

THE BATTALION: 100 Years

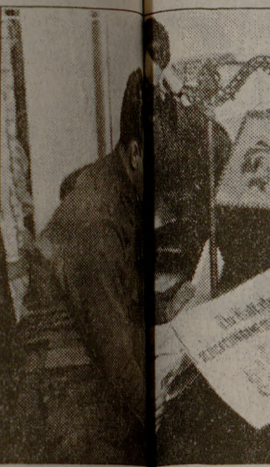
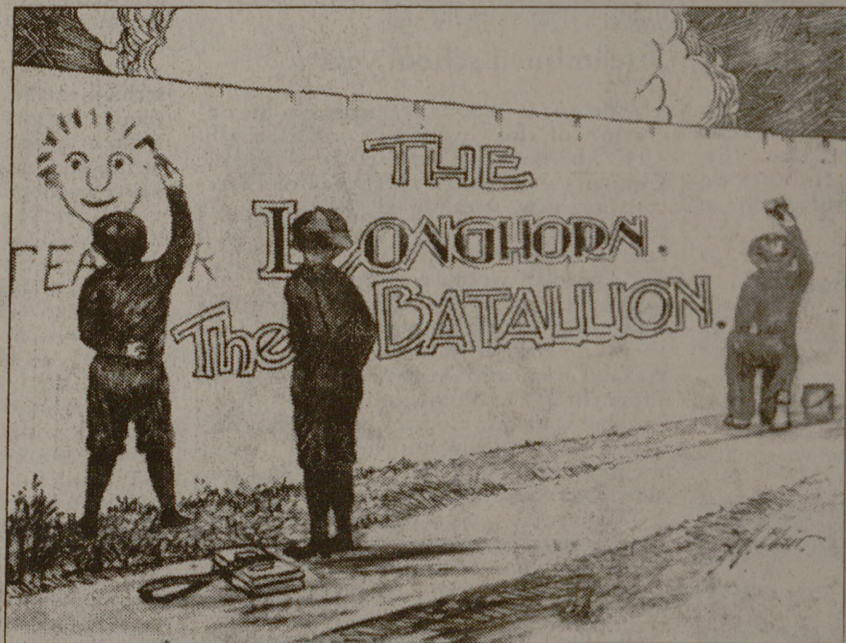


The Battalion staff as pictured in the 1914 Longhorn. The Battalion first appeared in October of 1893 and is celebrating its 100th anniversary this week. The Battalion has appeared as a monthly magazine, a weekly paper and a daily paper.

SOUTHERN CHAMPIONS

This headline ran across the top of *The Battalion* on Jan. 13th, 1922, proclaiming A&M's victory over Centre College in the Dixie Classic. It was in this game that E. King Gill was called from the stands to suit up as a substitute player and the tradition of the 12th Man was born. *The Battalion* said of the game, "The amazing upset of gridiron history has undoubtedly placed the merits of Aggieland football on a par with the best the country has to offer."

This drawing appeared in the section of the 1927 Longhorn featuring student publications. Note that 'Battalion' is misspelled.



The Battalion staff for a group picture in 1937 Longhorn office. Before the Battalion was known as 'The Batt,' the campus called it as 'The Batt.'

'ENOUGH OF BLOOD AND TEARS' Iraq unleashes missile attacks

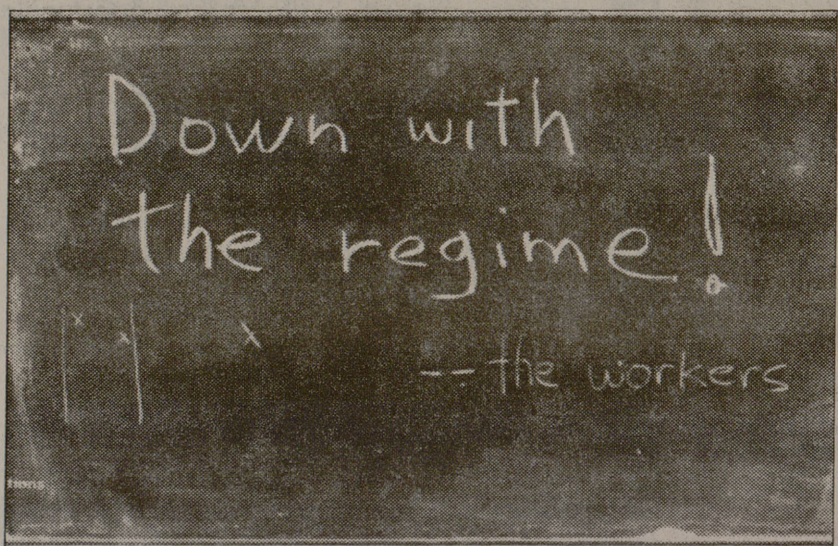
Since becoming a member of The Associated Press in 1947, *The Battalion* has had the opportunity to keep students up-to-date on events across the state, nation and around the world. Recently, *The Battalion* has covered the war in the Persian Gulf and the historic Israel-PLO peace treaty.



A Battalion staff writer experiences computer difficulties while writing a story in 1986. The Battalion has gone through many changes in both technology and location since it began in 1893. The Batt currently is using a Macintosh system and is located in the basement of the Reed McDonald building.

Aggies Cotton bound

The Aggies were Cotton bound after they beat Texas on Thanksgiving Day in 1985. A&M whooped the Longhorns, 42-10 to make their first trip to the Cotton Bowl since 1968. Coincidentally, the Aggies scored their 42 points on head coach Jackie Sherrill's 42nd birthday.



In the fall of 1976, controversy broke out within *The Battalion*. The selection of an editor in chief from outside *The Batt* caused dissension and rebellion among the staff. Editors and staff members quit or were fired with such frequency that people joked about installing a revolving door in *The Battalion's* office.

By Mary Kujawa
THE BATTALION

In October 1893, a group of A&M cadets picked up their pens and produced the first edition of a 100-year legacy on the A&M College campus.

The Battalion, Volume 1, Number 1, debuted that Oct. 1 as a student publication produced by the Austin and Calliopean Literary Societies, the two most important organizations on the campus at the time.

E.L. Bruce, the first editor, called upon his fellow cadets to write something for every issue. His opening statement read: "With this issue, THE BATTALION makes its politest bow to the public and asks its esteemed patronage. As our valued predecessor, The Journal, has enlisted among the ranks of the defunct, we deem it our duty to see that the cadets will yet have a paper to be proud of."

The Battalion descended from two successive literary magazines published by the literary societies.

In 1878, two years after the College was established, the literary societies began a monthly publication called *The Texas Collegian*. Its name was changed to *The College Journal* in 1889.

The *College Journal* was a literary magazine containing small excerpts of student news and views, according to "A Centennial History Of Texas A&M University 1876-1976" by Henry Dethloff. The *College Journal* was published until 1893.

When *The Battalion* replaced *The College Journal*, it used more of a newspaper format but held onto its literary roots for many years. The Battalion was published monthly until 1904 when it became a weekly publication. It first appeared in newspaper form on Oct. 8, 1904.

Another change was made in 1904 when the Austin and Calliopean Literary Societies turned the paper over to the Association of Students. After this, *The Battalion* lost much of its literary magazine character.

Those first Battalions also filled other roles besides that of a newspaper. Former students used part of *The Battalion* to keep old graduates in touch with each other. Students received June commence-

ment issues of the Battalion that contained pictures and articles normally found in a college yearbook.

Trouble begins to brew

As *The Battalion* gained influence as a weekly newspaper, trouble began to brew on the A&M campus in 1908; students were becoming discontent with A&M President Henry Hill Harrington.

In the April 22 issue of *The Battalion*, an article appeared that disputed a statement made by President Harrington that recent turmoil on the campus had been forgotten and things were returning to normal.

On May 20, 1908, the Board of Directors issued instructions to the president to maintain order on the campus. They said recent articles that had appeared in *The Battalion* were disrupting to the campus and the responsible parties should be punished.

As a result, seven junior class Battalion editors were suspended from the College and the head of the English department was ordered to censor future Battalions in

accordance with effect but seldom entirely one of many incidents that came to be known as the Trouble of 1908.

By 1910, the acquired its nickname "t" with one "t" at the time.

The Battalion women as society reported in 1910. It is not known who daughters of professors or Bryan or College Station.

By 1916, the firmly established itself and boasted "the largest circulation in the South," according to Seventy Years of Sons at the A&M College, Lindley.

As the 1920s continued to publish. In 1928, the paper was a division of a Student Activities, which functioned as a committee.

The Faculty Committee was formed in the func-

E.L. Bruce — The Batt's first

By Mary Kujawa
THE BATTALION

E.L. Bruce left his mark on Texas A&M's history by serving as the first editor of *The Battalion* in 1893.

The first edition of *The Battalion* was published on Oct. 1, 1893 by the Austin and Calliopean Literary Societies. The literary societies were debate and discussion societies and were the most influential organizations on the campus at the time.

Bruce was chosen by the two societies to serve as editor in chief of *The Battalion* for the first semester of the 1893-94 school year.

Bruce's granddaughter, Virginia Bruce Provost, said she had heard that her grandfather named *The Battalion*.

His opening remarks in the first edition called upon the cadets at A&M to lend all of their assistance to the newspaper.

"There is much talent in the Corps that

has been dormant and as the first and greatest college paper should be to activate the literary tastes of our initial dormitory enthusiasm in this line.

With this said A&M could have had among the best literary college in the Union. The idea just how far his Battalion would go.

After serving as a graduate from A&M with a bachelor's degree, he enrolled at the Texas Law School in Austin.

After working as a cashier in the bank in Mineola from 1899 to 1902, he joined

Texas in 1902 to begin his law career.

Saigon surrenders ... Minh fighting



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