

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"Look at the positive side of flunking your first test. When you pass the course, your teacher will have a feeling of satisfaction of having improved your growth, if you follow what I mean."

America infatuated with finding diet

by Dave Spence

Did you know that the fourth bestselling book right now is Richard Simmons' "Never say Diet?" And that the fourteenth bestseller is "Jane Fonda's Exercise Book?"

It would seem that anyone could publish a fitness guide these days.

Well, that just isn't so.

A publisher demands a great deal from the manuscript of a shape-up book. It must be accurate, and still simple. Effective, yet fun... Complete, but not tedious. And most importantly ... without excuse ... above all else ... and as you can see from this interview, it must SELL.

"Err, is this Mr. Lippid's office?"

"Yes, yes, I'm Lippid. Come in. Have a seat. What can I do for you, Mr. ...?"

"Mr. Dingleberry. George Dingleberry. Mr. Lippid, I'd like you to publish a book of mine. A guide for physical fitness."

"Another shape-up book, huh? Oh, well, why not? All 38 we've published so far have sold."

"This isn't just another fitness plan, sir. It'll revolutionize the way Americans ..."

"Cigar, Mr. Dingleberry? I love cigars. These are hand-rolled."

"Oh, no thank you. But as I was saying, I can shave tons off America's backsides."

"Like a drink? Whiskey, rum, screwdriver?"

"I'll take some orange juice."

"No vodka?"

"Just plain O.J."

"O.K. Plain O.J. Like a few Oreos with that?"

"No thank you, sir."

"Well, then, get on with what you were saying."

"Yes. Well, I've formulated the ultimate fitness program. It's dynamite. I'm very excited about it!"

"What d'yuh call it?"

"I thought 'Dingleberry's Diet' had a nice ring to it."

"Dinglestein's Diet?! No, no, no."

That'll never sell. We'll need a gimmick for it. Like ... 'The Inner-Diet' or 'Totally Fit' or ... I've got it! 'War Against Cellulose.' We'll make it sound like a video game!

"I'm flexible about the title, sir."

"Good then ... Now, fill me in on how this program works."

"It's a new approach, Mr. Lippid. Common sense! A simple, reasonable, straightforward diet and exercise combination that cuts calories and then burns more off with activity."

"Am I to assume that you want your readers to exercise?"

"Certainly."

"Hell, Dangleburns, if they wanted to exercise they wouldn't be sitting down to read your book, now would they?"

"In order to be fit they have to spend time ..."

"Fatsos don't want to spend time getting fit. They want to pop a pill and then eat their hearts out, guilt-free. You got any pills for these slobbs?"

"That's dangerous, Mr. Lippid!"

"That sells, Mr. Doonsbrook! But, O.K. I can see your point. How 'bout starch blockers?"

"Don't need them."

"Protein boosters?"

"No, but ..."

"Vinegar binges?"

"That's disgusting!"

"I suppose you don't even have some kinda super-low-cal milkshake they can have for breakfast!"

"I think you're missing my point. There aren't any gimmicks to my program. I just want my readers to be active like the human body was built to be, and to eat like it was meant to eat."

"O.K., Dingleton, I like you. We'll forget the milkshakes and pills and tell the public the truth. Yah, it'll be a new angle! But we gotta find someone that the public will listen to and believe to supposedly write the book. Of course, you'll ghost write it."

Letters: Pop test real surprise

Editor:

When it comes to teachers, I can handle almost anything — bad English, incredibly long proofs, pop quizzes, and the like. But this semester is a first.

When a test is given without prior notice, it's a pop quiz. When it's given over sections you have not even covered yet, it's insanity. Yet this happened in my

mechanical engineering 212 class. When the syllabus says that section 2.10 is not to be covered until Friday, Sept. 10, I don't know it too well on Monday, Sept. 6. Nor did the rest of the class. But we were quizzed on it anyway.

Beside the fact that answers could not be gotten without a calculator, (which I had not brought), when I confronted the teacher about the syllabus conflict, he said, "The syllabus is for you, not for me. Don't argue with the teacher." Argue! Who's arguing? I just want to know what's going on in this class! Authorita-

rian rule or what? Just what is the syllabus for?

I feel I have to speak out through the paper because in HIS class you simply don't —lest you be made a fool. On another occasion, when someone at the back of the class asked: "Could you speak a little louder, please?" he replied, "Can you see this writing? Read it!" And the list goes on.

Realizing that teachers are only human, I sympathize with their task. But when they begin to treat students as less than human, they deprive themselves and the students of a valuable learning experience. It's only because of the few good teachers I know are out there that I keep on trying. I just wish I would get more of them.

Rick McDonald '85

Library hours complaint

Editor:

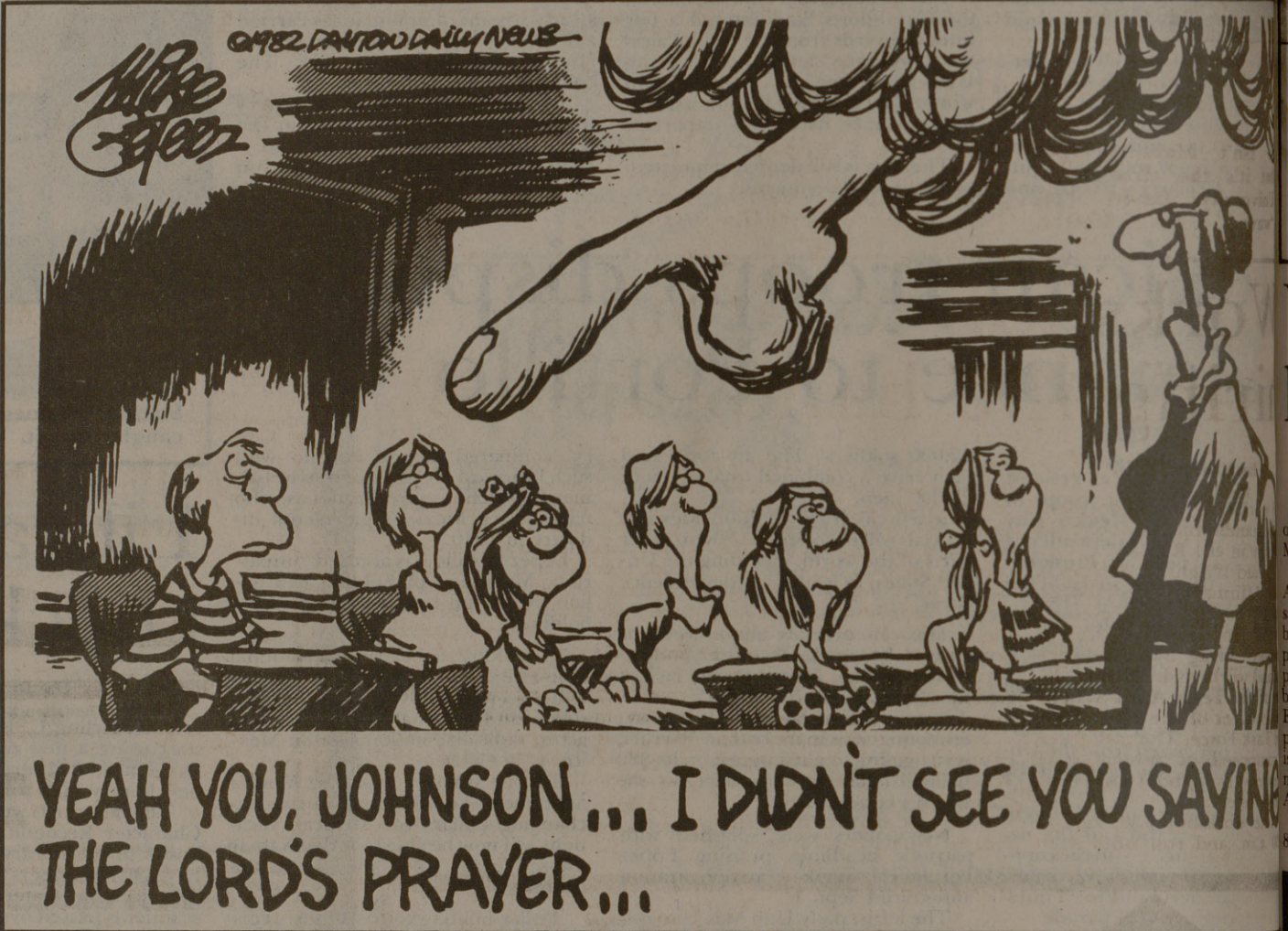
Having read periodic emotion-drenched essays extolling the virtues of

Texas A&M, as well as witnessing freshly fore-sighted rhetoric coming the University's potential as a Learning Center, I am obliged forth a benchmark question to the

mic community. That is, does it out there in Aggieland know the rationale for closing the main library p.m. on Saturday and, for that matter, p.m. on Friday?

According to some, the spine of university is its library. By such a close policy, the spine of Texas A&M posed as weaker than it should be. A simple yet substantial decision is needed to remedy this situation, the sham continues. In locking out students from its principal sources of knowledge, Texas A&M is locking itself into leagues.

Jonathon L...



Letters: Kyle Field traditions, hats

Editor:

Why? Why does every discussion about traditions always have to become an argument that traditions are good or traditions are bad? Obviously, any A&M traditions help make the University a unique and worthwhile experience for its students.

The key is determining just what makes a tradition worth observing. Programs such as Silver Taps, Aggie Muster and Final Review require no explanation or justification for those who have witnessed or participated in these ceremonies. They are meaningful because they show that Aggies care — about their school, about their state, about each other.

The problem starts when someone suddenly declares that Kyle Field is a memorial to A&M war dead and EVERYONE should remove their hats when entering the stadium. Yes, when I was a fish in the Corps in the late 50s, we were told to consider Kyle Field (and every other stadium where the Aggies played) as if it were a house and, of course, you took your hat off in the house (everyone knew that). There was no claim that it was a memorial to any war dead, it was just something members of the Corps did. Although an attempt was made to build an "Alumni Memorial Stadium" some seven years BEFORE the first stadium was authorized by the A&M Board, construction never was begun.

I would appreciate it if someone (anyone) could show me where the stadium was ever dedicated as a memorial and when it was decided that no one could wear a hat inside its gates. I've been to a lot of games in Kyle Field and never seen a time that hats weren't worn by numerous spectators.

Don't get me wrong. Mr. Jordan's letter (Sept. 8) which criticizes traditions in general puts us on opposite sides of the fence. But, on his questioning of the hats-off policy, we agree.

Jerry C. Cooper '63

Flags over Kyle Field

Editor:

In reply to Miss Cogan's (Sept. 14) obvious mistake concerning Kyle Field, I submit Campusology Question #12 (from the Corps of Cadets Standard): How are the 55 Aggies who were killed in World War I commemorated? "Commemorative plaques are on the trunks of 55 trees that surround the main drill field. Fifty-five flags fly over Kyle Field at each football game, and there is a granite memorial located at the West Gate."

Thus, Kyle Field's status as a memorial. Not to mention the fact that it is the burial place for Reveille I, II and III. In reference to the MSC, it is a memorial to all fallen Aggies, most noteworthy of these being the eight Congressional Medal of Honor winners. Eli L. Whitely is the only person allowed to wear a hat in the MSC.

There are many other memorials to fallen Ags around the campus, including Fish Pond (WWII), the Grove (Kyle Drake '43), a memorial in Spence Park (Spanish-American War), the Duncan Memorial (those since WWII) and others.

Miss Cogan should research her history a bit more thoroughly.

Nadine Miller '85
W-1

More flags over Kyle

Editor:

In response to the letter of Sept. 14 from Diana L. Cogan who believes that Kyle Field is not a memorial: I wish to point out that Kyle Field is indeed a "memorial". She should pay more attention to the fact that 55 flags fly over Kyle Field at each football game to commemorate the 55 Aggies who were killed in World War I. For that reason, hats should be removed while in Kyle Field to show respect to those Aggies that gave their lives. The so-called "myth" about

Kyle Field being a memorial to the war dead is indeed a reality.

There are also plaques on the trunks of 55 trees that surround the main drill field and there is a granite memorial located at the West Gate to further commemorate these Aggies. As far as the Memorial Center is concerned, it too is a memorial, but for those Aggies killed in World War II. In addition many memorials can be found around campus for those Aggies who were killed in wars.

S-2 MARAUB...

Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 12 signatures.

Off with hats

Editor:

In response to Diana Cogan's (Battalion Sept. 14, 1982) concerning Kyle Field's status as a memorial, I would like to give her the following information. The 55 Aggies who gave their lives in World War I are commemorated at three specific places on campus. Their names are listed in the Corps of Cadets Standard (page 34, #12) and are as follows:

"Commemorative plaques are placed on the trunks of 55 trees that surround the main drill field. Fifty-five flags fly over Kyle Field at each football game and there is a granite memorial located at the West Gate."

For this reason we "certain Aggie" Miss Cogan refers to us, shall continue to perpetuate the NON-myth that Kyle Field is a memorial. So come on Aggie, get off!

SQUADRU

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

The Battalion

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

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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 and show the address and phone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and are 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, or phone (713) 845-2611.

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