

Comment on column about the band

Dear Editor:

As a former member of the Aggie Band, I read John Curylo's article with mixed emotions. During my tenure in the band, I experienced some incidents similar to those in his article. At the time, I felt that these were unfortunate and still do. But on the other hand, some of his citations have other factors involved. However, since I was not on the "inside" this year, I will reserve comment on the SMU game, KORA, and Humble incidents.

There is one big factor involved in out-of-town football games. Money. For any sort of trip beyond the "radius" of Houston-Austin-Dallas-Ft. Worth, the cost for a group the size of the Aggie Band tends to be rather expensive. Even to be at the 1968 Cotton Bowl a couple of days early cost several thousands of dollars. As a result, chartered bus trips outside the "radius" usually consist of leaving early the morning of the game arriving just in time to eat and returning immediately after the game to arrive 25 to 30 hours after first leaving. Having made such trips to Lubbock and Baton Rouge, I can vouch that they get old in a hurry, but money . . .

The Band does not appear at pre-conference basketball games so that members may have a rest following the physical drain of football season. But perhaps no one but a bandsman would understand that.

There are certain feelings in my opinion are just that—mine. I do not claim to represent any group of bandsmen; past or present. However, one opinion is shared by many others: The Fighting Texas Aggie Band is the best anywhere and Col. Adams is without a peer as a director.

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Lowell D. Hendrix '71
★ ★ ★

Editor:
Mr. John Curylo's article in the Battalion (January 20, 1972) relative to the Fighting Texas Aggie Band was interesting to read and to the point. I feel sure the band members and any other parties guilty of wrong doing would have confessed their sins, promised to do better in the future and prayed for forgiveness except for one thing.

Mr. Curylo committed, to my personal knowledge, one journalism sin. I have been constantly reminded by all news media that a professional writer should seek out the truth, print it and let the chips fall where they may. Mr. Curylo did not seek the truth relative to one paragraph in this article. He knows the paragraph to which I am referring unless he was guilty with respect to the entire article. I am not in a position to pass on that.

Carl E. Patton
Treasurer
Texas Aggie Band Association

The paragraph you alluded to has yet to be found by anyone on THE BATTALION staff, including John Curylo. Perhaps Curylo made an error and is unaware of it, if so it would be corrected if we knew of it.

But you who speak of journalistic sins have created one of your own. An absence of facts. It is very easy to allude, possible at-

tempt to delude in your case, to an error. It has the function of casting doubts without evidence, something that this reply has prevented. Thank you for your ineffectual letter.—Ed.
★ ★ ★

Editor:

I would like to know if notices of class meetings and other activities could not be posted in the "Bulletin Board" section of The Battalion at least one day before the meetings are scheduled to be held.

This may seem like a minor "gripe," but The Battalion does not reach my apartment complex before 6:30 or 7:00. By that time, it is too late for me to reach meetings which often begin at 7:00 or 7:30. I have missed more than one meeting because the notice was placed in The Battalion the day of the meeting. I'm sure that I'm not the only day student who has experienced this inconvenience. Thank you.

Alice Forbes

In some cases we do not receive notice to the meetings until the day before them, too late to place them in the previous day's issue.

We will try to get the announcements in sooner if possible.—Ed.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"It's a new type of book holder that's helping me with my studying!"

Demos criticize budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic Sens. William Proxmire, Edmund S. Muskie and Edward M. Kennedy criticized President Nixon's new budget Monday as being too pro-military.

But more-conservative Democrats criticized the budget on different grounds, including a large deficit or allegedly faulty arithmetic.

And House Republican Leader Gerald Ford of Michigan denounced in advance all budget criticisms by Democrats as coming from men "who brought this nation to the brink of economic collapse."

Proxmire, chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, said

the money saved from winding down the Indochina war ought to be budgeted for nonmilitary spending.

"What the President has done is to take the so-called 'peace dividend' and give it to the Pentagon," the Wisconsin Democrat said.

"The President has clearly chosen B1 bombers, crash Navy shipbuilding programs and the ABM over child care, aid to the cities and higher education."

Muskie said defense spending is climbing when it ought to be dropping, and added that the proposed budget deficit is so large it will cause renewed inflation.

Kennedy criticized the budget's "promiscuous increase of billions for defense, when what we really

need is billions for schools and homes and health. . ."

Chairman George H. Mahon, D-Tex., of the House Appropriations Committee, said Congress must cut spending or increase taxes to trim the deficit Nixon proposes.

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Bulletin Board

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Wednesday
APO will meet at 7:30 in the Library Conference room for a smoker. All interested invited.

Martin asks for court retention of state's election filing fees

DALLAS (AP) — Atty. Gen. Crawford Martin and Dallas County Democratic Chairman Earl Luna asked a three-judge federal court Monday to permit the present filing fee system for candidates to remain in effect through this year's elections.

Court sources said late Monday that two of the judges on the panel already had turned down the plea. The third judge was not present and an official turnaround for Luna was expected today.

The court ruled last week that the fees—which are used to finance primary elections—are unconstitutional.

Rejection of the requests for a stay in the court's mandate would clear the way for an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, a spokesman for Martin said.

Gov. Preston Smith, meanwhile, told a news conference it was "entirely possible" that he will have to call a special legislative session to deal with the problem of financing primaries.

"That, to me, is the only emergency involving state government that would justify a special session at this time," Smith said.

If he calls a special session to deal with the fee problem, Smith said, he might also ask the legislature to write a state budget for the year starting Sept. 1.

Smith vetoed that year's appropriation last summer on grounds the legislature was spending too much.

The governor said he and his staff were "doing everything we can to work out alternatives" to the filing fee to pay for primaries.

The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper.

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PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

1-24

2-25

THE BATTALION
Page 2 College Station, Texas Tuesday, January 25, 1972

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