

# Students dislike small front page print

By **ROXIE HEARN**  
Assistant Editor

The Battalion is experimenting with its front page and is discovering one thing: Students don't like small print. In all four of last week's papers the size of the type on page one was reduced by about 25 per cent. The reduction is an attempt to get more news on the page, but students say

the size discourages them from reading any of it.

The type size is going to remain small for at least these last two issues before Thanksgiving. However more experimenting will begin in December to find a larger, more suitable size.

College Station defeated a school bond issue last week, with only 11.7 per cent of the voters turning out.

The Battalion could have increased that percentage quite a bit, but instead it waited until the last minute to inform readers about the use, plans or need for the bond issue.

The story appeared in Tuesday's paper, which hit the newsstands only four hours before the polls closed.

On the campus side, how many other people wonder what hap-

## Ombudsman

pened to the administration series? It didn't end, it just stopped. Believe it or not, (according to the campus editor) it was because the reporters didn't like the comments made about it in the Ombudsman's

column. Don't ask me how they got away with that one, because I don't know.

One article that received several comments was the football-ticket debate story. Students said they began reading the story to get the pros and cons presented at the debate, but the whole story concerned the small turnout; not a word from

either side of the debate. A couple of other mistakes made along the way: The Nov. 11 picture of the two cadets putting out Main Drive's flags was published with an incorrect identification. It was Kyle Riddle, not Alex Zamarripa, helping with the task.

An English teacher informed us that the caption of a picture on Page

3 of Tuesday's paper also was incorrect. The object Company R-1 relayed to Rice Stadium was a "guidon," not a "guide-on."

This week The Battalion also received a request for the return of the "weather box." Beginning today, the weather outlook should appear somewhere on the front page every day.

## A fable

# Who will gain control of sacred Cotton Patch?

By **WILLIAM G. HUGHEN**

The animals of S. W. Confer's field lived in a fragile detente. The inhabitants of this field were a Longhorn Steer, a black Stallion, a Pig, an Owl, a Mustang, a Bear, a Horned Frog, and a Collie. In the center of their field, a place of honor to each one of them, was a magnificent Cotton Patch. The Longhorn was the self-appointed guardian of this Patch and he chased away any of the other creatures who dared to come near it.

The black Stallion approached the Steer to discuss the sanctity of the Patch and its relationship to the faltering detente throughout the field. But the Steer interpreted this as a threat to his domain and charged the startled horse. Without another word spoken, the Steer's long, sharp horns pierced the horse's side. The Stallion staggered away to his home to die. The other animals knew this was only the first of such incidents that had been brewing for a long time.

The Hog was the next to come forward to discuss the situation that had arisen. He was no closer than fifty feet from the Patch when the Steer charged. The Razorback stood his ground, but was no challenge to the Steer, who trampled him into the turf. The Owl, who considered himself wise but not strong enough

to defend himself against the other animals, left the field after observing this episode.

The maverick was now on a full rampage; any of the animals could fall prey on their homelands or his. Such was the fate of the Mustang. The pony kept to himself most of the time and never bothered anyone. As he was grazing in his own section of the field, the Longhorn attacked him. The Mustang fought back with defiance never expected of him. In the end, though, the pony fell, knowing he had done his best to stop the Longhorn Steer.

The Bear felt he was the only one left to take over the Cotton Patch. He had done it once before and was confident he could do it again, overconfident, in fact. The Steer and the Bruin fought it out in an impressive battle. But the Bear, who seemed to be much weaker than in previous years, could not muster the strength to overcome the Longhorn, and was left to hobble back to his home, suffering mostly from the agony and shame of defeat.

The Frog had come out to watch the fracas. He felt relatively safe hiding down in the grass, but the Longhorn spotted him with his keen eye, and crushed him with one step.

The only challenger left was the Collie. She had seen the others fall and had learned from their mis-

takes. She was superior to the Longhorn in everything but size, and could use her intelligence to minimize the Longhorn's strength. She planned her assault and waited for the right moment.

The evening before Thanksgiving, a large fire began burning in the field. The Collie found warmth and comfort from the flames, but the Steer was afraid of the fire. The fire instilled spirit into the Collie, but fear in the heart of the Longhorn. Each animal knew that the battle would come soon.

The day after Thanksgiving the two warily approached each other. The Longhorn charged, but the Collie dodged. She darted about the Steer, nipping his legs and hide. The Longhorn could not do any damage to the Collie, no matter how hard he tried. The Collie made several lunges at the Steer's throat and brought the large beast to the ground with a thud that reverberated across the land. The Steer made several attempts to get back on his feet, but the Collie held him down. The Longhorn drew his final breath and died.

The Collie looked upon the carcass before her and was filled with pride. She had done what so many others could not. Her reward, undisputed leadership of the Cotton Patch, stood waiting for the Collie to come claim her victory.

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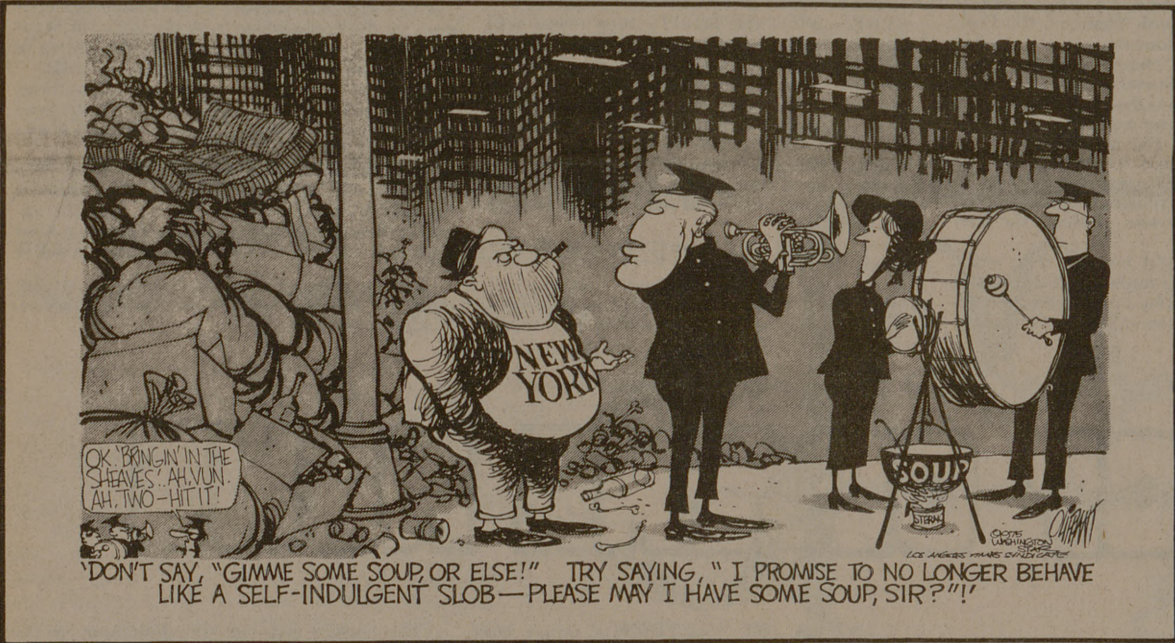
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# Happy Thanksgiving!

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