



"Maybe she did write that letter because she was counting on a date to the Cotton Bowl, fish Squirt, but look at the brighter side—you saved the expense of a Christmas gift!"

UH Strikes Again

The University of Houston (our sports editor informs us) is currently under a three-year NCAA probation, scheduled to end in January, for football recruiting violations. It's one of the few such probations ever to run its full course, he adds, and was one of the stiffest ever levied by the NCAA.

So much for sports. We now turn our attention to an Associated Press report from Houston, which reads in part: "University of Houston President Philip G. Hoffman proposed Monday that the South Texas College of Law merge with the University of Houston rather than the Texas A&M system... C. R. Walker, dean of South Texas School of Law, said 'we are committed to Texas A&M right now and I don't want to comment on it.'"

Somehow, prospects for the proposed merger, which had been favorably noted by directors of both A&M and South Texas, seem suddenly less bright. Maybe we've been listening to too many embittered Southwest Conference recruiters.

LISTEN UP

the batt forum

Editor, The Battalion:

As the senior faculty advisor to the Great Issues Committee of the MSC Council and Directorate I have been asked to explain why the faculty is charged admission to the Great Issues programs (such as the Black America Seminar, Dec. 10, 11, and 12).

The Great Issues budget for 1968-69 is approximately \$10,000, with \$9,000 from student body "pockets" through activity fees, and the remaining \$1,000, hopefully, from admission charges. Thus, the vast majority is paid by the student. The reason for asking members of the faculty, staff, and community to support this program is to give us an opportunity to share the cost of programs that are timely, informative, stimulating, and truly "Great Issues" in scope. These programs vary in cost. One speaker's fee may be as high as \$1,500, while another speaker may come at no fee. Even when a speaker is not asking a fee, the minimum cost to Great Issues is \$200-\$250, covering publicity, dinners, housing, meals, etc.

We can participate by buying season tickets at \$5 for one member of the family or \$7 for two members, or paying \$1.50 at the door for each of the 40-45 programs. The other faculty advisors and I urge you to buy season tickets as a civic way of participating in this program. As you can see, if we do not participate, it would mean asking the students to subsidize our share.

The next series is the Black America Seminar. Programs for the spring include a week-long Seminar on the Urban Crises where Great Issues will join with the College of Engineering in presenting a comprehensive series of programs.

Great Issues, joined by its Faculty Advisors, invites you to participate in this program. Season tickets may be purchased by calling the Student Program Office at 845-1515, or dropping a note to Great Issues Committee, MSC, P.O. Box 5718, College Station, Texas.

Sincerely,
W. B. Ledbetter
Associate Professor
Civil Engineering

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the student writers only. *The Battalion* is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; Dr. David Bowers, College of Liberal Arts; F. S. White, College of Engineering; Dr. Donald R. Clark, College of Veterinary Medicine; and Hal Taylor, College of Agriculture.

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

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male students favored women's dorms on campus, a problem is encountered with alumni who oppose coeducation.

PERHAPS THE most controversial issue being considered by the group is what it calls a "lack of communication between the administration and the students."

"The administration has no trouble communicating with the students; the trouble is in the students communicating with the administration," Gill remarked.

"All you do is pay money to learn to take orders; students can't make their own decisions," he continued.

"MANY TIMES the students are irked about something the administration doesn't know about, but would listen to if they knew about it," Foye commented.

"But many times, they (the administration) ignore the problems," added Bill Moore, a sophomore biochemistry student from San Antonio, and a member of the planning group.

THE GROUP suggested a monthly meeting between the administration and students to allow the students to air complaints and ask questions about university policy.

Ideally, the group said, President Rudder would appear in person before an open student meeting to explain and defend any administration action misunderstood or opposed by any student.

Another suggestion is committees composed of students, faculty and representatives of the administration to hear student suggestions on matters concerning the students, such as professor selection and courses offered.

FOYE POINTED out that both the University of Texas at Austin and Rice University have such discussion committees.

"When we want to pattern something after the University of Texas, most students (at A&M) are opposed, even though it may be good," Foye said.

Gill suggested modeling the

discussion committees after the Dining Hall Committees for Corps and civilian students.

"OF COURSE, it took some riots here to get that (the student committee). If the students get worked up enough, they'll raise some hell," Foye remarked.

He was referring to student demonstrations in the spring of 1967 when the university announced a policy of compulsory board payments by dormitory students. The disturbances received statewide press recognition.

"THEY (THE STUDENTS) got results because the administration is so wrapped up in their own image," Foye added.

"When these decisions are made, some students should be there to voice their opinions," Foye said.

"We've got to have authority and the committees must have power relegated to them," he continued.

MOORE SUGGESTED perhaps strengthening the role of the Student Senate instead of forming committees of students, faculty and administration.

Student apathy in university elections was also discussed.

"Why should they (the students) care who they elect when those elected have no power?" Foye asked.

JEFF DANIELS, the organizer for the SDS at A&M last year, was charged with violation of university rules and barred from registering for the fall term. He is now a student at the University of Texas. A hearing with the administration was scheduled on Daniels' behalf, but he did not appear at the hearing.

"He did our cause a lot of harm; he said he didn't want to fool with it (the hearing)," Foye remarked.

"IF PEOPLE form opinions of the SDS on observation of Jeff,

they will get the wrong idea," he emphasized.

Foye commented on Larry Caroline, the controversial professor at the University of Texas whose contract was not renewed this year.

"I DON'T agree with him, but he is a good speaker," Foye said.

"He (Caroline) says the power lies in the petty bourgeois, the merchants, shopkeepers, and small businessmen. I think the power lies in the production line," Foye added.

"THAT IS what I want; to exchange capitalism for socialism. I want people to cooperate, not compete," he said.

"I don't agree with you; I'm a capitalist," answered Lynn Ziegler, a freshman psychology major from Denison, and a member of the planning group.

Foye commented on the riots last spring at Columbia University in New York.

"I'VE TALKED to Mark Rudd (leader of the Columbia disturbances), and the guy's an idiot. He's got some real bad hang-ups," Foye remarked.

Foye said Rudd told him that students at Columbia tried to voice their complaints through administration channels for a year but were thwarted in every attempt.

"THE MAJOR advantage (of the riots) was the shock value. At any university, many of the students are wishy-washy and a small minority can really make themselves heard," Foye said.

Foye commented on the possibility of violence at A&M.

"I don't think we should rule out violence, but we are opposed to violence," he said.

THE OBVIOUS question has arisen: If the local group is concerned primarily with problems at Texas A&M, why does it associate itself with the national

FLEDGLING SDS CHAPTER

(Continued From Page 1)

organization of SDS, which has a dubious reputation?

"We've got to get with an organization with power. The administration must know that we have power behind us," Gill answered.

"THE POWER of the SDS isn't in its members; it's in its sympathizers and supporters," Foye remarked. He said the SDS chapter in Austin has only 300 members, but a called demonstration would produce 1500-2000 marchers.

"People would join us if they knew we could accomplish our purposes," he continued.

"Unless you organize, you can't accomplish anything," he added. Foye said the young local chapter now needs publicity.

"Many students may reject our ideas, but at least they know what our ideas are," Foye concluded.



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MSC COUNCIL HISTORIAN POSITION OPEN

At the last meeting of the MSC Council, the position of Council Historian was established as a permanent office of the MSC Council. Applications are now being accepted for the position whose duties are as follows:

- To develop a system for researching and compiling the current activities of members of the Council or Directorate since the founding of the MSC program in 1949. This list would be kept updated, on a year to year basis, in order that newsletters and other MSC news items could be sent out periodically.
- To bring up-to-date changes in address, family status, and the business status of these men.
- Attend Council meetings as a non-voting member.
- Compile the Council minutes for the Council President's Office.

The Council Historian shall assume office through the nomination of the Council President and confirmation by the Council. The requirements to hold office will be identical to those of any Council officer. He may appoint, with approval by the Council President, as many as three Assistant-Historians to help him with his duties and act as possible successors to his position.

This is a prime opportunity for interested students to meet major businessmen and former students of Texas A&M. Interested students should contact Benny Sims, MSC Council President, for applications and further information.

At The Movies

by Mike Plake

"The Legend of Lylah Clare"

Yes, Frances, there is a Kim Novak. You remember, that beautiful, blonde heroine who stuck by Frank Sinatra in "The Man With the Golden Arm," that amorous "waitress" in "Kiss Me Stupid?"

Kim Novak's top performance I've seen was in W. Somerset Maugham's "Of Human Bondage," which also starred Laurence Harvey. Compared with her dual role in "Lylah Clare," it's still the top.

Press releases describe "Lylah Clare" thus: —"camp spectacle . . . if you have seen or dreamed of movies . . . a send-up."

"The Legend of Lylah Clare" is camp spectacle, like a rusty roller-type washing machine, or a polluted lake. Instead of a send-up, it's gargantuan let-down.

IT STARRED Kim Novak, Peter Finch, and Ernest Borgnine, with contributing roles by Rosella Falk and Norman Tobak and the Petersen Company, who produced the dog food commercial.

The story is of Lylah Clare, a

1930's movie queen who died on her wedding day in the home of her husband-to-be, Finch, called Lewis Zarkhan, the director who made her famous. Bart Langner, a press agent, discovers an accidental look-alike for Lylah in the form of one Elsa Brinkman (Miss Novak). So he grabs up Elsa, shows her to Zarkhan, and the whole sordid mess of remaking a movie star begins.

Zarkhan has made no movies for twenty years or so, since Lylah died. He will make this one, with Elsa, as a tribute to his dead sweetie. This he does, and with the same mistakes he made with the first Lylah.

ALL MAY have been interesting as a teleplay by Robert Thom and Edward DeBlasio. But it loses all it ever had in the hands of producer-director Robert Aldrich. From such great flicks as "Dirty Dozen" and "Flight of the Phoenix," he steps down, and gets soggy.

The second Lylah, Elsa Campbell, goes through as series of mental, emotional and intellectual rapes by Zarkhan, who matches wits in the same vein of vicious exchange with Ernest Borgnine, who plays "The Movie Magnate." In this flick, all Borgnine does through the whole movie is give

close-ups of the space between his incisors and curse loudly.

FOR THAT matter, all Finch does is put down everybody, all Rosella does is put down Finch, and

All Miss Novak, alias Elsa, does is start at the beginning at a stage of innocence or semi-innocence, then progressively get aggressively torn to shreds, and, as those damned cameras close in, dies.

"You look like a deeply offended Tibetan Yak," Zarkhan tells Elsa as he watches her walk for the first time. That's how the movie moves — like an offended yak, going uphill, with two weeks supplies on its back and a sprained ankle.

Miss Novak is named in the Dietrich - Harlow - Garbo - Monroe tradition by her pressman. Whoever picks her roles needs help.

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6:00 News, Weather and Sports
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10:30 It Takes a Thief
11:30 Alfred Hitchcock

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