

'No girls to date' fails as excuse

By DOUG KIRK
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Q. How does a guy go about getting a date around here?

A. In light of the ratio of males to females it would seem only logical that for a substantial percentage of A&M males, landing a date with an Aggie Coed would be a difficult task.

The situation is not as logical as it may seem. It should not surprise anyone that there are a significant number of girls without dates when concerts and football games roll around.

There are no statistics to point to, but a stroll through one of the female dorms during a concert or football game will reveal there are many girls who would like to go to such events, but were never asked. The problem then, is not based on the ratio of males to females as many people believe. Instead, it appears that the difficulty in getting dates exists within the individuals who indicate they can't get a date.

Dr. Donald J. Woods of the A&M psychology department gave his opinion with regard to this question. "Dating behavior is a skill," said Woods, "that doesn't come natural to anyone."

"Rather, most of us have to learn how to handle interpersonal relationships. Our culture tends to reinforce a romanticized notion of a

'beautiful relationship' without illustrating the steps required to build the foundation for such a relationship."

Dr. Woods indicated that behaving confidently is an important initial step in solving the dating problem. A person must be aware of the self-fulfilling prophecy, that is, the psychological phenomenon that one tends to see what he wants to see. If an individual acts as though nothing good can ever come from an interpersonal relationship, then the likelihood of developing a desirable interaction is reduced.

"We should look at our approach," Woods said. "We should make sure that we don't give off any cues that we're really not worth going out with." A prospective date

can detect these factors and is prone to turn down a date offer as a consequence. "Psychological training (not psychotherapy) may be of use in teaching a person the skill of presenting himself with appropriate confidence," Woods said.

It is also important to check the tendency to overemphasize a developing relation. "Some people tend to set their expectations too high, too soon; to let their imaginations run away with them." What is necessary, Woods remarked, is to "focus on here and now, the immediate circumstances." In order to build confidence, an individual ought to start small and work up. Begin by asking the girl if she is willing to go get a coke or something, perhaps a short walk on a week

night instead of asking if she is free for the Texas game. This way, the relationship can develop gradually.

Woods noted that "Inhibited people often spend more time fantasizing about a possible relationship than they do thinking realistically." While psychologists recognize that day-dreaming has many adaptive consequences, when attempting to develop a new skill, sometimes the day-dreams themselves can get in the way of the development of such skills.

A stepwise progression is much better than an unrealistic fantasy that can never be realized. Before a relationship can progress to interpersonal proportions, someone has to first say, "hello."



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Informal luncheons for students, faculty

A series of informal luncheons attended by various students and faculty members are being organized by Dr. John Koldus, vice-president for student services.

Koldus said he invites one faculty member from each college to attend the bi-weekly get-togethers.

Koldus chooses 10 students whom the bi-weekly get-togethers.

Koldus chooses 10 students whom he has recently met or students in "leadership positions."

"The purpose is to get our stu-

dents and faculty better acquainted. The only rule as such is that no one sits by anyone he knows."

The first of the Thursday meetings was held Nov. 6. Koldus termed the meeting a complete success.

"We began at 12 and at 2 we had to break things up. I spoke to those participating and they all seemed to enjoy it," said Koldus. "There's no set program. Everyone can talk about whatever is on his mind. It's really just an open forum."

The lunch is served in Room 203 of the MSC and usually consists of soup and sandwiches. Koldus said the money to pay for the lunches comes from the Former Students Association account.

New delay on Carrillo?

Associated Press
AUSTIN — The Senate impeachment trial of suspended State District Court Judge O. P. Carrillo begins for the third time today, but chances are it will be postponed again.

In Corpus Christi Monday, lawyers presented concluding arguments in the hearing on Carrillo's motion for a new trial on federal income tax charges. U.S. District Court Judge Owen D. Cox postponed the hearing until 2 p.m. next Monday, and indicated he would rule on the motion for a new trial at that time.

Also pending is an incomplete hearing by the Texas Judicial Qualifications Commission.

The House of Representatives Aug. 6 voted a 10-count impeachment resolution against Carrillo. Carrillo, 51, was suspended from office pending a Senate trial on the impeachment charges. He was accused of using Duval County money to buy groceries; of using county workers and equipment at his ranch and store for private gain; of refusing to disqualify himself in legal matters in which he had a personal interest, and of trying to dominate the grand jury and Benavides school board.

Education costs need curtailment

Associated Press
SAN ANTONIO — Texans must "crack the whip" on ever increasing education costs, state Sen. Peyton McKnight, D-Tyler, said Monday.

"It is obvious to me that no amount of trimming and economizing in other areas of the state spending is going to save us from severely higher taxes if we do not face up to the problem of spending in the education system," he said.

McKnight made the remarks to the 10th Annual Governor's Conference on Inter-governmental Relations and Regional Planning, a meeting of state, regional and local government leaders.

Rising teacher salaries and decreasing ratios of students per teacher have failed to give better education, the senator said.

"Now we are told by the education lobby: 'Give us more money and we will give you better quality,'" McKnight said. "It's time for us to say, 'Prove it. Give us some facts to back up your claim!'"

The senator said that despite ever

increasing education costs, a federally-funded study by the University of Texas showed that one out of each five American adults lacks "the basic know how to function effectively in a complex society."

He said also that the College Entrance Examination Board recently announced that its scholastic aptitude test scores had dropped drastically in the past 12 years.

"It might be a good idea for us to relate that 12-year period of decline in these test scores back to our 10 or 12 years of dramatic increases in education spending in Texas," McKnight added.

He said a lid should be spent on state education spending — which accounts for about 50 per cent of the state's total spending — until studies could be made on Texas education needs.

McKnight is a member of the Joint Advisory Committee on Governmental Operation which is charged with finding ways of economizing state government.

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MEETINGS SCHEDULED
The A&M Wheelmen will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 502 in Rudder Tower. The meeting is to elect officers.
The Irving HTC will meet Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Room 140 MSC.
The Math Club will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Lounge of the Harrington Building. Dr. Gusemann will speak on research at NASA.
The Microbiology Society will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 105 in BSBE.
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 203 in the Zachry Engineering Center.
The Agriculture Economics Club will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 110 in the Plant Science Building.
The University Symphonic Band will meet Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Rudder Theatre.
The Freshman Class will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 701 in Rudder Tower.
The Biomedical Science Association will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 201 in the Veterinary Medical Science Building. The 1975-76 officers will be elected.

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