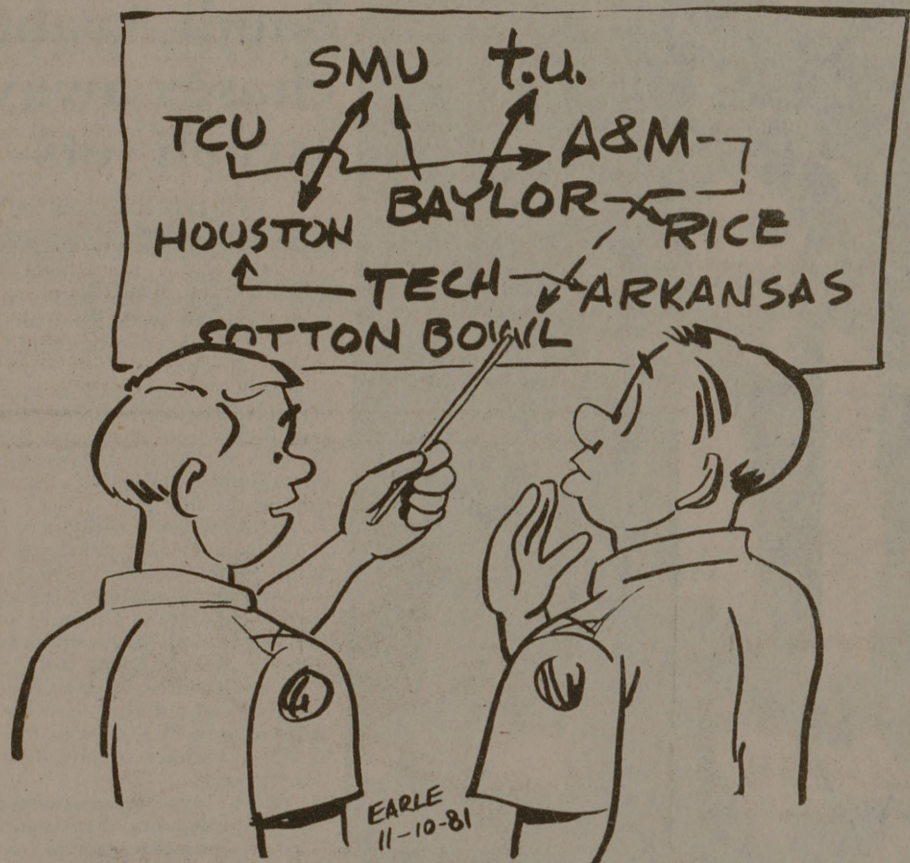


Slouch By Jim Earle



"It's very simple! If t.u. loses one-half game, and we win the rest of ours, we will be ahead of Houston, and since SMU is ineligible for the Cotton Bowl, we will flip out to see who goes to the Cotton Bowl, and we have one of the best flippers in the league, and of course, this is based on the height of this year's bonfire. Understand?"

Committee scenarios: making the worst of it

By DICK WEST
United Press International

WASHINGTON — A Soviet nuclear attack on North America could be "the greatest catastrophe in history by many orders of magnitude," killing "hundreds of millions" of people.

What you were reading above is a typical "worst case" scenario. This one was drawn by Gen. David Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"Worst case" scenarios, sometimes solicited, sometimes volunteered, have been a popular feature at congressional hearings this year. In the original cast album, they play like this:

A witness, usually an expert in some field, is asked what is the worst thing that might happen if the funds requested for some purpose are not appropriated.

What follows is a hypothetical hair-raising description of havoc unleashed.

Occasionally, Congress gets a two-way projection, such as the worst that could be expected if natural gas is decontrolled and the worst that could be expected if natural gas isn't decontrolled. Or the worst that might happen if we sell AWACS to Saudi Arabia and the worst that might happen if we don't.

As a rule, the two outlooks are about equally ominous, both envisioning severe economic upheavals, widespread unemployment, chronic fuel shortages and panic in the streets.

If I were asked to write a "worst case" scenario of where all this "worst casing" might be leading, I would include the following imagery:

— Osgood Tarsal, chief spokesman for the influential hassock lobby, warned Congress today that regulations limiting the number of legs on footstools could bring on worldwide depression and global warfare.

— The National Association of Anvil Importers told Congress today a proposal to "bail out" the domestic anvil industry to make it more competitive with foreign producers could result in a political comeback by Richard Nixon.

— A House subcommittee began hearings today on a bill that would require labels on beer cans and bottles to carry a message reading: "Warning — Drinking Too Much Beer Can Make You Drunk."

Industry witnesses warned that approval of the legislation would bring about climatic changes that either would cause another Ice Age or else melt the polar icecaps, thereby inundating most coastal cities.

— The Agriculture Department argued today that ending price supports for radish growers could break up the ozone layer that shields Earth from harmful solar radiation.

— An organization representing the nation's deputy sheriffs today opposed a move to require the registration of handguns.

It said gun control laws could encourage urban dwellers to recite the poems of Edgar A. Guest and listen to John Denver records.

Student calls himself 'bad Ag'

Editor:

During my first two years here, I considered myself a "good Ag" because I respected tradition and closed-mindedness. But, now I will be forever crucified as a "bad Ag" because I don't believe in the status quo.

Many at this school respect tradition because of its long lasting value. Most traditions are good. But tradition is NOT always right! If that were the case, then this University would not allow blacks, non-regs, and women on campus. Permitting these people to attend this University diversifies the opinions on campus.

Secondly, a tragic accident occurred Friday. A student, a fellow Ag, died while helping with this year's Bonfire. Before everyone gets irked, I don't believe in abolishing Bonfire; but I do have a sane suggestion. Workers should not be permitted to

Reader's Forum

stand between the truck and the trailer, a truly dangerous situation. I also do not understand why the Bonfire must be 64 feet tall. Does a larger Bonfire mean we, as Aggies, have a greater desire to beat the hell out of t.u.? Certainly not! I personally don't care if the Bonfire is 20 or 200 feet tall; I still want to beat t.u. A smaller Bonfire should be utilized, and our principal energy should be directed toward studying.

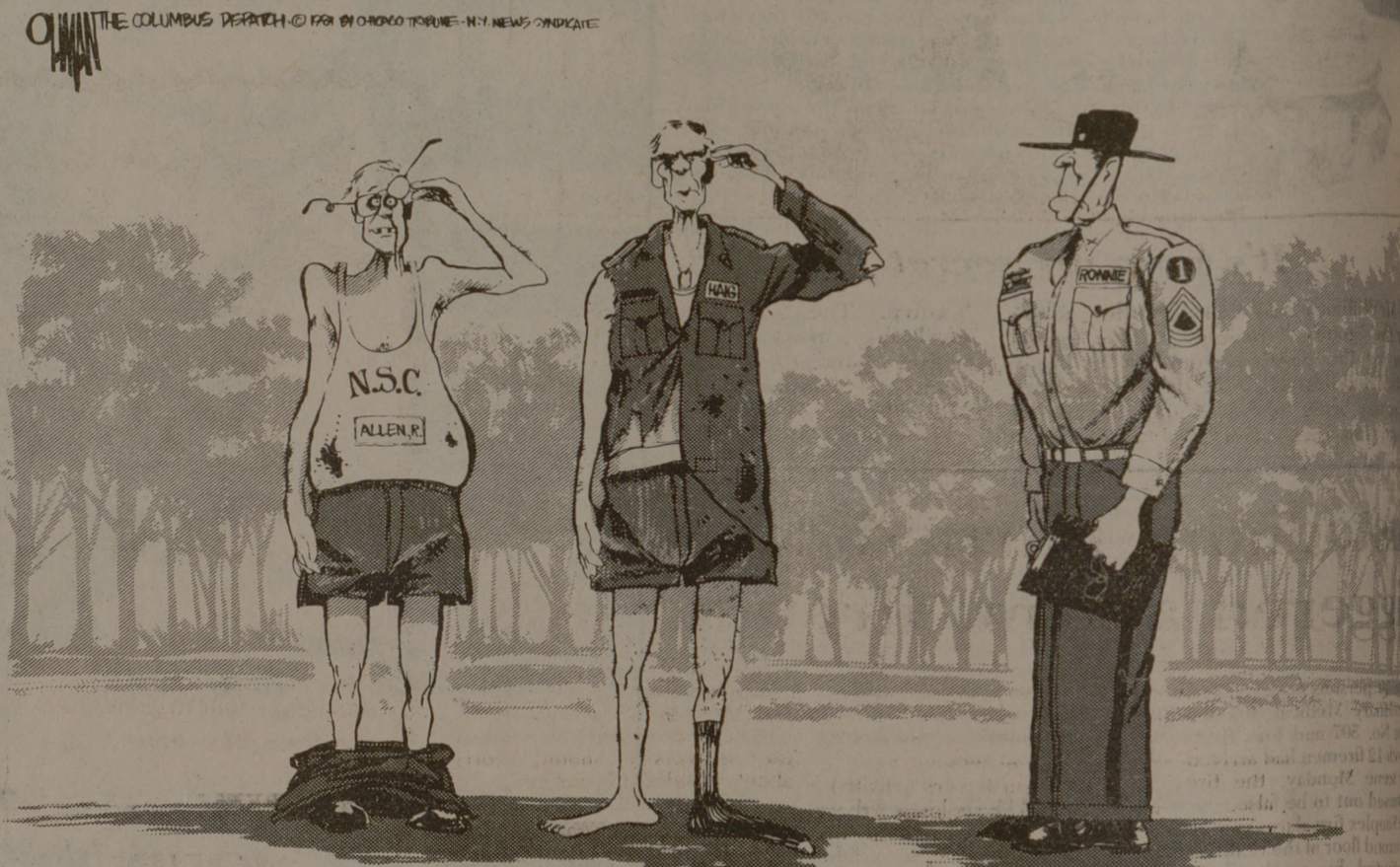
However, the main reason I am writing this letter is to try to get some Aggies to become more tolerant. With intolerance yields a conceit which I detest. A few

Aggies that have written to The Battalion lately assume Aggies are perfect and no wrong. This is not true. Aggies are everyone else, not better, not worse, as long as one gives credence to the situation.

Furthermore, I am not gay and belong to a fraternity; but these people have rights, contrary to the beliefs of right-wingers. These people have a right to speak out; if not allowed, Aggies are in the footsteps of the Hitler mentality. As a political conservative, I believe in individual freedom for all people, as long as one gives credence to the situation. I am non-violent, as all good Americans are.

Remember Aggies, all people are equal.

Richard Leonard



"FIGHTING, SIR?...US?...WHAT EVER GAVE YOU THAT IMPRESSION, SIR?"

It's your turn

Graffiti on sidewalks a problem

Editor:

Even though I have only been an Aggie for a short period of time, I have a great deal of respect for the traditions and spirit involved with Texas A&M. We have a beautiful campus, and it is always refreshing to be able to see squirrels and trees while walking from one building to another.

Today, instead of seeing the usual furry little animals running by my feet as I walked to Zachry, I looked down at the ground only to see scrawled in huge white letters across the sidewalk, "Crusade For Aggies." What a unique way to spread the word!

It seems to me that our school has plenty of available space to post public announcements. I am not putting down this Christian event, for I am a Christian myself, but it really irritates me to see our sidewalks marked up as if a bunch of crazed hopscotch players had gotten loose with their chalk. Imagine what our sidewalks would look like if every organization that was sponsoring an event decided to publicize it on the sidewalk. Graffiti is graffiti, and I'm sorry that some people can mark up our sidewalks in the name of the Lord.

Barbie Johnson '85
Pre-med student

Greeks, GSSO, and Greg Hood. I understand that the editor has had quite a rash of mail in the past week. Out of over 150 opinions expressed to the editor, I would like to say that I agree wholeheartedly with some of them.

PS: I have tried to keep this letter short so that there would be adequate space to print my opinion.

Don Ferrill
3031 South Texas
College Station

Stamp costs solution

Editor:

On November 1, as you can probably tell from the long lines in the post office, the price of the first class stamp was once again raised. It is time that the federal govern-

ment realizes the great expense the stamp price changes are causing.

Those of you who think you can compensate for the hike by mailing less still bear the burden of the new rate. Private mail isn't going to bear the cost, they are going to pass it on to the consumer by raising the price of consumer goods.

We hear talk from sympathetic businessmen who continue to tell us they are going to keep down postal rates. So far, running off the mouth hasn't helped. A simple solution to high postal rates is to take the franking privilege (free postage) away from our congressional representatives. This way, especially in the they are up for re-election when their boxes are stuffed with letters from voters, they will share the burden of their financial blunders with the American.

Frank Fuller
1501 Hwy
College Station

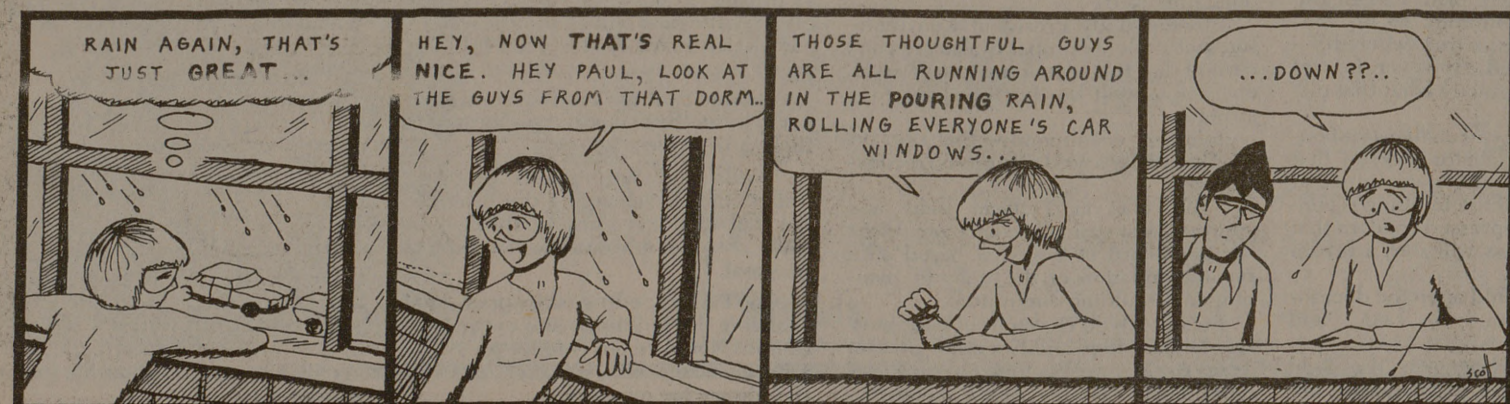
the small society

by Brickman



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Warped



By Scott McCullar

Opinions in short form

Editor:

I am writing this letter concerning the

THE BATTALION

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station. Opinions expressed in The Bat-

talion are those of the editor or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Texas A&M University administrators or faculty members, or of the Board of Regents.

The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography within the Department of Communications.

Questions or comments concerning any editorial should be directed to the editor.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length, and are subject to being cut if they are longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for length, but will make every effort to maintain the intent. Each letter must also be signed, show the address and phone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and not subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address all inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

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