

# athletic oatmeal

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By TONY GALLUCCI  
Former Sports Editor

Following is the oatmeal that was to run on Friday Oct. 24 when members of the Board of Regents and the Governor were to be in town. But editor James Breedlove removed the copy from the paper. Subsequently I was fired. While several situations detailed in the two-week-old column are no longer valid, the point is still there, and the situation has not improved. Not only is Breedlove incapable of handling the job of editor of The Battalion but also is apparently unconstitutional. Unconstitutional in that he represents an arm of the University by his selection as well as his allegiance and therefore constitutes prior censorship. (Battalion requirements for editor as set up by the University were suspended by the administration long enough for Breedlove to apply and be selected. Qualified applicant LaTonya Perrin was passed over, and a stranger to the staff and board was pushed into the job from the outside.)

Twice I asked for a retraction last week on the story concerning my firing. Twice, Ombudsman Roxie Hearn refused because saying

I left 35 inches empty when I had proven to her acceptance that I had not. And then she wrote a column criticizing a headline because it "told nothing about the story's content." Roxie is a journalism major.

In a continuance of the story of the missing truth are several new developments.

Dr. Bryan Cain, a regular on the Batt Picks, refused to make a selection this past week in protest over my firing. Sports Editor Paul McGrath sent down the column with a similar statement encrowled in place of the picks. It didn't make the paper.

A letter to the editor sent by me to try to clear up some falsities concerning the firing story has not been run and apparently there is no intention to.

Jim Crawley, a former campus writer, approached Breedlove with information concerning the Board of Regents with the understanding that the information was strictly confidential. Breedlove told Crawley the information was not newsworthy, asked for copies and then took the information to Williams, betraying Crawley and his confidence.

## PART II

Have you ever wondered what you would do without the Battalion? Probably not, and even if you did you probably came to the conclusion that your life would change little if any. It (The Batt) is just a convenient thing to pick up here and there, skim across to get the gist of the news and maybe see an inside story once in awhile. And if you thought it cost you nothing, forget that. Your share comes out of your Student Service fees.

What is this getting to? Your "campus" newspaper run by students, financed by students and advertisers is being slowly assimilated into the journalism department. Never heard that before? It's a rather loosely guarded secret.

The idea is to make the Batt a lab newspaper; in effect, a toy for overzealous journalism pros to get trainees' material in print (at least superficially anyway). Any student pub board member will tell you it's because the University can't fund anything unless it's educational and this way the paper will be used as an educational tool. But remember, students are footing part of the bill, the people who pay to put their ads, pictures and coupons in foot the rest. So "university-funded educational tool" looks like a farce.

The real reason behind this? My guess, based on experience, rumor and obvious blunders is that the Administration is tired of being made to look like fools. The pre-Breedlove administrations of this newspaper were hell-bent on protecting students' rights to information concerning use of their money. The Mike Rice-Rod Speer-Greg Moses students rights eras of this newspaper were the scene of kickback scandals, censorship fights, and exposure of gross spending on the MSC and the "wall". It was a last resort when the Administration of this University dissolved offices and created others in an attempt to put this paper under some sort of control.

In the last of the Moses reign, the University erected a large blue phallic symbol, symbolically close to what the students consider the bowel of the campus (Sbisa) and to what the upper echelon administration of the University considers the Bowl (The Battalion). Even now I must face it as I type this story.

President Jack Williams made himself perfectly understood when he stated that a lone candidate would not be editor as long as he was president. LaTonya Perrin was the only candidate for the position, and an advancee of the Speer-Moses school. Application deadlines were extended and the Pub Board found that James Breedlove was their choice for editor, despite his not qualifying under Texas A&M Regulations for the position. Perrin was the only one who qualified under the rules who applied except for myself. I later withdrew. Breedlove is the former PR Director for the MSC, a group which complained loud and clear last year about their coverage or rather lack of it in the Batt and started issuing its own newsletter, the Diamater.

Incompetence of the present administration has led to numerous complaints, mostly from myself. Steve Goble was hired for the job of managing editor for this fall, but later quit because he was expected to handle the manure of the newspaper without any authority. He was also disturbed by a distinct conflict of interest elsewhere on the staff which he wanted solved. It was left as was. The conflict of interest case later dissolved when the party withdrew from school, a disease common among Batt-staffers.

Breedlove has shown himself to me to be partially lacking in the will or desire to improve this newspaper or settle the conflicts that have arisen. His lackadaisical attitude merited him a bad name amongst employees early, but when Goble tried to make this apparent to the forces that he was left standing nearly alone by the principles. They tended to be journalism majors with more than a perfunctory interest (or fear) in this job and the department they must rely upon for grades.

Breedlove has gone to extreme difficulty to write such meaningful editorials as "let the whales die peacefully, and please don't paint the campus" and still backed down by offering restitution to roach profs.

The other major problem here is the ghost position of Director of Student Publications, occupied by one Gael Cooper. His job according to article 76 paragraph 3 of the University regulations is to "counsel and advise all student editors... shall (not) determine the content of publications."

In an effort to curb abuses by the photography department of the paper I reserved the right to distribute photo passes to athletic events to photographers whom I found to be trustworthy and skilled. This was precipitated by last year's color photoduplication of passes for the Texas-A&M game in Austin and considerable talk of silk-screening field pass ribbons for home football events this year. It was met (as expected) with great disapproval by Jack Holm the Photography Director. Eventually Cooper came onto the scene and because of my control, apparent or realized, he disbanded the photography department of the Battalion and the Aggie land and made it a separate entity. Or so he thought. The office is still at the Batt and it is Breedlove who pays Holm's salary. I still have the passes, which Cooper would like. If Cooper should get the passes or get his own passes, I will refuse to honor them and we may do without pictures here. This situation comes up once a week and you might have noticed I used freelance donated material from the Kansas St. game.

I am sure that Sports Information Director Spec Gammon would rather issue passes to me and be assured of some pictures than issue them elsewhere and get nothing but extra photographers on the field and no photos in the paper.

Next problem. That of expenses. This is probably most crucial because it could affect the future of sports coverage in this paper. After

## PART III

This is paid for by members of a committee of A&M students for freedom of the press. While the following people do not necessarily agree with the sentiments expressed in the above editorial, they nevertheless support the idea of a free press even in an educational situation and acknowledge problems with the structure of the Battalion as related to efficient operation of said newspaper and its relationship as a member of the 'free press'.

Sanford Russo—Campus Editor, Jack Holm—Photography Director, Paul McGrath—Sports Editor, Lee

Roy Leschper, Jr.—Campus Writer, Gary Baldarsi—Former Battalion Photographer, Norine Harris—Former Battalion Writer, Cathy Randall—Former City Writer, Jerry Needham—Former City Writer, T. C. Gallucci—Former Production Manager, Mike Gagner—Freelance Photographer, Andy Hollingshead—Freelance Photographer, Will Anderson—President of the Society of Professional Journalists and Former Assistant Editor, Judy Baggett—Secretary of the Society of Prof. Journ., Steve Gray—City Editor, Charles P. Edmondson—Sports Writer, Gery

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## Remember 18-14?

# Ponies ride into Aggieland

By PAT EDMONDSON  
Battalion Sports Writer

Relaxed after both a mental and physical rest, the Texas Aggies hit the gridiron Saturday for a meeting with the Southern Methodist University Mustangs. The Ags were idle last week, a move made before the season by ABC Sports in order to televise the Arkansas-A&M contest in Little Rock, Dec. 6. Originally, the Razorbacks were to host the Aggies last week in Fayetteville.

Saturday's game will be the 58th between the two schools in a rivalry begun in 1916 with a 62-0 Aggie win in Dallas. Texas A&M leads the series 27-24-6 and holds a 13-11-2 mark in Kyle Field.

The fourth-ranked Cadets carry an unblemished 7-0 record into the game. They moved up a notch in the respective polls after California's upset thrashing of John McKay's Southern California Trojans.

Memories of last year's rain-soaked 18-14 loss to Ponies the loom in the minds of players, coaches,

and fans. It was at this precise moment last year that the Aggies had moved back into the familiar number four slot before the Mustangs virtually shattered all A&M hopes of a Jan. 1 trip to the Cotton-Bowl.

In last year's decision, the Mustangs jumped out to a 16-0 lead in the first half on Oscar Roan's 14 yard run on a fumble recovery. A 21-yard field goal by Ted Thompson and a 20 yard run by quarterback Ricky Wesson tallied the scoring for the Mustangs. A&M's Jerry Honore scored two touchdowns to close the gap at 16-14, but a safety added two points to the SMU cause, securing the 18-14 margin.

SMU is 3-5, coming off a last-minute challenge before bowing to the Texas Longhorns in Dallas. Until their match with Texas Tech, they had alternated every other game with opponents. They opened with a 14-7 narrow win over Wake Forest, followed by decisive wins over Houston, 26-16, and the TCU Horned Frogs, 28-13. Their losses came to nationally ranked Florida, 41-14, West Virginia, 28-22, Rice, 28-17, Texas Tech, 37-20, and last week's fall to Texas.

Once again, the Aggies find themselves leading the nation in defense. The Maroon Maulers have been susceptible to an average of only 62.7 yards a game rushing. This

is quite an impressive figure in that the nation's football teams are averaging more than 200 yards per game rushing.

An ironic sidelight is that defensive tackles Jimmy Dean of A&M and Toxie Beavers of SMU will not see action because of injuries. Both played on the same high school team at Brazoswood. Dean cut a tendon in his left thumb in a dormitory accident while Beavers suffered an ankle injury in the Texas game.

Filling in for the injured Dean will be David Bairington, a sophomore from Ft. Worth who has seen limited action. Steve Spitzberger, a sophomore from Spring Branch is expected to see action at the same position.

Beavers will be replaced by Dane Rasmussen, a freshman from Pampa.

The powerful SMU offensive attack will be led by heralded running back Wayne Morris, who tacked on 202 yards in last week's loss to Texas. Also present in the Mustang huddle will be the versatile quarterback Ricky Wesson, who has thrown for six touchdowns and rushed for 458 yards. David Bostick the converted fullback to linebacker will likely see action at both offense and defense.

Leading the Aggie backfield will be quarterback David Shipman.

Shipman is healthy now and should be at full strength. The former all-Stater from Odessa Permian has been ailing lately from a slightly pulled hamstring received in the Baylor game. Freshman George Woodward makes his second starting appearance at fullback, flanked by halfbacks Skip Walker and Bubba Bean.

The offensive line will consist of ends Richard Osborne and Carl Roaches, tackles Dennis Swilley and Glenn Bujnoch, guards Frank Myers and Bruce Welch, and center Henry Tracy.

The defensive line will be led by ends Tank Marshall and Blake Schwarz and tackles Edgar Fields and David Bairington.

Starting linebackers will be Ed Siminoni, Garth Ten Napel, and Grady Wilkerson.

Pat Thomas, William Thompson, Lester Hayes, and Jackie Williams will provide the secondary coverage.

A crowd in excess of 50,000 is expected in Kyle Field. Field seats have been sold out since mid-October, and South endzone bleachers and standing-room tickets will be sold at the C. Rollie White Coliseum.

Kick-off is slated for 1:30 p.m., and the game will be aired over KTAM radio. Frank Fallon and Dave Smith will provide the commentary.

## Women volleyballers go to Arlington for tourney

By CAROLYN BLOSSER  
Battalion Sports Writer

Texas A&M's women's volleyball team will compete in the twelve-team U.T. Arlington Invitational Friday and Saturday at Arlington.

The tournament will be played a new way this year. Instead of the usual double elimination, the teams have now been divided into two six-team divisions, with each playing every member in its division once. The two teams with the best won-lost records from each division will then go on and play in the finals.

Coach Laura Kitzmiller likes this new type of tournament play because it enables teams to play more against each other, thus preventing early elimination.

On Friday, A&M will start off by playing Texas Tech at 4 p.m., followed by games with the University of Texas at 6 p.m. and Texas Wo-

man's University at 8 p.m. A&M will conclude their divisional games Saturday, playing Sam Houston State University at 9 a.m. and Texas Wesleyan College at 11 a.m. The championship game will be played at 6 p.m. that evening.

Coach Kitzmiller sees this tournament as an important preparation for the state tournament coming up the following weekend.

"I don't really care how we place in this tournament," said Coach Kitzmiller. "I care specifically how well we play. We're kind of using this tournament as a warm-up for State next weekend. If we can remain well-organized and play with some confidence, I think we'll do all right," she added.

The Aggies boast a very young and strong team with the emphasis being on team work. Three of the starters, Tracie Chandler, Dianne

Douglas, and Ann Higgins are all freshmen. Higgins played at Lee High School in Midland last year and made all-State.

Sophomore Jo Ann Nichols and juniors Mardi Alexander and Rita Kuntz make up the rest of the starting team. Alexander is a transfer student from Southwest Texas State University. Kuntz, the head captain of the Ags, is best known for her overpowering serve, a definite asset in the Aggie attack.

Looking ahead, the women have some very crucial tournaments coming up.

The Texas Aggie basketball team will have a scrimmage Saturday morning at 9 on the main floor of G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The public is invited, and there will be no charge.

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