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year. We have enough classrooms to meet the need. I think that I am employed by the greatest university in the world and associated with the greatest student body in the world.

Claydene Glynn, secretary, registrar

The parking is a hassle . . . My husband and I are trying to survive on my salary and the building use fees really hurt.

Carolyn Watson, ring clerk

It's unbelievable how busy the ring desk is. The ring costs a lot but that's because of the cost of gold.

Rene Caperton, assistant cashier, fiscal office

I like the traditions. Most universities are stereotyped . . . The tuition is the fifth lowest in the nation. I really don't have any complaints. I'll take that back. Parking.

Jim Breedlove, director of public relations, Memorial Student Center

Impose a curfew. Make bed checks mandatory. Serve nothing but instant oatmeal in the dining halls. Require everyone to check at the programs office daily. Pahlmann should be hired to decorate Williams house the same way that he did the MSC. Exchange T. V. lectures for stag flicks. Move all the women into Hotard. Trade football teams with USC.

Jack Tatum, graduate, oceanography

They should start a cat trapping and torture class. We have to keep up with the trend in the other universities. Breedlove and I will teach the course . . . Pahlmann should be redesigned.

Col. Gaines, associate director, MSC

I didn't like losing at football . . . There is a minor inconvenience in the road construction on campus . . . I am delighted in the student increase. We have more active students and it will reflect on our program. I hope that in the near future the MSC will be open . . . We need to have more peripheral parking . . . It was a great year from our viewpoint.

Ruth Hewitt, senior secretary, MSC

I don't have any complaints. I found a parking space everyday. I've enjoyed the increase in students as well as the caliber of the students . . . It's always nice to show people through our new building . . . I hope the new University Center cafeteria opens soon but we'll probably all get fat.

John Garcia, barber, MSC

The barber shop is a 100 per cent improvement. We now have a beauty salon. People are scared to have their hair cut here but we can style and do everything like that.

Bob Stahl, senior

Hang the son-of-a-bitch that designed the MSC. I don't like the parking situation but I don't think that there is anything that can be done about it.

Tom Wheeler, senior

I'd like to see the construction finished . . . The wall money should be spent on the Grove . . . They are not building buildings for the students anymore.

Dave Godine, custodian

More money. That's all. More money.

Libby Jowell, faculty mail service

There isn't anything except the fees . . . that complaint is for my husband.

Dale Powell, student worker, faculty mail service

I'd like them to get some of the construction over with.

Florene Luedecke, student worker, faculty mail service

. . . yea and stop tearing down the trees. Student workers don't make enough money.

C. C. Mathewson, assistant professor, geology

I like the fact that we're a growing school, that we have an increase in coeds, that we're increasing our national standings. It's going to be a great school. I'd like to see "The Battalion" headline nothing on the front page except the campus. Get off the wire services.

Dr. Doug Brown, researcher, Cyclotron

The university seems not to have influenced the community at all. There seems to be no place that is a hangout for students. The library seems quite good. The bookstore seems abysmally lacking. Then to add insult to injury, if you order a book under \$10 they charge you extra. It seems to me that if you have a bookstore on campus — besides making money they should be very receptive to the needs of the academic community.

Dr. John Murray, assistant professor, electrical engineering

I've just been here a few weeks. The people have been pretty friendly and the E. E. department looks good in facilities and research opportunities.

Dr. James McNeal, department head of marketing

Our high enrollment is unusual for a school of high quality. After really thinking it over and talking to parents and ex-Ags in West Texas, they say A&M is the only place to send their children.

This school places education first and social life second. Their (other schools) parents are saying "we want our young people to associate with fine upstanding people." Here they say the association is already here. I don't think the enrollment can

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The Battalion

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Listen up

Editor hard-up for copy

Editor:

Mariou Suler-Roelon should pack up and go to T. U. if she's not already there — which I support. We had a hell of a good football season — I'm proud of every last one of the ninety-nine players and Coach Bellard and his staff — they played their hearts out.

The editor was darn hard up for material or he wouldn't have published garbage like this. Every other coach in the conference will show this letter to potential recruits indicating that this is the way football players at A&M are looked upon by the student body . . .

Jack Kingsbery '45

Proud Aggie

Editor:

. . . I paid particular attention recently to all the criticism in the paper after the Aggies were outscored by TU this year. Please let's

give Emory Bellard and the Aggie Football team some credit instead of criticism. To give you an example of how proud I am . . . I'm going to compare the best three seasons while I was attending A&M with Coach Bellard's three seasons . . . 1961 was 4-5-1; 1962 was 3-7; 1963 was 2-7-1; combined record 9-19-2 . . . Now in the three years Coach Bellard has been at A&M, he has produced a combined record of 16-17, with the last of course, 8-3.

I think we really have something to be proud of in Coach Bellard and his staff and, of course, the players themselves. I don't believe the football players would have come to A&M in the first place had they not wanted to win every game. In closing, please let it be known that this is one Aggie who is proud of our coach, his staff and the players who gave all they had.

R. C. Florence '65

Ag forever

Editor:

I too was greatly disappointed by our loss to t. u. but one football game will never make me lose the Spirit of Aggieland and the pride I take in being an Aggie.

It seems that some people (like the "Ag" in the Dec. 5 Batt) consider the 1974 season a loss, but I think differently. How would that guy like to lose, instead of win, eight games?

I don't care where the fair weather Ags go (how about that God-forsaken school in Waco), but why don't they get the hell out of Aggieland?

I'll back Bellard and his team in the good times and bad, through victory and defeat.

Phillip Robinson



New study endangers student loans

Ron Hendren
IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — A recent study has concluded that more and more young people are defaulting on their federally guaranteed student loans, and that report has provided new and potent ammunition to congressmen, senators and White House aides who want an excuse to dismember the program. More than half a million students have obtained college educations with the help of these loans.

The study projects that the government will likely lose some \$20 million annually in defaulted notes, about one half of one percent of the total amount guaranteed, and about half the cost of a single CSA transport aircraft.

But never mind, \$20 million is \$20 million, and in these perilous times a lot more people are spending a lot more time looking for ways to tighten other people's belts. And rightly so, although the fiscal administrators would do well to start at home.

The problem is that those who are strangling abnormally are the ones who are asked, or forced, to be the first to take in still another notch. Thus it is that Social Security and medicare and medicaid recipients, students, and others living on slim, fixed incomes are the first to be asked to sacrifice still more.

And that brings us back to the recipients of guaranteed student loans. The four volume study (which, incidentally, cost the Office of Education \$180,000) found what most educators already knew: that the recipients of these loans tend to be students from families in middle and lower income brackets, and are people who for the most part would not receive formal education beyond high school were it not for this program.

The study also shows that defaulters tend to be lower income persons, are more likely to be black than white, and attended poorer, less prestigious schools. Many attended trade schools.

Richard L. Tombaugh, executive secretary of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators fears that "some banks will be more careful now in making loans to the kinds of students who could default." Federal officials are already suggesting higher loan standards, and similar "solutions" will come from state officials you may be sure.

The result: those who need help the most could become those to whom help is denied.

A careful reading of the \$180,000 study, however, suggests a different course. The study shows that defaults for students attending public and private schools decreased about threefold between 1968 and 1972, while claims from so-called "prop-

rietary" schools increased a whopping 700 per cent in this same period. This latter category includes trade schools, secretarial schools, management training schools, and a host of other generally small institutions.

Could it be that many of these schools are fly-by-night operations, the kind which often are advertised on matchbook covers, the same slick operations which bilked so many veterans in an attempt to siphon off G. I. benefits? Could the high default rate be because these schools often ask students to sign a full contract before the recipient has a chance to spend a semester determining whether the institution is able to further his or her career?

This is one of the points raised to me recently by Robert M. Pickett, legislative director of the National Student Lobby. But Pickett goes further. "Because it is generally the poorer students who default, it is generally the larger loans which the government gets stuck with," Pickett says. "I don't believe that any student, however poor, should be put in the position of hooking himself up to his neck to meet educa-

tional expenses. Before a student should be allowed to borrow more than \$1000 a year, we should be certain that all other sources — part-time work opportunities and the like — are exhausted."

Pickett also feels that not enough information is provided to students about their obligations and rights under loan agreements. "Most of these people are borrowing for the first time, and the kind of information they get, both about their new financial obligations and the kind of education they can expect to get for that money, is often dreadfully poor — particularly at trade schools and the like."

The outcome of the legislative battle that is sure to ensue over the future of the guaranteed student loan program will hinge on how effectively these arguments are made, for the program though successful is by no means a sacred cow immune to congressional slaughter. If it dies, as that expensive study made clear, there are quite literally hundreds of thousands of young Americans who will never have the chance to get beyond high school in pursuit of formal education.



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