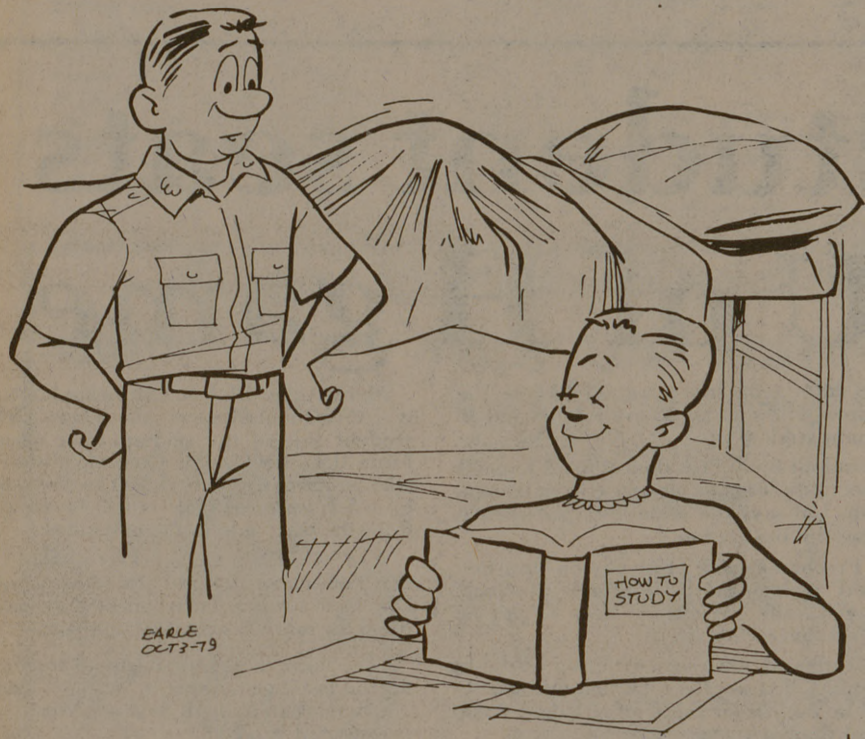


SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"That pet armadillo that you had around here, where do you plan to keep him?"

Touch the Fall

Cooler weather means more than taking sweaters out of storage.

We turn off our air conditioners, and turn on our senses. The insulated worlds we live in aren't meant for Fall. We are supposed to hear the pick-up football games out in the street, and join it. We are supposed to smell the freshly mown grass, and enjoy it.

The other day an editor for The Battalion was not at his post in the office. He was outside — sitting on some steps — gazing at the sky and passers-by.

"You know," he said, "I forgot what it looks like out here." In the daily hassle the real world often slips away. Fall is a good time to reach out and touch it.

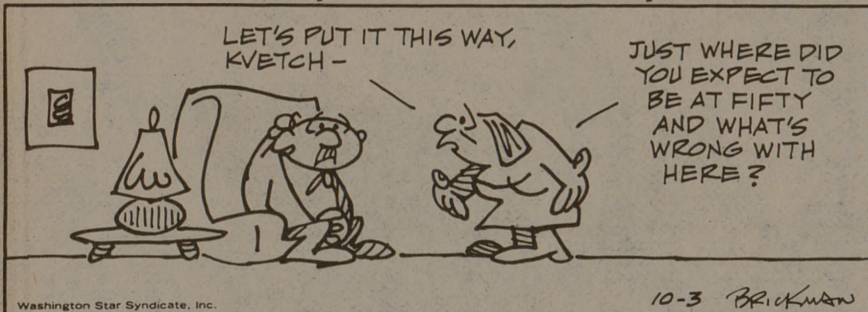
Yea, school board

Monday night, the A&M Consolidated School Board did not meet in a marathon session. As a matter of fact, the meeting only took 45 minutes.

Granted, the agenda was small — only one item was up for board approval. But in the past, an agenda like Monday's has been turned into a four-hour slumber party. This time, instead of wasting valuable time arguing meaningless concepts, the board got down to business and finished in a reasonable time.

the small society

by Brickman



THE BATTALION

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LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 3, 1979

WINDOW

Jealousy between House and Senate have given new meaning to 'comity'

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Webster's defines "comity" as "mutual consideration between . . . equals."

You can also choose "kindly, courteous behavior" or "friendly civility" and be eminently correct. But use of the word is rare except in Congress, where it is banded about like slang.

Comity has always been a way of life on Capitol Hill, artificial, perhaps, but necessary to keep Congress operating in something at least close to what the Founding Fathers expected.

Without this comity — often grandly referred to as the spirit of comity — the Senate and House, filled with easily bruised egos and volatile tempers, would soon turn Capitol Hill into a bloody battleground.

The two chambers and their occupants are plain jealous of each other. The House considers denizens of the Senate as averaged, publicity-hungry, pompous and irritatingly slow to act —

lawmakers who get too many headlines and too much credit.

The Senate looks on House members as a bunch of nameless, undisciplined rag tags, all just waiting to run for the Senate, and who certainly should not be mentioned in the same breath with a senator.

Hence, the need for comity. There are signs, however, that comity may be headed, like many traditions, for the history books.

A year ago, the House vented its long-nurtured frustrations and refused to approve more money for a third Senate office building, then well on its way up from the ground.

The action was almost totally unprecedented. Not only did it do violence to the spirit of comity, it came close to blasphemy.

Among the age-old unwritten rules is one that the Senate decides its internal affairs and the House approves and the other way around. That covers everything from stamp allowance to buildings.

No matter that the architect's plans called for a gaudy extravaganza that would have pleased Benito Mussolini — full of life's necessities like atriums, gyms, pine paneling, rooftop restaurant and so forth.

That's what the Senate wanted or, at least, a majority and for the House to butt in was unspeakable.

Having perpetrated the evil deed last year (money has been approved since), the House enjoyed its victory briefly and has been uncomfortably waiting for retribution since.

So, it was not surprising that the House — from the office of Speaker Thomas O'Neill down — felt the time had come last week.

The House, after an uncomfortable several days of climbing up the hill and down again, approved a 5.5 percent pay increase for members of Congress. It is the most painful exercise imaginable.

A day later, the House was thunderstruck when the Senate Appropriations voted 23-0 to kill the raise.

The first thought, which quickly took its way through corridors and offices, was that the Senate had massively retaliated for the office building — lured the House into voting for a pay raise and then the brethren "twisting slowly in the wind."

The accusation was promptly denied, though there is some question whether the victims were convinced.

Republican leader Howard Baker laughed off a suggestion that the Senate would violate the spirit of comity by issue as touchy as pay.

At the same time, Baker — marginally, maybe not — showed that the Senate had not forgotten what the House did.

Sometime in the future, Baker said, the Senate would pass a little-noticed bill that the House would not know what it was until too late.

Until then, the House will have a nervously patient — waiting for the Senate to seek revenge.



LETTERS

Cast your vote and prevent Kennedy from turning the country to socialism

Editor:

Many people are asking Ted Kennedy to run for the President. Polls lately have illustrated how little the American people know about what Kennedy is like.

He is a staunch believer in big spending, welfare programs, government regulation of business and a small national defense. But most importantly, he wants to strip the American people of some of our freedom by increasing federal intrusion over our personal lives.

To vote for Ted Kennedy would ensure our country will become a socialistic state where higher taxes would strip Americans of more of their hard-earned money. Kennedy as President would destroy the free enterprise system by increasing the already overburdensome red tape business must go through.

I am pleading for all Americans to unite in preventing Kennedy from becoming President. How can we do this? By voting. In the last Presidential election, 53 percent of the people voted, and the real losers were the American people because we have elected the worst President since LBJ and FDR.

As a result, only by voting can we overcome the press's continual praise of Teddy (who they want to be President); the press wants us to vote for another bleeding heart liberal whose violin plays for the poor, downtrodden and disadvantaged. The real down-trodden in this country are the whole American people who are barely coping with government-caused inflation and energy shortages.

Only if we elect a man like Reagan, Crane, Connally or Baker will this country survive the merciless evils of socialism.

— Richrd Leonardon

Martial arts image

Editor:

Concerning Friday's article on changing the image of martial arts.

The article was good but it left out too much for me to remain silent. Mr. Graham told you that I wanted to debunk the stereotype that karate in general has generated among the public. Well, he did get to third base but he did not quite reach home plate.

Many people avoid martial arts because they feel that they are not capable, that it's something superhuman. This is a common

and widespread misconception. Women and even children are very capable of learning and practicing hapkido, a Korean martial art. Most of the techniques do not require brute strength but coordination, especially the throwing and joint manipulations. In this manner women can perform as capably as men.

We recognize that violence is the ultimate last resort, but with sufficient training one may realize the strengths and limitations of the body. This enables the hapkidoist to completely control himself and his opponent. Whatever the results of the confrontation, chances are that the hapkidoist can dominate the situation. Alertness becomes second nature, as do the self defense moves. These moves allow you to take down an opponent without causing any injury, or to inflict severe damage if necessary.

Pressure points and joint manipulations can cause severe damage, accordingly the practitioner must learn to heal or ease the injury that he or another person may have inflicted.

Although the smashing of boards and cement slabs is a crowd pleaser, it is entirely overemphasized. There are many aspects of the martial arts that are little known. Nobody ever sees a master use acupuncture to instantaneously stop an epileptic seizure, as I have. Nobody ever even considers the fact that we only want to benefit the general public.

Martial artists have reckoned with the "kung fu killer" image too long. It is high time that we be respected as worthy members of the community.

For more information please contact me through Free U, or just come by the office in the MSC and enroll in the course.

— Phillip Long
Korea Hapkido Assn.

Marred reputation

Editor:

This past weekend several of us attended the Corps Bash at the National Guard Armory. When we were leaving the party, we witnessed a car back into a parked car. The driver (a CT) got out to see the damage, got back into his car to write a note, put it on the damaged car and drove off.

My boyfriend went to read the note and found a grocery receipt from Skaggs with nothing written on it! Fortunately we noticed the license plate number of the driver and made an announcement at the dance. The owner of the damaged car was very grateful for our cooperation.

This incident really disappointed me. I have always been proud to be an Aggie and have bragged about the members of the Corps, how they'd always be the ones to help in times of trouble. This guy is a

poor representation of the Corps, Texas A&M and what it stands for, and does not deserve to be an Aggie. There is a lot of pride and respect that goes along with being an Aggie and this driver certainly doesn't deserve to be a part of a great institution like Texas A&M, a representation of its traditions and a member of such honorable organization as the Corps Cadets.

I'm sorry to see that our reputation Aggies has to be marred by people of this type.

— Karen Johnson

Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by three other signatures.

Correction

A caption in Tuesday's Battalion incorrectly described a new intra-campus bus route.

The shuttle bus does not run by the Veterinary Medicine Complex. Instead, it stops on Agronomy Road halfway between the vet school and the Crop Science Building.

The shuttle — which is free to all Texas A&M University students, faculty and staff — also stops on the east side of the railroad tracks and by Beutler Health Center and Bizzell Hall.

Buses run from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Battalion regrets the error.

by Doug Graham

THOTZ

