

Present Sweetheart Study Has Unlimited Possibilities

The first constructive steps to form a new procedure of selecting the Aggie Sweetheart have been initiated—with a great deal to gain and very little to lose.

Members of the Student Senate student life committee have begun to probe into two aspects of the selection procedure—a criteria for TWU students to use in naming semifinalists and a student selection group from A&M to choose finalists.

The action really comes as little surprise. Students on both campuses have voiced disapproval of the two factors being probed.

At TWU, where semifinalists have long been chosen by a student vote, many girls have complained that they really have no way of knowing just what type finalist A&M really wants.

This, indeed, is a valid point. Actually A&M has never really outlined what it considers proper qualifications for a finalist. The result—what many TWU girls will admit has become a popularity contest.

The qualification situation offers other problems as well. Should freshmen girls be included? Should men join TWU girls in naming semifinalists? Should semifinalists be divided equally among the top three classes at TWU? Or even, should A&M, and not TWU, also select the semifinalists?

Aspects of the problem are nearly unlimited, which only adds to the burden of the student life committee.

Then there is the finalist selection dilemma. For the past three years a group of MSC staff members has interviewed the semifinalists and named the finalists. This won immediate approval over the past plan of using photographs, but still has caused concern among at least half of the A&M student body.

But if these men do not choose the finalists, who will? Students should pick them, everyone agrees, but which students? And how should these students be chosen? Are interviews the best method? If interviews are agreed upon, how long should they last? What should the interviewers look for? And, most important, what standard will the interviewers use in selecting finalists?

We don't envy the student life committee. Their task is surely formidable and many will be dissatisfied, regardless of the final recommendations.

But at least something is being done. Few will disagree that this isn't the proper step at this time.

Poet Looks At Freshman

Poet Dilys Laing's portrait of a "Freshman," from the Oct. 11 issue of The Reporter:

His face is like a girl's, heartshaped and beardless. He would like to seem more weathered than he is. But how? Puppies betray with silky coats and bungling paws they are not dogs. Grandmothers see their sons in him, grandfathers their own early strife, matrons would love to pamper him, girls to marry him, and teachers to shine their honor through his mind. But he is wary of them all. Only one thing can help him: Time that hardens saplings into logs and wrings the girl-face of a boy into the old man's anguished mask.

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The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas daily except Saturday, Sunday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

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Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year, \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 2% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 4, YMCA Building, College Station, Texas.

News contributions may be made by telephoning VI 6-6618 or VI 6-4910 or at the editorial office, Room 4, YMCA Building. For advertising or delivery call VI 6-6415.

ALAN PAYNE Managing Editor

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"... Do you mean it's taken you all this time to say 'good-bye' to your date? Today is Tuesday!"

—Sound Off—

Editor, The Battalion:

I enjoyed reading the letter about the Aggies who kept quiet while being jeered at after the University of Houston football game. I think the married students should stop and think about the noise they make in their apartments.

I have never seen people who have so little or no consideration for their neighbors, as the married students who live in the apartments. Especially, the ones who do not have children who take naps in the afternoon. The ones who have children too old (or don't bother making them)

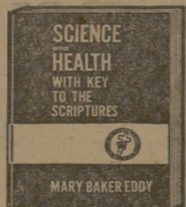
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Author Believes Students Should Leave Universities

(Special to The Battalion)
NEW YORK—In order to correct the ills of education, students and teachers should secede from their universities and set up their own schools.

This is the plan proposed by Paul Goodman, author and teacher, who, having visited nearly 40 colleges, concluded that they were

in a state of paralyzing tension which made any basic changes in teaching impossible.

"A small secession from a dozen colleges and universities would now be immensely profitable for American education," he writes in an article in the November issue of Harper's Magazine.

"I propose that a core faculty of about five professors secede from a school, taking some of their students with them; that they attach themselves to an equal number of like-minded professionals in the region; collect a few more students; and set up a small unchartered university that would be nothing but an association.

"Ten teachers would constitute a sufficient faculty for such a community of scholars. With individual classes of about fifteen, there would be 150 students."

Goodman believes that his plan would dispense with the external control, administration, bureaucratic machinery and "other excesses" that have swamped our communities of scholars.

He cites precedents for secession as the remedy for affected communities; the medieval universities of the Church control, the 17th century and vicars who left their own dissenting academies the founding of the New York for Social Research in 1913.

Goodman calls for such a plan "for the near future, at least, prospect of large-scale reform the great majority of students and especially in the big cities is dim. The changes that most needed are the very ones that the college administration will resist, for they undermine the administration's existence and provoke the controversy it abhors."

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Bulletin Board

Professional Societies
Society of Automotive Engineers will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 228 of the Chemistry Building.

Collegiate FFA Chapter will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Chemistry Building. Guest speaker will be Ray Fiedler.

Wives Clubs
Agronomy - horticulture - floriculture club will meet at 8 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Don McManaman, 305 Highland, College Station. Mrs. J. M. Nance will speak.

University Dames Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the South Solarium of the YMCA Building.
Hometown Clubs
Waco-McLennan County club will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the patio of the Memorial Student Center.

Future Dates

TODAY
Management Seminar, Dallas Power & Light Co.
Municipal Police School

THURSDAY
Civilian Student Council
General conference, Agricultural Extension Service
Research Foundation counselors and trustees
Texas 4-H recognition committee

Freshman football, University of Houston, here

FRIDAY
Agricultural Extension Service meetings

SATURDAY
Varsity football, Baylor, there

MONDAY
State Extension Service conference

Graduate engineers are virtually immune to unemployment, the Engineers Joint Council has reported. Continuing shortages in their profession, technological complexities of modern living, and the demands of military establishments create this happy picture. Industry provides the highest salaries for engineers, and the government, the lowest.

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