

The best of A&M and Bryan-College Station

By KARL WOLFSHOHL and Battalion Staff
A recent issue of "Texas Monthly" included an article written by Richard West entitled "The Best of Texas." If you can, get your hands on a copy and read it. It's good. West even included some trivia about A&M in the story, such as "Best Aggie" and "Best Aggie Joke" categories.

West didn't get specific enough about A&M and the Bryan-College Station area to suit some Aggies, though, so here's a localized follow-up to his "Best." I'll paraphrase West and say it's okay if you don't agree with my choices here, because I know I'm right.

BEST WAITRESS: Lisa Halliwell at the University Pizza Hut. She's beautiful and doesn't seem to know it (a rarity here). She's also as friendly as she is pretty and, above all, she won't let your glass run dry or your croutons run low. I hear Lisa kills 'em on tips. Dread the day she gets her degree and leaves team.

BEST SECRETARY: Pat Cote in the Communications Department. Known as "Mother" to her many followers, she keeps a steady hand on departmental affairs — business and otherwise.

BEST TELEPHONE COMPANY: Does not apply. Sometimes the only guy in town can be Brand X.

BEST OLD AGGIE (combination "Best Old Coot" and "Best Aggie"): Dr. R.C. Potts, Associate Dean for Instruction in the College of Agriculture. More people consider Dr. Potts a close personal friend than will ever remember me or you. If there's an honest Aggie Godfather, R. C. Potts is him.

BEST CHICKEN-FRIED STEAK: The Aggie Special at Youngblood's, by far.

BEST MEXICAN FOOD IN TOWN: Zarape, by a country kilometer. The prices are low, and you won't find a better beef taco north of San Antonio. Their red sauce with onions is the best on either side of the border. Estoy seguro.

BEST UNIVERSITY CAMPUS POLICE DEPARTMENT: See "Best Telephone Company."

BEST VIEW OF CAMPUS: From the Tower restaurant at night. It's a real problem to get there at night, but where there's a will, there's a way.

BEST BEER JOINT: The Dixie Chicken, by Gawd. Wallow in Willie and Waylon as you lap Longneck Lone Star and crunch cheese and crackers.

BEST DANCE HALL: The Lakeview Club — well worth the 15 minute drive out there. Dennis Ivy and the Waymen will jerk your heart out with "Silver Wings," but you can't say no to "Cotton-Eyed Joe."

BEST BUNCH OF ORDERLY DRUNKS: The Lakeview Club crowd on Thursday nights.

BEST BULLSHOOTER: Alan Allen, a lanky, handlebarred, East Texas boy who'd as soon lie to you as look at you, especially when it comes to bass fishing. I asked Alan how his recent trip to New York had been, and he answered, "It was fine; we filled a couple of stringers."

BEST CAMPUS NEWSPAPER: See "Best Telephone Company."

BEST BARBECUE: The original 3-C in downtown Bryan. Try a quar-

ter pound of their ribs and you'll agree.

BEST SIDELINE PERFORMER: Dr. Shelby Metcalf — an A&M basketball game wouldn't be the same without him.

BEST ARCHITECTURAL CALAMITY: The Great Wall. Nobody knows what it's there for or where it's going, but everyone knows where it's coming from — your pocket, friend.

BEST SLEEPING PLACE: In the rainy season, anywhere far away from classes. In the sunny season, the Academic lawn.

BEST GIRL AS SEEN FROM THE FRONT: I don't know her name, but she swims a lot at the Wofford Cain pool. She dives pretty well, but it's her breaststroke you'll notice right away.

BEST GIRL AS SEEN FROM THE REAR: Sorry, it would embarrass her if I told. She's also Best Nice Girl

at A&M. I won't tell you who Best Nasty Girl is, either.

BEST OBSCENITY: The sky-water tower, fondly called by "The Erection."

BEST PASTRY: Snook Bannock Company in Snook. Bread, mon rolls, pies and kolaches by a handful of little old ladies do it like your grandma used to. One heckuva lot better. Strong world class team.

TAMU's sea program to receive funds

Texas A&M will receive \$1,310,000 from the U.S. Department of Commerce for the continuation of marine research, education and advisory programs under the University's Sea Grant College Program.

The grant from the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will be supplemented by \$1,010,488 in non-federal matching funds, Roy W. Hann, Jr. acting director of A&M's Center for Marine

Resources, said.

The 1976-77 Sea Grant Program, which begins September 1, includes research and education projects in six of the University's College Station colleges and at the University of Houston, Baylor College of Medicine and A&M's Moody College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources in Galveston. Advisory programs, which include assistance to marine businesses,

marinas and recreations, recreation interest, commercial fishing and seafood processing are conducted through the Industrial Economics Research Division of Texas Engineering Experiment Station and by marine agents and specialists of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

One major research effort being undertaken by the A&M scientists this year is a continuing study into

the feasibility of commercial production of shrimp in captivity. Efforts will be directed toward evaluating technology which would permit pond production of shrimp to bait and edible market size, simplifying hatchery techniques to reduce seed stock costs and developing sources of pregnant female shrimp from local fishing grounds and through controlled maturation.

Based on the work being carried out at A&M, it is expected that scientists will be able to design a commercial production system which will allow individual shrimp farmers to operate both hatchery and maturation units economically.

In a closely related project, biologists are hopeful of closing life cycle in an artificial environment. Lack of full knowledge of shrimps' natural spawning and difficulties encountered, terminating egg maturation of under laboratory conditions, caused difficulty in completing life cycle under laboratory conditions.

Success with this project is expected to reduce greatly farming costs and make possible experiments dealing with selective breeding and hybridization of shrimp.

Tropical studies certificate offered

A new multidisciplinary course will be offered this fall that deals with the great kingdoms of Africa, housing in monsoon Asia and laws of the seas.

399, "The Tropical World." The course is taught by professors from 24 different departments each with experiences of the topics offered.

There are no prerequisites for this lecture-type course given this fall at 11 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday in Zachary 203. Graduates and undergraduates are welcomed.

Professor John Griffiths lectures on the different tropical climates — proving they aren't all hot and sticky. Dr. Vaughn Bryant talks about the tropical origins of man. Dr. Malcolm Richards talks about the economic climates for investment and multinational firms in the Third-World nations of the tropics.

Dr. Robert Scott describes the formation of valuable ores which are being exploited more and more by national governments than by colonial powers. Each lecture is a different experience and after a unit of lectures, a discussion seminar is held.

After completing Geography 399, students may want to continue learning more about the tropics and work toward the Tropical Studies Certificate. It is not a degree, but a little something extra awarded at graduation that could help in acquiring a position abroad.

This certificate can be obtained after completing selected courses (which are listed in the Tropical Studies Office in the O&M Bldg. 814) in many different fields and should not interfere with completing your major degree plan.

A&M researchers say cattle market controls too simple

It costs more to market and process cattle produced in remote areas of East Africa than the price paid to the producer for a 5 or 6-year-old animal, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station research shows.

The dilemma is common in many developing countries that control or administer livestock and meat prices to reduce price instability and to subsidize consumers, producers or both, according to researchers D.E. Farris, G.M. Sullivan and K.W. Stokes.

Farris is a professor of livestock marketing and Sullivan is research assistant at the A&M Agricultural Economics Department. Stokes is a livestock marketing economist working under an A&M-U.S. Agency for International Development contract in Tanzania, East Africa.

The trio collaborated to write a paper presented during the American Economics Association meeting Aug. 15-17 at Pennsylvania State University.

Their research findings point out that the cattle market controls are often too simple to handle complex economics relationships. The result is wasteful market distortions, such

as localized shortages, surpluses, black markets and smuggling.

Their paper also provides guides for pricing and processing plant location. Such pointers could help increase the efficiency of livestock and meat marketing in Tanzania.

The economists believe that their research may apply to many other African and South American beef producing countries where the tendency is to ignore some basic economic principles in setting price policies.

Tanzania's price policies for livestock and meat fail to provide necessary seasonal, geographic and quality price differences to achieve the objectives of that nation's meat policies, the economists said.

Live cattle marketing on the African coast often costs much as the total value of cattle in the interior, where thin animals sold for as low as \$25 per head and fleshy animals for as much as \$150 in 1975-76.

Consequently, locating new processing plants in the interior cattle producing regions could yield a very high return to the industry and to the overall economy, the economists said.

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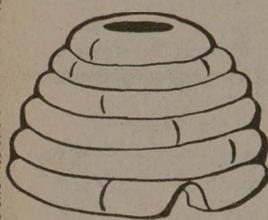
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