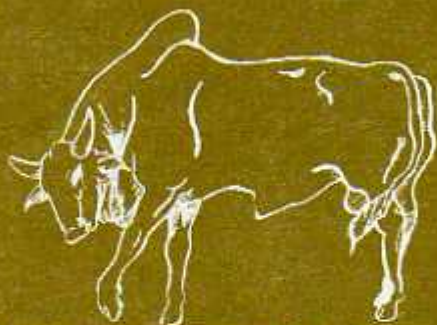


Brahma Tales



Douglas MacArthur High School
San Antonio, Texas

Vol. XII No. 7 November 26, 1969



The harder you work,
the harder it is to surrender.
- Vince Lombardi



Meet Percy — MacArthur's Mouse

As Told To Sara Jane Hawthorne

There's a new transfer on campus. Not too many students know him yet. In fact, I met him quite accidentally.

Our acquaintance began at the Lee Pep Rally. The freshman class had just finished their yell when I thought I detected an excited squeak coming from the direction of my shoe.

Knowing how cheap leather vocalizes when wet, I (embarrassedly) shifted my weight to the other foot and continued cheering.

But the noise was not to be ignored.

Bending down I spied a minute ball of white fuzz clinging to my sneaker.

Being a tidy soul at heart, I removed the object intending to dispose of it at the next opportunity.

Suddenly a pair of pink ears and a scrawny semblance of a tail protruded. The squeak was now clearly audible.

Though we're small

We think tall

We're the mice

From Study Hall

After lifting the wriggling mass to my shoulder where the view was better, I complimented the mouse -

for mouse he was — on his fluency in the English Language.

"Ah, that's nothing," he modestly replied. "But allow me to introduce myself."

"Perceivably Perfect. Perhaps. Percy for short."

So began our friendship and might end our story, except Percy was not content to be an anonymous pair of whiskers in the crowd. He insisted on relating his first impressions of MacArthur. Who was I to deny Him?!

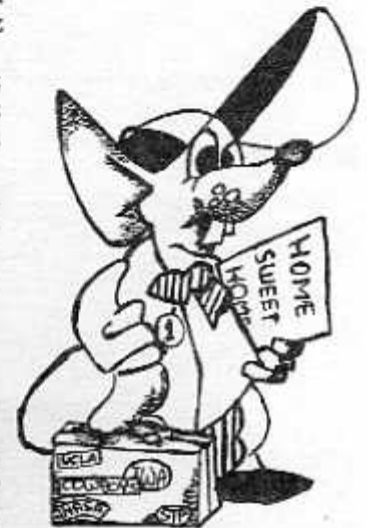
"The spirit has been tremendous last week, especially this pep rally. And who wouldn't cheer when you're inside, snug, and warm and missing class?"

"I've even found private living quarters at the end of the 100 wing in the trophy case. Usually no one comes by to disturb me."

"But the best part of all is the cuisine. Mmmm. The variety of delicacies scattered on the cafeteria floor range from crunchy chee-tos to apple pie. Even enchiladas with cheese on Wednesday. A mouse couldn't ask for more. Unless perhaps it was a sheltered route from the 400 wing to the 700 wing."

Percy intimatated of numerous other observations which he was eager to publicize. But time was short and the gentleman excused himself, assuring his return in the near future.

And who can doubt a talking mouse?



Frozen Foods Chill Thanksgiving Spirit

by Brenda Speert

Nearly three and one half centuries ago, pilgrims and Indians united to share Nature's fruits. Having survived a rugged winter, the Pilgrims massed to offer thanks for their good fortune. A big feast marked the occasion. Both the Pilgrims and the Indians hunted the neighboring woods for meat such as turkey and deer. Cod, bass, and other fish were caught in addition. Corn, barley, and other vegetables supplemented the main courses. In all, the celebration stood as an expression of appreciation for the abundance of provisions necessary to life's sustenance.

Over the ages, this day for giving thanks became popularized. No longer did the fall harvest reapings suggest the observance of a day for the offering of blessings, but now a day of national commemoration reminds one of the plentiful vicissitudes in life.

Today, the fourth Thursday in November is the day of the big turkey dinner. The hunt for game requires only the gunning of one's car to the nearest frozen food compartment at a friendly grocery store. The only really wild food on the table will probably be the wild rice. In addition, Pepperidge Farm stuffing, Ocean Spray cranberries, and Morton's pumpkin pies adorn a table decorated with fine china and an elaborate tablecloth.

Whereas the 1621 festivity was accompanied by sounds of the open plains, present day gatherings are surrounded by a ringing telephone, the drone of an airplane passing by, and the yacking of televised football.

Progress has affected the course of Thanksgiving. Has the idea survived?

BRAHMA TALES

Published bi-weekly by the Journalism classes of MacArthur High School, 2923 Bitters, San Antonio, Texas 78217

EDITOR Brenda Speert

ASSISTANT EDITOR Sara Jane Hawthorne

REPORTERS Judy Shafer, Suzi Baker, Duzie Gordon,

Laury Holden, Candace Klecka, Steve Williams,

Mark Mitchell, Pat Murphy, James Webster,

Ronnie Zimmerman

ARTIST Mike Murray

ADVERTISING Don Flowers

PHOTOGRAPHER Steve Bailey, David Kamperman

PROS and CONS

Pud-An Epidemic?

Dear Editor,

PUDISM MUST DIE! I would be most pleased if I would be permitted to increase MacArthur's vocabulary by one very meaningful word. The word PUD means: one who is passive, uninvolved and docile. In the *Brahma Tales* of October 30, the editorial expressed a plea for a response from *The Brahmas*. It can be seen that the editor chooses many words and phrases which describe MacArthurites as being simply PUDs. PUDISM is a disease. It is very contagious and is extremely hard to cure. I'm afraid the epidemic is spreading throughout Mac. If I could I'd like to relate to you an incident which occurred at the American International High School in The Hague, Holland, last year.

The school is one of fine quality, yet PUDISM was thriving. I say "was" for it is dead now in most of the 250 enrollment of the school. There was a paper called *Student Voice* which was the established and single newspaper of the school. It was run by a group of so called "long-haired intellectuals." They sold their infrequent paper in advance and then turned it into one big editorial. The paper was un-american, anti-vietnam, anti-establishment, as well as anti-world. The students who bought the paper, being PUDs, did nothing to control or curtail the publication of such garbage.

But as time went on, something had to happen. The KERG Society, a club within the school, protested

the mere existence of *Student Voice* and sent to press the *ANTI-PUD Express*. Through a long battle the *Anti-PUD EXPRESS* showed the students that PUDISM was taking their lives in its shrewd and sly manner.

The *Brahma Tales* has asked for a response. Does it fear PUDISM will take over Mac? As the ex-editor of the *Anti-PUD Express* I know that PUDISM works too fast to be left unattended. We cannot let Mac regress to this disease.

As perhaps an afterthought, I anticipate the question, how can PUDISM at Mac be stopped? The answer is difficult but I think that if creative writers gained an interest in dissolving PUDISM, that it could be done. I look at the *Brahma Tales* as a really great paper, but it lacks one thing. School Coverage is so good that perhaps this one thing has gone unnoticed. The *Anti-PUD Express* has had as many as 25 article contributions for a single issue. That was at a school having a student body of 250. Mac's enrollment is around 2000. Shouldn't there be at least 200 contributions for each issue of the *Brahma Tales*? Ratios have it that it should. Could the *Brahma Tales* print creative works, i.e. stories, poems, etc., if they were submitted? Can MacArthur shake the horrible disease of PUDISM?

Deeply concerned
Doug Kirk

BT Criticism

Dear Editor,

The reason that your editorial drew no response from the student body here

at good ole Mac seems obvious to me. Your editorial, like the rest of the contents of *BRAHMA TALES*, provokes nothing whatsoever of interest to us.

I admit that you will find students thumbing through the paper, but this is an act carried out in desperation alone. If not out of search for something to break everyday-school routine, it is only to cut out the coupons entitling one to discounts on food that the pages are even ruffled.

Instead of following the norm here at school, if *BRAHMA TALES* could rise to a position of enlightenment, I'm sure the response, as well as the "readability" of the paper would be hoisted. Janitors would also find fewer papers in desks at the end of the day.

Sections on perhaps fashions around the campus, articles with interviews of students and more photography would be a relief. In general, more participation from the whole of the student body in making the paper would result in an equal increase in circulation.

As it stands now, it appears that the paper is written by completely a tiny amount of juniors and seniors, about a small amount of football players, clubs, organizations and the like. These aforementioned encompass only a small minority of the complete student body.

If you are really worried about reaching more people and getting a greater response out of your editorial and paper too, you'll realize that there are more people than just football players and club members who attend. Cowboys are certainly not going to read the paper as it stands and even if they do, they won't respond to it because they

don't care about what they're reading, as an example.

Give us something to respond to (other than football games and club data!)

George Carver

A Brahma Bird?

Dear Editor

Most unassuming MacArthur students have failed to realize that there are two noble animals bearing the name BRAHMA. Everyone recognizes the familiar name of a particular breed of domestic cattle, but how many have turned their attention to the other, lesser known BRAHMA? According to *Webster's New World Dictionary* a BRAHMA is any of an Asiatic breed of large domestic fowls with feathered legs and small tail and wings. This noble bird has hitherto been ignored by the MacArthur student body. However, his presence has sometimes been felt. With this in mind, remember that there are two kinds of BRAHMA spirit. Which one is true for MacArthur? Make the right choice!

Sanda Bailey

Speakers Praised

Dear Editor:

Congratulations are in order for the MacArthur team that participated in Bellaire's Speech Tournament. Having attended Bellaire for two years and having kept time in last year's tourney, I know well the competition they faced. Several states participated, giving a broad sample of young American speakers. This is tough competition, as Bellaire is ranked as one of the top ten high schools in the nation. Therefore our representatives deserve the support of the school.

Phillip Spicer

NEISD To Permit Early Graduation

The Board of Trustees of North East Independent School District voted November 20 to permit exceptional students to graduate early from high school if certain requirements are met.

The change in district policy was passed November 20 at a meeting of the Board members. The change was based on numerous requests from past students wishing to complete high school in three years and will go into effect this year.

In order for a student to graduate in less than four years, the following criteria must be met:

- 1) The student will have earned 20 credits as prescribed by the Board of Trustees of North East Independent School District.
- 2) The parents of the student who desires to graduate early will submit a written request to the principal of the high school the student attends. This request shall be submitted during the first six weeks of the semester preceding graduation.
- 3) The request will be reviewed by a School Graduation Committee consisting of the principal, a counselor and teacher.
- 4) The recommendation of the School Graduation Committee will be sent to the Superintendent for his review.
- 5) The Board will act upon the Superintendent's recommendation.

Other school districts such as Alamo Heights and San Antonio have already adopted the early graduation policy for individual students.

Band Takes Two Firsts At UIL Meet

The Mac Brahma Band triumphantly ended its marching season by receiving its ninth consecutive first division rating at the annual U.I.L. marching contest.

At the November 13 contest at Edgewood Stadium, 26 bands were rated in two divisions: marching and inspection. Each of the four judges critiqued MacArthur's eight minute marching show and proclaimed the band to be "one of the finest in the nation."

Brian Taylor, head drum major, commented "All we needed was proof that we were the number one band in the area... and we more than proved it by the great effort of every individual in the band and, or course, by the leadership of Mr. Pearson and Mr. Adamcik."

The first division in marching was the first step toward winning the U.I.L. Sweepstakes Award, given only to bands receiving first divisions in marching, concert music, and sightreading. The band will spend the next three months preparing for these contests scheduled for March.



**DICK'S
HOBBY
SHOP
MINIATURES
TERRELL PLAZA**



BURN BABY BURN - The first bonfire in 3 years lit the skies Nov. 14 to wish the Brahmas luck for the Lec game.

Photo by Ron Zimmerman





6712 N. New Braunfels
824-1716
Open 9:30 to 5:30
DAILY

There's a new girl in the village, and she's taken the place by storm. She gets credit for being original by wearing Villager and Ladybug clothes.

**YOU SHOULD BE A GIRL
IN THE VILLAGE**



File 13

By Brenda Speert



...The sophomore Brahmas advertised their support for MacArthur by purchasing time spots on KTSA for spirited declarations.

...Spirit is not the only requisite for Bairn membership as Bairns recently realized. Two ranks of Bairns were ostracized because of grades.

...Spirit demonstrated by football players' mothers was featured in the November 16, "Express and News." Ronnie Duvall's mother was pictured and noted the main concern of an athletic household as the food budget.

...On the other side of the bench, the J.V. football players extend a thank you to the fans at their Mac-Lee game. The attendance of 20 was appreciated.

...If patronage of club activities reflects spirit, then one more incident of this subject deserves publication. The A.F.S. Club scheduled a speaker from India. No audience showed up.

...Word choice, idea development, and lack of a suitable thesis marred the acceptability of the Blue and White Ball's theme. The new theme reminisces of "An Old Fashioned Christmas."

...Under consideration for adoption in the NEISD curriculum is a new course "Ecology of Man," submitted by Mr. Cyril Firgens. Juniors, polled in advisory several weeks ago, showed outstanding interest in taking the course.

...Officers elected by the Spanish Club are: Yvette Walker, president; Ted Watson, vice-president; Lauri Bryant, secretary; and Courtney Lepick, treasurer. Miss Angeline Richmond sponsors the club which presently is planning a dinner.

...Girls Recreation Association is organizing basketball practice under President Michele Farnum, Vice-president Carla Brooks, Secretary Dinky Garrett, and Reporter Linda Shirtum. The club is sponsored by Miss Nancy Coon and Mrs. Ann Stiles.

...Did you know that a great percentage of the American colonial economy depended on the booty pirated by the Red Sea Men? Read about Captain William Kidd and the pirates who sold their goods to the luxury hungry colonists and what effect this had on American History. Freebooters of the Red Sea by Cochran in your school library can provide some fascinating reading.

Librarian Institutes Regular Book Check

by Laury Holden

"To protect the rights of the majority, a book check has to be instituted." This pointed statement by Mrs. Cordelia Cantu, head librarian, was made in announcing a book check would be initiated to counteract the alarming number of books missing from the library.

A recent spot check made in the most used areas of the library, revealed the most interesting results - large numbers of books were disappearing!

This is not a new problem though. Last year, books disappeared at the rate of 4 or 5 a day. The final tally was more than 900 books and approximately \$4500 or 2/3 of the library's annual budget. (BT has already expounded on these facts in Issue No. 2.)

Because of these mysterious happenings, the library did not have the money to buy the audio visual aids they wanted including records, tapes and film strips.

This year the problem continued to grow at an alarming rate. Thus, Mrs. Cantu has instituted a book check to begin December 1.

This is not just a problem restricted to MacArthur. Colleges have all instituted book checks. Public libraries are also faced with the alarming problem of book loss.

Expounding on her statement, Mrs. Cantu stated, "This book check has been started to protect the rights of the students. To protect the right of each student's use of books in our library.

"Other schools have closed the library during lunch hour. I feel this is infringing on the students rights to the library.

"There will be no limitations on how many books may be checked out. Reference books may be borrowed over night. All of this with one specification, - ALL BOOKS must be checked out through the desk so we know where they are."

The book check will probably solve the dilemma. It was tried at Roosevelt with amazing success last year. Their book lost count was only 1/5 of MacArthur's.

Perhaps if students look in the cobwebbed corners of their lockers and consciences, they would probably find some or all the 900 missing books.

"YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FLORIST"

FLOWERS GALORE



SPECIAL 10% Discount to all Mac Students

FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

8339 Broadway

826-9647



NATIONAL FINANCE COMPANY

1500 E. Grayson

227-7165

PUT A TIGER IN YOUR TANK!



SICKMANN'S

PHONE: 822-0729

3027 Nacogdoches



Brahma Spirit, Pride Demand Added Efforts

Spirit, Pride, Ability, We're the class of '73. We've got spirit, We've got go. We're the class of '70.

These class yells proclaim in no uncertain terms that Brahma students have spirit. But Spirit by definition is supposed to be an all year affair.

Are you one of the 200 to 300 who really have spirit and pride in MacArthur? Are you one of the ones who support all athletic events and takes pride in our band, choir, ROTC, plays and clubs?

Let's commend spirit before condemning lack of it. The spirit was tremendous at the Lee pep rally and game. Everyone was yelling, screaming and supporting the football team. Even with 10 seconds left in the football game, everyone was still yelling.

We, all of us, were still yelling — proclaiming our pride in a gallant effort.

But at several San Antonio high schools, this one often included, spirit is a 2½ month affair stretching from September to the "dead" center of November, encompassing the ten football games. In years passed it has been this way at MacArthur.

Suddenly the spirit disappears as if there were no goals still to overcome.

In reality the only season over is football. Band, golf, tennis, choir, and others are only starting. The goals of these people are just as important to them as the goals of football teams are to football players.

There are many contests still to be decided, including basketball, swimming, tennis, golf, baseball, track,

band, choir, ROTC and journalism, to mention only a few.

Hardly anyone gets spirited over these events and almost no one comes. Attendance is not the total display of spirit, however. The band and choir asks only that we appreciate their efforts and take pride in their accomplishments.



FRANK BROS.

Choose correct apparel for any formal event from Frank Bros.' Formal Wear Rental Service. Special prices for groups; students' discounts.

Alamo Plaza and Central Park

226-6101

Basketballers, last year, usually played to 100 people or less in a 200 capacity athletic center. But more than just basketball suffers from non-existent pride and attendance. JV games are usually played to 25 people or less.

To take a specific example, the swimmers, boys third in state and girls three times state champions, have microscopic support for their superlative effort that they put forth.

If the swimmers gave an effort equal to the support students give the tankers they would not even place at State.

Band will probably take UIL contest Sweepstakes. Cross Country could easily repeat as city champs. Swimming has the best chance of any teams to take double state titles. Golf could rise from last place to second place in district. The annual and newspaper each received A+ ratings for the year, 68-69. Choir has eight all-state finalists.

With all these excellent groups on campus, why do they not receive nearly all the support of a hard-working football team?

A few teachers are trying to promote spirit by offering points if their students attend events including basketball. But is bribery needed to elicit spirit?

Now only 200 to 300 support most events. If MacArthur is to reach its potential, all 2100 students must give their general support to the overall effort.

GO BLUE! BEAT EVERYONE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

8 Choirists Advance To State Finals

And then there were eight!

More than one month ago 16 choirists began tryouts aiming for All-State Choir recognition. After two rounds, eight still are eligible to compete in final tryouts at Corpus Christi, in January.

Of the nine that competed at San Antonio College November 15, the eight that passed semi-finals are: Alice Forrester, first soprano; Kerry Kamperman, first alto; James Taylor, first tenor; Mark Dawson, baritone; Elizabeth Lockhart, second soprano; Lynne McIntyre, first alternate, second soprano; Phyllis Trcka, first alternate, first soprano; David Kamperman, second alternate, tenor.

Tryouts are sponsored by the Texas Music Educators Association.

The All-State Choir Concert is scheduled for February in Dallas. The finest young voices in Texas will be led by a well-known conductor.

sprint
print

1036 Basse Road

- COMPOSITION
- CAMERA WORK
- EVERY PRINTING NEED

QUALITY, ECONOMY,
and FAST SERVICE

DIAL 732-2653

TEXAS
STATE
BANK

"The Bank with a Heart"

811 W.W. White Road
ED 3-6210

