

An analysis

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle

# The future of having liquor on campus

By HAYDEN WHITSETT  
Editor

The right to legally have liquor on campus is developing into an issue that may endure for quite awhile on the TAMU campus. It is one that undoubtedly has a large amount of student support and may have just as much opposition from the administration.

The students of TAMU are not the only ones concerned with having booze on their campus. Other universities in Texas are raising the issue and one, the University of Houston, has already allowed liquor on campus.

UH is the first state school to allow liquor on campus. Their policy contains three main points:

- 1) Alcoholic beverages can be consumed on campus as long as persons are not in violation of state laws.
- 2) Beer can be sold only in the University Center, again under state laws.
- 3) The university will take no responsibility for those people who violate state laws.

University of Houston students argued that no person should be abridged his right to drink under the jurisdiction of state laws just because he is a university student.

In each of the points used in

the UH policy, the state law clause appears every time. Aside from the standard applicable laws such as minor in possession of alcoholic beverages and drunk in a public place, there is another that could mean the end of liquor on any campus in the state.

This is Article 666-25a of Vernon's Texas Penal Code which permits a city or county to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages within 300 feet of a public school.

Though this law is not now being used by the City of College Station or Brazos County in respect to A&M it could conceivably be enforced.

Too, according to Crawford Martin, Attorney General of Texas, the University of Houston is a public school. To quote from him:

"In view of the primary object of the Liquor Control Act, and considering the consequences of a contrary construction, it is reasonable to conclude that the Legislature intended the words 'public schools' to encompass all public schools, of all educational levels; therefore, it is our opinion that the University of Houston is a 'public school' within contemplation of Article 666-25a. If tax supported universities and colleges are not to be deemed 'public schools' as herein con-

sidered, the Texas Legislature is the proper body to make such a provision."

So where does that leave A&M? Possibly in the lurch. It would seem that if liquor were to be prohibited within 300 feet of a public school then the liquor would certainly be prohibited within the school, even if the law doesn't say that.

The true settlement to this facet of the booze on campus problem must come from outside the university either in a ruling by Martin or a court ruling.

Assuming that it is legal for liquor to be on campus, what are the chances for students getting the Board of Directors to allow it?

Without a poll of the board it is impossible to answer this question. Getting a yes or no answer from each member of the board would probably prove impossible, but knowing the board's past behavior and some of their current thoughts we can come up with a likely solution.

No. If it were to be at all possible to convince the board of changing this rule there would have to be used some of the best proofs and firmest support of university officials in high places.

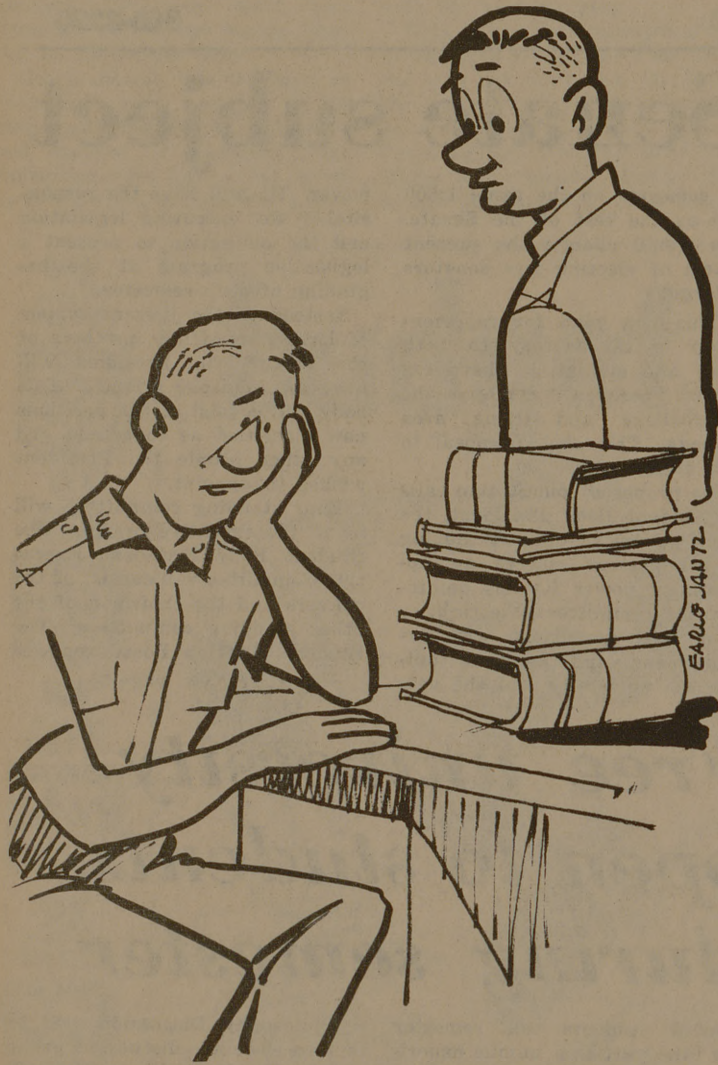
The proof would be hard to come by. The UH policy has not

been in existence long enough for the board to consider it as a valid example. Also there is no proof that having liquor on campus will not lead to more violations, not that any laws are now strictly enforced anyway.

Don't count on a ny support from higher up either. President Jack K. Williams has already said that he will not support such a policy, and where Williams goes, the rest of the uni-

versity is sure to follow. If the policy were to be part of the regulations it would not be too soon. Probably only changes of mind the board would make on a matter like this would also be on a one-to-one basis with changes in the policy on the board.

So when will you be able to keep beer in your newly acquired refrigerator? When you get off campus.



"I don't think it's possible to get this much in my head in one semester!"

## The student opinion

The just released Student Senate Opinion Poll, after more than a month of tabulation, has actually done nothing more than to reinforce most previously held ideas.

The reason for this lies in the replies and in the nature of the opinion poll.

We have learned that students still favor the Bonfire, still want the laundry and think that the Aggie Sweetheart should be selected from A&M coeds only.

Of course one could say that such revelations come as a surprise, but not if time is taken to study the campus even superficially. Asking these questions does serve a purpose in making as sure as possible just what the students think, but when only one third of the students answered the poll, that becomes somewhat unreliable too.

The only two questions that an answer could not easily be gaged is that of the War Hymn and the credit union. In these cases the opinion poll fulfilled its purpose.

The remaining questions shouldn't have been asked to begin with. A shuttle bus services is already being planned, there is to be a new university health center, and a phone call to The Battalion editor would have informed the compilers that the "Batt" editors are not going to give up their weekend to produce a Monday paper unless they get a pay raise.

The next time such an opinion poll is run, more thought should be given to the questions. There are much better questions that time and money could be spent on.

## That page five ad

If you haven't reached page five yet, when you do you will notice a letter, run as an advertisement, from the A&M band.

The letter should be read for it is a reply to a column about the band that ran in the sports section.

The purpose of this editorial is to make clear that the letter is being run this way at Col. E. V. Adams' wish and not in the regular letters to the editor column. The Battalion did not refuse to print the letter, we did refuse to print the letter in its full length.

We did this because the letter is much longer than our specified length, so long in fact that it would have taken up much of this page to run it. This is the only reason it is being run as it is.

# 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 at a university and community newspaper.

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, *The Battalion*, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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## North Viets rap peace plan

(Continued from page 1)

Thieu and refused to give up its commitment to the latter. On the contrary, it sought by every means to impose on the South Vietnamese people the U. S.-created Saigon puppet regime, its so-called "constitution" and its 'laws'.

The Viet Cong delegation in Paris said Nixon's speech was "filled with electoral propaganda." The Viet Cong added

A spokesman for the Cambodian government, which receives U. S. aid in battling the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong, said Cambodia welcomed Nixon's proposals, particularly the provision for guarantees for Laos and Cambodia.

The spokesman added that there could be no peace in Cambodia until 65,000 to 70,000 enemy troops withdrew from Cambodia, emphasizing: "Otherwise, there might be peace in Vietnam but not in the rest of Indochina."

Pote Sarasin, a senior member of Thailand's ruling national executive council noted that Nixon's plans "seem to be a reasonable resolution to end the conflict."

Since Thailand is plagued by Communist insurgents, Pote said that any cease-fire must be linked to guarantees of "non-interference in the internal affairs of all southeast Asian countries."

in a statement: "It sought on one hand to conceal the policy of prolongation and extension of the war of aggression followed by his administration, and on the other hand to continue to avoid a serious response to the legitimate demands of the South Vietnamese people."

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## Cotton named Welch prof

Dr. F. Albert Cotton has joined the A&M faculty as the Robert A. Welch Professor of Chemistry, announced TAMU President Jack K. Williams.

The National Academy of Sciences member previously taught and conducted research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for 17 years.

Dr. Williams noted the new Robert A. Welch professorship honors the Robert A. Welch Foundation of Houston. The foundation, of which the late W. T. Doherty was president at the time the professorship was established, has supported TAMU research programs with grants totaling more than \$5 million since 1956.

Dr. A. E. Martell, head of TAMU's Chemistry Department, said Dr. Cotton will continue to pursue research in inorganic and biological chemistry, with particular emphasis on preparative and structural organometallic chemistry, metal-metal bonding, fluxional molecules and protein crystallography.

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By  
**FEDERICO FELLINI**

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### FRIDAY, JANUARY 28TH

Students With Activity Cards	\$3.50 (Season Ticket)
All Others	\$5.50 (Season Ticket)
Admission At Door	\$1.00

**PEANUTS**

By Charles M. Schulz

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