

## Those Who Are Coming Behind

A weary traveler,  
dusty with the road he has trod,  
comes into my view.  
From a distance,  
I see the face of ...  
Crispus Attucks  
Nat Turner  
Harriet Tubman  
Marcus Garvey  
Rosa Parks  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Malcom X  
My grandfather

As he grows nearer,  
I see the face of ...  
Stokely Carmichael  
Angela Davis  
Dick Gregory  
Andrew Young  
Ben Chavis  
Minister Louis Farrakhan  
My mother.

As he passes me,  
I see the face of ...  
The little boy  
I met in the park  
The student I ran into  
on Howard's campus

The young Black executive  
I shook hands with  
The reading tutor  
at Cardozo High School  
My children.

I call out to this traveler,  
And say to him  
From whence you came  
and where are you going?

This poem was written in cooperation with the Black Awareness observance of Black History Month.

He replies  
From the womb of Mother Africa,  
to my grave of liberation.  
Why so grave of liberation.  
Why so weary I ask  
He replies  
I carry with me  
the burden of struggle,  
justice, and hope.  
The tools I used  
to pave the roads  
and build the bridges.

For I know I am not alone,  
there are others  
coming behind me.  
Looking into the face  
I see a Blackness  
that could only be seen  
by an understanding eye.  
I see in that face me.

So I pick up the tools  
of that weary traveler  
and take up his journey.

I build the bridges of Umoja (unity),  
Hujichagul (self-determination),  
Ujamma (cooperative economics),  
Ujima (collective work and responsibility),  
Kuumba (creativity),  
Nia (purpose),  
Imani (faith).

Not for the magnificence  
of their beauty  
but for those  
who are coming behind.

Katryna Henderson

## Crazy Marvin and Chinese railroads

by Art Buchwald

There is quite a flap going on between the People's Republic of China and the United States concerning some railroad bonds the Manchu Dynasty issued in 1911 to build a rail line between Canton and Peking. A federal judge in Alabama ruled that the present Chinese government had to make good on the bonds held by Americans, which have been in default since the 1930s.

The Communist government now in power refuses to honor the judge's decision, and is threatening to seize U.S. assets in China if America makes any move to seize Chinese property in the United States to pay off the \$41 million plus 5 percent the judge ordered Peking to remit.

I have a friend named Marvin Kitman, who is the TV critic for Newsday on Long Island. In 1963 he was a free-lance writer and one day he said to me, "I think I can get out of this rat race."

"How so?" I asked him.

"I'm putting every last nickel I own in Chinese Imperial Railroad Bonds."

"But you don't have any money."

"That's the point. They're now selling on the market for \$10 on the thousand. For 200 bucks, I can own \$20,000 worth."

"But if you can get them that cheap, they must be worthless."

"How can they be worthless?" he said. "They're backed in gold by the Manchu Dynasty."

"Where did you get the tip on the bonds?"

"If you promise not to tell anybody, I found it in a fortune cookie. It said, 'This is your lucky day. Invest in the Hukuang Railways Sinking Fund.'"

"You found that in a fortune cookie?"

"It was a very old, soggy fortune cookie, and didn't taste very good, but the message was loud and clear. I'm only passing the information on to you because you're a friend, and because I've invested so heavily in railroads, I can't afford to pay for my lunch."

A few years later I met Marvin on the street.

"How are you doing with your investment?"

"My bonds are worth \$20 per thousand," he said. "On paper I've doubled my investment."

"How did that happen?"

"When I placed my order with Merrill Lynch I drove the price up. You'd be amazed what \$200 can do to the market in defaulted Chinese Railroad bonds."

"Why don't you sell out, and take your \$400?"

"First, because the CIA reports the railroad is going strong, and secondly, I've been reading Time Magazine and they still believe Chiang Kai-shek will take back the Mainland. Once he does I could make my big score. I'm now the biggest holder of Hukuang Railway Bonds in northern New Jersey."

The years passed and Marvin and I lost touch. Then I read the story in The Wall Street Journal that the federal judge had ruled in favor of 280 bond-holders in a class action suit against the Chinese government. I immediately called Kitman to congratulate him.

"I have to hand it to you," I said. "Merrill Lynch is not going to call you 'Crazy Marvin' any more."

He said modestly, "I can't take all the credit. I owe a lot of it to Nixon."



## Reagan getting ready for '84

by Arnold Sawislak

United Press International

WASHINGTON — We may not know for sure for some time whether President Reagan is going to run for a second term, but he certainly has been hard at work in the first months of 1983 getting ready for 1984.

The first and most important step Reagan took this year was cut a deal with the Democrats on Social Security.

Republican political strategists have known for some time that the perception that Reagan was going to try to cut Social Security benefits was big trouble.

The Republicans took a terrible battering on this issue in 1982. Democratic charges on Social Security hurt GOP candidates more than the state of the economy, the nuclear arms issue or cuts in social programs.

Because the Republicans had blundered into a premature proposal for Social Security cuts and restrictions in the spring of 1981, they could not claim the Democrats were manufacturing their charges out of thin air.

They had to neutralize the issue by getting the Democrats to agree on at least a short-term solution to the cash crisis that

was rapidly approaching. They had to give more than they got in the final deal — bow to a speed up in Social Security taxes in return for a delay in a cost of living increase that wasn't going to be very large anyway.

But politically, they succeeded by getting Speaker Tip O'Neill's name on the compromise. If the package passes, it is hard to see how Democratic campaigners can attack it or the Republicans next year.

The other big problem was, and is, jobs. Even if the economy stages a healthy recovery this year, the unemployment figures well into 1984 are likely to be high — near, if not over, 10 percent.

It does not solve the political problem to make sympathetic statements about unemployment or argue that when business picks up, it will provide "real" rather than "make work" jobs.

When people see factories and stores closing — in their home towns, not just on the evening news — they start worrying even if they have not lost their own jobs.

A majority of Americans were not alive during the Depression 50 years ago, but that searing experience is imbedded deeply enough in the national psyche to

make high unemployment a serious problem for whoever is running the government. That is especially true for Republicans, who took the blame for crash and almost died as a political party in the aftermath.

So Reagan offered another deal. He agreed to 80 percent of the same jobcreation program the Democrats proposed last fall and he threatened to veto.

Even if the Democrats insist that Reagan plan is too small, they can't say he is totally insensitive to the unemployment problem. And, if they insist on more money for jobs and get into a doff with Reagan, it will be the Democrats, not the Republicans, who will be holding up action.

It can be said that neither of these amply constitute evidence that Reagan is planning to run for re-election. He could, after all, be trying simply to solve the problems of Social Security and employment. The problem with that plan is that both represent challenges in the course the president urged the country to stay before the verdict of 1982 elections was delivered.

## Letters: Answer in sex education

### Unicorn lost

Editor:

Help! I lost a gold James Avery unicorn charm at the OCA M\*A\*S\*H B\*A\*S\*H Saturday night at Plantation Oaks apartments. Besides being my "lucky" charm, it also has a lot of sentimental value. I would really appreciate if anyone found it, if you would please call me. A reward will be offered. Thank you.

Lisa Sullivan  
260-0092  
Neeley Hall

### Please explain

Editor:

I am only an ignorant nuclear engineering student in my second nuclear physics course. Could you please try to explain to me how Glashow's new neutrino "process" works to find hidden resources? Please explain to me this new matter-antimatter transformation of which I have heard mentioned before.

Dana Eubank  
Aston

Editor:

The Parental Notification rule (the "squeal law") is generating quite a bit of controversy. Sadly, it seems its most vocal supporters are also the most ignorant. Dannelle Heren objects to paying for a teen-agers "fling". Well, I would rather pay for birth control than pay support for mother and child (sex can result in babies, you know). Contrary to Ms. Heren's belief, withholding birth control or telling a parent will not result in celibate teens.

It will, however, encourage them to have sex without protection, according to a survey commissioned by Planned Parenthood. Teens are just afraid their parents will find out but it won't stop them — they'll just make sure their parents don't find out. Consequently, they will not use available clinics to get birth control. Woe to the taxpayer then! I wonder what evidence Ms. Heren has to the contrary.

The answer lies in sex education. If teens were taught that it can happen "the first time," or even if he "promises not to ...", perhaps then teen-agers would be more responsible in respect to sexual activity. But I'm sure the Dannelle Herens lobby hard against this as well.

S. Ruby Lang  
Anthropology Graduate Student

### Dorm noise

Editor:

This letter is in response to the Feb. 28 letter, "Keep it down." Although the people involved did not intend to keep anybody awake, I do not think we owe an apology. My feelings can best be described by quoting the late John T. Francis — "A man who cannot occasionally see the world through the eyes of a boy, is a sad excuse for a man."

David Adams  
Kent Knight  
Davis-Gary Hall

## Slouch

## By Jim Earle



"Can you give me some advice for improving my grades. I tape every lecture, transcribe the tape, outline the key points, and make up question cards to study. My problem is that I'm caught up on the first week, but we're seven weeks into the course."

USPS 045 360

Member of  
Texas Press Association  
Southwest Journalism Conference

### The Battalion

Editor ..... Diana Sultenfuss  
Managing Editor ..... Gary Barker  
Associate Editor ..... Denise Richter  
City Editor ..... Hope E. Paasch  
Assistant City Editor ..... Beverly Hamilton  
Sports Editor ..... John Wagner  
Entertainment Editor ..... Colette Hutchings  
Assistant Entertainment Editor ..... Diane Yount  
News Editors ..... Daran Bishop, Brian Boyer,  
Jennifer Carr, Elaine Engstrom,  
Johna Jo Maurer, Jan Werner,  
Rebecca Zimmermann

Staff Writers  
Melissa Adair, Maureen Carmody,  
Frank Christlieb, Connie Edelman,  
Patrice Koranek, John Lopez, Robert  
McGlohon, Ann Ramsbottom, Kim  
Schmidt, Patti Schwierke, Kelley  
Smith, Angel Stokes, Tracey Taylor,  
Joe Tindel, Kathy Wiesepape  
Copy editors ..... Shelley Hoekstra, Jan Saaner,  
Chris Thayer  
Cartoonist ..... Scott McCullar  
Graphic Artists ..... Pam Starasnic  
Sergio Galvez Thompson

Photographers  
David Fisher, Dena Brown, Jorge Casari,  
Ronald W. Emerson, Eric Lee, Irene Mees, John  
Makely, William Schulz

### Editorial Policy

The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting news-

paper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station. Opinions expressed within the Department of Communications 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.

### Letters Policy

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length, and are subject to being cut if they are longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must also be signed and show the address and phone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and are not subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address all inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843, or phone (713) 845-2611.

The Battalion is published daily during Texas A&M's fall and spring semesters, except for holiday and examination periods. Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester, \$33.25 per school year and \$35 per full year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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.