

Non-Bull-Hevable

Story by
Brandi Ballard

A&M professor retells humorous stories of Aggieland with *Good Bull* trilogy

It's a little story for ya' Aggie! It is about bull — good bull and not so good of it. There was this man, Gene Hoyle, a professor of education administration and Class of '80 who was full of good bull stories.

More Aggie Escapades was published. Soon, Hoyle couldn't go anywhere without somebody telling him a story.

Good Bull III: Even More Aggie Escapades, was released the day before Thanksgiving.

The book contains over 500 stories about Aggies that Hoyle finds humorous.

"It is the humor side of history that no one has told," Hoyle said.

Hoyle's son, John R. Hoyle, Jr., Class of '82, illustrated the book.

The book is endorsed by such noteworthy alumni as Gene Stallings, Billy Pickard and Lisa Branch.

"I didn't think anything could be better than *Good Bull II*, but *Good Bull III* has it beat," Stallings said.

Pickard said it is a must read for Aggies of all ages.

Part of the royalties from the sale of *Good Bull III* will come back to A&M.

The remainder goes to a fund to help Hoyle's four grandchildren to attend college.

Incidentally, the book is dedicated to his grandchildren, who Hoyle said will undoubtedly attend Texas A&M. Over Thanksgiving he signed a copy for all of them to take home.

Hoyle said his daughter Laura, Class of '84, phoned him the other day and told Hoyle his grandson Michael would not go to bed until she read him one of his grandfather's good bull stories.

She said when he gets up in the morning, he comes downstairs, stands in front of the television and does commercials promoting his grandfather's book.

"I would love to be there to hear it," Hoyle said.

had been telling them to his years, and quite frankly, she had of hearing them.

He told me to put them in a book so she wouldn't have to hear them anymore," Hoyle said.

That he did, Hoyle is the author of *Good Bull*, *Good Bull II* and *Good Bull III*, books filled with humorous stories about A&M.

He played first base on the Southwest Conference Championship Baseball Team.

In 1984, he received the Award of Merit from the American Baseball Coaches Association. Hoyle has been widely recognized as an engaging and informative speaker on a variety of topics.

He loves to tell stories and make people laugh," Hoyle said. "This is a book that makes you laugh and relieves your worries."

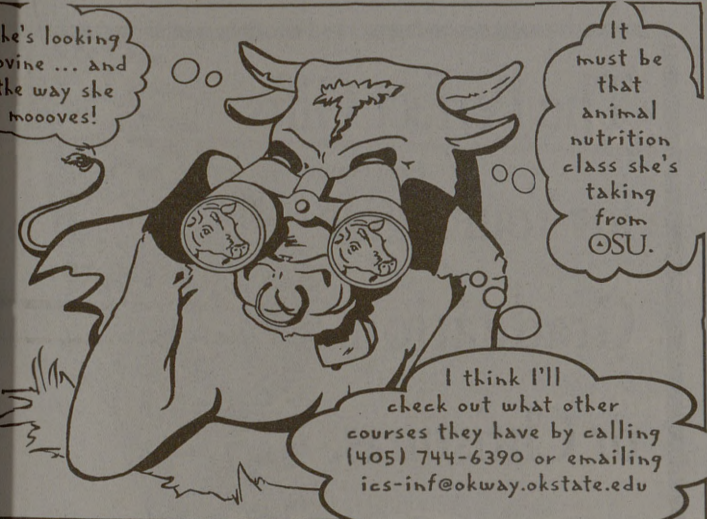
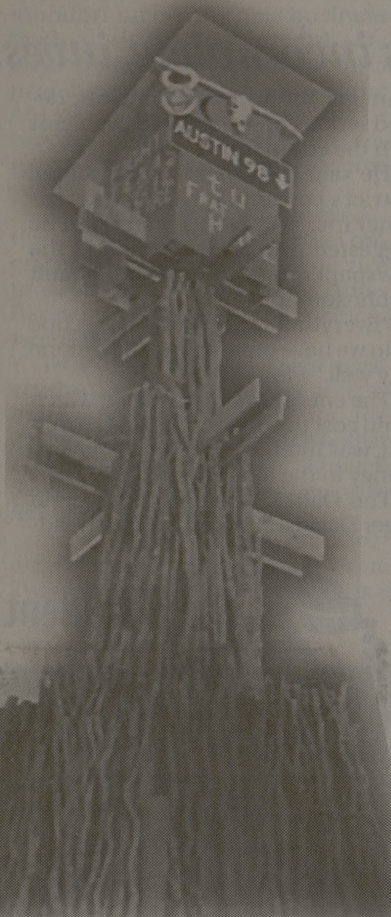
In 1990, *Good Bull: 30 Years of Aggie Escapades* was released and well received by Aggies.

He became popular with both current and former students all over the world," Hoyle said.

He then began doing book signings and the popularity

pretty soon, he was getting good bull stories from all over the world.

In 1992, *Good Bull II:*



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Parents of the Year '98

Cast turns the thunderstorm potential of John Grisham's *The Rainmaker* into a drizzle

Movie Review

The Rainmaker
Starring Matt Damon and Danny DeVito
Directed by Francis Ford Coppola
Rated R
Playing at Post Oak Cinema
★★★ 1/2 (out of five)

The *Rainmaker* is a legal little fish in a big pond story from the master of law, action and suspense stories, John Grisham.

The story is sweet and simple and feels as down home as Memphis, where the story is set. However, it falls short on punch and leaves the viewer feeling as if they have been watching a legal show on the tube.

The movie chronicles the life of young lawyer Rudy Baylor, played by Matt Damon, as he struggles to establish himself in the law profession.

He lands his first job with J. Lyman Stone and Associates where he learns the art of ambulance chasing.

Danny DeVito lends his typical smart-alecky performance as Deck Shifflet, a fellow associate in the firm, who provides naive Baylor with the definition of a hustler cum lawyer.

When the head of the firm,

"Bruiser" Stone, played by Mickey Rourke, is investigated by the FBI for tax evasion, among other charges, Baylor and Shifflet begin their own partnership to avoid any legal entanglements.

Armed with three of Baylor's cases and Shifflet's sway-lawyer abilities, they set out to face the world.

While attending a law seminar, Baylor meets Mrs. Black whose son is dying of leukemia.

The Blacks are a poor family who pay their health insurance regularly.

When there son is diagnosed with curable Leukemia, the insurance agency denies their claim.

This is where Baylor steps in and decides to take on the case.

Baylor holds a case in his hands that will put them into a legal battle against a rich insurance company.

Rainmaker is packed with many actors providing excellent cameo performances.

Randy Travis appears briefly as an aggressive potential juror.

Andrew Shue leaves the norm of his sensitive Billy in "Melrose Place" and supplies an excellent but chilling wife-battering husband to Claire Danes.

Roy Scheider (*Jaws*, "Sequester") also joins the cast as C.E.O of the insurance agency, and Danny Glover leads the cameo cast as a judge.

However, the lead actors do not come through, with the exception of John Voight's poignant

character Leo Drummin.

Voight is no stranger to outstanding performances and his character delivers the haunting cruelty of a ruthless, rich lawyer.

DeVito lends his abilities to a supporting role, but his performance is predictable as a cutesy lawyer who knows how to worm out of the system and provide little sarcastic remarks.

Damon is a new face to the screen and can be described as a cross between Chris O'Donnell's boyish charm and Tom Cruise's intensity.

Damon has been receiving many rave reviews for his upcoming performance in *Good Will Hunting* but does not add electricity to *Rainmaker*, only a sizzle.

Damon's acting does do the job and brings tears to the eyes of audience members.

When the credits roll up at the end, it is surprising the movie was made by a phenomenal director, Francis Ford Coppola.

Rainmaker does not live up to the expectations of a Coppola film.

Rainmaker is a good film to see on those days where an audience member is upset with the world and need something to make them feel good.

The acting, set and story come together to produce a warm, fuzzy-feeling movie, but they do not live up to the mystique of a Coppola film or a Grisham novel.

— By Marium Mohiuddin

People in the News

Squiggy joins cast of "Bold and the Beautiful"

NEW YORK (AP) — He must be bold. David L. Lander, best known as Squiggy on "Laverne and Shirley," is joining the cast of the soap opera, "The Bold and the Beautiful."

"People can't quite believe I'm on a soap, least of all this one," Lander says in the Dec. 13-19 TV Guide.

Starting with the Christmas Eve episode, he'll be seen as Dr. Martin Guthrie — brother of Mike, the show's

diabolical security guard.

The South setting for Collins' holiday special

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Christmas is extra special below the Mason-Dixon line for Judy Collins.

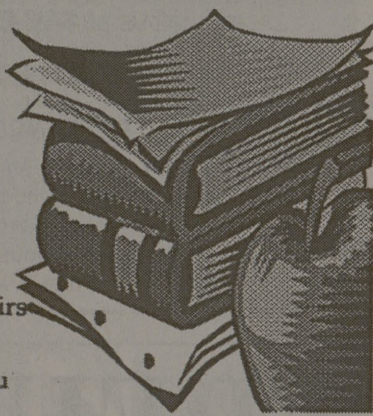
"Christmas is a very big deal in the South," the folk singer said Friday. "It's in our bones."

That's why she went to the Blue Ridge Mountains to make her holiday TV special, "A Judy Collins Christmas at the Biltmore Estate," which airs Monday on the A&E cable channel.

GOOD LUCK ON FINALS!!

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