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The Battalion

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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; letters are not subject to the same length constraints. Editor, 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.

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

Letters: Sere

Editor:
Something happened last night which really bothered me. I live in McFadden Hall. About 10:15 p.m., three Aggies stood on the path between my dorm and Haas Hall and began to sing. The three were talented singers, who, with their guitar, presented quite a show that was the more enjoyable because they were singing for the mere pleasure of them. People in the dorms stood at the doors and girls at the doors.

Letters: Vote

Editor:
Well Aggies, it's that time of the year again! It begins with the big race to get key locations for campaign signs, colorful flyers, and of course door-to-door campaigning with that oft too familiar, "Howdy, I'm Joe Ag, ru-... for your 'nt representati-... tu"

Cartoon criticized

Editor:
This is in reference to Scott's cartoon on page 2 of T March 23. The Corps should not be in a situation like this. The Corps' actions did not represent the entire Corps does not condone and will not tolerate the ra-

Easter quotes

Editor:
As we approach the celebration of Easter Sunday, irrespective of the early 20th Century Biblical history

Traditions vs Greeks

Editor:
Lately, there has been much debate on whether or not to recognize Greeks at Texas A&M. A few weeks ago, I attended a debate sponsored by the Aggie Forum so as to hear what students felt about Greeks here at Texas A&M. The "Loyal Ags" — those opposed to Greeks at A&M — were represented by a female speaker, Teresa Barr. She had several good points why they should not be allowed, all with the same connotation — they are against tradition. Yes, tradition says that Greeks should not be allowed at Texas A&M. I'm totally convinced tradition should never be broken. Why, we should have never have allowed females at Texas A&M. Yes, an all male campus was once a steadfast tradition. Now look what we

Leading the Battalion — more than a 40-hour work week

by Ann Ramsbottom
Battalion Staff

Editor's position — 60 hours-plus per week including Saturdays and Sundays. Wages less than minimum and no overtime. Must take full responsibility for any legal matters concerning newspaper content and handle all complaints.

This accurately describes the position of Battalion Editor Diana Sultenfuss. The hours are long, the pay is scant, but the experience is priceless.

Sultenfuss, a senior journalism major from San Antonio, said her experience as a Battalion editor will be a great asset when she eventually looks for a job in the 'real world'.

"Working with the Battalion is a very realistic situation," Sultenfuss said. "For instance, we don't have any advisers hanging over us."

However, Sultenfuss said, a university paper is unique in many ways.

"Besides being a communication tool for the university, The Battalion serves as a laboratory for journalism majors," she said. Some stories are written by students in journalism classes, some photos are taken by beginning photography students and a lot of the editing is done by the editing class.

"We have a lot of unseasoned workers," Sultenfuss said. "I have to stop a lot of times to help the beginners. But, the more times I have to explain things, the more I learn to communicate with others."

Another big difference between the Battalion and the 'real world' is that staff members don't work the entire day. They have to go to school, too.

"Right now I feel that I want to spend all of my time with my job," Sultenfuss said. "The Battalion comes first."

Sultenfuss admits that this is sometimes scary. School is a big pull and presents a lot of pressure, she said.

"You can't take big loads and be effective," Sultenfuss said. "I've had to change my study habits from being well-prepared for class to studying for quizzes on the way to class. This bothers me, but it's worth it."

One of the pluses of being editor, she said, is being primarily responsible for everything that goes into The Battalion — news and editorial comment.

"I'm a newsroom advice person, I represent The Battalion at meetings, I'm an automatic member of MSC Council, and I handle compliments and complaints."

Sultenfuss added that those same advantages quickly can turn into disadvantages.

"Should any legal action arise, it's my responsibility," Sultenfuss said.

Sultenfuss listed some of the hassles she faces as editor — conflicts with school; people constantly calling concerning letters to the editor, stories or pictures; and having people tell you what they want printed.

A typical day at The Battalion for Sultenfuss starts at 7:30 or 8 a.m. in the newsroom. Most of the morning is spent on the phone. During the day she intermittently attends class. Her day in the office rarely ends until midnight and often later. On a typical Sunday, Sultenfuss begins work at 2 p.m. and works until 9:30 p.m. or 10 p.m. But Sultenfuss said she has gotten used to the hours.

Sultenfuss was hired as page one editor for The Battalion in September 1981. She also has worked as assistant city editor.

Sultenfuss was named editor after she submitted an application, was interviewed and approved by the Student Publications Board. The board is made up of three faculty, three students and one University staff representative. The board's recommendation for editor is subject to approval by the vice president for academic affairs.

Sultenfuss has served as edi-

tor for two semesters and a summer. But she said she'll miss working on The Battalion after she graduates in May.

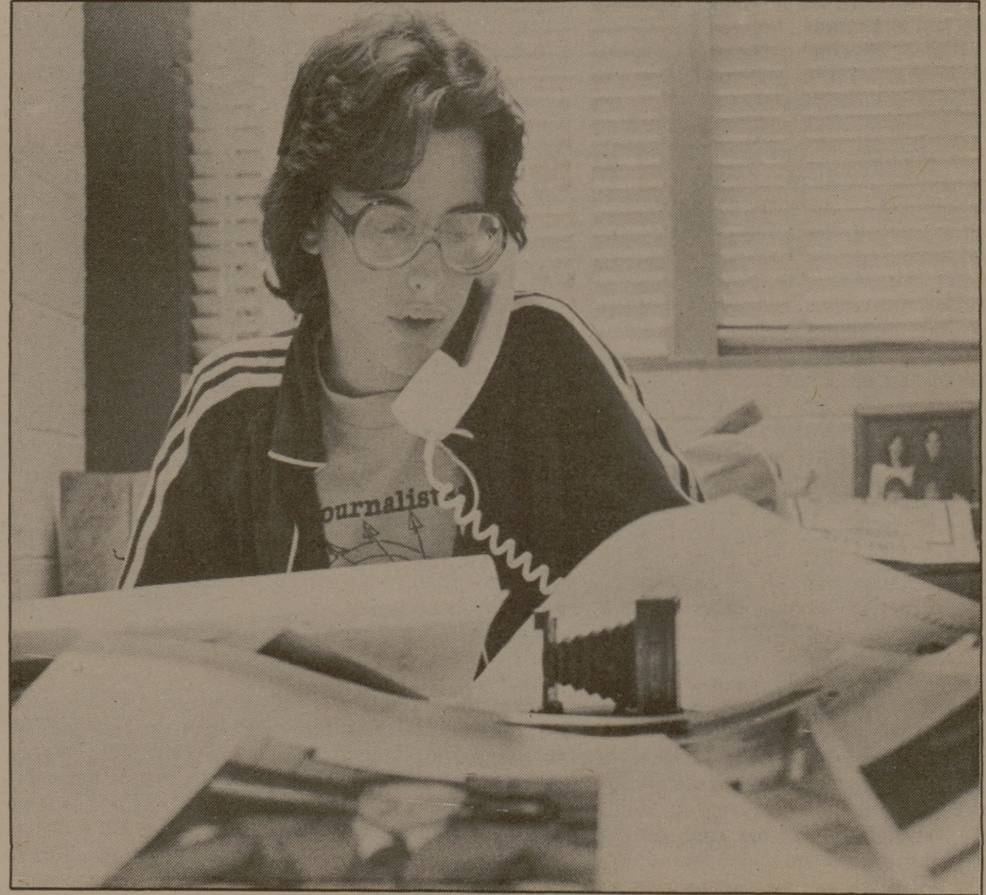
She said she eventually plans to become involved in newspaper management on a mid-size to large daily paper. She hopes to get a job as a copy editor upon graduation.

Diana said she prefers an editing position because she enjoys explaining things to people, coming up with ideas and helping others. But she admits that The Battalion is a team effort;

everybody has a job to do, and they do it.

"I would, of course, like to say that we're the best university newspaper in the state," Sultenfuss said. "Our coverage is good, and The Battalion looks very clean and is easy to read."

"Most people would say that the University of Texas' Daily Texan is the best for the same reasons. In addition, they have a big journalism department, and they have built a reputation. We're working on ours and have come a long way this year."



Bill Schulze