

- (a) I think he's serious about these things.
- (b) And he said there's plenty more where these came from.
- (c) Said he got them at a going out of business sale in LaGrange.
- (d) You haven't seen anything yet.
- (e) . . . and Goodwill won't take them either.
- (f) Submit your choice to Room 216, Reed McDonald Building. Entries will be published later.

Editorial

TAMU's living room: a collision of cultures

If you have a few minutes, close your eyes and imagine a park bench, covered with brown and white spotted cowhide upholstery and imagine the legs of that bench shaped as brass tree limbs with hooves. Place 22 of these benches along a hallway that would look like Grand Central Station except that one side of the corridor is a bunker-like wall with delicately etched glass. Behind the glass is a cafeteria with decorative cream bathroom tile accented by bold colored sunburst patterns.

Now open your eyes and go to the Memorial Student Center. Voila! You have envisioned the living room of the campus—a la William Pahlmann.

The TAMU Board of Directors hired Pahlmann in late 1971 for a two-year stint as a sort of curator for the University Center. He is paid \$10,000 per month. And as he travels the world in his interior design business, he ferrets out priceless treasures for exhibition at A&M.

Travel and variety are essential to the Pahlmann design. He uses South American cowhide to reflect the Southwest cow college atmosphere of Aggieland. He uses an etching firm in the Bronx to represent Texas wildflowers. He seems to know no bounds of distance or expense. For he transcends the sphere of a Fifth Avenue man of the world—he is a Fifth Avenue man of all worlds. He gathers relics of many eras and motifs: Southwest American, Classical Roman, Persian, Classical Greek, Aztec, Near Eastern, Early American, Romantic and Early Reveille all have a niche in the Pahlmann scheme.

His designs indicate that he does not envelop himself in the vanity of many so called artists. He takes a lighthearted approach to design. He is the master of the startling combination. He merges his style of varied design with his unique sense of comedy and creates a one man school of art—The School of the Eclectic Absurd. Only the TAMU Board of Directors could recognize such genius.

After all, Pahlmann is no dark horse to members of the board. He furnished the home of at least one former board member and he designed the interior of one room in the house of President Jack K. Williams. They seem to admire Pahlmann's work. They have paid him \$362,000 since he was hired three years ago (including expenses). And Tuesday they will consider a recommendation to extend his contract for another three and one half months for \$40,000 (not including expenses).

Pahlmann says he came here to bring sophistication to the prairie. He has proven beyond a doubt his determination to achieve this goal. And the Board of Directors has proven beyond a doubt that they are backing him in his efforts. Vice President Alvin R. Lueddecke predicts that the Pahlmann projects will cost a total of \$3.3 million. The work is almost complete. Anyone doubting the judgment of William Pahlmann and the Board of Directors in their planning and decoration of the MSC can only close their eyes and imagine the living room of campus without bunker walls and cowhide benches.

The Battalion

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Listen up Prayers take from personal religions, faith

Editor:
 In regard to the Student Senate Resolution recommending the change of public prayers at TAMU to a moment of silent meditation, I feel that some comments being made on this matter are uncalled for and false. Those people who call this a "Communist Plot", and that it is "an attempt to end religion on this campus". It is not. It is merely an effort to allow each student to pray in his own way. Why should the basic right of free self-expression be denied to anyone?

There are people on this campus who feel that the present prayers—transmitting a one-sect view of religion—does in fact directly attack their religious beliefs. A person's religious faith is personal, and when I want to relate my faith to God, I would like to do it in my own way with my own thoughts and prayer rather than being subjected to a prayer with which my faith might conflict. Among those most concerned are many students who are members of religious minorities on the Texas A&M University campus. These people have a right to pray in their own manner rather than have a prayer forced upon them that is contrary to their faith and their constitutional guarantee of religious freedom.

In bringing about this change TAMU would not end religion on campus but would in fact strengthen it through each individual suddenly finding himself relating to his faith in a deeper and more meaningful way. Everyone's faith is important to him and I therefore charge the Student Senate to take the responsibility to change the policy in order to allow religious freedom and make our campus a place where there is equal rights for all.

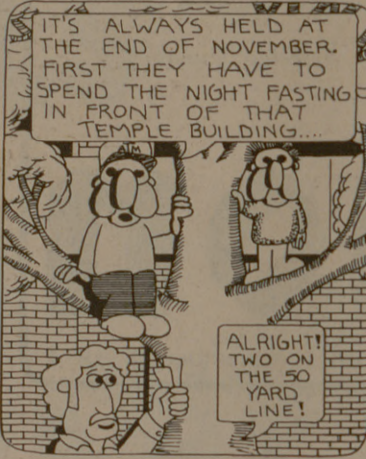
Mark A Smith '77

Thanks given

Editor:
 The Class of '77 wishes to extend its gratitude for your participation in the success of our 50's dance. The outcome of the dance reflects the more than adequate promotion that your articles entailed.

We also wish to thank you for providing a photographer at the dance. Finally, we wish to express our desire for a working relationship with you and your staff in the future. Once again, the Class of '77 and I thank you.

Kelly DeWitt
 President
 Class of '77



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