

Slouch By Jim Earle



"Not only have I contemplated suicide, but I'm in the process of committing suicide now as we talk — by hard and robust living."

Future steps into System today

Often do the spirits
Of great events stride on before the
events,
And in today already walks tomorrow.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Today, the spirit of future great events strides into the Texas A&M University System — Dr. Arthur G. Hansen, the new chancellor. And, as the above lines state, tomorrow is walking into the System along with Hansen.

Today is the beginning of a new era — an era that can be a great extension onto the succession of past eras of progress at the Texas A&M System. Today, the System begins to pull within the reins of its new leader — to pull toward whatever the future holds in store.

Hansen's already-proclaimed viewpoints promise great advances for the System — if only he can accomplish as much as he desires to accomplish. It will be a long hard pull; the job is a tough one. But, with the record of several strong chancellors before him, the job shouldn't be difficult.

On this, his first day on his new job, I wish Dr. Hansen luck — no, more than that, I wish him success. He has proved



diana sultenfuss

by past experience that he can get the job done — and get it done right.

I believe he is more than just an adequate replacement. He is definitely an effective leader, as his past record shows, and he has the potential to be one of the greatest leaders Texas A&M has ever seen.

After having met Hansen, it is easy to see that he and his experience will make a definite extension to the chain of powerful leaders this System has seen in the last few years. His intelligence and good humor are obvious; his love of students is evident; and his devotion to excellence is proven.

And, he says he looks forward to the personal challenge of his new job. Wordsworth could have been describing Hansen when he said:

A man he seems of cheerful yesterday
And confident tomorrows.

That's the way Hansen appears — confident, experienced, true and sure. These are the qualities that can move the System further in the direction of eminence. Texas A&M can achieve the long-wished-for status of a "world-class university."

The future — a word always mentioned in conversations at Texas A&M — a word that suggests ominous clouds on the horizon. But, when we talk of Hansen and the future, I believe we see a sunrise on the horizon.

And so, in the words of another, to Dr. Hansen:

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and unshakable faith.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Chancellorship a hazardous job

Caution — the Texas A&M chancellorship may be hazardous to your health.

Historically, the University has experienced its greatest change during the administrations of its strongest and most ambitious leaders — namely James Earl

from the position will be the only way to survive.

In the late '50s, the directors of the University System charged the University's administrators that their watchword and goal should be "excellence." But, today's Board of Regents will settle for nothing less than "pre-eminence."

It only can be assumed that the University is, once again, at a crossroads in its development.

And the leaders of Texas A&M today are again some of the most ambitious ever to grace the System's high-level offices and meeting rooms.

Goals for Texas A&M's future have only been hinted at by the University's present leaders. But, it's a safe assumption that changes this institution will see by the turn of the century will make those of the past seem pale in comparison.

Dr. Arthur G. Hansen shows all the signs of being every bit as strong, innovative and ambitious as his well-known predecessors. He'll have to be in order to survive the physical, mental and emotional demands of the job.

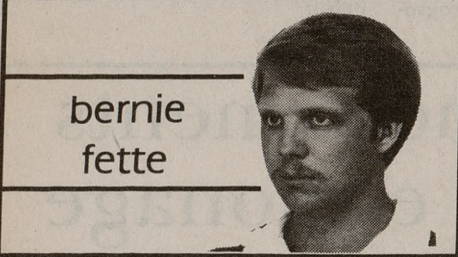
There are just too many similarities to see it any other way — the growth, the change, the anxiety, the power struggles, the personalities of past and present leaders. The list could go on indefinitely.

Without learning from history, man is destined to repeat his mistakes.

This is not to say that by moving into the System chief's office, Hansen (or anyone else for that matter) is signing his life away.

But considering the current state of affairs at Texas A&M, it's safe to say Hansen will age slightly faster than he would if he had stayed on at peaceful Purdue.

Whatever hair hasn't turned gray soon will.



bernie fette

Rudder, Jack Kenny Williams and Dr. Frank W.R. Hubert.

Rudder's administration was marked by such changes as the admittance of female students and optional membership in the Corps of Cadets. Texas A&M's phenomenal surge of growth began in Williams' administration and continued to flourish in Hubert's.

There's definitely a correlation there. So where are the leaders of Texas A&M past?

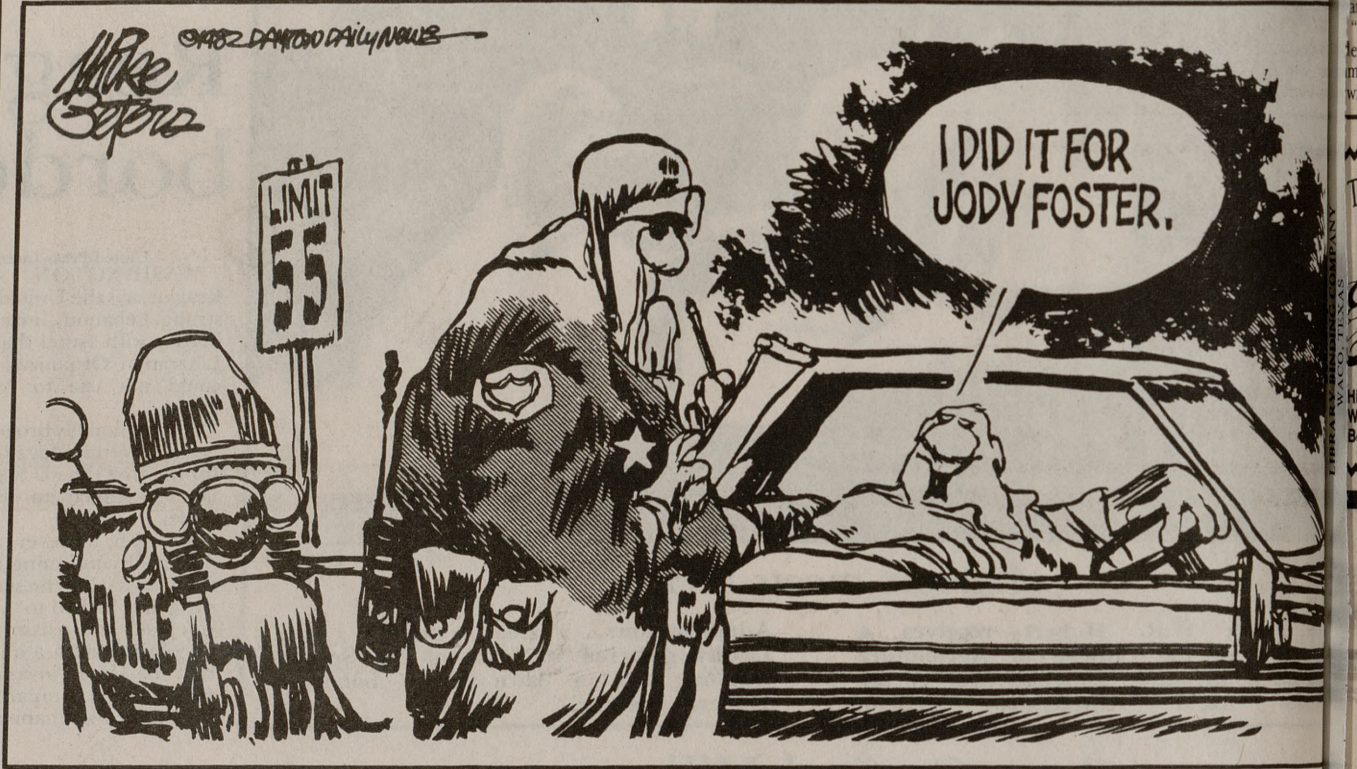
Well, two of them (Rudder and Williams) aren't with us anymore.

The pressure involved in managing a university system as massive as this one, without a doubt, must take its toll on a human mind and body.

Rudder died while in office from complications following a cerebral hemorrhage. Williams was the victim of a stroke.

There's probably a correlation there, too.

Hubert may find that his departure



Letters: Married student housing

Editor:

My husband and I live in the Ball Street apartments in married student housing. We feel very fortunate to be able to do so. However, this does not make me blind to the management of these apartments. I have seen several examples of poor planning and financial mismanagement (particularly in regards to maintenance) since we have lived here. I have always accepted it as a part of a system that is older than I am and decided there was nothing to be gained in trying to change it except a great deal of frustration. That time is past.

It is no secret that the Ball Street apartments were built as cheaply as possible. So it comes as no surprise that one of the balconies finally collapsed. Unfortunately, there were four people on it at the time. The Director of Married Student Housing has taken steps to remedy the situation (one that he has been aware of for several years at least) by removing all balconies, even those that have been recently repaired with metal braces. For safety purposes the sliding glass doors will be bolted shut. The fences of the apartments downstairs will also be removed.

Now we come to the root of the problem. The removal of fences and balconies will leave the tenants without privacy, and most importantly, with no place to store bicycles and other "outside" property. This could possibly lead to very cluttered and hazardous conditions on breezeways and sidewalks, and will afford a tremendous temptation to thieves, who will probably yield to it.

I don't think it would be too much to ask that the fences and balconies be replaced, especially since the rent will be raised again in September. I think that it's time for the tenants to get together and put a little pressure on the bureaucracy. It's time for the Director of Married Student Housing to get his act together and do the job he is paid to do. It's time for a change.

Cindy Caldwell
309 Ball St.

Theft in Commons

Editor:

Hey Ags, there is a thief among us. About two weeks ago, I went to eat break-

fast in the Commons. As usual, I left my books outside because the Commons has a rule to the effect that one cannot take books inside.

When I returned, my books were stolen. Sounds par doesn't it. The thief didn't steal anything but my books, not even my notebook. He had to look obvious.

That little incident cost about \$40. I have seen and heard of many students who have had books stolen in that same place before me. It's time something was done about it. The little worm who stole my books doesn't deserve the benefits of an education, much less the privilege of being called an Aggie.

I'm not going to beg for something back which was mine in the first place. However, I will say this. "Aggies do not lie, steal, or cheat, nor do they tolerate those who do so." Thief, you can bet that neither I nor any other Aggie will tolerate you if we catch you. If I catch you stealing books, I'll make you wish the cops got there first. I believe any other Ag will do the same. Just try to sell my books somewhere, or keep on until you get caught red-handed and I'm sure some true Ag will give you what you deserve.

On the other side of the coin, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. When I talked to a manager in the Commons dining area, she said: "We are not responsible for stolen books, and we provide lockers."

I believe it's time someone took responsibility and acted like they cared. The lockers the manager was referring to are labeled for "off campus students." I

had no idea at the time that this sign meant for the regular semester as a lady informed me. I simply followed the rule, didn't use the lockers and as a ward got my books stolen.

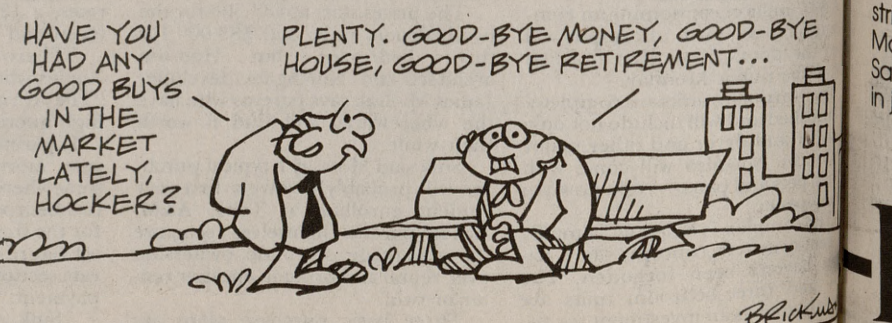
I called a manager in the food service department and asked why the sign was left up during the summer and she said "I'll see about having the sign taken down." The sign is still there.

Besides this, there aren't enough lockers there in the first place for all the students who dine in the Commons who have books with them, people don't always have a quarter in their pocket to take a quarter to use the lockers), other things could be done to prevent theft. Among the things which could be done to stop this injustice would be to remove the curtains around the stairs so that students could keep an eye on their books while they eat. Also, the food services department could open up a larger dining hall or another dining area such as Duncan if "Kitty Korner" (the little tots of the all sports camp) was going to be here all summer.

Then, with less crowding, I'm sure we are all adult enough to take books inside without creating all of the havoc and disorder the management seems to think will occur if books are taken inside. I believe it can be neater and less messy with a couple of books than those hoards of books running, spilling and screaming. However, the management seems to have no faith in kids than in young adults. Thanks for the vote of confidence.

John R. Turner
P.O. Box 55

the small society by Brickman



©1981 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

The Battalion
USPS 045 360
Letters Policy
Member of Texas Press Association Southwest Journalism Conference
Editor: Diana Sultenfuss
City Editor: Bernie Fette
Sports Editor: Frank L. Christlieb
News Editors: Tracey Buchanan, Daniel Puckett, Diane Yount
Staff Writers: Cyndy Davis, Susan Dittman, Terry Duran, Colette Hutchings, Hope E. Paasch, Joe Tindel Jr., Rebeca Zimmermann
Copy Editors: Gary Barker, Carol Templin
Cartoonist: Scott McCullar
Photographers: David Fisher, Peter Rocha, John Ryan
Editorial Policy
The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station. Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Texas A&M University administrators or faculty members, or of the Board of Regents.
The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Communications.
Questions or comments concerning any editorial matter should be directed to the editor.
Our address: The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.
United Press International is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it. Rights of reproduction of all other matter herein reserved.
Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.