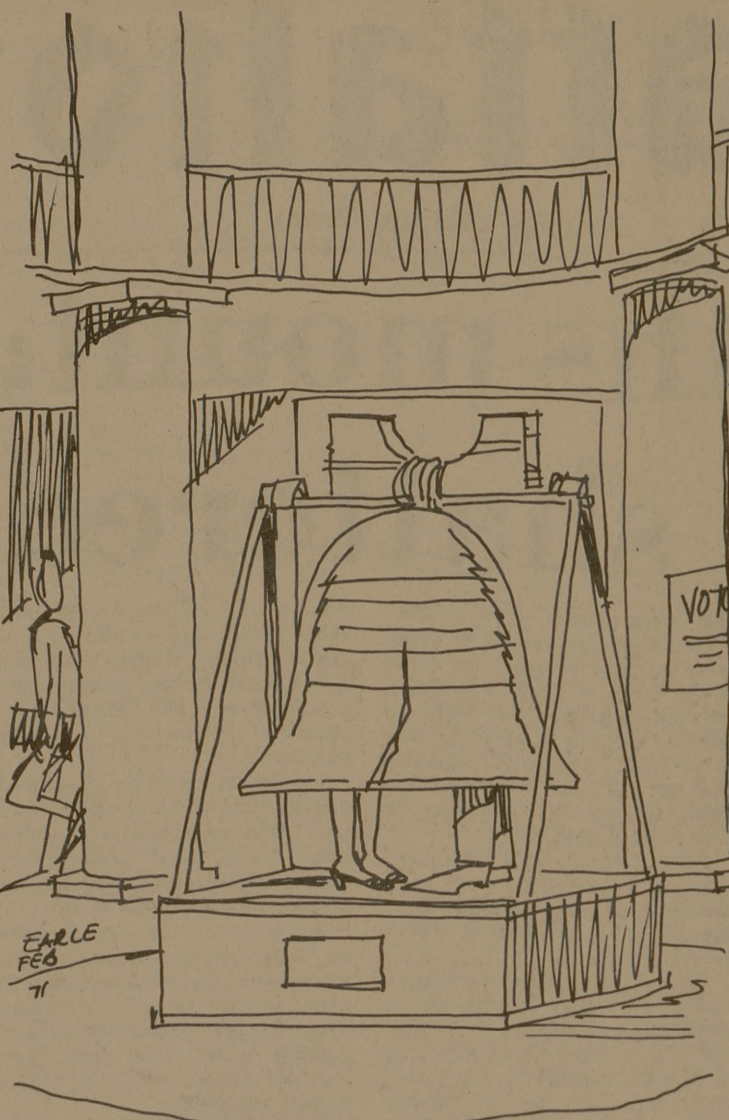
Chemical Engineering Wives Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. J. D. Lindsey, 1029 Walton in College Station.

Graduate Student Council will meet at 12 noon in the Art Room of the MSC.

The Civilian Student Council will meet at 7 p.m. in room 3D of the MSC.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"We've got to stop meeting like this!"

Firemen school gains instructor

Charles L. Page of Alto will join the Engineering Extension Service Firemen Training School staff March 1 as an extension instructor, announced Chief Instructor Henry D. Smith.

Page currently is chief of the Alto Volunteer Fire Department and store manager of the J. C. Hill International Harvester Dealership.

62 A&M papers to be presented

Research papers bearing names of 89 faculty members graduate students will be presented March 11-13 at the annual Academy of Science meeting, Nacogdoches.

Stephen F. Austin State University will host the meeting which 2,000 representatives of universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning from all over Texas are expected.

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The Battalion

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LETTERS POLICY

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Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; H. F. Eilers, College of Liberal Arts; F. S. White, College of Engineering; Dr. Asa B. Childers, Jr., College of Veterinary Medicine; Dr. Z. L. Carpenter, College of Agriculture; and Roger Miller, student.

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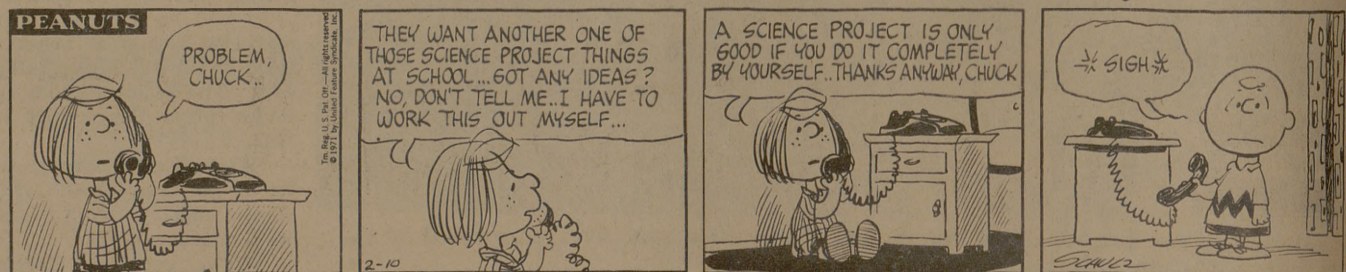


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PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz