

Bird shot down

Editor:
We were pleased to read that this year's senior class has financed the erection of another piece of non-art sculpture; this one to be located in Spence Park near the Corps of Cadets area. Our latest memorial is a reincarnation of the A&M Lifewaffe-inspired centennial emblem — that righteous Eagle which appears on the Battalion name plate. And what a bargain they got.

This bronze bird, complete with a 9 1/2-foot wingspan, cost a mere \$17,000. Our calculators tell us that such a sum, invested at six per cent, would yield \$1,020 annually. If such was the case, then smaller statues could be purchased yearly until all the grassy spots on campus were filled with eagles. Then having nothing better to do with the Eagle Fund, academic scholarships could be awarded.

The Board of Regents will no doubt be pleased to see what an influence they have had on the fine young Aggie minds.

Kenneth L. Drozd
James Peters

Spirit of unity

Editor:
I would like to try and explain to Paige Beasley and to other Greek members why we're "down on" fraternities and sororities here at A&M.

Yes, you've got it right — Aggies are down on the Greeks. Aggies are down on organizations which divide rather than unite the student body. Aggies are down on groups which include some people and exclude others by some mysterious collection of qualifications... such as, "My daddy is a doctor." Aggies are

Listen Up

down on the "social ladder" clubs which compete for the biggest parties, the fanciest houses and the exclusive membership. (Maybe A&M doesn't have all of this now, but it probably will eventually become a UT on the Brazos.) Aggies are down on those students who'd rather state their do-or-die allegiance to Zeta Zeta Zeta than say they're part of that certain spirit. You're right when you say Aggies are down on just one more thing that is eroding the united spirit and tradition that once made this place.

You say, Mr. Beasley, that fraternities and sororities are a source of friendships in a large university. Well, speaking for myself and at least a few others, I'm grateful that I don't need to buy my friends through monthly dues to a sorority.

Ro McDonald

Caddies thanked

Editor:
Please allow me this means of thanking the many Texas A&M students who volunteered as caddies in our recent News Media golf tournament.

Many of the visiting newsmen asked that I convey their thanks and appreciation to the student caddies and, in every instance, they added how greatly impressed they were by the young men and women of A&M.

Their willingness to serve as caddies was a vital element in the success of the tournament. I sincerely hope all received tips for their work.

Spec Gammon
Sports Information
A&M Athletic Dept.

Readers' forum

Dean defends dropping of Czech

The Texas A&M Czech Study Program in Prague was certainly no secret. Only by widespread promotional effort did we succeed in attracting the 25 students from across the nation to which Messrs. Prihoda and Koranek refer. Somewhat to our chagrin, participation by TAMU students was quite limited (only 5 of the 25, as indicated by Messrs. Prihoda and Koranek).

The program was a fine one of which we were justifiably quite proud. It was, however, quite costly, occasioning direct expenses to TAMU of more than \$4,000 for the summer of 1975. So far as I am aware, none of the universities mentioned by Messrs. Prihoda and Koranek ever indicated that they would like to have the program during the time in which we administered it. At the expiration of our agreement with the University of Prague, one of the universities mentioned was prevailed upon to continue the program, none of the others indicating a willingness to do so. If, as Messrs. Prihoda and Koranek maintain, these other universities desperately wanted the program, this was the best kept secret of all.

In any university, financial resources are limited and certainly we cannot in the College of Liberal Arts have all that we would like to have of everything. From our viewpoint, effective student interest is shown by enrollment. After Professor Skrivanek's retirement, we could not justify the expenditure of state funds to hire a professor for a total student load of less than 40 students per semester when those same funds

were badly needed to hire professors in other subjects in which enrollment was increasing rapidly and in which the typical professor may well have several hundred students per semester.

The decision to discontinue the Czech program was not a reflection of a lack of appreciation of the value of the Czech language, Czech literature, Czech culture, or the Czech heritage. It was a painful and sorrowful recognition that this appreciation

was not sufficiently widespread among our student body to make it possible for us to have a viable Czech program.

To those for whom Messrs. Prihoda and Koranek are spokesmen, I say that you had ample opportunity to vote — to vote with your feet by enrolling in Czech courses. Very few of you did so. We regret your failure to do so at least as much as you do.

W. David Maxwell
College of Liberal Arts Dean

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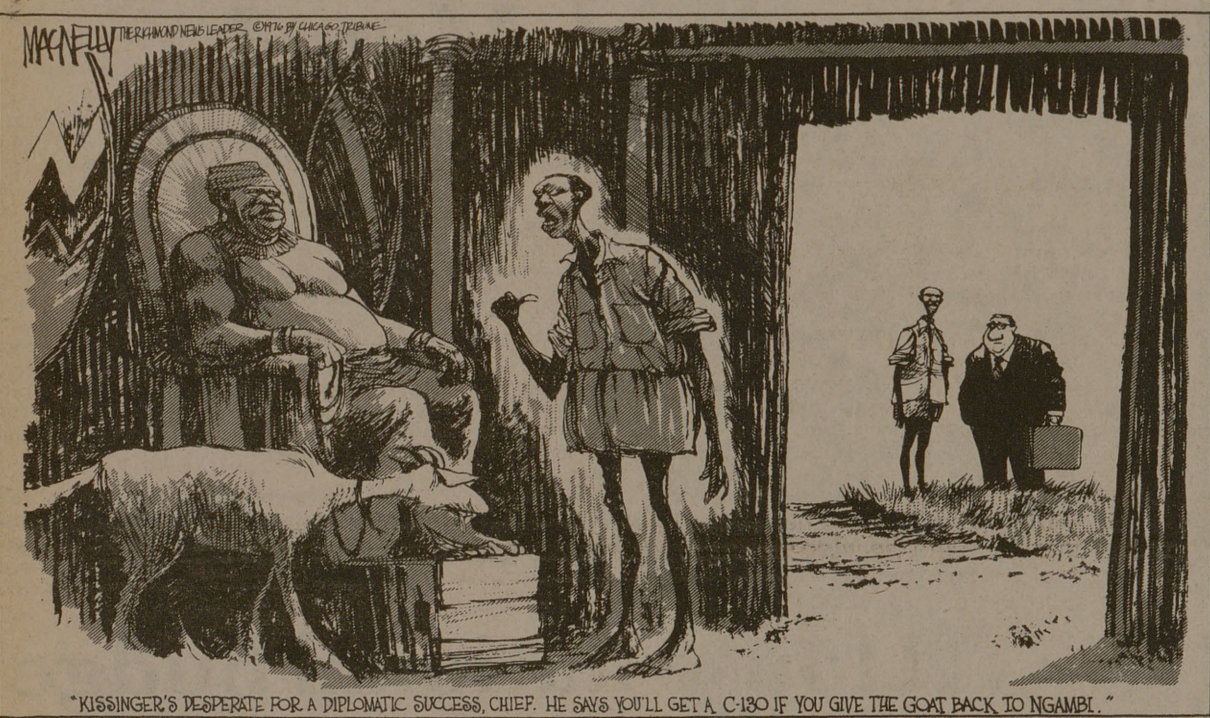
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The Battalion

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What others say about Mr. Teague....
Texas Monthly Magazine (May, 1976) states:
"...as one Hill observer noted, 'The House has such faith in him, he could probably pass just about anything he wants.' His forte is committee work, which he has performed with such distinction that his chairmanship was never imperiled by the upheavals that toppled Patman, Poage, and others.

Last year he switched to the chairmanship of Science and Technology, a committee he had unofficially directed for the past fifteen years....He now oversees National Science Foundation grants, and it is no accident that these funds flow generously into the coffers of Texas colleges and universities — particularly Texas A&M....Already Teague has demonstrated that he will run a committee better than anyone else in the House; he has worked wonders with the Science and Technology Staff, and still found time to call shots on the Veterans' Committee. ('Every single time I've been in Teague's office this year,' says a Capitol reporter for a major Texas daily, 'he's been interrupted by some sort of veterans' question.'

Mr. Teague is editorially endorsed by the Dallas Morning News, Dallas Times Herald, Ft. Worth Star Telegram, and most other newspapers in the district.

Vote for Tiger Teague in the May 1st Democratic Primary

A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. Teague for Congress Committee. Dr. James R. Gill, Treasurer