

Listen Up End to Paranoid Actions Asked

Editor:
The December 5, 1973 issue of the Battalion carried a reprint of an article from The Daily Texan. The article had several quotations "purported" to be those of Mike Rice. Are these actually your quotations, Mr. Rice, or misquotations by Herb Holland? If Mr. Rice does feel that the Rice band's performance was funny and that tradition is overemphasized here at A&M, he should make his opinion clear in The Battalion.

Evidence for this belief seems abundant. The A&M students irrationally attack the Rice band for their satire of the "Aggie traditions". They then beseege the Rice band in retaliation for its "destruction of Aggie traditions".

Rice apologized, despite the fact that the Aggies were the ones threatening the physical destruction. This wasn't enough for some Aggies, though. They destroyed a Rice tradition, physically, a tree, to the approval and joy of many other Aggies.

This same paranoid defense of tradition and hatred for opponents, such as other SWC schools, surfaced again during and before the UT-A&M game. At the time that Aggies walked around the MSC, brandishing clubs and demanding the passer-by's ID, supposedly "guarding" it from UT students, other Aggies were raiding Rice. Still this was not enough to show the Aggies' hatred. The next day, many Aggies cheered when Roosevelt Leaks left the

game with an injury. One Aggie football player was even "jumping for joy" as Leaks lay on the ground injured.

This type of thinking and action is what Mr. Rice and all of us can "do something constructive about". We must, for the sake of the University and its students, stop the kind of thinking that puts tradition ahead of everything, including students and traditions of other schools.

N. Medina

The fact that Holland took no notes during the conversation generally led to misquotations in the article, except where tradition is concerned. Point to be made clear: the editor feels there was a gross overreaction by many upset stu-

dents be they from TAMU, or anywhere else. We hope there will be no trouble at the TAMU-Rice basketball games as a carryover from the football game antics.—Ed.

Editor:

After observing the distribution of Book Store profits for the 1972-73 school year, I feel that there are several members of student organizations that may feel the same as I: left out.

The \$4,585.00 distributed to departmental and professional clubs compared to the \$29,005.00 for non-departmental clubs does not seem to be an equal distribution. But who can define an equal distribution. I have not been able to discover how or on what basis the Book Store Advisory Committee makes its decisions. I believe that professional organizations represent the University throughout the United States to a degree equal to or greater than the Saddle and Sirloin Club or the Ross Volunteers.

These departmental and professional organizations are an integral part of the education process, much more than these social and extra-curricular activities. Why isn't there more support from the University for education rather

than for social and extra-curricular activities?

It's hard for officers, sponsors, and upperclassmen to promote and encourage student involvement in professional organizations when it's quite clear from the breakdown of funds that there isn't much support of professional organizations.

I don't think it is unfair to ask for an equal distribution of the Book Store funds, or at least an explanation to students and student organizations of how the funds are divided.

Sherman Click '74

We agree that educational programs are more advantageous and representative. But, the most common complaint around here is that there is nothing to do. Taking away Book Store dividends from these would force extra-curricular groups to hunt somewhere else for funds, possibly to find none. Perhaps a way out would be to expand funding through the Student Services Fee for those groups.—Ed.

Editor:

I feel that Mike Rice has personally aggrieved me and a lot of other Ags as well. When somebody starts to complain about the 'system', we in the Corps would say to the unstable cadet get the hell out of the Corps or get your head pulled out. Since Mike Rice is a non-reg, there's not much choice but to say to such a person get the hell out of TAMU.

The Corps is the oldest tradition of Aggeland. As a 'fish' in the Corps of Cadets, I have learned the history of TAMU, and matured into the traditions because of experiences. That's why at times the Corps considers non-regs, outsiders, because non-regs like Mr. Rice don't know or understand traditions because they are not interested or could care less anyway about the history of the traditions of our University. Rather, they are here to tear down traditions of A&M and build up their own traditions.

To Mr. Rice then, I and the rest of the Corps as well as the civilian Aggies understand your motives. You use the Battalion as your only battleground and your weapons satire against our pride and love of TAMU. If that is your 'thing', non-reg, it is best for you to get your words out of the Battalion and suck it up! Because, what you are asking for is a war with "Old Army", and a war you

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim East



"I don't know what I'll do if it gets colder — I'm wearing my heaviest coat now!"

will have — in words!

Robert W. Dally '77

Traditions that must be fought for aren't really traditions. Freedom to do as we please is guaranteed in the Constitution and your right of freedom of expression was upheld when this letter ran. Likewise, students at TAMU should be allowed to create their own experiences as they wish, even to the point of ignoring what has been laid before them by their predecessors. The following words should be a guideline for all students, "You do your thing, and I'll do mine."—Ed.

Editor:

In your response to a letter published about homosexuality, (5 Dec. 73), you made the following comments: "We do not condemn homosexuality . . . There's no reason a gay lib society shouldn't be initiated here." I totally disagree with such indifference. I do not believe that homosexuality should be encouraged or publicized by the initiation of any

gay lib society. I am not in this view. If you don't believe me, then read I Corinthians 10:10. I hope it is not too conservative for you.

I would like to commend you a few things though. Because your responses to the gay lib and various past articles published in the Batt, along with your comments against our conservative campus and its tradition in "This Really the Image of All you have helped to stir up the Aggie Spirit that says "no" liberalism and homosexuality" "yes" to our conservative campus and that means preserving Aggie Traditions! This spirit Aggie have will never diminish one as long as there are people like you around. Mr. Editor, I thank you, the Corps of Cadets thank you, and the non-regs thank you. Ricky Williamson '76 Chuck Use '76

A traditional spirit and atmosphere of friendship should be a guiding light of all people, including Aggies. Ed.

Batt Commentary

Open Meetings

From time to time various University committees and boards have held private meetings, many of them more secretive than private. Nonetheless, all efforts were frequently made to keep group ideas from reaching the eyes and ears of the Texas public.

On April 11, 1973, House Bill 3, more commonly known as the governmental bodies open meetings law, was approved by both the Texas Senate and House of Representatives. Basically, the bill goes to great lengths to define what a meeting is, in addition to defining the words deliberation, governmental body and a quorum.

The second part of the bill provides the real bite for those still wishing to have closed door meetings by stipulating the exact procedures under which they may do so.

Except as otherwise provided in this Act or specifically permitted in the Constitution, every regular, special, or called meeting or session of every governmental body shall be open to the public; and no closed or executive meeting or session of any governmental body for any of the purposes for which closed or executive meetings or sessions are hereinafter authorized shall be held unless the governmental body has first been convened in open meeting or session for which notice has been given as hereinafter provided and during which open meeting or session will be held and identified the section or sections under this act authorizing the holding of such closed or executive session.

The legislature also amended past legislation to specify the punishment for those found guilty of violating the new law. Persons who "willfully call(s) or aid(s) in calling or organizing a special or called meeting or session which is closed to the public . . . shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than one month nor more than six months, or both."

The same will apply to those who meet in numbers "less than a quorum for the purpose of secret deliberations in contravention of this Act."

This piece of legislation complements well House Bill 6, more commonly known as the public information act, also passed this year. The two will be working to the benefit of Texans effective Jan. 1, 1974.

From indications at a recent meeting of the Texas Press Association, newspapermen across the state are looking with eager anticipation at the Jan. 1 date and are promising their readers some results. This undoubtedly means newspapers will not be afraid to take school boards, city councils, boards of directors and elected and hired public officials to court on any matter not excepted by the bills.

Through this column, we are trying to insure that all University officials know the law before it goes into effect. Surely, matters affecting the public deserve to be brought to its attention.

It's unfortunate that laws such as House Bills 3 and 6 weren't passed many years ago. It's more unfortunate that these bills were necessary at all.

Discrimination Out

In case you haven't heard about it yet, the faculty representatives to the Southwest Conference have changed the eligibility rule for competition based on sex.

A statement issued by the representatives says that the SWC "shall be a regulatory body for participation of students in each athletic activity in which the Southwest Conference declares a championship.

"This opens championships and competition to any student eligible for participation."

The rule change does not provide for the creation of a separate women's division of competition, however. Women will have to get separate championship eligibility declared on a sport by sport basis, just as the men have had to do in the past. This means that if women want a SWC championship for tennis, they'll have to compete with demands from the men for soccer, for example. Monetary remunerations and losses will have to be weighed by the SWC for each sport added. SWC women can, though, compete for scholarships.

Competition-wise, A&M women may be better off competing in their own state and national organizations as they are now. But, most people recognize the fact that there will never be much monetary benefit from these.

If women in SWC schools want to compete for SWC championships, they will have to work closely with their respective athletic councils to show the need and demand. The minor point of the rule change has been made. The ball of wax is now in their hands.

The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the University administration or the Board of Directors. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a University and Community newspaper.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed and show the address of the writer.

Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; Dr. Tom Adair, Dr. R. A. Albanese, Dr. H. E. Hierth, W. C. Harrison, Randy Ross, T. Chet Edwards, and Jan Faber.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc. New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas, daily except Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

MEMBER

The Associated Press, Texas Press Association

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year; \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 5% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Right of reproduction of all other matter herein is also reserved. Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas.

EDITOR MIKE RICE
Assistant to the Editor Rod Speer
Managing Editor Greg Moses
News Editor T. C. Gallucci
Sports Editor Kevin Coffey
Ass't. Sports Editor Ted Boriskie

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION will meet at 7:30 in Rooms 229 and 230 in the Memorial Student Center. Dr. George Shelton, Dean of the Veterinary School will speak on the Future of the Biomedical Science Program.

AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS CLUB will meet in Room 107 of the Plant Sciences Building at 7:30. Elections will be held.

FREE UNIVERSITY-HUMAN SEXUALITY will hold a panel discussion on "love". They will meet in Room 313 of Nagle at eight.

ACCOUNTING SOCIETY will meet in Room 301 of the Rudder Conference Tower at 7:30.

PRE-MED-DE-DENT SOCIETY will hold a meeting in Room 145 of the new Biology Building at 7:30. Dr. H. L. Wade will speak.

RIO GRANDE HOMETOWN CLUB will meet in Room 231 of the MSC at 7:30.

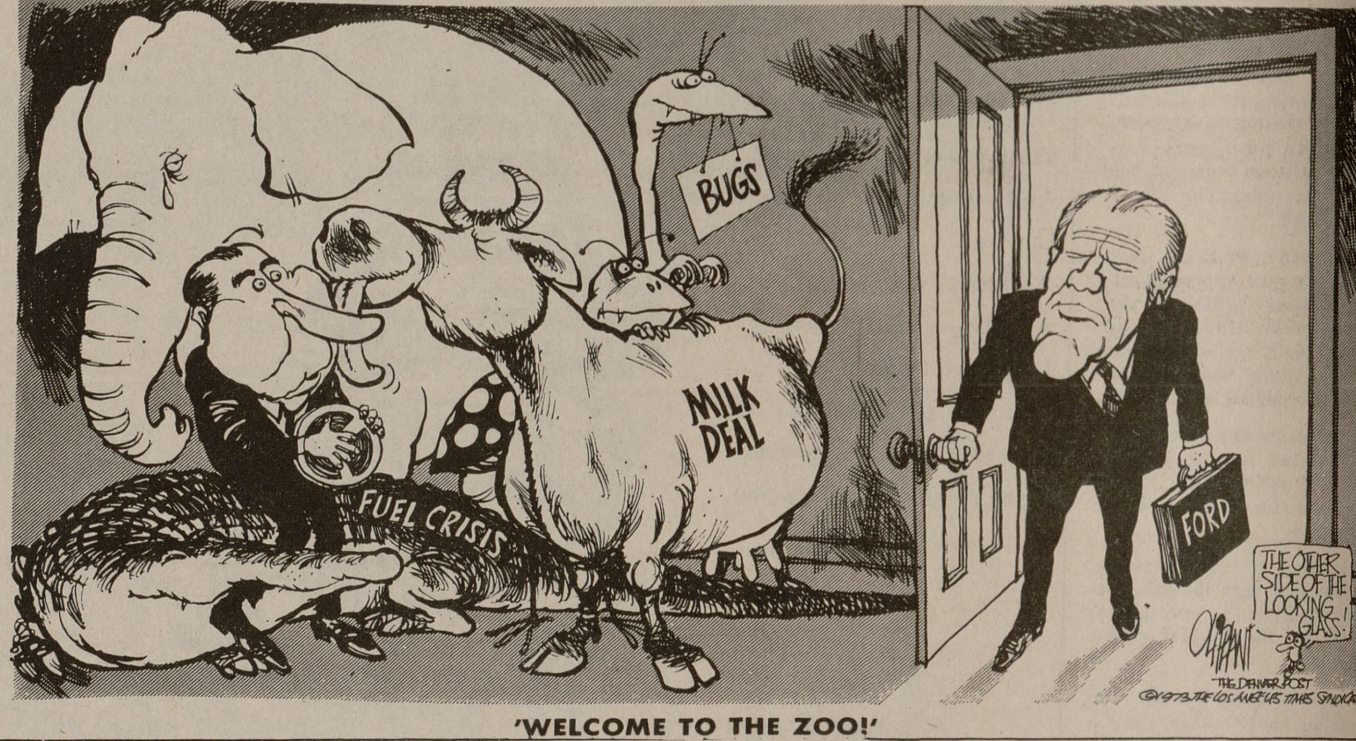
STUDENT Y ASSOCIATION will hold the annual Christmas Service at eight by the Rudder fountain or in the Rudder Tower Auditorium if it rains. The New Tradition Singers will provide music.

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION will hear Dr. George Shelton in Room 229 of the Memorial Student Center at 7:30 p. m.

HUMAN SEXUALITY will offer a panel discussion on love in Room 313 of Nagle Hall at 7:30 p. m.

ACCOUNTING SOCIETY will meet at 7:30 p. m. in Room 301 of the Rudder Tower.

AG. ECO. CLUB will elect officers in Room 107 of the Plant Sciences Building at 7:30 p. m.



a novel by bob robinson '70

GENERAL BLASTEM

No sex or violence! Just...

"An inclusive and delightful satire"

"Bob Robinson milks a sacred cow. No Bull!"

"Bunker, Now Blastem"

"the ideal gift"

Texas A&M Book Store, University Center

