

Listen up

Analysis of Rice students given

Editor:
This short story about Rice University appeared in a local paper last year after the A&M game against Rice. It was written by Bill Krueger (brother of Rolf & Charlie Krueger) and was in the Business Digest & Court Review.

"Rice University at one time was one of the most distinguished universities in the South. In fact, it was regarded highly among the Ivy League schools. It produced scholars and leaders.

"In those days the Rice students had a quiet smugness about them, a refined arrogance. But we could forgive them for this. They were good students and their university was first rate. And in constant social contact, they would usually melt into rather decent 'chaps.' But it seems that this has been changing.

"In the late 50's and early 60's these changes began. It may have started with the ascendancy of the University of Houston. During this period the students seemed to lose their grip. They continued to act superior, but they really weren't sure. And as time wore on there were occurrences both academically and socially (sports) that confirmed these doubts. And most likely during this period the quality of the student body began to drop.

"As it developed, this degeneration forced a second rate student body to assume the role of first rate. And you know the answer to that. The age old strategy that if you are ridiculous, take the eyes off yourself by making someone else look ridiculous. So, most probably, with this type of thinking they ridiculed the time honored traditions of Texas A&M.

"I'm sure that what these students did doesn't reflect the thinking of the entire student body and alumni. There is surely a Rice graduate or student who deplors such conduct. If you find him, let me know.

"It is a shame—I just wish that more of their mothers and fathers could have afforded a legal marriage."

Jack Adams '76

strained from trying to attack members of the MOB. But what can one expect when traditions that many men have gone to their graves believing in are mocked and ridiculed? If this incident had taken place fifty, or even twenty-five, years ago, the Rice University campus would no doubt have undergone a drastic change—Aggie style.

But times have changed, and as Cadet Officers of the Day for that game last year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the fans and Aggie supporters for seeing through their anger and showing good judgment in the face of insults and bad taste. It would have been so easy for the student body to pour out of Rice Stadium and attack the MOB last year. But what would have been accomplished? Nothing, except the satisfaction of having physically beaten the hell out of Rice, not to mention the probation which the Southwest Conference would probably have levied on A&M.

Hopefully, this weekend will not be a repeat of what happened in Houston a year ago. But if such an incident should unfortunately occur, we sincerely hope the fans will once again show their good judgment and restraint, and stay in the stands despite what may be happening on the field.

So Saturday afternoon, let's all be in those stands and watch that Fightin' Texas Aggie Football team—not the student body—beat the hell outa Rice!

Charlie Meyer '74
Ken "Skins" Walters '74
Mark DuLaney '74
Doug Cooke '74

Ags' conduct

Editor:
I'm sure that most Aggies who saw last year's Rice football game are looking forward to this Saturday with great enthusiasm and a burning desire to whip their little asses.

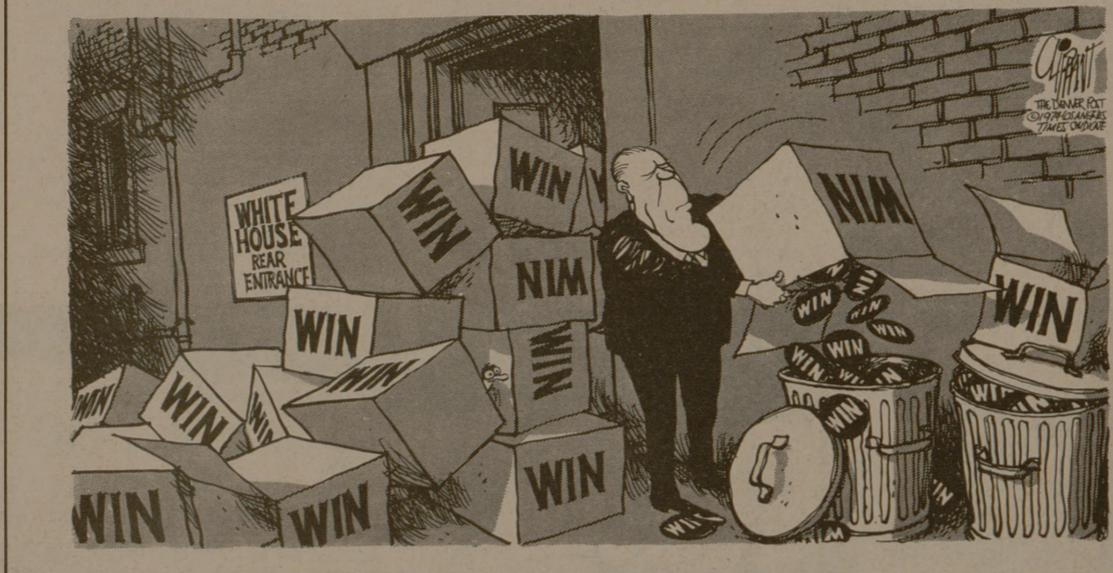
But some Ags I've talked to have the wrong ideas of how to get back at Hootie Owl High. They talk of fights, painting up their campus and generally harassing Rice players and fans.

All this will do is fire Rice up and make us look like the troublemakers and poor sports. (It could also put us on probation, effective immediately, and kill our bowl chance.)

I think we should psyche them out. When they run out to warm up, everyone in the stands should keep perfectly quiet. Then, when the Ags run out, everybody go bananas hollering for them.

But even if you hate that idea, don't boo or start trouble. That's just the excuse they want to make us look bad.

Hank Wahrmond '74



Hats off again

Editor:
This is in response to Johnnie B. Linn III's letter of Nov. 12. It seemed that neglected young man deserved some attention.

First, Mr. Linn bestowed on us a little jewel as to why taking hats off was a poor way of expressing respect. Going further he stated that true respect "should never need to be asked for." Now, Mr. Linn, if you think back to the first time you went into a church with a hat on, you may remember that someone kindly asked you to remove your hat or perhaps you feel God does not deserve to be revered either.

The argument that the Aggies who died in World War II cannot ask for respect themselves is obvious enough. I think they have earned it, so did the MSC Council and the Student Senate. I mean those men did die so that I could freely write a letter expressing ideas and your ignorance—but that's all right. That's how we learn.

Mr. Linn also expounded on the "inappropriateness of the MSC as a memorial." Personally, if I could ever do something honorable enough to deserve respect, like laying down my life for a friend, I would prefer to have something dedicated to me that I know people would benefit from and enjoy. To me a "Memorial" Student Center seems ever so appropriate. Just recently a park was dedicated to Lyndon Johnson emphasizing the trend of utilitarian memorials. It just happens that A&M officials and Students recognized this approach of pragmatic reverence well ahead of their time.

The comment that "living things

such as trees or grass ... ought not to be made a memorial" is interesting also. My regret is that Mr. Linn couldn't have vocalized his views to Lincoln before his Gettysburg Address which memorialized that battleground with its grass and trees.

Louie Gohmert '75

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TWENTY-SIX INCHES SIR!

ODs speak

Editor:
It doesn't take long for one to remember the disgusting halftime performance put on by the Rice band, otherwise known as the MOB, at last year's game in Houston. The newspapers were filled with editorials for weeks following the game. Some were pro Rice, others pro A&M.

What failed to be mentioned in all those editorials, however, was the meritorious conduct displayed by the A&M fans. Granted, everyone was shocked and angered by the performance. In fact, a few spectators had to be physically re-

The Battalion

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