

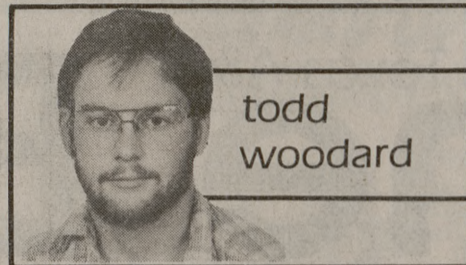
Slouch

By Jim Earle



"It's my plan for making the maximum use of solar energy!"

Increasing our net worth



todd woodard

Imagine a picture of a Texas A&M student, her white silk blouse in tatters, looking forlornly at you from a stark black and white photograph. Under the photo runs a one-line appeal for money: *This Aggie needs your help — Give.*

Hardly within the bounds of reason, huh? Well, with the increasing drain on the financial resources of Texas A&M, we could use the money, says President Frank "Please Help" Vandiver.

He says our outlays are outrunning our inlays, and he is willing to lay odds that our school colors will shift from maroon and white to red and white if we don't get the green to move our credits toward the black.

Our ledger balance is sinking, or will have the appearance of sinking, for a variety of reasons, such as more construction, a larger, faster computer system and more books in the library.

I thought because of immense amount of brain power oftentimes lying fallow here, finding a solution to our money woes would be as easy as taking PUF from other state universities.

So, after picking some of the best brains on campus, I put together a proposal for increasing our net worth:

Kyle Field Heat Stroke Rokkconcert (or Shindig)

To be held in the dead of summer, when nary a wind blows and the sun barely burns the 90 percent humidity off by 9 p.m. The idea of a concert that would

draw fellow travelers from Houston, Dallas, Austin and Waco has been bandied around since time immemorial, but one stumbling block has always been the prohibition of alcohol on the forever green football turf of Kyle Field.

The solution to that block is simple. Keep intact the prohibition on beer and whiskey and tequila, but allow Percodan, PCP and pot. With generous amounts of cool water supplied by hoses and firemen from the nearby fireman's school, the drugs could be ingested with no problems, and for those people about to rock (or two-step), the water would help them salivate to new heights of debauchery.

The financial benefits are gainfully obvious. Since College Station is close to everything, everything must be close to College Station. The potential crowd would far outstrip the 70,000+ seating capacity of Kyle, probably running near 250,000. At \$5 a ticket, my between-the-ears calculator says that gross would be \$1.25 million, not to mention the massive

tangential business pharmacies at food places would do.

Subtracting \$100,000 tops for five bands, another \$200,000 for tising, staff and security, and \$50,000 for sun screen and \$50,000 in miscellaneous expenses es out to \$450,000 for more computer system memory, or a leather-bound editions of the English Dictionary (unabridged).

The field itself would be put to and higher use since, like many brains who helped with this propo, it lies fallow during the summer.

Would you like to talk exposure kind of exposure would put us above sunburned shoulders of other southwest school, even the City of Texas.

And we're talking fun. Imagine up near the top of the third deck setting on the lights of the Small Clinic, you leaning back with a glass filled with cool water, your pink, flabby legs radiating heat, your throbbing from inhaling a blend of sulfuric acid blend, listening to sultry tones of Crystal Gayle or the ly power of Rush. Hey, baby, livin'.

And if we didn't spend our money on books or memory or newly made blouses, we could have patede with our cool water the next year baby, that's livin' it up.

Of car designs and romance

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON — Despite revved up rebates, improved warranty mileage and other promotions, auto sales continue on the dire side.

All sorts of explanations for the slump have been advanced, some of them pretty fanciful. For example, auto engineers participating in a recent survey blamed lagging production on such factors as management, government and unions.

Note, if you please, the engineers blamed engineering hardly at all. Yet a motorist may wonder if auto designers are really as blameless as the survey would indicate.

One of the scholarly papers prepared for an auto show in New York this month traced the impact of motor vehicles on love relations.

"Cars helped revolutionize American romance," wrote sociologist Lynn Atwater. "They moved courtship off the front porch and into the front and back seats of the car and then to motels."

Atwater must have been referring to older models.

Despite the introduction of reclining seats, many contemporary cars definitely have lost something insofar as abetting lovers is concerned. Bucket seats alone have cooled enough ardor to keep a Playboy club running six months. Perhaps that helps explain why new car sales have been falling off.

Lovers can, after all, always catch a bus to a motel.

It may be persuasively argued that Detroit's single most effective contribution to romance

was the rumble seat. "Rumble" nowadays usually means a confrontation between street gangs. But in the infancy of the automobile it meant something a lot different.

Moonlight uninhibited by vinyl roofing. The wind and the rain in her hair. Believe me, neither the convertible, now all but gone the way of the manual crank, nor the sun roof favored by today's designers could ever replace the rumble seat as a passion pit.

Another heavy blow to motorized romance was the disappearance of a gear shift lever emerging from the floorboard.

Millions of romances began when a driver reaching for the gear shift knob accidentally grabbed his companion's knee instead. And then Detroit had to go and spoil it all by designing something stupid — like the automatic clutch.

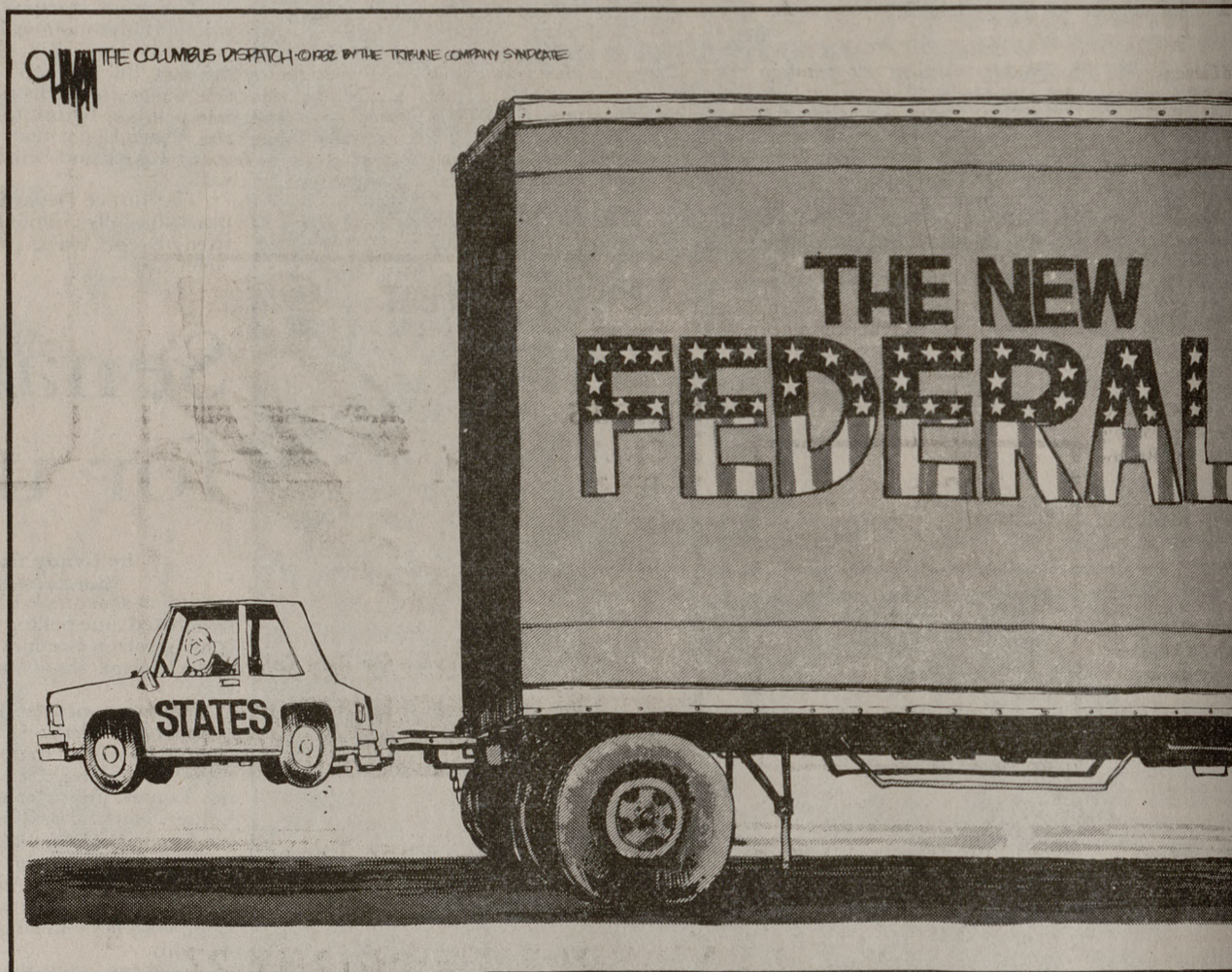
Still another engineering impediment is the precision fuel gauge.

Time was that a motorist taking a date home could count on running out of gas at some convenient spot — namely, one lovers' lane.

Accurate measurement has ruined that ploy, and many a love has gone unrequited as a result.

While these design mistakes may have brought on heavy unemployment among auto workers, it isn't too late for the industry to accommodate courtship trends.

The first U.S. company to introduce a model with a candlelit dashboard can send the Japanese reeling back to the drawing board.



Letter: A&M's integrity seems doubtful

Editor:

Attention: Board of Regents and President Vandiver:

I was recently sickened by the publicity which arose concerning the inexcusable and distasteful conduct of the Texas A&M Board of Regents.

I am insignificant compared to the more wealthy and influential alumni. But last year, in the tradition of A&M graduates, I started my own business, and this year I will enjoy my first significant profits. It is with great pleasure that I have pledged contributions of 10 percent of my profits throughout my lifetime to those institutions, which helped me get my start. I have planned gifts this year to my church, my high school and North Carolina State University, where I received my master's degree.

It is with sadness that I have planned no contributions to Texas A&M. I love my school, but I can not and will not under any circumstances support administrative policies which deal with employees in an unprofessional way. You have cast doubt on the integrity of our school, and you have opened to question the merit of every diploma received by all former students.

Faber F. McMullen, President
Drilcon International Inc.
Class of '77

Freedom of speech

Editor:

For Mr. G.D. Moore and anyone else

who is interested, let me go on record now as a supporter of the recent Christian speakers who have been tearing up Mr. Moore's beautiful days on campus.

I have no intention of opening the proverbial can of freedom of speech worms. Instead, if you, Mr. Moore, had the courage and nerve of these obnoxious zealots to publicly preach your contrary convictions, I would defend your right and encourage your commitment to do so. The questions of life after death are very serious in consequence, and consequently deserve more consideration than most of us ever give them.

Can I look forward to hearing you blow your horn, Gabriel?

D.S. Zimmerman '83

More abortion debate

Editor:

I sincerely hope that this letter will be printed because I believe that it is vitally pertinent to the issue of abortion and I also feel that many students share my views as well.

I am by no stretch of the imagination a "self-righteous Christian." Ask any of the people who know me and this will be quickly confirmed. However, being a Christian, I was disturbed by Bonnie B. Langford's letter of February 16 and more specifically I was puzzled by the last paragraph of this same letter.

Although it is true Jesus never forced his beliefs on anyone, as Bonnie Lang-

ford has pointed out, he was an opinionated man who was not afraid to speak out against all forms of evil and wickedness. Nothing better exemplifies this than His constant warning of repentance to those who sin. In regards to Jesus' love and concern for children I offer these verses from the Bible:

"Whoever then humbles himself as a child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me; but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depth of the sea ..."

Matthew 18:4-6

"Permit the children to come to Me (Jesus), and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it at all."

Luke 18:16-17

I ask you, Bonnie Langford and the rest of you Christians, is there any doubt that preventing the birth of a child would keep it from realizing its potential in God's eyes? Finally, concerning the question of when human life actually begins, which is the fuel for all abortion debate, it is a problem with a solution that is incomprehensible to mortal man. Since God only knows the answer to this question, I will leave you with this scripture from the book of the prophet Jeremiah:

"Now the word of the Lord came to me (Jeremiah) saying,

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,

And before you were born I consecrated you..."

Daniel T. Smith '84

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 style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter

must also be signed, show the address and phone number of the writer.

Articles for Reader's Forum are also accepted, and are not subject to the length constraints as letters. Address inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

The Battalion

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

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

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