

Former students help A&M

by **Connie Edelman**
Battalion Staff
The Association of Former Students at Texas A&M provides more than \$1 million in direct support for programs at the University, but its influence here reaches further than financial support.
The association boasts a membership of about 110,000 former students, with more than

half graduating after 1970. "We're a relatively young alumni association for a University," the Association's executive director Randy Matson said. "We're very fortunate because the new graduates are very interested, involved and dedicated to Texas A&M — just like the older former students."
And the association certainly shows its interest in the Univer-

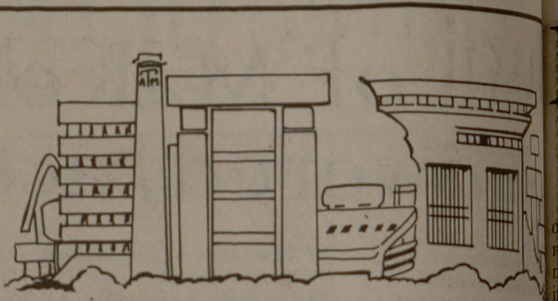
sity — \$2.6 million was contributed by former students last year. About \$1 million of last year's money went directly to projects benefitting Texas A&M. The balance goes indirectly to the University through the organization, which operates separately from the University as a non-profit education corporation.
The association is headed by an 18-member board of directors. Matson leads a staff of 30 employees. The operating budget for this year will be close to \$1.5 million, Matson said.
The budget includes the costs of coordinating 250 Aggie clubs, organizing more than 400 musters, publishing the Texas Aggie magazine, coordinating class reunions and keeping computer

records of former students. "We're one of the few alumni associations that actually has alumni records," Matson said. "It's very expensive to do that because we have over 110,000 members on file and 4,000 address changes per month."
The association spends more than \$100,000 a year on postage, he said.
The funds from last year's budget which were given directly to Texas A&M were spread over several areas:

- \$45,500 went to deans and vice presidents of the University for enhancement of their programs.
 - \$210,000 went for awards to outstanding researching and teaching faculty.
 - \$75,000 went to department heads for faculty recruitment and emergency needs.
 - \$25,000 went to the admissions office for student recruitment.
 - \$50,000 went to the graduate program.
 - \$100,000 went for scholarships and student awards.
 - \$65,000 went to excellence programs.
- Matson estimates that, in addition, several hundred thousand more dollars are given for needs that come up during the year.
The association also lobbies for the University's interests in Austin. Alumni are organized around the state in a political

program to help support the University.
"We're involved in all kinds of things — public relations, anything that benefits Texas A&M — we're involved in it," Matson said. "We respond to needs. Basically, we try to do things the University can't do itself."
State funds have certain restrictions on them, and they can't be used for certain things like scholarships and moving expenses for faculty members.
Members of the association are asked to give unspecified amounts to the University once a year, instead of paying dues. Although all former students are members of the association, active membership requires a gift of \$25 to the annual fund. However, Matson said, "We encourage them to give more than that and Aggies respond very well."
To become a Century Club member, a person must contribute \$100 or more a year. Bronze Century Club members contribute \$100, Silver members donate \$250, Gold members give \$500 and Diamond members contribute \$1,000 or more per year. The Century Club had 16,000 members last year.

The Texas A&M Association of Former Students began on June 5, 1879, when a small group of ex-cadets gathered to try to start an organization of former students. The Ex-Cadets Association of the A&M College of Texas was formed a year later as the result of their efforts.
In June 1886, several former students made a move to reorganize graduates, and the Alumni Association of the A&M College of Texas was started.



Around town

Sociologist to speak to tech group

The **Appropriate Technology Group** is presenting **James H. Copp** tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Room 350A, Memorial Student Center.
Copp is a professor of sociology and anthropology and will be speaking on "Agricultural Mechanization: Social and Societal Effects and Implications for Policy Development."
The meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome.

Aggie wins honors in horse show

Vickie Munie, a freshman animal science major from Braunfels won first place all around in the junior terhorse division of the San Antonio Livestock Show.
Munie, and her horse Drifty Dodger, were the first to win the \$50 prize, as this was the first year that the livestock show sponsored such a division.

Travel committee offers NYC trip

The MSC Travel Committee is sponsoring a 7-day, 7-night trip to The Big Apple.
The trip is scheduled for Spring Break and costs \$49. Included in this price is a Broadway play, a tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a tour of the United Nations as well as Chinatown and Little Italy.
Deadline for registration is noon Thursday. For information, or to sign up, go by Room 216 MSC or call Student Programs Office at 845-1515.

Student Y to sponsor charity run

The **Student Y Association** is sponsoring a three-mile "Charity Chase" Sunday at 10 a.m. The race will start in front of G. Rollie White Coliseum.
The entry fee is \$5 at pre-registration and \$6 the day of the race. All proceeds will be donated to the Special Olympics.
Each entrant will receive a T-shirt and a certificate. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place finishers in the male and female categories.

Tech communicators to organize

The **Technological Communications Society** will hold an organizational meeting for all students interested in technical communications.
The meeting will be at 7 p.m. tonight in Room 150A, Memorial Student Center. Cookies and punch will be served.
For more information contact Elaine Engstrom at 8086.

Co-op Association to hold meeting

The **Co-op Student Association** is holding a meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in Room 504 Rudder.
On the agenda for the meeting are two speakers on new view techniques.
All past, present and future co-op students are invited to attend.

Consol band, jazz artist to perform

The **A&M Consolidated High School Jazz ensemble** and jazz artist **Rich Matteson** will present a concert on Monday in the Bryan Civic Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.
Tickets will be \$3 in advance and \$4 at the door. They can be purchased at Hastings Books and Records or from any Jazz Band member.

ORC plans February fishing trip

The **MSC Outdoor Recreation Committee** is planning a fishing trip to Lake Whitney State Recreational Area this weekend. The main purpose of the trip is to get away from school and enjoy plenty of rest and relaxation. Anyone can enjoy first class fishing while non-fishermen can canoe, hike or just plain sleep.
The cost of the trip will be \$28 due upon sign-up. Registration runs through Wednesday at the secretaries' office, Room 216 MSC. A pre-trip meeting is planned for Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. in Room 350-A MSC.
Trip leaders are **Mike Dennis**, **Stephen Jones** and **F. Modiano**. For further information please call 845-1515.

If you have an announcement or item to submit for the column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed Hall or call Tracey Taylor at 845-2611.

Police beat

The following occurrence was reported to the University Police on Feb. 20:
Theft:
• Thirteen dollars was stolen from a wallet in room Dorm 12.

DIETING?

Even though we do not prescribe diets, we make it possible for many to enjoy a nutritious meal while they follow their doctor's orders. You will be delighted with the wide selection of low calorie, sugar free and fat free foods in the Souper Salad Area, Sbis Dining Center Basement.

OPEN
Monday through Friday 10:45 AM-1:45 PM

QUALITY FIRST

PLITT THEATRES
Student Disc. Fri. with ID \$2
Tues. All seats \$2.00

CINEMA I & II
SKAGGS CENTER 846-6714
The Man of the Century
"GHANDI"
8:00

Uncover the Lie
"LORDS OF DISCIPLINE"
7:45 9:50

CINEMA III
POST OAK MALL 764-0616
Share the Magic!
"E.T.—The Extra-Terrestrial"
7:15 9:30 (PG)

Dustin Hoffman
"TOOTSIIE" (PG)
7:25 9:45

Nick Nolte
"48 HOURS" (R)
8:00-10:00

MSC Cafeteria

Now Better Than Ever. You Will Be Pleased With These Carefully Prepared and Taste Tempting Foods. Each Daily Special Only \$2.39 Plus Tax. "Open Daily"

Dining: 11 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. — 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

<p>MONDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy Whipped Potatoes Your Choice of One Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea</p>	<p>TUESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Mexican Fiesta Dinner Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w/ chili Mexican Rice Patio Style Pinto Beans Tostadas Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread and Butter</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Chicken Fried Steak w/ cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea</p>
<p>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing — Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p> <p>FOR YOUR PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL HAVE HEALTH CARDS.</p>		
<p>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>BREADED FISH FILET w TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style (Tossed Salad) Mashed Potato w/ gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</p> <p>ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable</p>

"Quality First"

SCHULMAN THEATRES
\$1 off adult tickets
1st Matinee Sat. & Sun.
Mon.-Family Night Sch. 6
Tue.-Family Night M.E. III

SCHULMAN 6
2000 E. 29th 775-2468

SPRING FEVER
7:15 9:30

THE STING II
7:20 9:40

WITHOUT A TRACE
7:20 9:40

THE VERDICT
7:25 9:55

THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY
7:25 9:55

THE DARK CRYSTAL
2:15 9:25

MANOR EAST III
Manor E. Mall 823-8300

THE MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER
7:25 9:45

LET'S SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER
7:15 9:30

THE ENTITY
7:20 9:40

CAMPUS 846-8512
210 Univ.

TRAIL OF THE PINK PANTHER
7:15 9:30

SKYWAY TWIN DRIVE-IN
Opening Feb. 25

Featuring new "Radio Sound" system - every night will be \$4 carload!

AGGIE CINEMA

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO
PANAVISION METROCOLOR MGM

presents
Wed., Feb. 23
7:30 p.m. Theater

Apocalypse Now
United Artists

Fri. & Sat. Feb. 25 & 26
7:30 p.m. Theater

Mel Brooks' THE PRODUCERS
Fri. & Sat. Midnight Theater

\$1.50 w/TAMU I.D.
Advance tickets at MSC Box Office
Mon.-Fri. 8:30-4:30
Also 45 min. before showtime.

CATCH ALL THE ACTION!

Catch all the excitement of this year's Texas Aggie Baseball on KAGC Radio (1510 AM)! The Aggies are lining up to start a new season, so don't get caught out in left field, listen to the games on KAGC!

KAGC 1510 AM

TEXAS AGGIE BASEBALL
February Games

19th Southwestern Univ.	12:00 PM
23rd St. Mary's	1:00 PM
25th Hardin Simmons	3:00 PM
26th Hardin Simmons	12:00 PM

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Aggieland Inn	Bryan Muffler Shop	Lavco Air Conditioning & Heating
Bernath Concrete Products	Chicken Oil Company	Parker Lumber Company
Binford Insect Control Service	Citizens Bank	Pepe's Mexican Food Restaurants
Bryan Coca-Cola Bottling Co	Fort Shiloh Steak House	Sparkle Ice