

Editorials

Ban those bottles!

In recent years, great amounts of money have been spent in the name of beautifying the Texas A&M campus. In direct contrast to these efforts though, the administration has continued to allow the use of throw-away bottles on campus. The continued use of disposable bottles and cans on campus can only be termed as wasteful and shortsighted.

Obviously someone in Washington has had the sense to foresee an America of garbage dumps, and currently a program is under way to require a deposit on soft drink bottles and cans sold at federal facilities. The Environmental Protection Agency has established the program (effective in Sept. 1977) which will require a five cent deposit on all bottles and cans sold at these facilities.

A&M should certainly take this cue from the federal government and ban anything other than returnable bottles or all-aluminum cans from campus. Aside from the obvious benefits of less litter and overflowing trash cans, A&M would be contributing to a much needed national conservation effort.

Implementation of the program by the administration would be a simple matter of allowing nothing but returnable bottles and recyclable cans in vending machines and food service facilities. In addition to this, bottle racks and can receptacles, properly labeled, could be located next to the vending machines and trash containers.

Funds for the program would be readily attainable. For every sale of a twenty-five cent soda or twenty cent food item from a vending machine on campus, 6.25 or four cents respectively, goes into a special fund for the President of the University to spend at his discretion. What better use could he have for this money than to benefit all persons attending A&M by purchasing the necessary receptacles?

By increasing the cost of soft drinks sold in deposit bottles from vending machines by five cents, students would be prompted to either return the bottle for deposit themselves or benefit the University by leaving them in the provided racks.

If the administration really cared about improving the campus or making good impressions they would institute such a program. After all, if four and one half million dollars can be spent on walls, gates, sidewalks, fountains, little green hills and brick arches, certainly the small amount of money required for such a constructive conservation program could be viewed as nothing other than a good investment.

D.F., J.N.

Brazos River Scrolls found?

Editor:
While doing some archeological digging in the area way back in 1884, a former Aggie discovered the famed Brazos River Scrolls. For almost a century these scrolls were both untranslated and shrouded in a sea of mystery. But finally their code has been broken and the ancient parchments have revealed their story:

"I am Teitei, god of the traveler. One thousand years from now some men and women shall still honor me by traveling by bus from their homes to a great place of learning. And because of their love and worship of mineself, I hereby grant upon them three gifts:

FIRST, I grant upon them the gift of WAITING. They shall stand great lengths of time anxious for the arrival of their transportation. Many hours shall be wasted as they wait idle, hoping that the next vehicle that turns the corner be theirs. But alas, they have been endowed with the gift WAITING. And so they shall have extra time to study for that first period exam that they did not study for the night before.

SECOND, I grant upon them the gift of BYE-BYE BUSSIE. For smiles of delight will cross the faces of those waiting as the bus turns the corner and approaches. But there shall come to pass this bus, laden with people. And the cheers of happiness that fill their hearts shall become tears of sadness that fill their eyes. But cry not, my friend, for you

Listen Up

have been granted the gift of BYE-BYE BUSSIE. And so you shall end up missing the lecture you did not really want to attend.

THIRD, I grant upon them the gift of CROWDS. Friendship and brotherhood shall be theirs as they find themselves feeling "really close" to one another. And may foreigners find themselves not only deep in the heart of Texas but also deep in the heart of Texans. Togetherness and companionship shall exist as a traveler finds some big, sweaty Jock sticking his smelly arm pit in his face. But all must beware the tablet inscribed "Door Opens Inward, Avoid Stepwell." For be this commandment broken, and the nymphs of the back door shall get them right where they sit....

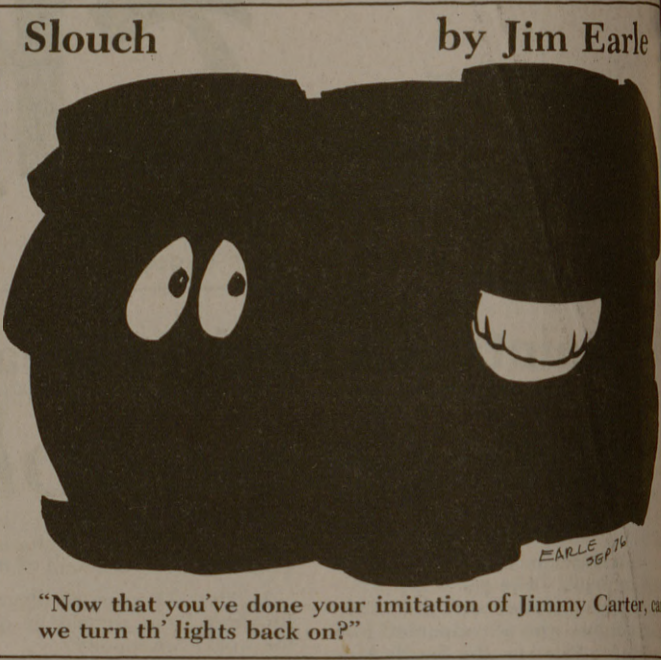
I am sorry to say that the rest of the scrolls have turned to dust. Many months have been spent trying to piece the rest together, but only two additional words have been deciphered: "try walking."

James R. Haustein

seems the more we pay, the less we get in return. Your new, better extensions, for which my family gave up our phone number of 20 years (that phone number was a member of the family), have bombed. On the night of Thursday, 16 Sept. the 693 extensions were busy from 8 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. (at least; that's when I gave up and went to bed). I was unable to get an important call through.

It appears that we are regressing to the days of horse and buggy when people did not have phones. Unfortunately, our society has since made instant communication by phone indispensable, particularly for things like ambulances, police, fire and other emergencies. Looks like we are back to the old days, when you either solved the problem yourself or you died from it.

Mary Hirsch, '79



What did he say?

The Dallas Morning News' handling yesterday of a sensitive quote by presidential aspirant Jimmy Carter deserves pointed criticism.

The News, in relating an account of a "Playboy Magazine" interview with Carter, printed the following passage:

Carter continued, saying, "Christ says, don't consider yourself better than someone else because one guy has sexual relations with a whole bunch of women, while the other guy is loyal to his wife." Carter used a vulgarism for sexual relations.

The News' substitution of the words "a vulgarism for sexual relations" in place of the word "screws" assuredly left many of its readers with the impression that Carter had used a much harsher synonym.

The News, if it didn't see fit to use a slang word which is considered mild by most Americans, should have at least modified its use of the strong word "vulgarism" by the word "mild."

Let's hope that this treatment by the News was not an intentional attempt to slant the news and that the readers of the News in Dallas also have access to other, more enlightened, news sources.

J.N.



Readers' forum

On-campus liquor proposal

By KIM TYSON
Damages, overcharges, hot crowded places, no transportation...these are some of the problems of dorm mixers off campus. But today there aren't many alternatives. The administration has ruled no alcoholic beverages on campus, other than dorm rooms, and the Residence Hall Association has found that few people show up unless there is beer.

Dorm officers, the Residence Hall Association and officials in Student Services have all recognized these problems, and through the Residence Hall Association, have tried to relieve them. Last May, they completed the renovation of one of two Quonset Huts at the cost of \$25,000. There is also a proposal for a complete recreational facility to be built at Hensel Park, which is to include parking, landscaping, barbecue grills and open-air shelters to the sum of \$182,000.

However, at present, the facilities at the Quonset Huts and Hensel Park cannot meet the demands of dorm mixers. The present Quonset Hut, designed to accommodate 300 comfortably, would be too small for larger dorms such as Mosher (675 students) if only half attended. There is, says Dr. Charles Powell, Director of Student Services, a possibility of joining the two huts, when the second hut is renovated, to accommodate larger functions.

These projects will alleviate the cost of renting, and the problems associated with past mixers off cam-

pus. However, they will not be finished in the near future. The Hensel project will take approximately three years, says Dr. John Koldus, Vice President for Student Services. And the Quonset Huts will need, according to Powell, another \$10,000 plus additional student organization work to be able to join them.

I believe that until these facilities are completed there is one alternative to help. That is to allow designated areas of campus to be used at specific times for dorm mixers. The Grove, which has been used for dances in the past, would be excellent for an outdoor party. The Commons' cafeteria and Sbis (with room for 940 and 726, respectively) could be used for indoor events.

Having mixers on campus would also help some students solve transportation problems and give the administration sufficient time to plan for transit to off-campus facilities.

As state laws go, Chris Kling, Assistant Student Legal Advisor, has been unable to find any law which prohibits the possession of alcoholic



Steve Reis
Meaning of 'spirit' escapes some Ags

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