

Several Simple Seating Solutions

Kyle Field, "Home of the Fightin' Texas Aggies," was the home of the confused Texas Aggies in the season opener with the University of Houston last Saturday night.

Students wandered aimlessly outside the stadium seeking their respective entrances to the seating areas, and after moving inside shoved aimlessly in search of seats.

Some griped, other pouted, a few moaned, many shouted, several criticized, and near-bedlam reigned.

Freshmen were moved deeped in the end zone, only to share their coveted area with disgruntled seniors who declared they would rather switch than fight.

"Woe be unto thee," students bellowed while standing three deep in the aisles and placing the blame for the overcrowded situation on the Corps, the civilians, the administration, the student newspaper, the winning team, the visiting students and the soda water peddlers.

It was a miserable sight: seniors weeping until their boot pants were soggy with tears; petticoats being removed to allow for additional seating space; peanut vendors having to pass their wares down an aisle that started in the end zone and finally reached its destination on the 50-yard line.

There are solutions to the problem, however, that could eliminate such confusion:

1. Make it a senior privilege to attend

home games during the years when a winning season is apparent.

2. Try to enforce compulsory attendance by the civilian student body. They would rebel and boycott the stadium.

3. Allow only freshmen to bring dates to home games. They're the only students who need them, anyway. The sophomores have already been flushed, the juniors are too jovial and the seniors have marriage on their minds.

4. Let the 12th man sit on the bench with the other 11 men.

5. Discourage visiting students from attending Aggie games by letting air out of their tires, starting fights in the parking lot and stealing their dates.

6. Encourage profs to give only Monday quizzes during football season and to exempt students who attend Saturday help sessions.

7. Hire more students to sell peanuts and soda water in the south end zone.

8. Have losing teams.

9. Let the Corps march during the entire game around the cinder track, so when the game became boring the fans could shift their attention to another act.

10. Make the evolutionists swing from their tails from the press box and the non-evolutionists swing from their necks from the flag poles.

See how simple it is!

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"Do you realize that our record will be three times as good as last year's after this game?"

Lani Presswood

College Rating Stuns Schools

Rummaging through stacks of piled-up letters, papers and other desk space-takers can turn up some surprising things every now and then.

While engaged in this enterprise recently I came upon an item which landed on the desk back in August and had lain neglected ever since.

Because the campus pastime of comparing one college with another is such a popular one, the item in question may be of mild interest to some.

It's a rating of certain American colleges made by the Ferris-Swanson Collegiate Rating Board. Who the Ferris-Swanson people are, I know not so you can take their findings for whatever you think they're worth.

A brief explanatory paragraph precedes the actual ratings:

"The Ferris-Swanson Collegiate Rating Board met in July, 1965, to give their opinion of how they feel colleges and universities should be rated according to prestige and scholarship as shown in the area of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The colleges are

rated in competition with the schools in their athletic conference."

The first group rated is the Ivy League, and the Harvard folks probably won't like this too much:

- The Ivy League**
1. Dartmouth
 2. Harvard
 3. Yale
 4. Penn
 5. Princeton
 6. Columbia
 7. Cornell
 8. Brown

The Big Eight comes next and here the campus at Boulder gets the nod:

- The Big Eight**
1. Colorado
 2. Missouri
 3. Iowa State
 4. Kansas
 5. Nebraska
 6. Oklahoma State
 7. Oklahoma
 8. Kansas State

The Pacific Coast schools follow and Stanford's elevation over U of C may surprise some:

- Pacific Eight**
1. Stanford
 2. California
 3. Washington
 4. U.C.L.A.
 5. Oregon State
 6. Southern Cal.
 7. Oregon
 8. Washington State

Dixie is next and Louisiana gets a pretty good pat on the back here, with schools in New Orleans and Baton Rouge rated one-two:

- Southeastern**
1. Tulane
 2. L.S.U.
 3. Auburn
 4. Vanderbilt
 5. Florida
 6. Georgia
 7. Kentucky
 8. Mississippi
 9. Miss. State
 10. Alabama
 11. Tennessee

The Big Ten is taken up next and Michigan is given the top slot here:

- The Big Ten**
1. Michigan
 2. Indiana
 3. Minnesota
 4. Northwestern
 5. Ohio State
 6. Wisconsin
 7. Illinois
 8. Michigan State
 9. Purdue
 10. Iowa

The Missouri Valley and the Midwest Conference are also rated, but the Southwest Conference has been delayed long enough. Here are the SWC rankings and the Ferris-Swanson board gives the state-supported schools a pretty good slap in the face with them:

- The Southwest Conference**
1. Rice
 2. S.M.U.
 3. Baylor
 4. Texas A&M
 5. Texas Christian
 6. Texas Tech
 7. Texas
 8. Arkansas

If your favorite schools are ranked high, this is an earnest, objective attempt to set down concrete ratings.

If they're rated low it's a half-baked propaganda sheet ground out by some public relations firm to promote some private project, and furthermore it's not worth the paper it's written on.

But however you choose to look at it, don't accidentally mistake these ratings for football predictions. Especially if you're a gambling man.

By Charles M. Schulz

Auto Legislation: Safety Fast

Many today cry out at the ever-increasing involvement of the federal government in the affairs of the American citizen. They long for the "good old days" when the Washington law-makers stuck to the "big things" and let a man run his own private life.

But no man is an island unto himself, and when 195 million people live in an area the size of the U. S., someone has to keep law and order. All of this legislation of "personal" matters isn't necessarily bad. In fact, a lot of it doesn't go far enough. One such example is the current automobile safety legislation, both proposed and enacted.

There are, of course, problems associated with such federal concern of a personal item such as a car. And to the young American male, a car is very personal.

Who will determine just what requirements are placed on cars? Define "auto expert." A panel that would place nearly every auto owner and manufacturer could be gathered, and that panel should outline for congress what minimum safety standards should be built into today's high-speed automobiles. This panel should be composed of representatives of the auto manufacturers; tire manufacturers; race-car builders; professional drivers such as racing, salesmen and test drivers; representatives of the various safety institutes, and others that may be deemed necessary.

From this body of experience, the exact requirements could be drawn as to what is needed in auto safety, what is practical to develop, and how this action could best be taken. This advisory body could then make its findings known to the members of Congress, who would in turn transform it to legislation.

Steps have been taken toward these ends, but some are a bit mis-directed. On the positive side, Congress last year passed HR 1341 which stated the federal government would not purchase new cars that didn't meet certain General Services Administration standards after April, 1966. These requirements included: lap or shoulder seat belts; padded dashes and sun visors; recessed instrument panels; impact-

absorbing steering wheels; recessed steering columns; safety door latches and hinges; improved seat anchorage; four-way flasher warning signals and turn signals; safety glass; dual-brake systems; standardized bumper heights and gear shifts; electric windshield wipers and washer systems; glare-reducing surfaces; tire and safety rim requirements; outside rear view mirrors, and exhaust and air pollution standards similar to those enacted in California.

The danger of mis-direction is present, and this should be guarded against at all times. For a good many years, as the horsepower and speed of the automobile increased with startling results, the trend was to think that by making an automobile less powerful, it would be rendered safer. Such is not necessarily the case.

British Motor Corporation has adopted the slogan "Safety Fast," and this should be the thinking of anyone debating auto safety legislation for the 1960's.

One of the missed phases of the safety legislation, and most of the current thinking in this country on the subject, is making the auto better able to avoid accidents. Most of the devices, except dual-brake systems, glare reducing surfaces, tire requirements and outside mirrors, are concerned with the vehicle and its occupant after the moment of impact. What about avoiding the situation in the first place, or making the auto easier to maneuver once it is committed to an accident situation?

Most U. S. automobiles are still plagued with too-soft suspension, too-high steering ratios, and low quality tires, to name a few. These, along with poor maintenance and partially-trained drivers, are the causes of many of our fatal accidents.

What needs to be encouraged is not less horsepower, but better brakes, better suspension, steering systems with positive control over the vehicle, high-speed tires on all high-speed cars, a rigid maintenance schedule for cars driven on our highways, and drivers that are well trained to handle a 400 plus horsepower vehicle under emergency as well as normal conditions.

Mortimer's Notes

FOR THE RECORD: For all you Aggies who can't make it to Fort Worth for the football game this weekend, the play-by-play will be broadcast over KORA Saturday night

Boardcast time is 7:15 p.m.

The Aggies are supposedly two-point underdogs, but don't you believe it

John Poss, Aggie starting end, looked rather forlorn this week when a student told him the Ags had a good chance for a 6-4 or 7-3 record this year

He seemed to have an 8-2 slate in mind

They're calling this weekend the Corps Trip, but a good many civilians will also be on hand

Maybe the civilians can swing a Non-Reg Trip next year if things keep going right

That would be a switch

But for now, the civilians must console themselves by sharing the weekend with the Corps — which will no doubt be in the spotlight

The real spotlight will be on Cheri Holland Saturday night when she is officially presented to the student body during halftime ceremonies of the A&M-TCU game

By now you know who Cheri Holland is. She's the new Aggie Sweetheart and a College Station girl

So if you can't make it to the game, just pull out this week's Battalions, look at her picture and pretend you are there

Maybe the radio will carry a play by play of that, too

FACTS AND FIGURES: The largest Senior Ring ever purchased here was a size 14

The smallest was a size 5

OFF THE RECORD: The Aggie have been Ledbetter than ever before See Ya 'Round—MORTIMER.

At the Movies

with Lani Presswood

"Lord Jim" is probably the finest novel to come from the pen of Joseph Conrad, an early 20th-century English writer.

The Russian-born novelist's creation has now been transferred to the screen and is currently showing at the Campus Theater.

Peter O'Toole plays Jim and his emotion-charged portrayal gives the movie a dramatic intensity which mounts as the show progresses.

The story deals with a man's obsessive attempt to erase the deep sense of guilt he feels over an act of cowardice.

His public confession of the act cuts short a promising naval career and sends him down a lonely and obscure path of far-flung Eastern ports.

Oblivion replaces fame as his goal as he wanders alone from place to place. The movie doesn't dwell on this period of his life but moves quickly to the inland "paradise" which serves as a backdrop for most of the action.

And action there is too, in generous and skillfully-handled doses. Director Richard Brooks wields an adroit hand in the battle and sea scenes.

But though Conrad's stories contain a great deal of adventure, they still usually revolve around one man's inner conflict. This inner conflict is retained throughout the show as the vital unifying thread but the movie's failure to probe Jim's soul as deeply as it could have is the production's major weakness.

The photography and sound effects are excellent and the Oriental atmosphere achieved by them helps keep the audience absorbed. Atmosphere is also one of Conrad's strong points and he uses a great deal of verbiage in his works to create the setting he wants.

Adding to the picture's quality is a fine supporting cast, led by radiantly exotic Daliah Lavi. Known only as 'the girl,' she and the dynamic O'Toole make an exciting couple.

Constitutional Amendments

By GLENN DROMGOOLE
Battalion Editor

Amendment No. 2, which would authorize the Veterans' Land Board to issue an additional \$200 million in bonds or obligations to finance veteran land purchases, comes up for a vote Nov. 2 along with nine other suggested changes in the Texas Constitution.

The proposed amendment would affect Section 49-b, Article III, would increase interest rate on bonds from 3½ to 4½ per cent and would extend the program for eight years.

This measure would raise the maximum amount which veterans can pay for a home from \$7,500 to \$10,000 or would provide the same maximum on a home of more value. Veterans would be required to pay at least 5 per cent of the loan before the Veterans' Land Board procures title to the property.

Arguments for the proposal include:

1. The Veterans' Land Program has not only given the state an opportunity to aid the men and women of Texas who served their country during World War II and the Korean War, but it has boosted the state's economy and will provide an eventual profit on the

\$200 million sale of bonds. Failure to adopt the proposed amendment will result in reduced business activity.

2. The Veterans' Land Program is one of the most effective and least costly means whereby Texas citizens can express their gratitude to veterans for their wartime service. Presently 34,000 purchases have been made through the programs.

3. The program is without cost to the taxpayer. Actually, the state enjoys a small profit from the plan.

4. The program will end Dec. 1 this year unless it is extended by this amendment. Although the program is in its 16th year, it has not yet been able to provide equal opportunity for nearly all the one million eligible veterans in Texas to purchase land.

Arguments against include:

1. It is not a function of state government to engage in the loan business. The Veterans' Land Program, in this respect, may be considered unfair to private enterprise.

2. During the 16 years that the program has been in operation, it would seem that all veterans of WWII and the Korean War have had ample opportunity

to apply for these funds. For many, the availability of "cheap money" tends to invite purchase of land they neither need nor plan to use for productive purposes.

3. It is time to bring the recurring requests for increased funds in carrying on the program to a halt. The program started with \$25 million in 1946, increased \$75 million in 1951 and was upped another \$100 million in 1956. Voters defeated a similar amendment in 1963. If the present Amendment No. 2 is passed, the public can expect further continuance of the program at the conclusion of the Viet Nam War and other undeclared wars in which the U. S. may participate.

Texas has been conducting veterans' land operations since the Texas Revolution. In 1836 lands of the Republic were granted to all volunteers who had served in Texas armies, and after the Civil War the state provided land in compensation for pension payments.

The Veterans' Land Board was established after WWII in 1946 and has continued since that time.

It will die if the proposed Amendment No. 2 fails to pass.

PEANUTS



Mental Retardation Confab Set

First Governor's Conference of Mental Retardation, climaxing a two-year statewide study of the problem, will be held March 17-19 in Austin.

Conference will be charged with the task of providing recommendations on how to provide a better life for the mentally retarded.

Twelve task forces developing a tentative state plan to combat the problem have slated October 16-17 meeting in Austin.

THE BATTALION

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