



OPINION

The killing season

This is the holiday season, but it's also the killing season. We in Aggie land have a head start, though. This semester 11 students died.

Maurice Dennis, director of Safety Education programs here, says the highway death rate for this semester is higher than the national rate for the same time period.

In fact, he says it's three to four times higher.

Dennis attributes this to two factors: our semi-rural environment, and the fact that "Aggies have been known to drink when they drive."

With all the graduation and end-of-semester parties, the danger is even higher. And when students start home, many are tired and not as alert as they should be.

The Texas Department of Public Safety predicts 123 people will be killed on the streets during the Christmas-New Year's Day weekends.

The warnings are old, but they are good: If you're drunk or tired, take a little extra time.

A&M wins one

The Rhodes Scholarship is one of the most prestigious and well known awards in America.

And now an Aggie has one. It's been a while since another Aggie won the award.

William Altman, a senior from New Ulm, Texas, will study in England next year.

He's thrilled, and the University is also honored. In the past, nobody expected A&M to produce a Rhodes scholar. Maybe he's started a new tradition...

THE BATTALION

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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 19, 1979

DICK WEST Students in Iran concentrate on class hopefully, they'll flunk the final exam

United Press International
WASHINGTON — In news and film reports from Tehran, radicals holding the U.S. Embassy usually are identified as students.

For this reason, many Americans have developed a strong curiosity about the educational system in Iran, particularly with respect to off-campus activity.

We find ourselves wondering what kind of school these students attend, what courses they take and how many classes they are allowed to cut without getting an automatic F.

The information I have is rather sketchy, but I understand most of the young scholars who took part in the embassy seizure are undergraduates at Khomeini Tech, an in-

stitution of higher learning previously known as Shah State.

KT goes in big for field trips. Its philosophy of education embraces the principle of having students demonstrate in actual situations the theoretical concepts they are taught in classrooms.

Take, for example, Flagburning 120, one of the freshman courses offered by KT's School of Applied Agitation. After basic instruction in the rudiments of fabric combustion, students perform laboratory tests to determine the flammability of various flags; then, in the final phase, they are sent into the streets to incinerate the banners under authentic protest conditions.

Among the courses required of sophomores is Effigies 213. Here, under the gui-

dance of the art department, they pick up the fine points of designing and construction crude likenesses of various world figures.

They also have a chance to apply the lessons learned in Flag-burning 120, only this time, of course, it is the effigies that are burned.

By the time KT students reach their third year, they are ready for more advanced tutelage. Typically, a junior carries three five-hour courses consisting of Slogan Chanting 313, Defiant Gesticulations 310 and Poster Composition 311.

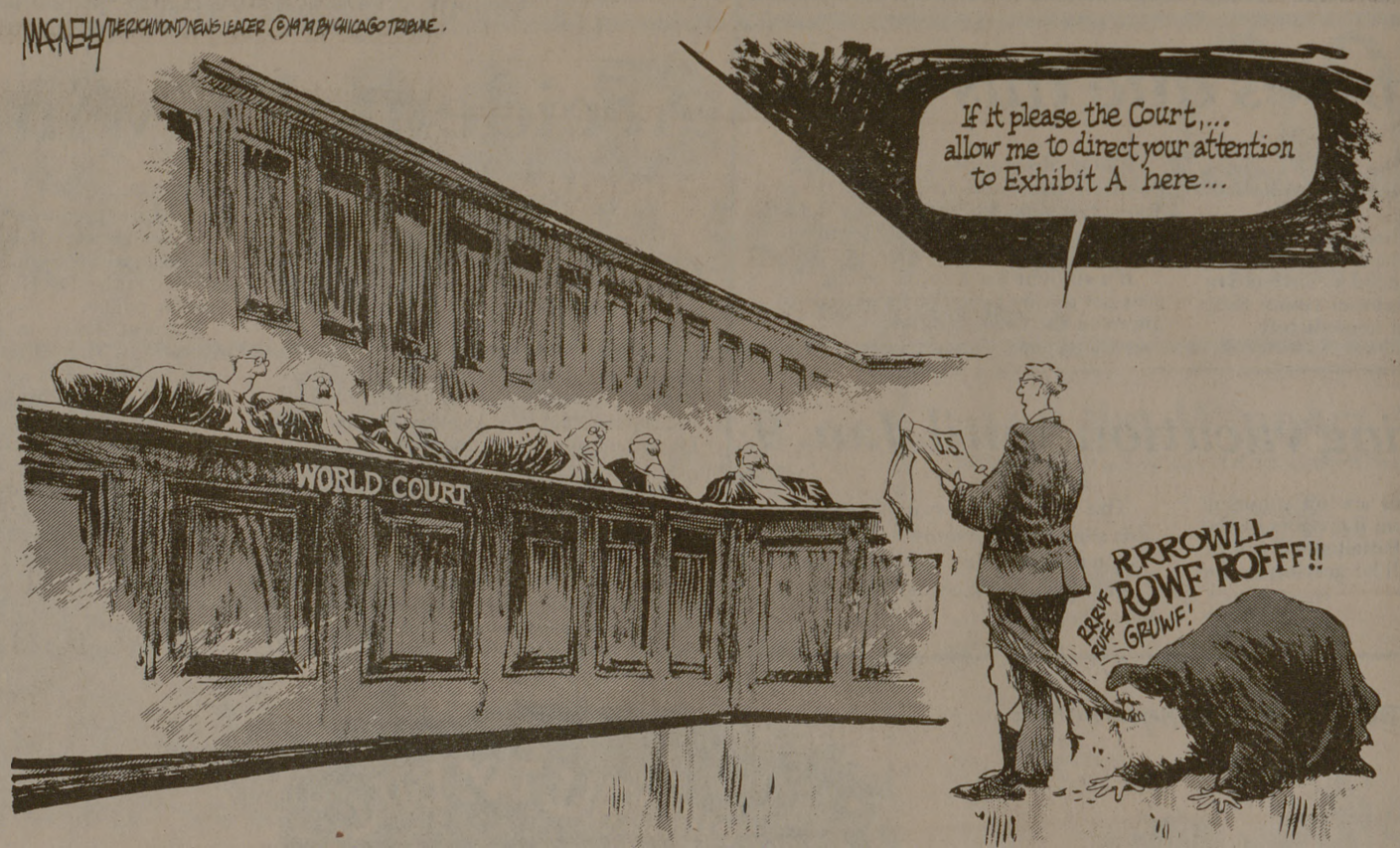
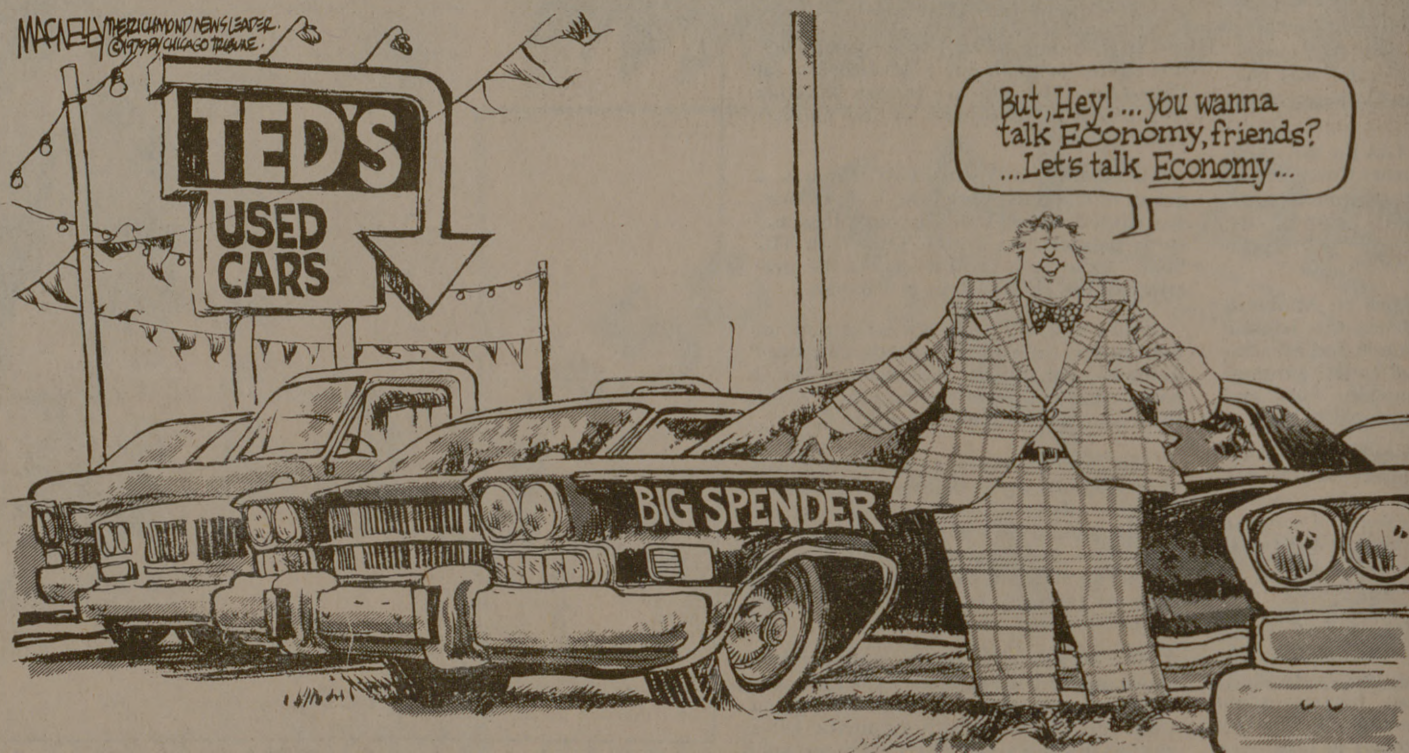
Since rhythm is so vital, chanting courses usually are prepared by the music department.

Gesticulations are a branch of the art department, with emphasis on "acting." A counterpart in our own country would be the historians that football referees have been forced to consult.

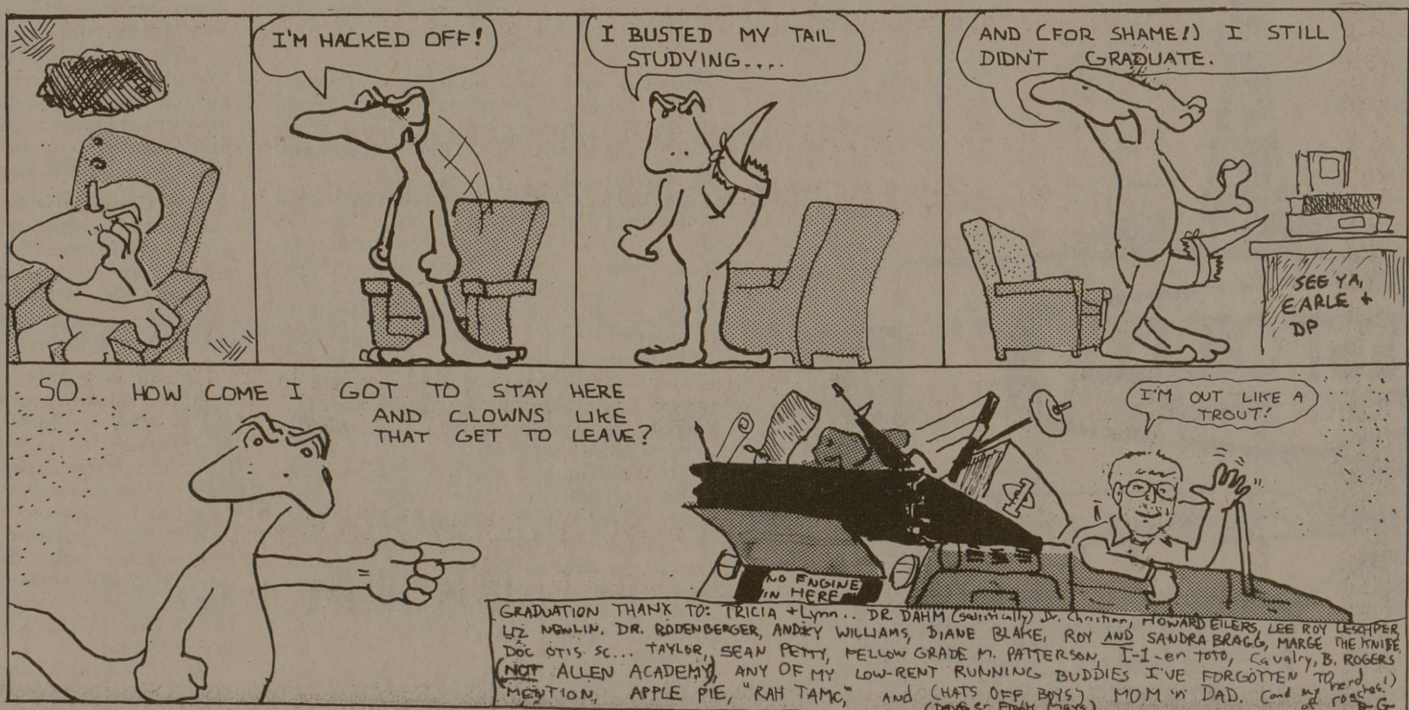
And poster composition courses are aegis of the language department.

These parts of the curriculum are soup, however, compared to the more advanced courses. Candidates for degree must pass such courses as Mob Psychology 420, Camera Work 410 and Weapon Brandishment 410.

Thus we can see why those who stormed our embassy in the first place were simply doing their homework.



THOTZ



By Doug Graham

Letter

Iranian students ask about U.S. intentions

Editor:
Due to distorted coverage of the recent events in Iran by the U.S. mass media, the Society of Iranian Students at TAMU feels compelled to present the following facts:
— During his reign of 37 years, the ex-shah committed numerous crimes such as mass murdering, torturing, deporting, and imprisoning political dissidents as well as plundering billions of dollars of the national wealth. During last year's national uprising alone, the ex-shah massacred more than 60,000 unarmed innocent people. He is also bitterly remembered as the one who destroyed Iran's agricultural economy.
— Since 1953, when the CIA engineered a coup which put the ex-shah back into power, the U.S. government has fully supported the ex-shah's autocratic rule and has created his secret police from which the people of Iran have suffered for 25 years.
— The unacceptable social, political, and economical situations created by the ex-shah led to the Islamic Revolution under the great leadership of Imam Khomeini. Ever since this victory, the western news media has been busy disseminating distorted and false information about the Islamic

Revolution.
— With the overthrow of the ex-shah, the Iranian people asked all governments not to grant the criminal ex-shah sanctuary. However, the U.S. government permitted him to come here for the so-called "medical treatment." After his arrival, all diplomatic initiatives for his extradition to Iran were disregarded by the U.S. government. It was only after two weeks of pleas by Iranian authorities that the frustrated students over the U.S. embassy in Tehran.
— Having these facts in mind, we would like you to address yourselves to the following questions:
— Do Americans wish their government to support mass murderers?
— Wouldn't this discredit you as a nation so openly support the greatest financial corruption of the history of mankind?
— The Society of Iranian Students
Editor's note: The person submitting this letter wished to remain anonymous in view of the current situation in Iran. The Society of Iranian Students, he said, is not associated in anyway with the Iranian Students Association.