

BATTALION EDITORIALS

America The Loser In NCAA-AAU Feud

America's two great amateur athletic factions—the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Amateur Athletic Union—are engaged in open warfare once again.

The United States will send a track team to Moscow late in July for a dual meet with Russia, but this fact doesn't keep these two powerful groups from their insistent debate over who has the final say in the issue of eligibility.

The NCAA holds a powerful trump card in their hand, one called eligibility. By refusing to sanction meets held by the AAU, the NCAA keeps the college athlete from performing against the top men in his event.

As a result, the United States is deprived of track performers from college age down in many meets of international significance.

The most graphic current example of the repercussions of this dispute is a prominent student here at A&M—Randy Matson. The Aggie sophomore is the greatest weightman who ever lived, and can put the shot six or seven feet further than any other man in competition.

Yet, this towering track figure may not be on the U. S. team against the Soviets because of the embittered AAU-NCAA rivalry. The NCAA has forbidden its members to compete in the AAU qualifying meet for the Russia trip.

The immediate losers in this feud are the athletes and the ultimate loser is America herself.

The controlling figures of the American track scene must either resolve their differences soon or hand the reins over to a federal government which is growing increasingly impatient with the present course of chaos and irrationality.

Foreign Criticism Of US Policy Shallow

Americans are often perplexed over what they feel is the rest of the world's contradictory attitude toward the use of the United States strength around the globe.

On the one hand, Americans say, much of the world demands that America remain militarily strong and diplomatically active, that it take a firm stand to protect democracy, freedom, and orderly relation, that it effectively bar the road to Communist aggression and help deter Communist subversion.

On the other hand, many Americans feel that, whenever and wherever the United States seeks to follow this course, it is almost automatically deluged with criticism. This country or that group warns that America is going too far.

No reasonable American would wish the world to suspend its criticism of his country. Such comment is both legitimate and vitally needed. Without it, whatever mistakes Washington might be making would doubtless be multiplied.

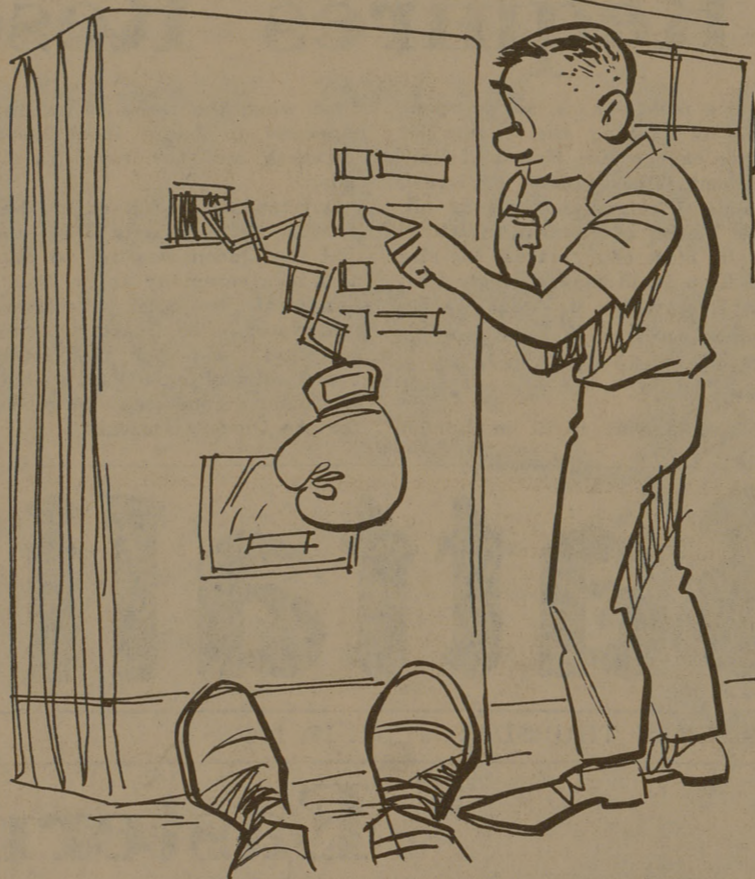
But what would be reasonable to ask is this:

That such criticism be oftener accompanied by specific, constructive suggestions on the problem which the United States is seeking to meet. The war in Vietnam is a striking case in point. In Britain and France, for example, the leading newspapers have just severely criticized President Johnson's decision to let American ground troops fight if needed.

That the rest of the world remember that in the twenty years in which America has shouldered the burden of preserving freedom and democracy, very few of the dire forecasts made regarding American policy have been borne out.

It is understandable that the world feels a particular interest in America's international actions. A major mistake by Washington could imperil hundreds of millions of non-Americans. We trust that Washington always bears this in mind. Yet it does not appear unreasonable to ask that, in more cases, whenever an American course of action appears dangerous or unsatisfactory, a suggestion for a better course be advanced. Then, if America fails to react positively, more reasonable grounds for criticism will have been established.

Christian Science Monitor



"HMMM—HAWAIIAN PUNCH!"

Texans In Washington

WASHINGTON, June 17 (AP) — New evidence that President Johnson watches closely what columnists write is seen in the exception he took to unflattering remarks about his native Texas that appeared in a New York (Daily News) newspaper.

Discussing the President's beauty America campaign, the article said it would be interesting to see what impact the drive would have on Texans since its "landscape is drab and without one scenic beauty worth touting."

A note to the Texas members of Congress, signed by Jake Jacobsen, legislative counsel at the White House, said: "The president asked me to call your attention" to the enclosed column.

It went on to suggest that the individual congressman might like to place in the Congressional Record a rebuttal to the column, because of their awareness of the beauties to be found in their own districts.

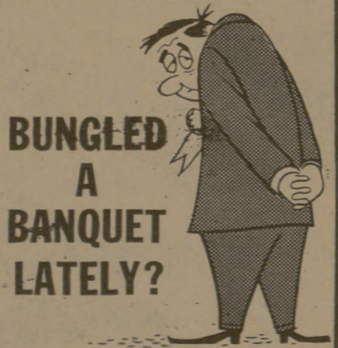
Quick to act was Rep. Richard White, D, of El Paso, who told the House that the journalist must have drawn his conclusions from the dark recesses of a Manhattan cavern.

"He needs to enter the cool recesses of McKittrick Canyon, behind that peak, the heart of the proposed Guadalupe National Park . . .

"Not one scenic beauty worth touting" says this columnist. If he has ever visited Texas, he surely did not stop to look. We hope he will stay longer next time."

And nearly a thousand miles away but still partly in Texas, the scenic and recreational area of Lake Texoma, was extolled by Rep. Ray Roberts, D, McKinney.

"In the 20 years that Lake Texoma, on the northwest border of my district, has been in existence, more than 100 million visitors from all over the nation have testified to its beauty. It has been the No. 1 tourist attraction in the nation for nine of the last 10 years."



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Highlights And Sidelights From Your State Capitol

By VERN SANFORD Texas Press Association AUSTIN, Tex. — The number of registered voters in Texas dropped nearly a million from last year's record breaking number, according to figures released by Comptroller Robert S. Calvert.

Most of the decrease apparently came in the 50,000 to 150,000 cities, with the largest metropolitan areas and the rural counties holding fairly steady. Number of issued poll tax receipts and exemptions dropped from 2,892,670 for voting in the 1964 presidential elections to 1,970,381 for this off-year.

The five most populous counties—Harris, Dallas, Bexar, Tarrant and El Paso — actually increased their percentage of the registered vote by three points. They held 44 per cent of this year's poll tax receipts.

However, this is not a specific indicator of their dominance over rural areas, since in cities of less than 10,000, elderly voters do not have to claim their exemption.

This year only 3,314 signed up for "free" poll tax receipts qualifying them to vote in elections

for federal officials. But there are no federal elections slated for ballots this year. A total of 84,297 of these "poll tax-not paid" certificates were issued in 1964, first year they were available for presidential, vice presidential and congressional balloting.

As voting dates for constitutional amendments near, it is apparent that most Texans of voting age will be able to do no more than look and hope, for lack of a poll tax receipt.

Insurance Rates Rising: State Board of Insurance Chairman Hunter McLean jolted auto owners with more bad news: their insurance premiums are going up at least 12 per cent.

The board meets officially on June 22 to set rates on basis of experience by areas. However, McLean already has served notice that there is no doubt rising motor accidents will make a stiff rate hike mandatory. There were 13 per cent more accidents last year than in 1963.

Rates dropped 1.2 per cent last year for the total insurance field, but should have gone up, McLean

said. Auto liability insurance, though sometimes criticized as high priced, actually has companies more than \$1,000,000 during the last 10 years maintained.

Premiums vary in 26 rating territories of the state according to their accident records the previous year.

Courts Speak: District Judge Herman of Austin postponed until 15 final arguments in a test case over the Railroad Commission's power to require natural gas purchasers to use pipelines to all production fields.

Rio Grande Valley Gas Company appealed a commission order to join its pipeline to a well owned by Russell Maguire of Borden County.

The Supreme Court will take the case involving authority Rice University trustees to regard racial and tuition restrictions imposed by the institution's founder, William Marsh Rice 1891.

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CALENDAR OF CHURCH SERVICES

Table listing church services for various denominations including Christian Science Society, Church of the Nazarene, St. Mary's Catholic, Faith Church, United Church of Christ, St. Thomas Episcopal, College Heights, A&M Church of Christ, Wesleyan Foundation, and others.

BEEN SHOPPING LATELY?



Sure! People go shopping for many things. Even a Church! But, then, they take Dad along!

Before you go shopping for a Church, make sure you know what you're looking for. For a Church isn't a theatre to provide entertainment, nor a club to fortify one's social position, nor a foundation to channel our charities.

A Church is a SCHOOL that trains whole families in spiritual perception. It is a FACTORY that makes earnest Christians. They're in evidence all over town.

A Church is a TOWER, giving a glimpse of life's horizons, far beyond the petty problems of each day.

A Church is a WORK-SHOP where one volunteers his talents in the most challenging tasks that confront humanity.

And, of course, a Church is HOME — the place where we're appreciated, where we're one of the Family!

But it doesn't hurt to admit that in one respect our churches are like our stores: There wouldn't be one in town if we didn't need what they offer!

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Table with columns for days of the week and corresponding church service times.

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Members of the Student Publications Board are James L. Lindsey, chairman; Robert Knight, College of Arts and Sciences; J. G. McGuire, College of Engineering; Dr. Page Morgan, College of Agriculture; and Dr. R. S. Titus, College of Veterinary Medicine.

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