













BUD! BUD! ARE YOU



Your man at Batt

Howdy . . .

The word goes as school grows

letters complaining about the disappearing friendliness on campus

The spring enrollment my fres

The closeness of Aggie students originated when this school was all-Corps. Aggies were distinctly dif-

ferent from students at other schools and very similar to each other (except for brass and braid, all uniforms look pretty much a-



Aggies' concern for their fellow students was demonstrated by a simple, "Howdy," as they passed and by a reverent gathering on the Academic Building mall for Silver Taps. A friendly attitude towards strangers also marked the campus.

The tradition of friendliness carried over with the appearance of civilians and later, girls, in large his upperclassmen before him and numbers on this campus.

However, the attendance of Silver Taps has dropped off recently and howdies are becoming rare except between members of the Corps, which requires it of lowerclassmen. Many people still attempt to speak to everyone they can as they pass.

classes today. Not counting Corps fish and sophomore, I received about 10 replies to my greeting, three people spoke to me first and every other Aggie blew me off. The fading friendliness is not due

The Battalion has received many to any one group. There are just too

The spring enrollment my freshman year was 15,118 and the spring before that it had been 13,816. This spring, there are 20,400 Aggies going to this school. TAMU will continue its growth but President Jack Williams hopes it will level off at 28,000 by 1980. This school will almost double in size in less than

Traditions that were just accepted as they were will disappear, I'm afraid. Friendliness just doesn't happen and there is no way to encourage 20,400 people to be friendly (for instance, the failure of the "Howdy Days" that occur occasionally)

The Corps is the only organization that has methods of encouraging friendliness (tell a fish that anything is traditional and he'll do it with pleasure). But an upperclassman only knows what he is taught by somewhere down the line the importance of friendliness was not stressed enough.

So unless something happens to really shake this campus (and I don't know what that would be), the tradition of Aggie friendliness will just drift away. There will always be a small gathering at Silver Taps and a murmur of howdies on the I kept a mental tally as I went to sidewalks, but nothing like "the good old days." But that's the price you pay for growth; welcome to the 20th Century, Aggieland.

Have a nice day The complaint from Katherine drive with that purpose in mind.

Buchanan (see Listen up) offered no real solution either.

I called Charles Brunt, manager of construction, and asked why the new water tower wasn't being painted maroon. He said it was being painted blue simply because that was the color that was selected.

"I doubt it anyone gave any thought to it being the school colors of Rice or T.U. or anybody," Brunt

Brunt said painting the thing blue instead of maroon possibly made it a little less obvious. Light colors reflect sunlight better but Brunt said he doubted that it would make much difference during the summer

I asked Brunt what students could do if they were bothered by having an "Owl Tower" on campus.

"If they'll collect the money, we'll just paint it again," he said. The paint now being applied cost \$49,000 counting the inside and the

I'd be hard pressed to tell you how much another coat (of maroon paint) would cost," Brunt said. Erecting scaffolding especially for this would cost; the price of paint has escalated since we drew up this contract.

"I'd guess it could get as high as \$25,000.

If the cost of repainting the water tower was something less than that, a donation of \$1 from every student at TAMU next year would just about cover it. The Battalion would be in-****** terested to know if anyone starts a

Che Battalion

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Fallor's notes

Dear Sheikh,

Here's an offer you can't refuse

The recent Alamo non-deal with Sheikh Masoud Al-Sharif Al-Hamdan was terribly mismanaged. Political savvy and foresight do not indicate that we Texans should disappoint our newfound brothers of wasteland. It's just not a good idea to upset the Arabs in these days of internal combustion. Not that Texas needs imported oil; but the Arabs are making money. And when all the Texas banks are closed in scandal, to whom will we turn?

Listen Up

state, I make the following desperate proposal to Sheikh Masoud of Saudi Arabia:

First, allow me to explain, your highness, that Texas meant no harm or insult when it turned down your generous offer to relieve San Antonio of an old adobe fortress that is no longer valuable to our defense. You see, there is a slight difference between this mud-walled fortress and the antique metal machines you now buy from our national defense

something to do with heritage and tradition - qualities which Texans which will give you a touch of her cherish; traits which Texans try to age and tradition. protect against the irreverant disruptions of youth. So don't take it

personally, Aboud. And do consider the alternate offer of the movie replica. Although it doesn't hold those sentimental qualities so dear to Texans, it does manage to fool quite a few people when it is reproduced on celluloid with the proper lights, lenses and

versity of ours lack that certain pride that distinguishes a true Aggie from

These self-proclaimed interior decorators who have written in re-

cently complaining about the cost and decor of the MSC lounge strike

us as the type of student here

merely to take and never give. One

can only shudder to think of a day

when those who give so grudgingly of their money while enrolled here at A&M would be called upon to

support this university through the

Former Students Association.

Maybe we're old-fashioned but we

get a great deal of satisfaction in

knowing we left something behind

here that will be enjoyed by Aggies

Steve Haley

Kieth Seale

Tab Thompson

and the 13 other fish

a two-per center.

lacking, may I suggest another

AU

Coun

For my alternate desperate pro osal involves a building which n stands in a legendary stronghold tradition among youth - a strong ghold with qualities as rare as an locked within those adobe San An tonio walls. Granted, my propos does not offer a historically glam ous structure. No one has died de fending it. But its history is not lackluster.

If I can believe what I read in the papers, your son has spent som time in Texas. Perhaps he has toll you about the American student Like the student class around the world, American students live of borderline poverty. They are happ with modest accommodations at low prices. No one thinks it is cruel that students have to live this way. And the students are willing to live or meager means until they eam a De gree and a Chance to Get Ahead. mention these things because the building I describe is located in a community of students.

The tradition-loving students this community do not think this building reflects a true picture their heritage. Not that tradition i lacking in this building (don't getme wrong, Al). It's loaded with relical days gone by.

But the building is just too, well extravagant for the students' tastes or pocket books. But with all your money, Sheikh, it would be ne perfect. What would you do with this building? You must have one hell of a harem and there's a huge room full of soft couches . . . or with a few exhibits, you could open a museum of world culture with an "Age of Aquarius" theme ... would even make a nice convention center for the oil moguls you will no doubt be hosting . . . or you could just keep it around for status.

Think of it, Aboud! The Saud Arabian Sheikh with a \$28 million piece of Americana which was designed on Fifth Avenue for the state which cherishes crumbling adobe

New MSC service urged Matter of taste I cannot help but be alarmed by

mann (the designer):

opinions on another.

Where does a rhinoceros fit into a

southwestern" motif?

I would like to add also that good

taste is a matter of individual opin-

ion and I don't believe that any per-

Satisfied fish

son should force acceptance of his

We are sick and tired of hearing

the endless dissention over student

affairs here at A&M. If they're not

complaining about the new student

lounge, they are complaining about

something else with equal fervor.

People who can find nothing better

to do than discredit this great uni-

Lois Hill

the growing chasm between those I would like to make a few comwho are pleased with the decor of ments in reply to Ben É. Dial (Listen up, Jan. 29).

First of all, I agree with Dial's belief that the Rudder Center is an

the MSC and those who are not. It is with hopes of pleasing all the stu-dents of TAMU, of enabling Jack Williams to maintain his great showplace, and of providing TAMU example of good taste and that a with the means for paying rebates on building-use fees that I humbly offer the following proposal. I suggest that because the MSC southwestern theme is very appropriate for the new student lounge. I would, however, like to ask one question of Dial and William Pahl-

already has the necessary trappings, (garrish furniture, gaudy objects d'arte, and a fine piano) and because the MSC now has sleeping quarters available for rent, on these considerations I propose that a brothel be established within the MSC.

Aggies are internationally renouned for their phenominal devo-tion to their school. On the basis of this devotion I'm certain that there would be plenty of young ladies willing to devote their time and energies to this project. On the same basis young men could be recruited to function as panders, money handlers, protectors, etc. If these people would volunteer to serve their school in the above described manner, how could the project not succeed? Also, wouldn't their exemp-lification of dedication act as a living memorial to the Undying Aggie Spirit?

Because of the plurality of males attending this school in need of the emotional release which comes only through copulation, demand would be strong. Because, except for a few small independents, competition would be almost non-existent, creating a seller's market, the profit potential is mind-boggling.

With the environment psychologically perfect and the necessary physical facilities already existent on compus, how could the venture fail? What better way to put to use the MSC's monstrous decor while simultaneously rendering it self-supporting? On the basis of my sound arguments and of the assured success of the proposed venture, I urge the administration to give my proposal weighty consideration. Daniel E. Wheeler

Owl Tower

for years to come.

Doesn't it seem a shame that the new water tower is being painted with the colors of Rice University, rather than our own maroon and

Katherine Buchanan forts . . . what a coup.



SPARE A DIME? SINCE WHEN WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH A DIME?

The Aggie forum

TAMU viewed as selfish step-mother

members of the TAMU community who wish to express ideas which cannot be developed in the Listen up letters column.

Choice of columns to be published and editing of those columns are at the discretion of the editor. By DALE HANCOCK

In a recent article printed in The Battalion it was reported that Gov. Briscoe had made three appointments to "the TAMU Board of Directors." This was an inaccuracy. In actuality, the Governor made three appointments to the Texas A&M University SYSTEM Board of Directors. The mistake, to some, may appear minor but the omission disregards almost thirty percent of the student body of the entire system.

The Batt should not be chastised too severely for its oversight. The mistake is a common one. Indeed, it

is a widely held opinion in the North-central Texas area (the area around Tarleton State University) that the Board of Directors themselves often forget at least those students who attend the institution which is popularly known as the

The Aggie forum is open to all Stepchild University. The article referred to earlier offers some proof supporting this opinion as it paraphrases Alfred I. Davies, one of the appointees, as saying that "he will try to become oriented to the problems of A&M." The article mentioned no concern of Mr. Davies toward the problems of the other two schools in the System.

Regardless of what was printed in a newspaper article, ample evidence exists to support the proposition that Tarleton State University is a victim of stepchildism. A small part of that evidence will be presented here.

Of twenty Texas State senior colleges ranked according to average faculty salary level for 1973-74 in an article appearing in the TAMU FORTNIGHTLY, TAMU ranked first with a figure of \$15,600. Tarleton State ranked twentieth with a figure of \$11,400. There will be those who argue that A&M employs a larger percentage of Ph.D.'s and tenured professors and that this justifies the difference. I challenge those readers to support their views with facts. They will be hard pressed to do so. How is a school going to

afford to pay its faculty a decent liv-

I have known numerous profesthat were forced to take jobs as painters or service station attendants during holidays just to make meager ends meet. These people do not live extravagantly; they are impoverished by TAMU faculty standards. Yet, to my knowledge, the Board of Directors has shown no

While the Board has directed a frenzy of building at TAMU in which little if any expense was spared, Tarleton has been thrown only a few bare bones. It is interesting that the new University Center alone cost more to build than the value of all buildings in existence at Tarleton. Even the fraction of the center paid for by State monies cost more than the total evaluation of all Tarleton buildings. It should also be noted that no imported cowhide benches, no gold plated light fixtures, no etched glass and no antique coffee tables are to be found at Tarleton. Furthermore, the only landscape wall in existence at Tarle-

offer quality education if it cannot ton is that which was built of native stone by student labor in the 1920s.

While Tarleton is located in one of the foremost agricultural areas of sors at Tarleton who have Ph.D.'s the State and has the third largest agriculture school in the state, it has been treated by the stepmother institution more like a little Siberia than a badly needed school which should be nurtured. Some depart ments at Tarleton have suffered greatly due to a combination of low salaries and faculty recommendations made by the hierarchy at

In conclusion, I question the basic objectives of the management of the Texas A&M University System. Though the Board of Directors can support their position with a miasma of formulas and figures, can they morally justify the dichotomy of conditions within their various wards? Is their primary goal the education of Texans or is it the erection of monoliths and fountains which fill with awe the heart of the beholder? The latter seems more likely, and I suggest that the A&M lobby may find support rare in the next State constitutional convention.







