

# Inside

Dear Readers:

A&M's rich history and traditions influenced many students and eventually led to their choosing this University. But there's more behind the well-known facts. Tall tales of Aggie folklore fill the University archives and the minds of former students. Some of the stories sound like typical college pranks, but they distinguish A&M from other colleges. This week At Ease found hidden facts that you probably didn't know about your school.

For our main story, we talked to former students about their memories of A&M. For example, they were not immune to the changing fads of the day. Believe it or not, this conservative campus was once the home to streakers. And at one time, Reville was joined by Trigon and Ranger as mascots. Do you think all the buildings on campus are original? Fire has had an impact on some of the campus landmarks. Read on to learn more about these and other facts in the University's history.

A&M folklore fills the pages of the old issues of *The Battalion* and other historical documents. However, few students ever hear of these strange but true tales. Our second story highlights some of the unusual facts in A&M's history.

For the profile we found a retired A&M professor who spent his entire teaching career in College Station. If he doesn't know how the school has changed, chances are that no one knows. Even though he's no longer in the classroom, he still explores Texas history.

Attending A&M has become a family tradition for many students. They are just another name added to a long list of Aggies. In addition to talking to some of these students, we also found some students who hope to start their own Aggie family.

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## The good ol' days \_\_\_\_\_ 8

Even though Texas A&M maintains a certain timelessness through its traditions, the school has changed a lot over the years. It has metamorphosed from an all-male, all-white military college into a co-ed, culturally diverse (really) university striving for world-class status. But what was it like in the old days? We talked to some former students to get a peek at the history behind the traditions that make A&M what it is today.

## Bet you didn't know . . . \_\_\_\_\_ 10

Every Aggie knows about Silver Taps, Muster and bonfire (if these terms are new to you do some research, quick!). But A&M has all sorts of lesser-known tidbits of heritage that can dazzle your friends at other schools. Digging through the University Archives is guaranteed to produce a treasure trove of humorous anecdotes and amazing trivia about A&M, but it's a lot easier to read our story.

## A&M through the eyes of a professor \_\_\_\_\_ 7

For 38 years, our profile subject taught history at A&M. During that time A&M underwent some of its most drastic changes. He comments on some of these, and adds a few tales of his own.

## Live Music \_\_\_\_\_ 4

Even though Shane found a few minor flaws in Patio Furniture, he says they have an unusual array of new wave covers, which they do well, and good vocals, which make them stand out in the local scene.

## Album Reviews \_\_\_\_\_ 4,5

Shane has so much to say about U2's "Rattle and Hum" that it can't even be summarized here. He also concludes that Ivan Neville's ancestors would be proud of his latest funk/rock/soul album.

## Movie Review \_\_\_\_\_ 5

"Accused" is a powerful, horrifying depiction of rape and its aftermath, Shane says. He highly recommends the film for anyone with misconceptions of rape as anything other than sickening.

Cover photo by Jay Janner