

Why are Aggies so THIRSTY ?

By Rhonda Watters
Battalion Reporter

The words "Texas Aggies" bring to mind different things to different people. To some they may mean a football team that is often a top contender among the nation's colleges. To others it may mean an unusual spirit of loyalty and friendship. And to still others it may mean an endless supply of jokes with which to amuse and impress their friends.

But to local beer distributors and bar owners, "Texas Aggies" mean one thing — selling beer, and lots of it.

For some time, Aggies have had a reputation for drinking beer. While it is true that drinking is a pastime enjoyed by college students everywhere, many people seem to think that Aggies enjoy it, if not more than most, at least more often than most.

Exactly how this reputation got started is not immediately obvious.

Maybe it started because, according to statistics, the Brazos County area, a region of relatively small towns and cities, is second in beer distribution in the state, right behind the tied cities of Dallas and Houston.

Or maybe it started because of incidents such as the time when, two weeks before finals, one local beer distributor sold 110 kegs in one weekend.

Or possibly it started when Playboy magazine ran a humorous article rating colleges according to how much beer they drank and declined even to rate Texas A&M because they said "professional drinkers" can't be rated.

Whatever the reason, it seems safe to say that Aggies drink lots of beer.

After looking at all this, a logical question comes to mind. Why do Aggies drink so much?

There is no better way to find the answer than to ask the Aggies themselves.

—"Maybe it's because a lot of Aggies come from little German towns, and you know how Germans love to drink beer."

—"It relaxes me."

—"Beer helps me get in the mood to study."

—"It helps me get over that guilty feeling I get when I'm behind — and I'm always behind."

—"Beer lets you get rid of a lot of excess brain cells."

—"It's the only way I can talk to girls."

Of all the varied responses, one in particular came up most often:

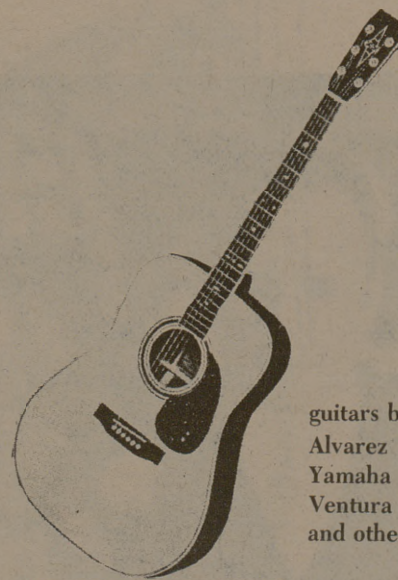
—"What else is there to do in College Station?"
And there's not much you can say to that.



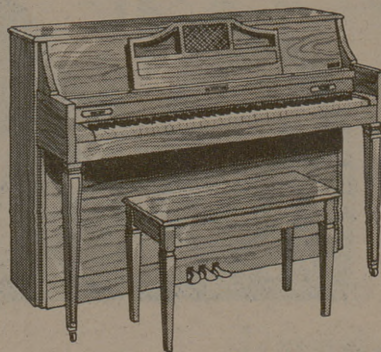
AFTER ALL THE DRINKING is done, some will see their last glimpse of the barroom in this manner. Let's hope this is not you; but then again, it never is.

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