

John Platzer

Of Cowboys vs. Longhairs

A&M has made a basic change in the Hollywood scripts of the old Cowboys and Indians movies. It has become the Cowboys and Longhairs all of a sudden with the Corps supplying the most attentive portion of the audience.

If you don't fit in any of these three groups you can forget it because you definitely aren't "in" anyway.

In the old West it was the Indians who went around scalping the Cowboys. At A&M it is the Cowboys who want to do the scalping for a change.

It seems rather odd that the all-time expert on this subject was at the same time a cowboy, a soldier and a longhair. His name, of course, was General George Armstrong Custer.

Considering the fate that awaited Custer at the Little Big Horn, could it be that this man who fits so nicely in each group would not be accepted by any of them?

To find the answer to this earth-shaking question, a representative of each group was "rounded up" (pardon my profanity Longhairs and Corps members) and asked for his opinion of the General.

Answering for the Longhairs was Isit Agirl while Boots represented the Cowboys and Drawn Saber spoke for the Corps.

The specific question was: How would you evaluate General George Armstrong Custer's place in history and is he one of your more highly thought of heroes?

Isit Agirl: That warmonger is no hero of mine. He got exactly what he deserved if you ask me. That was a civil war that the Sioux were involved in, what right did he have going where he wasn't wanted? That was President Grant's war. The people weren't behind the efforts of those capitalistic imperialists. So the Sioux were scalping a few settlers—so what? My gosh, they had to get their kicks some way. That was a civil war that the Sioux were involved in, what right did he have going where he wasn't wanted? That was President Grant's war. The people weren't behind the efforts of those capitalistic imperialists. So the Sioux were scalping a few settlers—so what? My gosh, they had to get their kicks some way. I mean like after all, man, who are we to go around knocking someone else's bag. Anyway, old Sittin' Bull wasn't a bad sort of guy. He begged Custer to come smoke a few joints with him where they could take a trip together.

Boots: Well, pardner, I haven't ever really thought about that if you want to know

the truth. I am just a hard-working good old everyday American. I don't have time to speculate on such things with all this good old American brand work I am doing. He did seem pretty far out, though, and I guess he got what he deserved. Why, do you know he disobeyed the orders of the President of this whole confounded country. A guy like that would probably have hair all the way down to his shoulders and you know how worthless that type is. By the way do you know the real reason for the battle? You see, Custer was seeing Sittin' Bull's daughter behind his back.

Drawn Saber: Without a doubt he got what he deserved, sir. Leading his men into a trap like that, what kind of commander was he anyway? Why he didn't even call in an airstrike to help out. If he had kept up the air attacks he would have ended the struggle against those savages in no time at all. Evidently he just didn't care about tradition which is the backbone of everything decent. I guarantee you if he had followed tradition he wouldn't have lost.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"He's upset about a quiz and, besides, we like that better than what he had up there before he changed it!"

APO Donates \$500 To Bonfire Costs

Alpha Phi Omega, A&M's service fraternity, has given \$500 to defray costs of the 105-foot 1969 Bonfire which burned Nov. 26.

Vernon Bartle, chairman of the APO Bonfire committee, presented the \$500 check, the fraternity's concession stand profits, to Head Yell Leader Sam Torn at Tuesday's basketball game in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

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The YMCA Student Cabinet and the All Faiths Chapel cordially invite the public to attend the outdoor carol sing, featuring the Singing Cadets and the A&M Consolidated High School Choir. The program will conclude with the lighting of a 30-foot Christmas tree.

Listen Up the batt forum

Editor:

An article in the Dec. 10, 1969, Battalion pertains to A&M's "initiating a broad-based research program to develop techniques for containing oil spillage such as occurred earlier this year off the coast of Santa Barbara, Calif."

Oil spillage need not be on so large a scale to present problems. Environmental destruction occurs when small volumes of oil—say, for instance, four or five quarts of crankcase oil—are dumped where they are drained—for instance, at the Hensel area service racks—on a recurring basis. From the racks, and extending downstream, the banks of the small creek and standing water in the creek are covered by a layer of oil.

This should be an opportune time for the facility to be improved so that the pollution by oil spillage (and resultant stench) of this area might be eliminated. Containers could be provided for oil drained here, as well as for empty oil cans and old filters. Perhaps one of the service stations would provide containers, in return for receiving the oil for reprocessing. It would further seem that students utilizing the facility would be willing to use these containers for the intended purpose and take care to leave the facility as clean as it was before they used it.

Most persons are becoming increasingly aware of the problems we are creating by pollution of the environment. The University, as a natural resource-oriented institution, has an excellent opportunity to further the cause of public awareness of our environmental problems. A good policy might be to "put our own house in order" and give maximum emphasis to the programs which are designed to further this cause.

Harry M. Ohlendorf

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I feel that the "milk accident" in Sbsa was quite unfortunate and not exemplary of true Aggie behavior. However, I can feel no genuine sympathy for Mr. Kieras because no one is forcing him to wear his hair in such a fashion.

Mr. Kieras made the following statement in his article of December 10: "My appearance is an invitation to share new ideas and is not a justification for a person's contempt." I would like to point out several things to Mr. Kieras. First of all, a person does not need a strange or weird appearance nor does he need to be a non-conformist to bring forth new ideas.

Our country has made a tremendous amount of progress (more than any other country in history) by accepting new ideas and incorporating them into our lives. Many of those new ideas were quite radical at the time and some were quite unpopular, but they were eventually accepted, and no one with long hair or other form of unusual appearance was required to bring these changes about. In fact, if such people had suggested or even supported those ideas, they might never have been accepted. I believe that Mr. Kieras refers to such non-acceptance as "narrow-mindedness." On the contrary, this is common sense.

People usually do not accept the ideas or respect the judgments of people who show no responsibility or maturity. Mr. Kieras has the constitutional right to believe what he wants to believe, but no one has to listen to him if they do not want to. If Mr. Kieras expects to communicate with his so-called "narrow-minded" people (the majority of people in the United States), he will have to conform to their standards. At present, he only alienates them before he even has a chance to express some of his ideas.

So I suggest that if Mr. Kieras wants to have his ideas listened to and accepted; if he wants dignity and respect as a member of this democratic society, then let him show a little maturity and common sense so that people will listen to him. Let him present his ideas in a standard way without such childish gimmicks as his "longer than usual hair."

Stephen Mutschink '72

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Editor: As vice chairman of Political Forum, I helped Monday in the drafting of the committee's letter to The Battalion in answer to Dr. Douglas' letter of December 12. I feel compelled, however, to make a few more comments as an individual student that were not made by the committee in its letter.

Evidently, Political Forum's efforts to balance its programming must have been overlooked by Dr. Douglas. Mrs. Walt Rostow, whose husband has a vested interest in American government, appeared in November. In the spring, Senator Strom Thurmond and Negro Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm should give a fairly well-balanced view of American Politics. Indeed, Political Forum's success is dependent upon its balanced programming.

On a little more abstract level, though, any thoughtful, reflective American will readily admit the advantages of being exposed to ideas with which he is not necessarily in agreement. If our reflective American is right, a dissenting opinion, while hopefully stimulating him to thought, will only result in the strengthening of his opinions. If our reflective American is wrong, it might well serve him to heed the arguments of others. After all, a belief that cannot withstand criticism is not worth keeping.

David Reynolds '71

The Battalion

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PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

Panel 1: "THERE'S 'LOFTY MOUNTAIN' CHARLIE BROWN..."

Panel 2: "THIS WAS A NICE BUS RIDE" "I HEARD THAT KIDS FROM ALL OVER WILL BE HERE TO SKI!"

Panel 3: "WOW! LOOK AT ALL THE CHAIR LIFTS!" "THERE'S THE LODGE... IT LOOKS LIKE A NICE PLACE..."

Panel 4: "I CHECKED WITH THE HEAD BEAGLE, AND HE RECOMMENDED IT VERY HIGHLY..."