

Silver Taps — shared experience

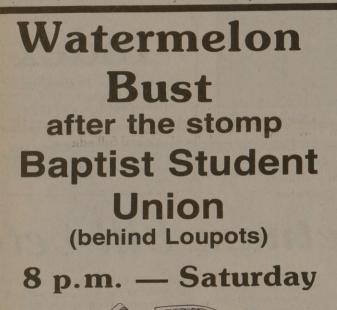
By DONNIE SCOTT It began at 10 o'clock. The weather was warm but comfortable. A bright September moon shone Jown on the campus to create a solemn and serene atmosphere. As I sat on the front steps of Hart Hall I wondered how many Good Ags would find the time to honor those that were no longer with us.

THE BATTALION

age 2

At first just a few began to arrive but as the moon rose higher, more and more people began to show. Slowly and silently they came, just as many Ags before them had followed this old and hallowed tradition.

Meanwhile at the Peanut Gallery things were really swinging. The regular Tuesday Night Special had attracted a large crowd of Good Ags. Yes they are true Aggies. They wear their Aggie T-shirts and they display the Aggie stickers boldly on their cars. On any Saturday during the fall you can find them cheering their team on to victory. Yes these are true



Readers' forum Aggies but where were they during

Silver Taps.? As the people gathered around old Sully Ross, the MSC chimes echoed and friends their lamenting tones across the campus. At first the sound was faint but slowly it grew louder as the Ross Vol. stepped out their erie ca-dence. As I looked around I saw the shaven heads of those honorable C.T.'s. Yes the Corps was there.

God Bless the Corps. I saw several large groups of nonregs moving together. The dorms around campus had found the time to organize themselves and make their appearance. I even saw a married couple with a young child. I know how hard it is to stand there and we all get tired. It really must be hard with a baby in your arms. To you I extend my heart for you signify

the true Aggie Spirit. As the R.V.s marched into place a silent mood fell over the already hushed crowd. Three times they fired and three times the shots echoed across the campus like many times before when the Aggies paid tribute to their former classmates

Meanwhile at the Sports Club things were really rocking. The disco-music had everybody in a boogie mood. The bartenders and waitresses just couldn't serve the drinks fast enough. This was a common scene at Aggieland and these were good Aggies. You know they are Aggies because you see them in your classes and around campus.

At a nearby location members of an elite fraternity were enjoying one of their finest pledge parties yet. The actives were teaching the pledges the finer aspects of college socializ-ing. After all what is a social fraternity for besides socializing. They feel they should be allowed on campus because they're good Ags too! But where were they during Silver Taps?

As the Taps began to sound I felt the true meaning of being an Aggie. These people had found the time be-

cause they cared. Care, the work that symbolizes the true Aggie spirit. Aggieland is where people care about people and traditions are honored and upheld. This is Aggieland and these are the This is Aggieland and these are the true Aggies. The Corps, the non-regs and the people who care. They would probably have enjoyed being on a dance floor or enjoyed a drink at a local club but they found in their hearts a stronger call than that of a drink or a dance. They heard and answered the call of Aggieland.

To you that made it, I extend my friendship and admiration. To you that found the local bars and clubs more appealing than the honored tradition of Silver Taps I strongly recommend that you re-evaluate your priorities. If you desire to be a true Aggie and love A&M and all that it stands for you must go a little farther than T-shirts and bumper stickers

While Jimmy Carter trekked through a Polish neighborhood in scheme Pittsburgh, in the White House, President Ford also was seeking the

GRAND RAPIDS — Worse things could happen to Gerald Ford than to be retired to his old home

town. Grand Rapids is a city of

enormous vitality, with a knack for

recycling experienced men into use-

ful careers of public service. A year ago, on a visit here, this

reporter was captivated by Harold S. Sawyer, then 55, who had just given

up his position as the senior partner in the city's most eminent law firm to

become the Kent County prosecuting attorney. After 30 years of law suits, Sawyer had built his firm to the largest in Michigan outside Detroit,

achieved a degree of financial inde-

pendence and realized "I was start-

So when a vacancy occurred in the prosecutor's job and a circuit judge asked Sawyer to take the appoint-

ment, he agreed to take a two-thirds

pay cut and accept the \$31,700-a-

year position. When I saw him, just a

few months after he'd started, he

Ford vacated to become Vice Presi-

The reason: He was "really upset" with Richard Nixon over the

the Republicans in Washington.

This year, he is one of four Repub-

licans seeking the nomination to op-

Workers) laundry list." But his han-

kering to go to Congress has deeper

"I had a couple guys in here last

month from LEAA (the Law En-

ing to get bored.'

ethnic vote, and former Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy was appealing to Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr.to order his name placed on the ballot in Texas as an independent candidate for President.

McCarthy said he plans to appeal to the full court from a ruling of a three-judge federal panel in Austin last Thursday.

The three judge court ruled that a Texas law barring independent candidates for Pre nt and vice r dent from the ballot was unconstitutional. But it also said that McCarthy had filed his suit too late to permit the court to put his name on the

Texas ballot "without substantially disrupting the entire Texas election

McCarthy filed suit July 30 challenging the Texas law, which was enacted after he announced his candidacy

In Pittsburgh, Carter donned a T-shirt emblazoned with "Polish Hill" and toured the heavily Polish neighborhood of the same name. The Democratic presidential candidate was greeted by enthusiastic crowds as he posed with parochial school children on the steps of a Catholic church and received a ceremonial kiss from a priest.

lowed his campaign strategy of re-maining at the White House.

But before unveiling Casimir Pulaski memorial day, Ford called a hasty outdoor news conference to accuse Carter of a lack of compassion for FBI director Clarence Kelley. Carter said Tuesday that if he were president he would have fired Kelley for presiding gifts and favors

Kelley for receiving gifts and favors from FBI subordinates. But Carter declined to say if he will fire Kelley if the Democrats win the White House in November.

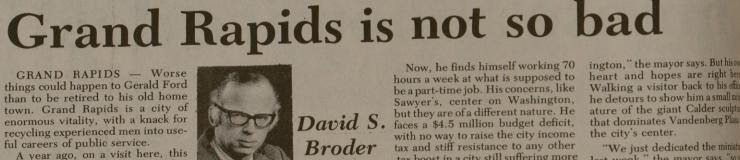
The memorial day celebration was in honor of Casimir Pulaski, a polish general who served the colonists in the Revolutionary ord praised the general for his "heroic sacrifices. At present, Kelley has repaid \$355 values and a proper concern for to the FBI for material and labor used to make improvements at his home. Kelley said he had not known FBI money was used to make the

Carter campaign pace continues remarks and an apparent attempt skirt the real issue involved. In other developments this mom-ing, Claude Wild Jr., Gulf Oi Corp.'s former chief lobbyist, re

pudiated his claim that he had give \$2,000 in 1970 to Sen. Bob Dole, t Republican vice-presidential cand "I have been in error and con-

sequently have done a serious dis-service to Sen. Dole," Wild said in statement.

Dole immediately accept Wild'd apology, calling the matter "an unfortunate incident." The senator added: "We're moving ahead with the campaign."



last week," the mayor says, "so our blind citizens could feel what the rest of us see.

A city that finds such product use for people like Harold Sawy and Abe Drasin, and that can pa in its fiscal crisis to think aboutsh ing its community's artistic treasu with the blind, cannot be a bad place even for a President to contemp



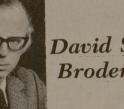
David S. faces a \$4.5 million budget deficit, Broder

with no way to raise the city income tax and stiff resistance to any other tax boost in a city still suffering more than 10 percent unemployment. So Drasin is agonizing over the prospects for the extension of

revenue-sharing and the possible passage of a "counter-cyclical" assistance measure for areas of high unemployment. Otherwise, there will

be cutbacks in pay and hours or layoffs of city employees and further reductions in city services. "Our fate is in the hands of Wash-

retiring. (c) 1976, The Washington Post



were having considerable success handling our rape prosecutions, but we could use about three more lawyers if they could finance it. They said they were sorry but their direc-tives only allowed them to finance

Rape Crisis Centers. Well, I'd like to go down to Congress for a few years—especially if I had some leverage with the White House not with the idea of making friends, but raising hell about that kind of nonsense That's one story. The other, even

more remarkable in some ways, con-cerns Grand Rapids' new mayor, Abe Drasin, who is 67.

said, "I feel ten years younger," and talked enthusiastically of his plans for prosecuting consumer fraud and As gentle a spirit as Sawyer is combative, Drasin spent his life building a successful business trad-ing in hides. It was not a boring job; other projects. That was not Sawyer's first breakout. A year earlier, the lifelong Re-publican and close friend of Mr. it involved frequent trips to Europe Ford had broken publicly with his party to support Democrat Richard Vanderveen for the House seat Mr. and the Far East and contacts throughout the United States.

But eight years ago, when he was 59, Drasin says he realized he was "not getting the intellectual stimulus I needed." So he sold his business with Richard Nixon over the Vietnam war, his Supreme Court school civics teacher. He had played appointments and, of course, Watergate. Electing Vanderveen, he figured, would send a message to an important role, as a private citizen, in the desegregation of Grand Rapids' schools, and the problems of discipline did not disturb him. "It's just like labor negotiating," he said. You don't put the union guy in an impossible position, and you don't do that to your students." pose Vanderveen. His complaint with Vanderveen is that "he has been voting the UAW (United Auto

But while Drasin found the teaching stimulating, confinement to a classroom eight hours a day proved too much of a shift for an executive In his time as prosecutor, Sawyer who had controlled his own has come face to face with some of schedule. "It became like a prison,"

the federal bureaucracy. And he is as enraged as he was with Nixon. In 19 In 1971, Drasin had allowed some friends to put up his name for the city council and he became the first Jew elected to public office in Grand Rapids in 103 years. Last year, he forcement Assistance Administra-Sawyer said, "offering me was elected mayor, defeating a \$80,000 a year if I would set up a Dutch Reform minister with 61 per-'Rape Crisis Center.' I told them we cent of the votes



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I know many could not make it due to legitimate reasons but I know more could have made it with a little effort. I hope in the future more can find the time to be a true Aggie.

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Later, in a speech in Washing to the national convention of the Jewish congregation B'nai B'rith, Carter said the Ford administration often has "ignored basic American human rights

Carter said the United States has 'responded inadequately to human suffering" in Bangladesh and other undeveloped nations.

As Carter continued his hectic campaign pace, Ford generally fol-

improvements. Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, said, "Ford's comments are a cynical distortion of Gov. Carter's

At issue was Wild's claim porters earlier this week that he had given \$2,000 to Dole in 1970 to pass on to other Republican Senate can didates in that year.

Dole earlier had acknowledged that he had testified before a federal grand jury last March on the ques tion of Gulf contributions, but that he had received no such funds from Wild either in 1970 or 1973.

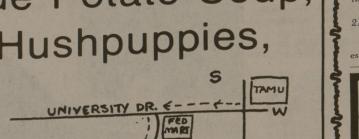
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& Cole Slaw.

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