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ITALY SPRING '94

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday Sept. 15, 1:00-2:00
251 Bizzell Hall
West



Study Abroad Programs, 161 Bizzell Hall West, 845-0544

DO NOT READ THIS!!!

...Unless you would like to spend a semester having the time of your life, earning TAMU credits, and seeing the world ALL AT ONCE!!

SPRING IN ITALY

SCRAPBOOK PARTY
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15
6-7:30 P.M.
145 MSC

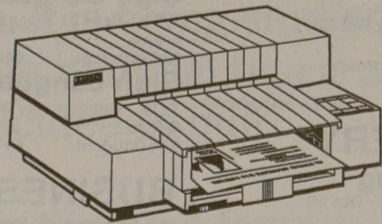
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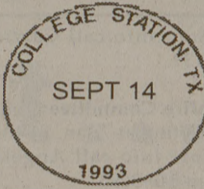


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MAIL CALL

What disturbed Silver Taps?

For the sake of those fallen Aggies remembered at Silver Taps last Tuesday night, I sincerely hope there is a severe whooping cough epidemic going around.

I would be greatly disturbed if all the coughing and sniffles were due only to some incredibly rude and disrespectful Aggies attempting to get some sort of sick, personal satisfaction by detracting from such a solemn Aggie tradition.

Brian C. Murrell
Class of '95

When will Beutel answer phones?

Recently, I sought medical attention at Beutel Health Center for treatment of a minor illness. However, I had extreme difficulty in scheduling an appointment.

The telephone scheduling hours are supposedly in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Regardless, I attempted to contact the center beginning at 7:30 a.m., but listened to a recording until 7:40 a.m. As I had an 8 o'clock class that morning, this delay caused me considerable problems.

It is my understanding that the staff is compensated for their work from the time of 7:30 a.m. Therefore, shouldn't they be working?

Jennifer Mullen
Class of '97

Where did all the communists go?

Poor misinformed Michael Kraft! In his letter which appeared Sept. 3, Kraft apparently dated the cold war from 1954 and, calling it a hoax, laid the blame for it at the feet of the CIA. I wonder if Kraft heard of Winston Churchill's 1946 speech in Fulton, Missouri when he said, "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended over the continent."

The ringing down of the "iron curtain" by the Soviet Union, separating the communist world from the free world, marked the beginning of the Cold War.

The threat of the Soviet Union was real. There was nothing hollow about the Soviet domination of Eastern Europe, their nuclear bomb, their hydrogen bomb or the bombastic threat of Mr. Khrushchev to bury us. His missiles in Cuba were real!

If Mr. Kraft questions our role in the Cold War, he should ponder the meaning of the graves located near the remains of the

Berlin Wall. The young people who died there were murdered when attempting to flee to the West! The wall was built, not to keep people out, but to keep people in!

Two highly respected German educators stated while visiting Texas A&M recently, "Among Europeans who have seen the ravaging results of Communism, one will find no admitted communist - nor even one who would admit to having been a communist."

"In fact," they continued, "about the only place one would find an admitted Marxist today is in Eastern American universities."

Well, I suppose they are not all at Eastern American universities, are they Mr. Kraft?

Duke Hobbs
College Station

Why are people quick to judge?

This letter is written in response to Kyle Robinson's and Francisco Sanchez's letter concerning non-regs, C.T.s and Greeks which appeared in The Battalion on Wednesday, Sept. 8.

First, I agree with your opinion that we are all Aggies and that we should have the right to pursue our individual preferences in student lifestyles.

However, I disagree with your opinion that all of us participate in the same traditions. Bonfire and the building of it (a tradition in itself) represents Texas A&M's burning desire to Beat the Hell Outta t.u., but not all Ags seem to share this desire.

I believe this is best illustrated by explaining why "much animosity" is directed towards the Greeks by non-regs and C.T.s.

This animosity originates from many (not all) Greeks' choices to participate in Aggie traditions only when it serves their goals.

For example, many Greeks will be in attendance during the burning of Bonfire (another excuse for a keg party), but prefer to have some one else build it for them so that during the fall they can sleep in Sundays, hungover, after their frat's eight-keg party.

Further, these Greeks will be the same ones to complain about how Bonfire stood for only ten minutes when they did nothing to make sure Bonfire was built to their satisfaction. It is for this reason that "much animosity" is directed towards fraternities.

As for the yells that you heard in the quad, these yells are not used exclusively between non-regs and C.T.s. These yells are also used between rival dorms as a motivational tool for dorm members.

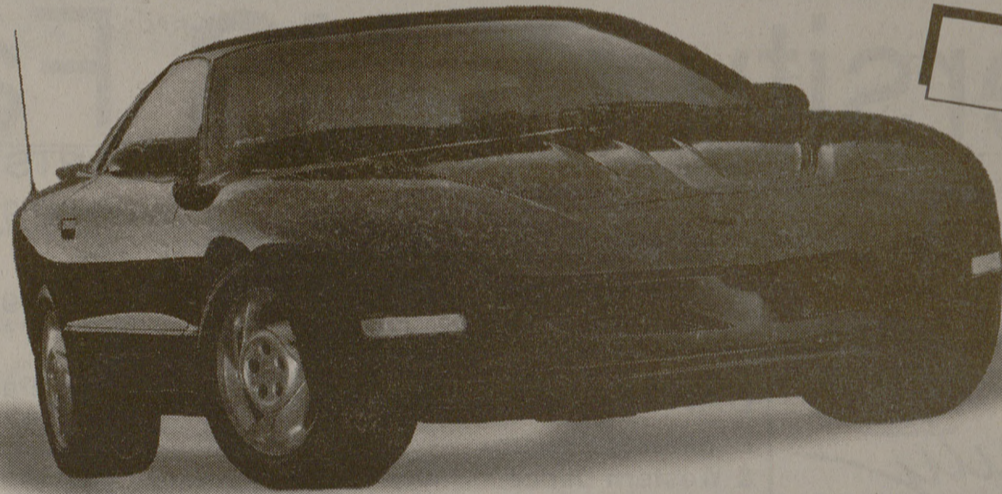
These yells were simply a reflection of a friendly rivalry that has existed between non-regs and C.T.s since non-regs were first admitted to this campus, and these yells cannot be considered more than a friendly rivalry. What is great about the traditions and students of Texas A&M, is how the students can be so diverse, push each other to be their best, yet come together at traditions like Silver Taps, Muster and Bonfire.

Perhaps if you (Kyle and Francisco) had spoken to members of the groups involved, you might have discovered why and for how long this arrangement has existed instead of making an uninformed judgment and getting upset over a tradition of fellow Ags encouraging each other to get involved and improve each other's character.

Tom Arrigo
Class of '95

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