

An elephant's eyes

Reflections

Bonfire, W-1, the wall . . .

By WILL ANDERSON
One more final and I'm out of this place. Now is the time of year to ask yourself, "What have I accomplished?" It's the time to sit in the Chicken and reflect (as I am doing now).

Let's see, the high point of the first semester was the bonfire. That's the time when non-regs and c.t.s. pull together and really work as a team. They've been predicting the end of the bonfire for a number of years, and I suspect that it won't last long after the Centennial.

There have been a number of suggestions for activities to replace it, like a door-to-door drive for various charities. Well, that's a beautiful idea, but it's not quite the same.

When I was a fish, a former classmate of mine who went to Texas Tech asked me if there were girls in the Corps. I said no, and the day that there were I was getting out. Well, W-1 is here now, a gift from the member of Corps staff, class of 1975. I'm staying after all, because I was here first.

I was lectured outside the MSC one afternoon for almost 20 minutes by a senior on Corps staff who said that W-1 was "just another outfit." Right.

With special dorms, special uniforms and special privileges, they're just another outfit. Right.

I read in an old copy of the Batt some letters from several students predicting the end of the Corps within three years when A&M went coed. They asked how long before women would be in the Corps, the fish drill team and even the band?

Those letters may have been prophetic, because I predict that someday (I'm not going to put a date on it), there will be girls in everything.

Maybe that's good, but the only reason I came to this hot spot on the Brazos was for the Corps and the fellowship it provides. You could unashamedly embrace any c.t. as an adopted brother at Final Review. But if I ever embrace a Waggie (heaven forbid), it will not be as any kind of brother.

But, they're just another outfit. Right.

I have to admit that I like the

Wall. It really defines where the campus ends and College Station begins. But I question the wisdom of building it when students' dorms could stand a little improvement. (A little? I've heard stories of many a good non-reg in Milner and Leggett being carried away in the middle of the night by a pack of starved cockroaches and never seen again.)

Students can sit up all night during football season trying to keep other schools from painting on the wall. Oh well, another tradition is born.

I have been assured by a couple of former students that our president, Dr. Jack Williams, is a good Aggie and a great tribute to the school.

I've really had my doubts about how good an Aggie anyone can be who knows so little about the school. My suspicions seemed to be confirmed during the campus Muster ceremonies in G. Rollie White. The Ross Volunteers were approaching the speaker's podium for the 21-gun salute (one of the most solemn moments in the ceremony). Meanwhile, our president was chatting with the person standing beside him on the platform. I was irritated by the president's lack of reverence. I don't think Pres. Williams understands the school.

Student Government really got off to a rotten start a few weeks ago with student body president Jeff Dunn's aborted plan to request an investigation of the Board of Directors. It promises to be another year of a government that accomplishes little except back-room politics and back-stabbing.

But I don't know. Maybe I'm too trusting, but I still think Dunn may produce something of value, given time. We'll just have to wait till next year.

But let's not consider that yet. It's been a long year. If we've accomplished nothing else, we have a few more hours toward graduation. Maybe that's all we were supposed to accomplish.

Someday, we'll all be Fighting Texas Aggie Former Students (whoop, whooh) and we'll look back on these troubled times as the good old days.

So, join me at the Chicken, and we'll raise a glass to that.



Listen Up

Past editor lauds progress

Editor:
I am glad to note in the May 9 issue of the Texas Observer that the "Battalion" and the "Texas Observer" were the first to break the outrageous waste of public funds in the luxury palace for A&M's Board of Trustees. Later the Dallas News carried a lengthy piece. It has been the custom for years and still continues for Trustees to regard students as receptacles with open ears and heads for book knowledge dished out by teachers. The idea that they should have a part in the learning process is slow to be recognized.

I graduated from Texas A&M in 1909 (T.E.) and was editor of the Battalion in my senior year (reporter 1907-08). On the anniversary of the strike of 1908 I wrote an editorial defending the action of the students. I "buried" it in the middle of the copy which had to go to the faculty committee, but it was discovered. I was called on the carpet and "admonished." The article was confiscated. I graduated in the spring without penalty. I have never been an "Aggie" in the commonly accepted use of the term (no reference to "joke paranoia"). It was a good technical college. I just was never a football or military "nut".

I hope the Battalion will continue to be critical of the way the school is run. I am glad it is now co-ed (40 years late).

Carl P. Brannin, '09
No thanks
Editor:
To the two campus cops who lacked the good sense, courage or initiative (I suspect all three) to help me on the night of May 4 when I ran in the hailing storm after my car had stalled in the middle of a flooded highway, thanks for nothing.

To the two Aggie jocks who were kind enough to take me to a phone so I wouldn't lose my job and so I could call my husband, and who went to the inconvenience of driving me back to the car and starting it for me, I thank you. You restored my faith in the human race as well as kept me from going into hysterics.

Apparently the only thing the police force on campus can do with any enthusiasm or deftness is give out parking and traffic tickets to students.

Debbie Ortiz
Stolen radio
Editor:
I address this letter to the person or persons who broke into my truck last week and stole my Citizens Band Radio. You have taken from me a valuable tool I intended to use

in my summer job and in public service. (I was the first to arrive in Calvert after the recent tornado.)

Therefore I offer you the following proposition. You may call 845-4493 and tell me where I can pick up my radio — I don't care to see you or know your name. I'll even pay for the window you smashed.

You keep the radio and when you're caught you'll be stuck with a felony which I will prosecute to the full extent of the law. Since C. B. Radios are licensed by the Federal Government, the crime may fall under the jurisdiction of the F.B.I. I hate to think one of my fellow Aggies did this, but if so I hope he is decent enough to understand that I worked and budgeted my money for quite a while to pay for my C. B. I would appreciate its return.

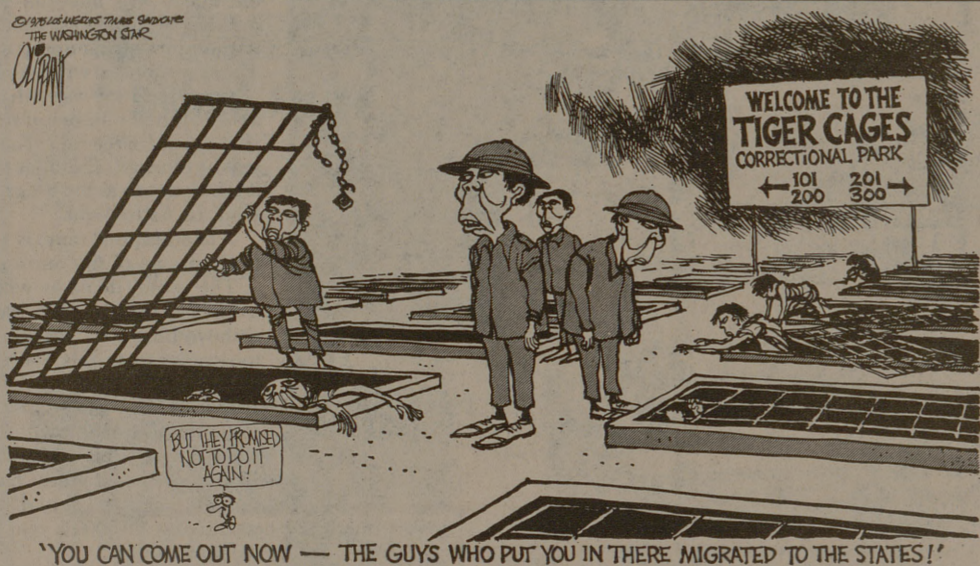
Owen R. Smith

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The Tower Dining Room will be closed each Saturday effective May 18, 1975, except when major campus events such as football games are scheduled. Special dining events may be booked any evening and each Saturday in the tower by telephoning 845 - 1118 or 845 - 1119, except during major campus events.

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Dining Room

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The Battalion

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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.

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The Associated Press, Texas Press Association

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.

Mail subscriptions are \$5.00 per semester, \$9.50 per school year, \$10.50 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.

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MAY 8 AND 9
4-7 P.M.
FINALS - MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY
MAY 12, 13, 15, 16
2-5 P.M.
PLEASE BRING BACK CLEAN!

THE RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING AREA MERCHANTS WHO HELPED MAKE CASINO A SUCCESS:

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- Bi-City Hobby Shop
- Nita's Flowers
- Douglas Jewelry
- Floral Center
- Hardi Gardens
- H&H Music
- Bob's Green Thumb
- University Bookstore
- Gil's Radio & TV
- Ken Martin Steakhouse
- Pepe Taco
- Baskin Robbins
- Triangle Bowl
- Monarch Carpet Co.
- Bargain Land
- Tri-State A&M Sporting Goods
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- McDonald's
- Merle Norman Cosmetics
- Mr. Gatti's
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- Skaggs Albertson's
- Sonic Drive-In
- Sports Club
- Stan's Sporting Club
- Steele Connor Shell
- Suzy's Fashion
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- J. Rich Sports-Houston
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- Pizza Hut (University)
- Randy's Liquor Store
- Cut Rate No. 2
- Kentucky Fried Chicken
- Sparks Horse Feed
- Sears
- Association of Former Students
- Sparkey's
- Beauty & Wig Salon
- Church's Chicken
- Congdon's Bakery
- Cut Rate No. 2
- Der Wienerschnitzel
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- Woolworth