



Time eases fish confusion

Former freshman offers advice

By MARK WILLIS
Battalion City Editor

As the Guinness record holder for the most semesters attended as a freshman, I have been asked to give the freshman class the benefit of my experience.

Those of you who are freshmen are probably confused and a little scared. Don't worry too much; you scare your teachers, too. To them you look like the barbarian hordes that destroyed Rome and with good reason. Many portions of this state are still considered to be in the Stone Age.

As for finding classes, you won't for at least a week or so. The trick is to master the campus maps the University supplies. True, they may look like they were drawn by a three-year-old with broken crayons, but you will find them far more reliable than any upperclassman you might ask for directions.

The first thing you will learn here is that despite the superior all-knowing looks most upperclassmen sport, they know almost nothing. If you attended Fish Camp you probably know more about A&M than the average senior. However, if you are interested in the local bars and nightlife almost every one is an expert.

There is night life here, despite

what you may have heard. True, most of it consists of nocturnal animal activity, only occasionally human, though often the two are confused. Seriously, there are some very nice places to spend an evening in the area. There are also some places to have a good time, if you're of the right moral persuasion.

Jogging To The Car 101 is an unofficial P.E. course here. The only way to avoid it is to sell your car.

speak your language, tame classes are usually offered at different hours and you can often switch.

If not, you might adopt the famous "Manana Approach to Education," which takes the view that if you wait long enough the course will be offered at a different hour next semester or dropped from your required courses altogether.

This method does require stamina. Some students have gone so far as to wait for a prof to retire or die before attempting his course. If you have the time and a taste for the college life, this method has attractions.

If you live on campus you will find that most of the dorms are fairly nice and that you have unlimited chances to meet people, should you wish to or not. Proximity alone does not leave you a choice. Some of the older dorms, while well-suited for archeology majors, will be an education in themselves. Be glad the worst of these relics have been converted or destroyed in recent years.

The food on campus will speak for itself, at times literally. Usually it attacks without warning in the small hours of the morning. Still it often is superior to the fast food most off-

campus students live on. Housing off campus runs from horrid to better than home, but both types are expensive. Fuel bills will prompt a call home for money and many will find that their apartments seem to have been built by Tinker Toy Inc.

Off-campus students will also discover close encounters of the shuttle bus kind, though at times the close quarters are nice — depending on the company.

For the freshman sports fan there is no hope. At football games all you can be sure of seeing from your seat is the stadium itself. Crowd noise will let you know how the game is going. At any rate, you would not have time to watch the game if you could, for you will be engaged in some rather bizarre gyrations and exercises that we Aggies use to punctuate our rather unique cheers. It is really rather fun, believe it or not.

Don't let these warnings add to your already growing apprehension. Much sooner than you think you will find you have become a willing member of the world's proudest minority group, "Agro-Americans." And despite all horrible things you will say about the place, you will come to love it, though you will probably never understand why.

Flashers on highways

United Press International
OLYMPIA, Wash. — Flashers are taking to the freeways in Washington state to encourage compliance with the 55 mph speed limit.

These are not the type of flashers you might suspect. No raincoats are involved.

Let's say you're motoring down the freeway and there are no traffic cops in sight. You press your foot on the accelerator and increase your speed to 65.

Just when you start to pass the first guy ahead of you travelling at 55, you encounter your first flasher.

He holds up a bright yellow card in his window that says in big black letters, "55 PLEASE."

He might even shake his fist and frown.

That's it. You've just been flashed.

The man who promoted this citizen effort at moral persuasion is Larry Bradley, director of the state Energy Office.

Bradley, Gov. Dixy Lee Ray's choice as the state's primary energy planner, began enlisting members in his "55 Flasher Club" a few months ago. He said he was bothered by the lack of attention to the national speed limit which was imposed as a means of reducing fuel consumption.

Bradley became the first highway flasher in his own right with a home-made card. Then, with the cooperation of the Washington State Patrol, Bradley issued orders to print 10,000 of the 8-1/2 by 11-inch signs.

"Nothing else seemed to be working," he said. "We needed a gimmick to get people's attention and this only cost \$300."

Bibliophiles meet to honor Twain

United Press International
REDDING, Conn. — A tradition started by Mark Twain is expected to draw hundreds of bibliophiles next weekend to this small town in Western Connecticut to browse through and buy the more than 40,000 volumes which will be on display at the biggest book fair in the Northeast.

The Redding event held over Labor Day honors the town's most illustrious former resident and benefits the town library which Mark Twain founded and which also bears his name.

Some of the signs were distributed to state workers. Some went to colleges. Others were distributed in local offices of Seattle First National Bank, the state's largest.

So far, results of Bradley's project are mixed although Bradley has gained a lot of notoriety out of the deal.

Some motorists laugh when they are flashed. Others get mad. Some respond by flashing back the same sign former Vice President Rockefeller once displayed to a group of hecklers.

Most seem to continue traveling above the posted speed limit but a few slow down, based on reports from people who have tried Bradley's experiment.

Some people get a big laugh out of the instructions Bradley printed on the back of the cards. Others have framed them for wall displays as an example of the bureaucratic mind at work.

First, the bearer is told the card is not a bona fide road sign and that possession does not make him a traffic cop or an employee of the Highways Department. He is told he is not entitled to set speed traps, use radar, or install flashing lights on his car.

"Also, while you could post it legally in your living room, it is highly doubtful that you could be in violation without a significant impact on your furniture."

Flashers are advised to show the card from the driver's side of the car if the speeder is passing on the left or on the passenger side when passed from the right.

They are asked not to flash when changing lanes or making turns and are told not to chase or antagonize speeders. Other things to keep in mind:

- "1. Don't sit on this card, it's uncomfortable, doesn't do a whole lot for the card and makes its use rather difficult.
- "2. Hold it right side up and out.
- "3. Try to avoid flashing such people as state troopers and airplane pilots.
- "4. Care should be exercised while flashing with open windows. Littering is against the law."

Bradley said use of the cards demonstrates a concern for conserving energy as well as a sense of humor.

Cards with the instructions on them may soon be collector's items. After some teasing, Bradley said the next batch of cards, if any more are printed, will only display the flasher's message.

His next project is now on the

drawing board. It involves fastening large signs on the back of state-owned vehicles similar to the advertising signs often seen on the back of taxis.

Bradley envisions various motor pool fleets as a collection of pilot cars on the freeway.

Each sign would say something like, "I'm doing 55, how about you?"

There is night life here, despite

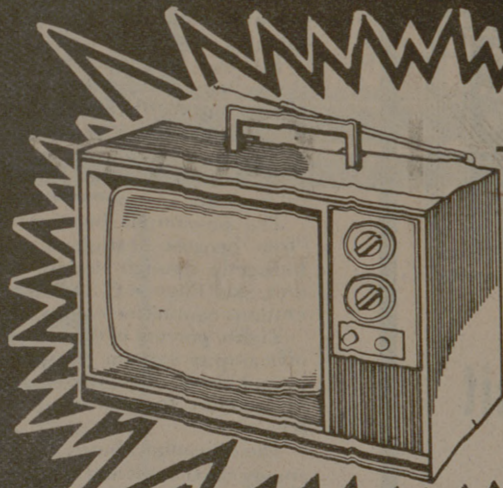
Humor

You might consider renting a garage in Snook since your car will be in the area anyway.

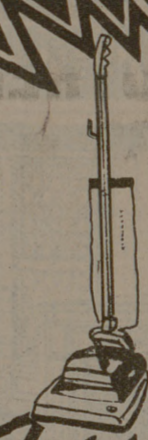
As far as classes go — and some will go farther than others — it would be wise to attend. The art of attending classes in spirit only takes years to perfect, probably more years than any of you care to spend as undergraduates. Many people feel that 8 a.m. classes are an exception to the rule. Sadly, most profs take a dim view of giving lectures to empty classrooms and will take action to force attendance.

If you simply cannot handle early classes, or find the prof does not

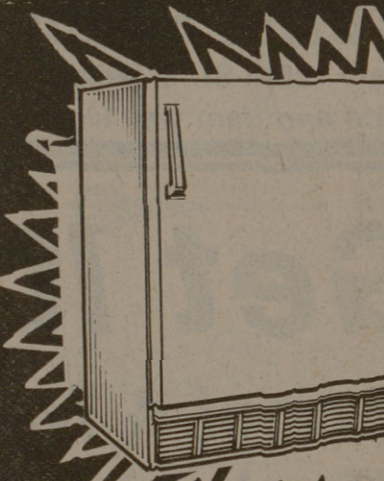
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