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The Texas A&M University Student Media Board
is accepting applications for

Editor THE BATTALION

- Including radio and online editions -

Spring 2000

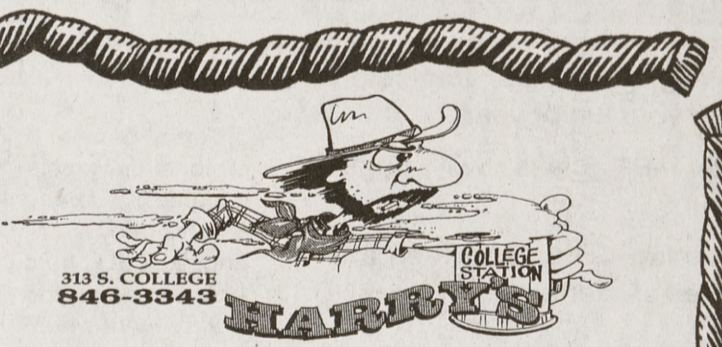
(The spring editor will serve from Jan. 10 through May 5, 2000)

Qualifications for editor in chief of *The Battalion* are:

- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (unless fewer credits are required to graduate) during the term of office;
- Have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio and at least a 2.00 grade point ratio in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester(s) (all summer course work is considered summer semester) during the term of office. In order for summer school grades to qualify as previous semester grades, a minimum of six hours must be taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s);
- Have completed JOUR 301 (Mass Communication, Law and Society), or equivalent;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on *The Battalion* or comparable daily college newspaper,
- OR -
Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper,
- OR -
Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II), and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Franca Cagle, Student Media Staff Assistant, in room 013D Reed McDonald Building. Deadline for submitting application: 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12, 1999. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Media Board Meeting beginning at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1999, in room 221F Reed McDonald.

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In old New York

PBS airs 'New York,' a recap of history for the Big Apple

NEW YORK (AP) — The City That Never Sleeps spends every waking moment in a race to keep up with its desires and braggadocio.

So who can afford to look around? "Being here is so overwhelming an experience," Ric Burns said, "that our imaginations are spent mainly pushing back reality and creating a buffer between ourselves and the city. We hardly have time to think of New York as a thing that has reasons behind it."

But consider the grid that defines Manhattan's streets. It was plotted out in 1811, audaciously preparing for a 10-fold population boom. Or trace the subway's spectacular sprawl, which in the early 1900s tied Manhattan to its newly added boroughs of Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx.

And what about the city's vertical dimension? Burns marvels: "I defy anybody to look at the skyline and say, 'It just had to happen that way.'"

No, lots of reasons help explain New York — four centuries' worth, in fact, fully justifying its cherished image as big and bad.

Those reasons and a heckuva saga propel Burns' "New York: A Documentary Film," a presentation of WNET/Channel 13 and "The American Experience" whose first five two-hour chapters air on PBS Sunday through next Thursday at 9 p.m. EST.

It begins with a fortuitous discovery in 1609 by English explorer Henry Hudson who, working for the Dutch, sails up the river that now bears his name to establish a trading post.

The race has begun. By Thursday, it will carry the viewer to the '30s and the Empire State Building's miraculous rise. Then it is back next summer for a final two-hour sprint into the new millennium (Whadja think, 10 hours would be enough for New York City?).

Accompanying the documentary are a handsome, richly illustrated book by Burns

and James Sanders (published by Knopf), a soundtrack album on RCA Victor, and an ambitious Website (accessible at either of two addresses: www.wnet.org/newyork or www.pbs.org/newyork).

"New York" was directed by Burns, known for the PBS series "The Civil War" (which he produced with his brother Ken) and other documentaries "The Way West," "The Donner Party" and "Coney Island."

**"The things that we wave
the American flag for most
instinctively ... have taken
place here more intensely
than in any other place."**

— Ric Burns
"New York" director

What he and co-producer Lisa Ades have crafted in "New York" is a wondrous film, heroic and haunting.

"New York" is magnificent to watch, but however impressive the scenery, this is a journey of words: the graceful narration (by David Ogden Stiers), plus testimony from a wide range of distinguished Gothamites as well as off-camera readings of observations from past New Yorkers, famous and obscure.

For those who call New York City home, "New York" should be required viewing. How grandly it reminds people why they put up with this too-crowded, too-costly, too-everything domain. And why so many of them cannot be pruned away. And, finally, why that has been the case for nearly 400 years.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Stars remember proudest moments

NEW YORK (AP) — Jay Leno said his greatest achievement was getting his driver's license.

For boxer Sugar Ray Leonard, it was defeating Marvelous Marvin Hagler in 1987.

And Jude Walter's biggest triumph? Standing up in his crib.

Jude, who was born this year; Leonard, born in 1956; and Leno, born in 1950, are among 100 men and boys who came into the world each year of the past century. Each of these celebrities were photographed, along with a few non-celebrities, by Matthew Welch for a feature in the December issue of *Esquire*.

The not-so-famous were also asked about their greatest achievement.

Actor Tommy Lee Jones, 1946, said it was his peace of mind. Don Knotts, 1924, offered his portrayal of Barney Fife, the stumbling deputy sheriff on "The Andy Griffith Show."

And fourth-grader Eric Wong, 1990, said it was beating his cousin in basketball.

Karl K. Kintner, 1901, a retired airplane mechanic, said it was "living as long as I have."



LENO

DeNiro immersed in new character

NEW YORK (AP) — Robert De Niro's penchant for doing almost anything to capture a role recently led him to spend hours at a New York City clinic for stroke victims.

Boning up for his part as a stroke victim in the upcoming *Flawless*, De Niro also wore a lead-soled shoe that kept his foot from flexing and three different prosthetics in his mouth to help show phases of facial paralysis, the film's director, Joel Schumacher, told the *Daily News*.



DE NIRO

Film Institute votes on best comedy

LOS ANGELES (AP) — So who was funnier: The Marx Brothers, The Three Stooges, Abbott and Costello or Adam Sandler?

A year after the American Film Institute (AFI) took on the unpopular and questionable task of choosing the top 100 U.S. movies, it is now trying to quantify an even more elusive cinematic quality: movie laughter.



GRANT

Some 1,800 voters, including critics, historians, directors, producers and screenwriters, are being asked to select the funniest American films out of 500 movies nominated by the AFI.

Comedy "does not get the respect and recognition that it deserves," AFI Director and CEO Jean Picker Firstenberg said Tuesday.

Cary Grant stars in 17 of the nominated films, while Myrna Loy is the most-represented actress with 10. Among living stars, Jack Lemmon is in 14 movies and Shirley Maclaine in nine.

Billy Wilder is the most-credited writer with 15 films. Wilder, George Cukor and Woody Allen are named as director on 11 films each.

The winners will be announced in a three-hour CBS special in June called "AFI's 100 Years ... 100 Laughs."

Chan admits to having love affair

HONG KONG (AP) — Action movie hero Jackie Chan has admitted having an affair with a pregnant former beauty queen.

"I've done something wrong. I've done something that many men in this world have done wrong,"



CHAN

the 45-year old action-movie star told a news conference yesterday. "If the baby is mine, I will take responsibility."

Hong Kong's tabloids have been speculating about the father of Elaine Ng's child. Local media reported that Ng, who was 1990 Miss Asia pageant, was seven months pregnant, but the father is Chan.

Chan, who got his start in 1977, appeared distraught when he apologized to his wife, former Taiwanese actress Lin Feng-chiao and other members.

And he begged reporters to trail his family.

"Follow me for 24 hours, but not my family's," he said.

Scotty McLennan writes about faith

BOSTON (AP) — The author of the novel "Doonesbury" characterizes the Rev. Scot Sloan has published a book on Americans' quest of their faith.

Scotty McLennan, chief of Tufts University, wrote *Faith: Religion: When the Faith is Lost*. McLennan roomed with "Doonesbury" creator Garry Trudeau at Tufts University.

At the time, Trudeau was a cartoon in the campus daily and used McLennan as the model for a liberal, idealistic minister.

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