



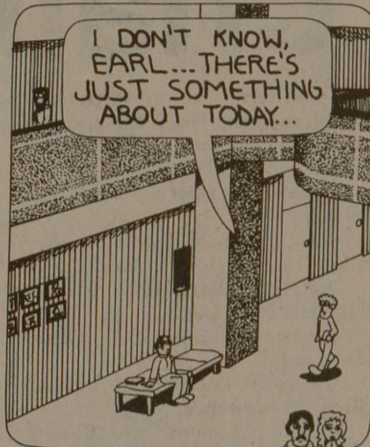
CHRISTMAS VACATION WAS GREAT, BUT IT FEELS KIND OF NICE TO BE BACK IN SCHOOL AGAIN.



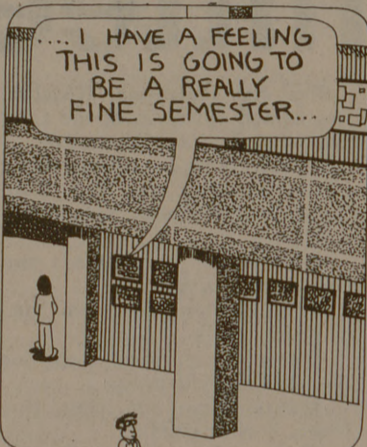
NICE TO BE BACK? YOU'RE KIDDING, CATHY. WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT SCHOOL?



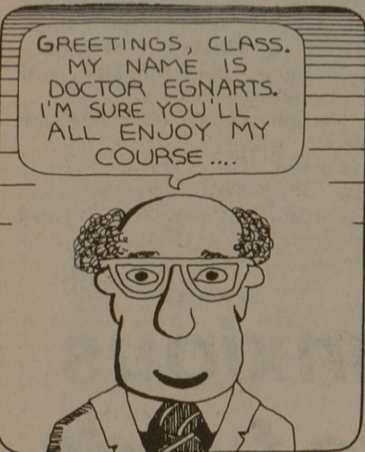
I DON'T KNOW, EARL... THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT TODAY...



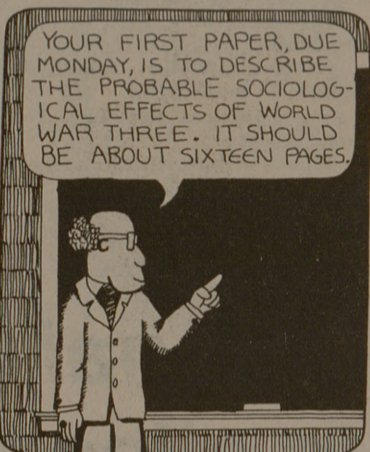
... I HAVE A FEELING THIS IS GOING TO BE A REALLY FINE SEMESTER...



GREETINGS, CLASS. MY NAME IS DOCTOR EGNARTS. I'M SURE YOU'LL ALL ENJOY MY COURSE....



YOUR FIRST PAPER, DUE MONDAY, IS TO DESCRIBE THE PROBABLE SOCIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF WORLD WAR THREE. IT SHOULD BE ABOUT SIXTEEN PAGES.



... OF COURSE, I COULD BE WRONG....



NEXT WEEK: The Battalion presents a TEN-PART Serial on the adventures of Bud Body - FIRST GIGAG TO LONDON. THRILLS! CHILLS! LAFFS! SOCIAL COMMENT!

Cloud 9

Lobby available to students

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW
By ROD SPEER
"Cloud 9 — A Bird's Eye View" will be a weekly feature of the editorial page involving myself and city news reporter Gerald Olivier. We will be bringing you behind-the-scenes interpretive evaluations of the personalities and events that influence off-campus news of interest to A&M students.

With the 64th Texas Legislature beginning its lawmaking business this month, everybody wants to get into the act of influencing legislation — including students.

The students of A&M and the other major universities will be officially represented by the Texas Student Association (TSA) and possibly the Texas Student Lobby, depending on the outcome of a three-day TSA convention in Austin beginning Jan. 31.

The TSA is primarily concerned with student services such as insur-

ance programs, book co-ops and the like. Lobbying is a sidelight TSA plans to take up and will be a major order of business at its turn-of-the-month convention.

Among causes that the TSA will lobby for is a bill that will consolidate a conglomerate of state-funded grants for higher education into two grant programs. John Nash, external affairs committee chairman for the Student Senate, explained that currently the state has a number of little-known grants available that involve considerable expense to administer and have only limited student use. The consolidation would be under the State Coordinating Board for Higher Education and would theoretically cut the administrative cost as well as simplifying the procedure for securing a state grant.

Other topics of concern will be insuring student representation on school board of directors and putting a ceiling on the extent schools can raise building use fees.

The board of directors for both the TSA and the TSL will be attending the upcoming convention. A main question to be settled is whether the TSL will be eliminated and a professional lobbyist hired by the TSA to look after its interest or

whether TSA will re-incorporate the TSL under its wing to carry out that function.

Within the last two years the TSA and the TSL were part of the same organization, the Texas Interscholastic Student Association. A rift developed when certain factions of the TISA became interested in lobbying statewide for marijuana decriminalization, liberal abortion laws and similar issues. Some schools, including TCU, SMU and Baylor, decided the TISA was an abortion and declined to even join either the TSA or the TSL when the larger group was dissolved.

Since the division, TSL has moved away from the glamor issues. TSL Director Sandy Kress, a former student body president at the University of Texas, has said the group's main concern now is increasing student financial aid.

According to Nash, the TSL, which operates without a financial base, has done little if any lobbying in recent months. The group has a chance to re-unite and re-organize with the financially-backed TSA. With this order of business out of the way, the focus of attention will hopefully concentrate on pushing enactment of the student-supported legislation.

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. Editorial policy is determined by the editor.

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, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

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. Hierrh, W. C. Harrison, Steve Eberhard, Don Hegt, and John Nash, Jr.

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Listen Up

Challenge by students urged

Dear Editor:

It is time for the students to challenge the actions of the administration and their ridiculous actions in trying to make A&M, according to our beloved Pres. Williams, "a showplace of the nation" for centennial year 1976. Instead of a showplace, they are converting our campus into one big luxurious joke.

The University Center, formerly the MSC, is only one example of the stupidity of the administration in letting this monstrosity exemplify a place, according to the catalogue, "to foster the social, cultural, and recreational phases of students, faculty, and alumni lives." The Center was not built for the students or with their ideas, and it is being furnished with lavish and hideous monuments that serve no purpose but to create an environment of wealth.

The \$450,000 wall on the north side of the campus resembles the actions at t.u. where students wonder if their administration spends more money on landscaping rather than on education. Is A&M going to follow?

And then those needless brick arches in the corps area. Another waste of money. The results of these actions has increased the building use fees to outrageous proportions.

As students of this great university, we must act together soon to oppose the further actions of the administration and to voice our discontent with their past actions as well. Unless we do, we will continue to be neglected and shoved around. What will happen next?

Ken Koehler

Parting shots

Dear Editor:

I have faith in our team and coaches that they can and will work out any problems that they have. It is the problem of the Aggie fans that concerns me, because I honestly feel that the lickin' we got in Austin was our fault, not the team's or the coaches'. Let me illustrate:

Some Aggies live totally in a world of "Beat Texas." I honestly think that many would be satisfied if we lost 10 games in a season so long as we beat Texas. This has to be based on some deep-rooted, exaggerated animosity toward our competitors across the Brazos. This general feeling appears to have rooted itself on the campus, and in the hearts of many Aggies. We spend the entire year building the



tempo, instilling desire, pumping adrenalin to develop the super strength to whip Texas. By the time we get to the game, we have pumped our team dry and left them a quivering bundle of nerves, totally unable to utilize their outstanding ability and preparation for the game — and we created this mess — the wild-eyed group that worked ourselves into a state of furious passion. When it's over, we are drained — and embarrassed — ready to strike at the fissure in the dike — spill out our frustrations and tear down the great structure that we built. Instead, let's go back home and lick our wounds, determine the source of our problem, and take steps to correct it.

Would you believe that an intense desire to win could be detrimental? Never! — except when it is heaped so disproportionately on beating only one of our eleven athletic competitors. The grand Aggie tradition is Pride and Spirit, and it should manifest itself in a "Winning Attitude" — not "Beat Texas." In order that we may develop this "Winning Attitude", I would like to suggest three major actions to re-order our priorities. These are likely to be questioned by some, but deep down in my Aggie soul, I believe they must be done:

1. Write new words to the Aggie War Hymn. The lyrics give me a wonderful sensation up and down my spine, similar in nature to other "blissful" experiences, but the words leave me cold when we are playing a team in red and white, and

the mascot has tusks rather than horns. A war hymn should apply to the foe, whoever he may be, not just the school across the Brazos. Frankly, I don't feel that bunch over there deserves that much recognition.

2. Abolish the bonfire! This is the focal point of our year-long build-up. We bring everyone up — including the team. Although intended to kindle the flame of desire, it is so strong at that point it goes beyond a mere kindling and burns out the whole body.

3. Develop a winning attitude! What is past is past — jinxes are formed in the mind. So, let's set our goals for the whole season. Next year, we play eleven games, then the Cotton Bowl. One game is as important as the next — none more important than others. Let's concentrate on winning each game as it comes with a healthy enthusiasm of performing with pride and humility — Pride that we are a great institution, and Humility that God has so blessed us.

I say "Gig 'Em Aggies." We are great, and with the talents we have, we'll be even greater.

N. J. Rowan '59, '67

Objectives lost

Dear Editor,

When my bill for the spring semester arrived I almost lost my lunch. The Building Use Fee has gone from \$2 per hour to \$6 per hour — an increase of 200 per cent!!

Is the administration of our campus competent?

How, in these times of spiraling inflation, can the administration justify outrageous expenditures on construction projects — unwarranted and not needed by the student body — and in the same breath, sock us with ridiculous fee increases.

The students are begging for more recreational facilities, more room for the committees of the Student Programs Office — justifiable increases in spending. The administration returns with a wall that mocks our campus tradition of open friendliness, destruction of grass with concrete malls, and continually increasing fees.

What next? Pay toilets, pay restrooms into buildings, more MSC French warehouse furniture.

Texas A&M is not a sandbox for Dr. Williams and his crew to play construction with, nor is it something pretty for the former students to look at. This university is for the quality, "economical" education of the taxpaying citizens of this state.

I sincerely believe that the administration has lost sight, in their careless rush for notoriety, of the objectives of this University. If they do not reclaim these objectives, then the wall the students should build will surround the administration building.

Gordon A. Stewart
Rickey H. Grocholski
Randy E. Houghton
and four others



PICTURES FOR 1975 AGGIELAND

**Seniors & Graduates —
Make-up Deadline Jan. 31**

JUNIORS & SOPHOMORES

Jan 20 — Jan 24	A — G
Jan 27 — Jan 31	H — M
Feb 3 — Feb 7	N — R
Feb 10 — Feb 14	S — V
Feb 17 — Feb 21	W — Z

Photographs are taken on a drop-in basis, 8 — 5 weekdays and 8 — 12 Sat. For further information contact the Studio.

Students who have paid to have their pictures placed in the 1975 Aggieland should have their photograph taken according to schedule at —

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