

Opinion/Commentary/Letters

Pet policy needs reconsideration

Editor:
I would like to comment on the University policy that states "Cats, dogs or other fur bearing animals are not allowed in the University-owned apartments." I am speaking specifically of the married student housing apartments, where babies

and small children ARE allowed. This rule seems to be not only arbitrary but also strangely hypocritical. I was told that the Residence Hall Association is responsible for formulating this policy, but my attempts to uncover the reasoning behind it have failed. Therefore, I

can only guess as to what the objections might be: that pets are noisy, messy and capable of damaging the apartments. I am not attempting to refute the validity of these objections, however, I would like to point out they are applicable to babies and children as well. For example, babies make as much noise crying as dogs do barking. Also, there is as much, if not more, risk of a child damaging the apartments as there is of a pet. I do not propose that pets be allowed to roam the premises freely: Just as small children should be accompanied outdoors by a parent, I believe that pets should be leashed and taken outdoors by their owner.

I would like to suggest that the RHA reconsider this rule. To require an additional "pet" deposit as security against damages seems fairer to me than forbidding pets altogether. The problem of unwanted and stray pets is far too common in this area now. The Vet School is regularly putting to sleep whole litters of puppies because nobody wants (or is allowed to have) them. Let's give these poor animals a chance to find homes.

—Donna Schlabach, '78

my disgust with the ridiculous seating arrangement at the recent basketball game (A&M vs. Houston, Sat., Jan. 22). How can school officials justify leaving space enough for only 4,000 students at a basketball game? With A&M's enrollment increasing so rapidly, you would think they would expand the student seating section instead of reducing it. The Houston game was supposedly a sellout, but all you had to do was look around to the reserve section to find plenty of empty seats. I, as do others, enjoy watching basketball and I am excited about the quality of play developing in the Southwest Conference, but something is very wrong when only 15 per cent of the entire student body is capable of watching a game at a major university.

—Jim Urbanus '77

The power of the presidency

Editor:
Last week we saw Carter demonstrate what massive power the office of the presidency has. I was amazed, and I think that this week I would like to see him reinstate those men that died in the Vietnam war.

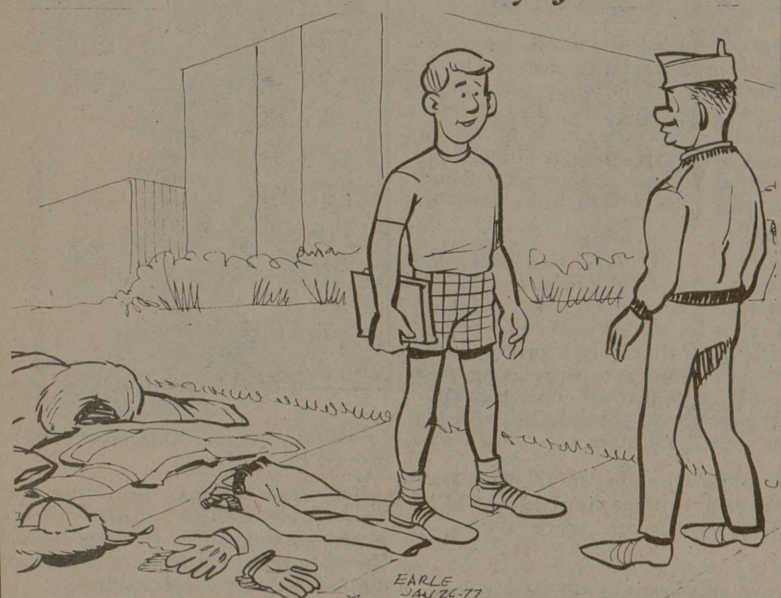
—David Anderson

Open up, G. Rollie

Editor:
I am writing this letter to voice

Slouch

by Jim Earle



"HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED HOW HARD IT IS TO DRESS FOR TEXAS WEATHER?"



Battalion

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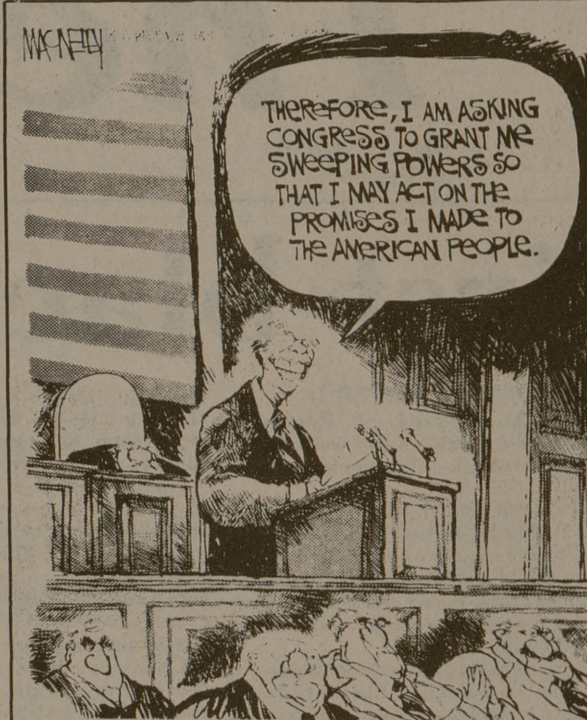
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Constitution Revision Commission membership precedent criticized

This is a critique which is aimed at the purpose and membership of the Constitution Revision Commission recently appointed by the Student Body President (1976-77). Having good personal relations with Fred McClure, the comments which follow do not reflect in any way on that relationship but are pointed at the Constitution Revision Commission as a debatable issue. The reason this information is in written form is to enable other students and senators a chance to read the short debate because the issue has not been presented to the Student Senate. The commentary is given as a result of McClure's and my discussion concerning the CRC. —Stan Stanfield

objective viewpoints from people not acquainted with the constitution, he should also appoint senate members. This is not to say that there are no senate members with experience concerning the constitution, but to point out that with eighty senate members, one could make up several commissions composed of "people not acquainted with the constitution."

it will be presented to the Rules and Regulations Committee and then be moved by vote on the floor. The Senate will debate the issues, add amendments and put the package before the student referendum. This entire process appears to be the actual Aggie joke where one holds the paint brush and the 100 move the house back.

Why do I contend that voting members should be Senate representatives? First, they are student representatives. The Constitution of the

The CRC's recommendations may come under additional scrutiny on the Senate floor. Objectives based on the simple fact that CRC members are "outsiders" may not be overly familiar to the operations of the Senate or Government.

Commentary

The CRC was set up to review and revise the Student Government Constitution. Currently, the CRC has a membership of twelve students who are its voting members. None are student senators or students who have been elected to represent the student body. According to McClure, the purpose of appointing the individuals was to introduce "new blood" into the process and to get new and objective viewpoints from people not acquainted with the present constitution. The idea of introducing "new blood" is one which has been previously discussed and receives merit. However, I feel that if McClure wishes to get new and

student body is the most important document concerning the students in transmitting their thoughts and attitudes. The twelve non-senate members may be part of the student body but are not accountable to the student body. The twelve are not held accountable to the student body or the Student Senate (their elected representatives), but only to the Student Body President. The twelve only represent self-interests or McClure's interest. A successful remedy would be the appointment of these individuals as ex-officio members of the Constitution Revision Commission.

The use of the Rules and Regulations Committee as a rubber stamp is disturbing. Instead of using the Rules and Regulations Committee to present recommendations to the CRC, the ideas are being presented and Regs. The cart appears before the house.

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