

The first 100 years

Looking at the old school rules

This is a reprint of the second in a series of articles begun in The Battalion last April. The column will continue throughout this year.—Ed.

By DON MIDDLETON
When we last left them, the first Board of Directors had just set the opening date for the new college. Since all the directors were asked to attend the ceremony, Governor Coke seized the opportunity to hold the third meeting of the Board.

If Coke expected better attendance due to the occasion, he was disappointed. This time speaker Bonner was absent, but previously unheard from director, Charles De Morse made a quorum for the meeting.

The Board waded through tons of financial business and the four-day affair contained little of lasting historical interest, with the exception of one item of business—the establishment of the Laws governing the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, affectionately known in our day and time as the University Rules and Regulations.

In drawing up the rules, the Board first turned its attention to

admission standards. State law decreed that no applicant for admission would be considered unless he was "of the white race." (Earlier that year, on August 14, the legislature passed a bill establishing a separate college for blacks.)

It was also decided that all applicants be at least 14 years old and "satisfactory testimonials of good moral character" would be required.

Upon acceptance, each student was required to bring with him to the college, among other necessities, seven shirts, seven pairs of socks, seven collars and four pairs of drawers (hmmmm, only four?). Students were also to bring enough money to cover expenses for the term, and a book in which to keep a record of all purchases—to be examined periodically by the President. Can you imagine Jack Williams going through 20,000 overdrawn checkbooks?

The Board laid down a lengthy set of statutes governing curriculum and examinations as well as discipline procedures for violators. Some of the measures were fairly stringent by today's standards.

For example, the policy towards missed exams reads—"Students absenting themselves from any exercises of examination without a satisfactory excuse, shall cease to be members of the college." Period. No exceptions. Seems like a good way to encourage attendance.

The conduct of students was of paramount importance to the school administrators. The wild-west town of Bryan with its saloons and dancing halls was thought to be enough of a negative influence that the Board set down the following rules:

No student shall:

— Drink or have in their possession wine, porter, or any spirituous or intoxicating liquors, brandied fruits, or viands.

— Go to places where such items are served.

— Visit a public hotel without first receiving permission from the President.

— Play cards, or any other game of chance.

— Cook food or provide entertainment in dormitory rooms.

— Keep a waiter, horse, or dog.

— Send or accept a challenge of a duel, or be the bearer of such a challenge.

And the list goes on and on. The thought of such a spartan existence is enough to make any good Ag shiver. Imagine not being able to keep a waiter.

As for the military aspect of college life, the orders are frighteningly familiar, from Call to Quarters and noiseless study hours beginning thirty minutes after the evening meal to inspections, drills and guard duty.

The cadets were required to practice infantry drill every day, except Saturday and Sunday, from the 1st of March to the 1st of December (while the college was in session) and to be present every Sunday morning for inspection on the main drill field, weather conditions permitting.

Conduct in the mess hall was also strictly defined. Each table had a commanding officer whose duty it was to see that the mess hall regulations were obeyed and to appoint a carver for the table. Loud talking while at the table was prohibited, the carver being the only person allowed to call the waiters.

At no time, in the dining hall or elsewhere on campus, was a cadet allowed to use vulgar language or to

make suggestive gestures. Don't talk to me about Old Army.

Times may change but mess hall food doesn't. One of the articles governing dining hall conduct stated that "if any student shall consider any article of the fare provided at the table to be tainted or otherwise unsuitable for use, he may report the fact to the superintendent of the hall, who shall communicate the report to the Commandant of Cadets."

One final item of interest. Quote—"No student shall throw water from any room in the buildings into the hall, or into the galleries, or spit on the floor, or sit in the windows. No object of any kind shall be thrown from windows, doors, galleries, or halls, or at the buildings." Unquote. Wateriiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiight!

Schedules

- (From page 4)
- Oct 29 Spiral Staircase
 - Oct 31 Portrait of Jenny
 - Nov 1 Dunwich Horror
 - Nov 1 Rosemary's Baby
 - Nov 3 Animal Crackers
 - Nov 3 Genesis
 - Nov 6 Jason and the Argonauts
 - Nov 8 Jonathan Livingston Seagull
 - Nov 10 Viridiana
 - Nov 12 All the Kings Men
 - Nov 13 Slaughter House Five
 - Nov 14.15 A Touch of Glass
 - Nov 18 Grand Illusion
 - Nov 20 Destroy All Monsters
 - Nov 21.22 Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid
 - Dec 4 This Island Earth
 - Dec 5.6 The Longest Yard
 - Dec 11 Moon Zero Two
 - Dec 13 Three Musketeers
 - Feb 13.14 Dr. Zhivago
 - Feb 20.21 Murder on the Orient Express
 - Feb 27.28 Chinatown
 - April 9.10 Jesus Christ Superstar
- + midnight movies
- Movie tickets may be purchased prior to performances.
- Tickets are generally \$1.
- Movies are usually shown in the Rudder Auditorium at 8 p.m.

- Live Performances**
- Sept 12 Blood, Sweat and Tears (Town Hall)
 - Sept 23 Preservation Hall Jazz Band (Variety)
 - Sept 26 Hues Corporation (Town Hall)
 - Sept 29.30 Robert De Gaetano (Young Artists)
 - Oct 20 The Royal Shakespeare Company (Variety)
 - Oct 24 Johnny Rodriguez
 - Oct 24 Asleep At The Wheel (Special Attraction)
 - Nov 4 the Guarneri Quartet (Special Attraction)
 - Nov 7 Kraftwerk (Town Hall)
 - Nov 11 The Pennsylvania Ballet (OPAS)
 - Nov 18 University Symphonic Band (Young Artists)
 - Nov 20 Marilyn Horne (OPAS)
 - Nov 26 To Be Announced (Special Attraction)
 - Jan 28.29 Martin Best (Young Artists)
 - Jan 30 Marcel Marceau (Special Attraction)
 - Feb 2 The Houston Symphony
 - Feb 5 The Singing Cadets (OPAS)
 - Feb 5 Up With People (Variety)
 - Feb 16 '1776' (Variety)
 - Feb 18 Rob Inglis
 - March 2 Mazowsze Polish Song and Dance Company (OPAS)

- March 5 To Be Announced (Town Hall)
 - March 9 Vladimir Ashkenazy (OPAS)
 - March 30 Wind Ensemble (Young Artists)
 - April 17 To Be Announced (Town Hall)
 - April 28 The Cleveland Orchestra (OPAS)
- Performances listed as Town Hall or Special Attractions are free to students with activity cards, but tickets must be picked up prior to performances. Tickets can be obtained at the MSC Box Office, first floor Rudder Tower.
- Special Events**
- Nov 26 Bonfire
 - Dec 20-Jan 19 Christmas Break
 - Jan 24 Junior Ball
 - Jan 31 Freshman Ball
 - Feb 28 Sophomore Ball
 - Feb 5.6 Military Weekend
 - March 13-23 Spring Break
 - March 29-April 1 International Student Week
 - April 5-11 Black Experience IV
 - April 16,17 RHA Weekend
 - April 17 Parent's Day
 - May 1 Ring Dance
 - May 8 Boot Dance
- Aggie Player Performances**
- Sept 3-6 You're A Good Man Charlie Brown
 - Oct 2-4 Scratch
 - Nov 13-15 Petrified Forest
 - Nov 19-22 Stavits Festival
 - Feb 25-28, March 3-6 Rob Inglis
 - March 3-6 Mazowsze Polish Song and Dance Company (OPAS)
 - April 1-3 Americana Children's Show

- April 12-17 Americana Musical
- For information on audition times or performances call 845-2621.
- Food**
- Places To Eat**
- MSC Snack Bar (main floor) 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily
 - MSC Cafeteria (main floor) 11 a.m.-1.30 p.m., 4.30-7 p.m. daily
 - Tower Sandwiches (top floor) 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (\$1.50)
 - Commons Snack Bar 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily
 - Golf Shop Snack Shop 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily
 - Tower Dining Lanches Only 11 a.m.-1.30 p.m. (\$2.50) Mon-Fri
 - Buffet 11 a.m.-1.30 p.m. (\$3) Sun
 - MSC Snack Bar (basement) 8 a.m.-10.45 p.m. Mon-Thurs
 - 8 a.m.-11.30 p.m. Fri
 - 11 a.m.-11.30 p.m. Sat
 - 1-10.45 p.m. Sun
- Sbisa and Commons
- 6.30-10.30 a.m. Breakfast (\$1.35) daily
 - 10.30 a.m.-2.15 p.m. Dinner (\$2.20) daily
 - 4.30-6.30 p.m. Supper (\$2.45) daily
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- Compiled by Mary Russo

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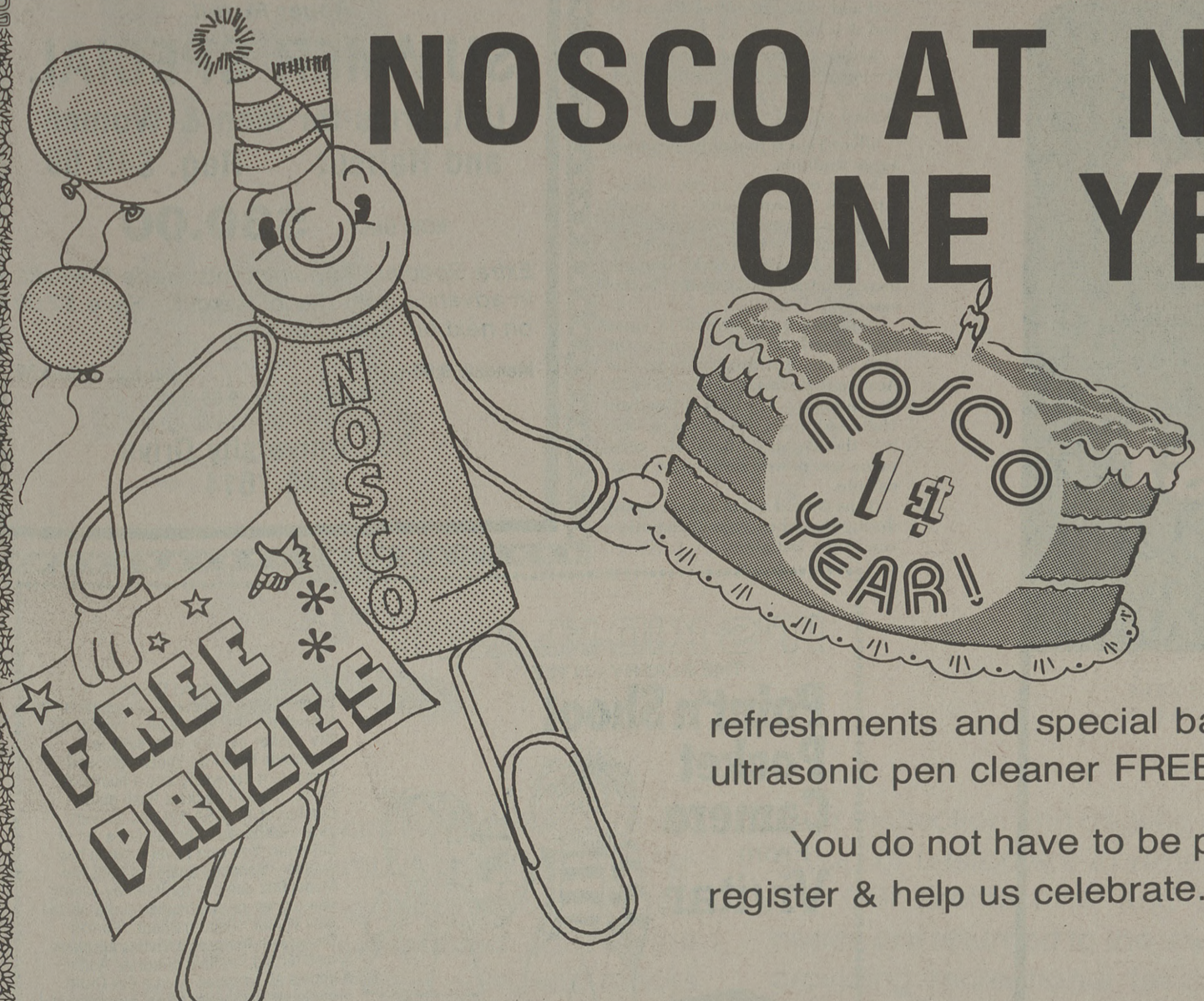


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