# Letters Milwaukee Ag writes

**Editor:** 

Howdy Ags.

It sure is great to know that Texas A&M is alive and well in that southern town, College Station. Since I graduated a year ago and then moved to Milwaukee, it is hard to keep abreast on all the events.

Today, I opened to the front page of the Sunday Milwaukee Journal and to my surprise I saw a new freshman holding a Texas A&M shirt. Wow! A wonderful feeling of closeness I had known for four short years during my undergraduate studies. Then I noticed Hester Garcia cutting the freshman's hair. I am a former member of the Corps of Cadets and Hester had cut my hair every other week (that freshman picked the right man).

I am elated that Texas A&M is making the news as far north as Milwaukee. I assure you that the A&M spirit is alive here, for our Aggie Muster ceremony gathered former students who traveled more than 150 miles to participate.

The moral here is that Aggie life continues, our tradition remains strong and Texas A&M develops that fine breed of

Once an Aggie, always an Aggie. Gig-

William Douglas Lord '82

#### Returning a clean shirt

I'm an accident victim who was hit by a car Monday Aug. 8 while biking on Jersey Street. Two fellow Aggies stopped to help me and lent me a shirt to wrap my bleeding mouth. I never saw them as I was unconscious at the time. But I'd like to thank them deeply and tell them I've got a clean shirt for them.

To those Ags: please call and let me return your shirt and thank you in person. My number is 693-1356.

M.D. Randolph

### Party mars Silver Taps

It was with disgust and indignation that I noted the Marketing Society was having a party at the same time as the first I may be a sixth-year senior, but I

don't think that my feelings of respect and loss for the death of a fellow Aggie are yet antiquainted. The Marketing Society is setting a very poor example of this great school. The mark of an Aggie is in the values he places in his life. Nothing should ever rank above Silver Taps.

David Imes '82

#### Pool fee complaint **Editor:**

Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the water, up from the depths of Wofford Cain Pool comes the pool use fee. You've heard of building use fees and student service fees. Well, now the people at the Health and Physical Education Department have decided they need to charge their own fee. So if you want to go to the pool you'll either pay \$1 per visit, \$8 per semester or \$40 per year.

I don't mind paying for what I use, but not twice. If I can deduct the \$40 yearly swimming fee from my student service fee, I'll gladly pay. And for those of you who think this letter has nothing to do with you since you don't use the pool, how long do you think it will be until they start charging court fees for basketball or racquetball?

**Tony Tripp** Oceanography Graduate Student

#### Breed name incorrect

Battalion writers always refer to Reveille IV as an "American collie." If you will check with the United Kennel Club and the American Kennel club (the allbreed dog registries in this country), you will find there is no such breed as the "American collie."

In the Monday, Aug. 29, edition of The Battalion, Reveille II was called a "Shetland shepthard." There is no recognized based by the control of the control

nized breed by that name.
I suspect that Reveille II was a Shetland sheepdog and Reveille IV is a collie.

Jan Lang

#### TA's need higher pay

As a student, I am alarmed at the schemes to throw money around. Texas A&M, to fill the goal of our Board of Regents to become "The Harvard of the Southwest," should stop spending and appropriating money for nebulous ends. A school is only as good as its faculty and students. Therefore, more money should be spent to provide more scholarships for students and higher wages for teaching assistants.

In Texas, all public colleges are comparably priced, so why should a student choose Texas A&M? Why not attract students by giving more scholarships. You may ask where the money for these scholarships can come from. The interest on \$1 million could provide 60 \$1,000 scho-

Teaching assistants lay the ground work in basic courses for all upper-level courses. The pay for TAs ranges from close to \$1,000 per month to less than \$500 per month. Would a bright, selfsufficient grad student choose a school that required them to take nine hours of course work and teach two sections and that pays less than schools outside of

The solutions to our problems are simple — more money for student scholarships and TA pay. Scholarships would attract more of the better high school seniors and help keep a few of the older students in school for another year. By granting a pay raise — in all colleges — to \$800 per month for TAs with a bachelor's degree and \$1,000 per month for TAs with masters degrees, A&M could attract the bright young grad student that is the Achilles Heel of our Academic

I cannot tell the Board of Regents where to spend funds allotted to the University or Old Ags who try to write a check to, but maybe a view from the undergraduate side of the fence might

Les Mauldin '84

#### The Battalion

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#### **Editorial Policy**

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The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newsp The battation also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography clas-ses 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 telephone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials also are 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 (409) 845-2611.

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## Government watchers decide who's running foreign policy

by Art Buchwald

A group of elite Eastern establishment government watchers was having lunch the other day, discussing one of our favorite subjects: "Who is really in charge of U.S. foreign policy?"

It was of particular concern to all of us, because the odds of President Reagan running again look better all the time. We decided to do it by process of eli-

"We know it isn't anyone in the State Department," Bramhall said, "State's been out of it since Reagan moved into the White House.

"Haig was fired because he tried to interfere in foreign affairs, and George Shultz usually gets his information as to what the U.S. has done from The Washington Post." "What about Secretary of Defense Cas-

par Weinberger? He's an old pal of the president and has tremendous input in foreign policy." 'We can't discount him," Healy said.

"But I don't think he's Mr. Big. I believe he is more concerned with getting as much military equipment as possible for the Defense Department. But he doesn't really care where we use it.'

"It doesn't have to be a man," Zeigfried

said. "It could be a woman.

"You mean Nancy Reagan?"

"Not necessarily, though she certainly has the ear of the president. I was think-ing of United Nations Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick. The president is very taken with all her ideas. Wouldn't it be wild if a

women was in charge of foreign policy?" "Kirkpatrick could be the power behing the throne," Christmas said. "Yet I believe it's someone right in the White

"What about Vice President George "Let's be serious, guys. When has a vice president ever had anything to say about

foreign policy?" Cannon said "There's Jim Baker, Mike Deaver and

"They're too busy worrying about the president getting re-elected to get involved in foreign affairs. The only time they mix in is if they think a policy is going to affect votes in the U.S."

"Well, that leaves the president's National Security Adviser William Clark.

He's a hardliner on the Soviet Union."
"He's too obvious," Trenchant said. "Besides, I just have a gut feeling he doesn't have the smarts to conceptualize foreign policy. His strength is carrying

"But whose orders?" I asked. Everyone tried to think hard. "Bill Casey of the CIA?" Vagran

We ignored him.

cabinet that could be running this "The kitchen cabinet doesn't exist more. They all went back to Call after the election. Look, the foreign cy of the U.S., as it stands now, is to the Soviets for everything, but sil them wheat. Show American p around the world, but don't get! ican soldiers involved. Give a blood to Khadafy, reward all our friends military equipment by claiming the from one end of one violating human rights, stall the mother by making talks until we get the Pershing of and existo its parking placed in Europe, make Castro the main streets surrounded. military equipment by claiming the placed in Europe, make Castrothe gest threat to worldwide peace, and sult with our allies only after we sult with our allies only after we cided to do something that they object to. Now who is behind all the branch at traffic loop

This is just a crazy idea," Tren "This is just a crazy idea." I reno sing streets which said. "But could Reagan himself is entire campus.

Big?"
"You mean the president of the ited States?" I asked, flabbergaste

"Why not? He's got the author tents, 6,000 spaces for Bramhall said: "Reagan doesn't tr, and 4,300 reser anything about foreign affairs."

The thought was so mind-box hat increase residen none of us could finish our salads tonal 6,000 spaces.

Backstairs at the White House

### 'Terrorism' in the press corps

by Helen Thomas **United Press International** 

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Deputy press secretary Larry Speakes, elevated to presidential assistant, doesn't mind taking a swipe at White House counselor Edwin Meese — all in good fun of course.

The most recent poke came when Speakes relayed an invitation to reporters from Meese for them to attend a movie on terrorism at the Fiesta Theater in Santa Barbara.

The problem was that the film was to be shown at 12 a.m., the same time Speakes holds his daily briefing.

When reminded that reporters would not be able to see the movie at that time, Speakes said: "I know. He asked me to move up the briefing time," but added that he told Meese reporters might not be amenable to the switch.

When pressed further about the movie, Speakes said: "Meese likes terrorism.'

President Reagan's chief political adviser, Edwin Rollins, has been tempor-

Rollins, who has been in California with Reagan, canceled a string of interviews with reporters after some of his more dire political predictions evoked the ire of chief of staff James Baker and others.

Rollins, who will move over to Reagan's re-election committee if the president seeks a second term, usually calls them as he sees them. He has credibility and is candid and that sometimes gets him into trouble in a White House where the news is well managed.

Luci Johnson, whose wedding during the White House days of her father, the late President Lyndon B. Johnson, made a big splash, may soon march down the

Luci, who is now divorced from Patrick Nugent, may marry Ian Turpin, a banker on Grand Caymen Island in the Bahamas, her friends say.

Luci has been visiting Turpin's family in Scotland. Since she broke up with Nugent, Luci has had many romances, but her friends say she is very serious about Turpin, a British subject.

Luci, like her mother, Lady Bird Johnson, and sister, Lynda Bird Robb - the first lady of Virginia — has remained an activist and is on many boards in Austin, where she resides.

The White House press corps was saddened by the death of Cleve Ryan, a television electrician who retired from presidential coverage six years ago.

Ryan who died of Gloucester, Mass., at the age of 71, two days after his birthday, had been on the White House beat since he worked on Franklin Roosevelt's "fireside chats." He was a pioneer in television lighting and in a way created his own job at the White House. He is remembered most of all for always singing "Everything is Beautiful" when it seemed that everything was falling apart.
When he would be asked to test the

microphones, Ryan would regale reporters with Irish stories always flourishing a big cigar. He will be missed.

The electronic explosion is very much in evidence in the White House press corps. Reporters and television correspondents no longer carry typewriters. They carry personal computers on which they can file their stories instantly to their home offices no matter where they are traveling in the country.

The computers have revolutionized press filing. The White House press office also has been computerized with many new innovations in recent months.

When Philippine President Ferdinand

Marcos lifted his shirt to show that no scars and therefore had not kidney transplant as rumored, the graph was reminiscent of another

In the late 60s, President Lynd Johnson summoned reporters to B da Naval Hospital where he was red sitting on a terrace when he sudden to the amazement of the cameramen.

The picture was transmitted to the the country of the camerament of the camerament.

The picture was transmitted to the country of the camerament of the camerament.

Slouch

by Jim Earl



"I did it! I finally finished gistering! Now, when class begin?"

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about by Bonnie Lar

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