

# Opinion/Commentary/Letters

## People are saying good things about Aggies

Editor's note: The following letter was received by Texas A&M Student Body President Fred McClure and was submitted for publication.

Dear Mr. McClure:  
I take this opportunity to com-

mend the students of Texas A&M University on their conduct and demeanor during the recent A&M-UT "Pep Rally" held at the State Capitol on November 24, 1976. The students were extremely orderly and cooperated fully with the security

force at all times. The integrity and self-control of your students was a key factor in preventing an otherwise peaceful affair from erupting into an unruly one. Further, several students formed a clean-up group to remove the litter from the grounds that was left as a result of the rally. These actions of your students are highly appreciated by security personnel.

The actions and conduct of the A&M students, before, during and after the rally, speaks highly of the caliber of the Student Body of Texas A&M University.

Please extend my regards to the students.

—John Stanford, Jr.  
Trooper, Texas Highway Patrol

### Thanks to Dukes of Aggeland

Editor:  
The 40 handicapped clients and staff of Dilly Shaw Farm and Vocational Training Center want to express their deep appreciation to the "Dukes of Aggeland" for making this Thanksgiving a most memorable one.

On very short notice, the group gave a concert at Dilly Shaw Farm and Vocational Training Center

which will be remembered for a long time by all who listened and enjoyed the music.

The "Dukes" are:

- Joe Spann - Piano
- Jeff Clark - Bass Guitar
- Kelly Novak - Drums
- Bruce Hamilton - 1st Trumpet
- Steve Monroe - 2nd Trumpet
- Larry Arcement - Trombone
- David Dodson - Alto Sax
- Mike McCartney - Alto Sax
- Danny Cano - Tenor Sax
- Gwynn Geddie - Bari Sax

I think the performance of these individuals who gave their time and talent willingly to others speaks highly for the type of student body at Texas A&M University.

—William C. Morgan, Director  
Dilly Shaw Farm and Vocational Training Center

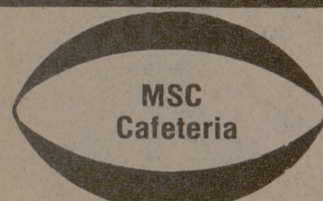
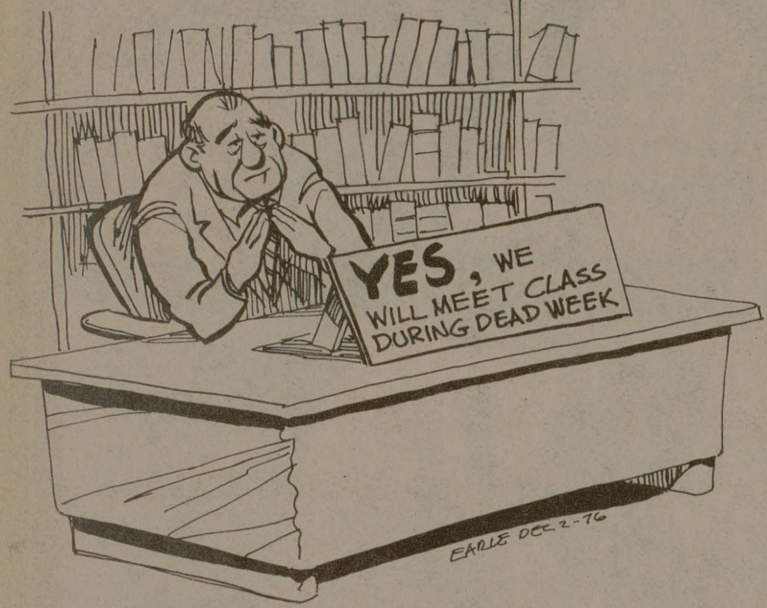
weeks before the Texas game, and is one of the major events of the entire year. A tradition for several years, the bonfire was attended by thousands of Aggies, but the Battalion felt the story was not newsworthy. The only mention of the bonfire in the entire Wednesday edition was in the concert review of Michael Murphey. Certainly, this event was important to the hundreds of workers who made it possible, and to all those who love Texas A&M. I believe your paper made a serious mistake when neglecting to report the bonfire, and lost the respect of many an Aggie.

Gary Craven, '80

Editor's note: There was a mistake but it was not one of neglect. Two different editors had assigned the story to different reporters. When the two editors became aware that each had assigned the story, both cancelled the assignment. We had a communications error which should not happen again because of a staff reorganization to be implemented soon.

### Slouch

by Jim Earle



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Chicken Fried Beef Steak w/cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea

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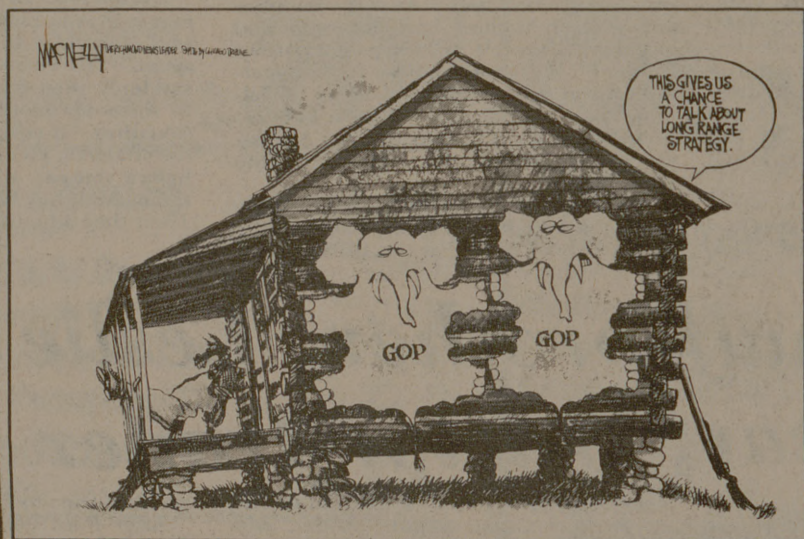
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### Bonfire story was missing

Editor:  
The annual bonfire of Texas A&M is eagerly anticipated for several



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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.

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## Editorial Senate shows sanity... briefly

By JERRY NEEDHAM  
Battalion Editor

Sanity prevailed for a brief time last night at the Texas A&M Student Senate meeting. (That's news.)

Following is a biased recap of a portion of the meeting last night. It is biased because this observer may have missed some action-packed scenes between yawns.

The main item of business was a resolution asking President Williams to establish a five-person Student Editorial Board to take over the responsibilities of the editor of the Aggeland, the student yearbook.

The bill was introduced by Senator Michael Springer at the Senate meeting two weeks ago and was based primarily on a petition signed by 1,500 students reportedly dissatisfied with editorial liberties taken by Gary Baldasari, editor of both the 1976 and 1977 Aggeliands.

It was never established whether these signatures were from dissatisfied Aggeland owners, an organized effort by disgruntled CT's or just students who wanted to sign something.

An ironical twist to this is that at the Senate meeting two weeks ago, the senators voted down a resolution based on a petition signed by more than 1,200 students.

That resolution called for a student referendum to decide whether a choice of no confidence should be added to the ballot in the election of senators and student government officers. The resolution apparently put fear in the hearts of a majority of senators.

Within five minutes of the introduction of the Aggeland Editor Resolution, an attempt was made by Senator Mary Ellen Martin to amend it to make the Student Editorial Board an advisory body rather than an authoritative one. This amendment was defeated. Four (or was it five or six) proposed amendments and two hours later, Martin's amendment to the resolution finally passed.

The intervening statements and amendments (one of which was passed, then reconsidered and de-

feated) ranged from personal attacks on the character of Baldasari, to a public reprimand of the editor.

There are some senators and officers who are really trying to do the Student Government a responsible service by getting things done for the students. But some politicians in the Senate do not have the rudimentary knowledge of the purpose of a governmental body.

Why should so much of the Senate's time be taken up with a negative reactionary rather than a positive nature?

Witness the gay resolution which passed the Senate two weeks ago, consumed hours of the Senate's time, and, at best, it can only be said simply requested that the administration follow the established regulations in determining whether a gay group should be recognized on campus. Who suggested that the administration would not follow the rules and regulations?

What finally did pass the Senate last night can be considered constructive legislation, but the way by which it was arrived at was not constructive.

One fact that a lot of senators tend to lose sight of at times is that legislation should not be reactive and emotional, but should be thought out and be planned for years. Through the actions and statements of a sensible minority through the process of elimination the Senate hit upon a constructive measure last night.

But, alas, this semblance of sanity was immediately dispelled by passage of the bill when a senator took the floor and asked, "Is it possible to have this bill printed in The Battalion so we can see what voted on?"

By the way, there's a rumor circulating which says the Senate to ban all left-winged groups from the A&M campus. ... and they need is 1,500 signatures.

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