

# Brahma Tales



Douglas MacArthur High School  
San Antonio, Texas

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Shakespeare

Hamlet



Of only a few books can it be  
said that death hath no dom-  
inion over them;  
they live,  
and their influence lives forever.  
— J. Swartz

# Editorials

## "Go-Away" Method Solves Nothing

"Rain, Rain,  
Go Away.  
Come Again Some Other Day."

When one grows up, he supposedly puts away his childish things, including childish solutions to problems.

Yet today this "go-away" method of dealing with danger lingers in many who are considered mature adults.

Specifically, these adults fail to acquaint themselves with drug facts. This editorial is not an attempt to shift the blame to another set of shoulders. The majority of the responsibility still lies with the teenager who has so long demanded adults' rights and must now make an adult's decision.

Not to be ignored however, is the part the uninformed adult plays in the spread of drug abuse. As people who have lived for a quarter of a century longer than the "now generation", adults are a natural source for young people to use in formulating ideas. When elders cannot answer questions or answer with weak excuses such as "Take my word for it son just don't get involved," or the classic "It's hard for you to understand now, but you'll thank me someday for putting my foot down," the teenager is often disgusted and turns to drugs to satisfy a curiosity which could have been appeased with sufficient knowledge.

It is time for those who have taken a stand for or against drugs to be able to justify their decision with facts. It is no longer enough to label drugs as bad or good. We must realize that drugs, like everything else, have a useful purpose, but that improperly employed, the results can be disastrous.

The ostrich which hides its head in the sand and refuses to acknowledge an enemy's presence, not only does not eliminate the problem; he makes an excellent target for kicking.

### BRAHMA TALES

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REMEMBER STUDENT ELECTIONS...



## Individuals Suffer From Stereotyping

If the fingernail-on-blackboard effect could gauge the frustration of hearing people consistently evaluate other people collectively, then certainly there would be many clawing digits.

Stereotyping has become the easiest excuse for proving a person incapable of surpassing his "image."

Evidence of stereotyping individuals occur most frequently by racial groupings:

The Negro still typifies the foolish slave of yesteryear or the Amos and Andy breed. The Latin American exemplifies the "manana, manana" attitude with the "Jellow Pages" dialect. The Indian brings to mind primitive man with primitive speech, "HOW." Only the white man implicates superiority; he alone has a little damaging stereotype.

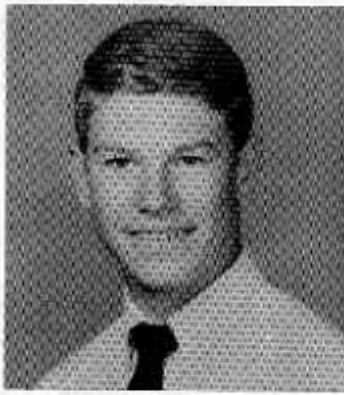
In addition to racial stereotyping, there are minor, but common, groupings. Often heard are locality references. The Southwest San Antonio inhabitants are gang fighters and dope pushers. Southeast citizens are "ghetto" dwellers. The Northeast representatives are the affluent and influential crowd.

Appearance also marks a person. The shaggy, slightly unkept but equally knowledgeable person will rarely be recognized by conservative colleagues.

The idiosyncrasy of stereotyping will never lessen or stop. Our system of order is based upon classification, as life itself is arranged into genus and species.

Yet, in this age of increasing awareness, more emphasis needs to be placed on a person as an individual.

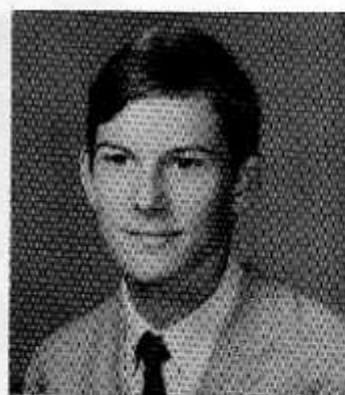
America's melting pot has bubbled into separately identified sediment. The pot requires stirring so that the only tag on human beings in this nation is the tag of American.



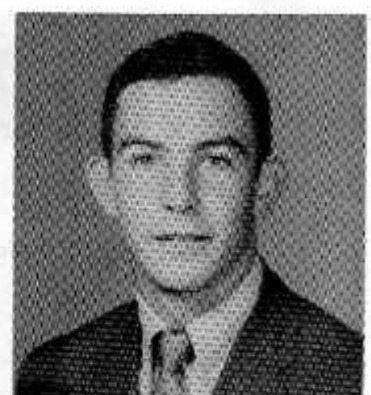
Ted Alexander



Tom Romo



Wayne Seipel



Stuart Platt

by Brenda Speert

Student Council election fervor has begun to kindle as candidates prepare final speech drafts. Yet, the list of hopefuls looks no more name-filled than a list of K.P. volunteers!

First indications pointed to harrowing contest for the vice-presidency, but the battlefield of four dwindled to two as pair of juniors surrendered their applications to to office. The "pre-registration" of these two nominees was accomplished without the boys' authorized signatures.

Of the nine candidates filing for the five Student Council positions, only two non-juniors have ventured into the race.

Enthusiasm is a lost word in describing the election situation. The offices, because of a dearth of applicants, could be decided, as a last resort by the flip of a coin.

Presidential and vice-presidential candidates were asked by the BRAHMA TALES to respond to questions concerning the significance of their election.

#### Presidential Candidates

**Ted Alexander**, who was the 1970 class sophomore president, explained his desire to claim the Student Council presidency as his final service to the school and as a chance for personal betterment. His campaign for office, which he jestingly termed a "force of habit," is structured to advocate a more tangible unity within the school through

improved communications. Alexander also hopes to promote extracurricular activities, which he feels is the key to better school spirit.

Considering his qualifications, the three-year representative commented, "It is not my place to determine whether or not I am qualified. If the students agree with my ideas and think I am capable of carrying them out, then they should vote for me. But, if I seem all talk and no action, they would be foolish to elect me Council president."

Opposing Alexander is another veteran representative, **Tom Romo**. Citing his three years Council experience, in addition to the presidency of his freshman class, Romo intends to utilize his practical knowledge in fulfilling the presidency office. His leading objective is to fuse the ties between the Council and the student body.

Committee work has been Romo's foundation in business procedures. The basis of his campaign he believes will be his perseverance. "I will work my hardest to represent the students in every way possible." Romo asserts. "In addition," he resumed, "if elected to this position, I

will give all the time and effort needed to make next year's Student Council the best."

#### Vice Presidents

The vice-presidential ticket is composed of a junior and sophomore.

Junior class President **Stuart Platt** entered the race with this explanation. "Just as our nation's leaders help our country, they also gain much themselves. I truly hope I can help our school as well as gain maturity myself."

Platt's three year tenure in the Council includes attendance at Trinity's state Student Council officers workshop and this month's journey to the state Student Council convention.

Upon his election, Platt expounded, "It is hard to plan this far ahead, but I truly believe one of our most important projects should be to unite the school since the lack of communication has harmed our unity."

The most vehement answer about election intentions came from Sophomore **Wayne Seipel**.

"I am seeking office because I want to destroy the misconceptions about Student Council, mainly that the group does do something for the stu-

dents. The main purpose of the Council is to save the faculty the trouble of organizing a few dances and other activities."

Seipel feels that votes are gained on popularity; hence, the desire to run is founded on greed. He intends to vie for the vice president's job in order to be heard. "None of the other candidates want to do what I want to do," demonstrates Seipel. He hopes to give the student a voice in school affairs whether it concerns rules or course selection, which he holds as most important.

Reiterating his views, Seipel concluded, "I will listen to anyone else who disagrees with me. If they prove convincing, I will change my opinion."

#### Other Offices

Completing the ballot's entries are Duzie Gordon and Marsha King for corresponding secretary; Dolores Dixon and freshman Mary Beth Fischer for treasurer; and Connie Cox, who receives congratulatory announcements prematurely for her uncontested run for recording secretary.

Elections, occurring during advisory periods, will take place next Thursday and Friday.

# File 13



By Brenda Speert

... The Oakwell Library, the Public Library's branch located next to Garner Jr. High School, will be dedicated Sunday, March 23. Bookworms will be able to invade the building after the 7 p.m. ceremony.

... Robert E. Lee High School was cited recently in the state-wide University Interscholastic League newspaper. The school has been put on probation for mistreatment of officials at last year's One-Act Play competition.

... Publicized in the S. A. News was Alamo Heights' announcement of two new science course offerings, Geology and Oceanography.

... Another innovation practiced in Mrs. Marilyn Jones' senior English classes consists of an artistic interpretation of **Brave New World** through the medium of collages. This project annuled themes on this book.

... In celebration of the MacArthur boys swim team district championship, girl team members presented an elaborately decorated cake for the victorious boys. Yet, the cake cutting ceremony was stalled when a knife was nowhere in sight. A solution was found, however, when an ingenious thinker took a piece of cardboard to the cake.

... Students planning to register for the ACT or CEEB tests should secure information and applications now. The \$6 ACT test will be administered at SAC. April 26 while the \$14 composite CEEB test will be administered May 3. Deadline date for the ACT is March 24. Deadline for the CEEB is April 5 while penalty date is April 19.

... It is said that in a library, one can lose his sense of time. But, it was with a startled jump that seventh period students responded to an awkwardly timed bell. The student's response was to Vice-Principal Jim Davis, who in this case tripped the burglar alarm while entering the library from a back entrance. Needless to say, the students who thought the warning signaled a fire drill were reconciled.

## Satel's

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## ROTC Out Shoots All District Foes

MacArthur ROTC Rifle Team shot down Roosevelt, Lee and Churchill successively in district indoor petition.

The gunners opened the season March 3 with a 1018-836 win over Roosevelt at Roosevelt's rifle range. The six-man team returned March 10 to rout Robert E. Lee 1003-860 at Lee.

A third match March 17 at MacArthur netted an official 1033-845 win over Churchill.

High scorer for the Roosevelt match was Scott Tarkenton, followed by the other members of the team: William Eicher, Robert Little, Tim Miller, Stephen Sellers, and Cecil Smith.

The competition is held on a 50-foot indoor target in each position of competition; prone, kneeling and standing.

## Spring Carnival Blooms In May

The annual Spring Carnival, sponsored by the Student Council, will take place May 3, from 5 to 10 pm., behind the girl's gym.

Any advisory or club is eligible to enter, and must have already placed their entries into the Council by Monday, March 17.

A variety of entertainment will be offered. Those attending may indulge in everything from good food to tricycle races or marriage ceremonies.

Profits from the affair will go to the various organizations and advisories sponsoring booths at the carnival.

Target sheet contains twelve 1½ inch targets, similar to those used in archery. The points are tabulated in a manner similar to archery giving more points the closer to the bulls-eye one hits.

The rifle team will wrap-up its season with a match against all other North East district schools April 7.

## Brahma Band Shoots For Sweepstakes

The Brahma Band will compete in the University Interscholastic League concert and sightreading contest at John Jay High School Friday, March 21.

Entrance requirements include the preparation of two selected numbers and one warm-up number. The warm-up number will be "Land of Lincoln." "Italian In Algiers" and "Symphonic Movement" will climax the concert.

In this competition, sightreading measures a band's ability to play numbers it has never seen before. The prepared numbers displays a band's degree of accomplishment through rehearsal.

A first division rating in concert and sightreading in addition to the first divisions in the marching contest last fall would give the band sweepstakes for the second consecutive year.

# Mac Wins Top Honors At French Symposium

Not even a drenching rain, an attack of appendicitis, or nearly total confusion could prevent MacArthur's French students from clinching top honors at the Fifth Annual French Symposium, Saturday, March 15.

The annual contest, plagued this year by rain, confusion, and even an unfortunate attack of appendicitis to a Trinity entrant moved to Our Lady of the Lake College for a day packed with both excitement and disappointment for its 800 contestants.

The 98-member Brahma delegation, sponsored by French teachers Mrs. Dee Moynihan and Miss Pam Griffis, included 14 first place winners, six second place finishers, and four who placed third.

Marcia DeBerry, a MacArthur senior who excels in two languages besides French, is one of three students being considered for a \$500 scholarship after being judged one of the most outstanding seniors in the Symposium.

The day's schedule began with a welcoming assembly at 8:15 a.m. Scheduled events (grammar, poetry, prose, dramatic reading, etc.) continued until 4 pm. in the afternoon. MacArthur's AFS Club, sponsored by Miss Pam Wright, catered an awards banquet honoring the various

schools in MacArthur's cafeteria later in the afternoon.

Climaxing the day's events, Le Treteau de Paris, an acting company from Paris, France, presented "Antigone" at Our Lady of the Lake College in the Thiry Auditorium.

Of the 22 state-wide high schools entered, the four runners-up were given French books by the French Cultural Ambassador in Houston. The Brahmans accepted an impressive trophy for their efforts.

MacArthur's list of winners included: French I—Gail Factor, Debbie Edgarian, Sally Ehlert, and Richard Carnes; French II—Marcia DeBerry, Jean Dupree, and Janet Miller; French III—Karen Carignan, Anna Armstrong, Debbie Stewart, Kathy Couser, and Valerie Thomas.

In art, Dawn Lavelle, Kathy Couser, Billy Eicholts and Fritz Holstrum received honors. And in music, Paulette Gipson, Beverly Eldrige, Janice Marks, Nancy Rumbel, Katie Papa, Cassie Grim, Phyllis Trcka, Kay Marks, and Allison Stoye walked off with top honors.



Ginny Singleton happily displays the trophy she was awarded for winning the advertising layout competition at the DECA state convention.

## Junior Girl Wins Deca Ad Contest

MacArthur Junior Ginny Singleton walked off with first place in her field of advertising layout at the annual Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) state convention in Dallas, March 6-9.

The convention was held at the Dallas Statler Hilton and hosted over 3000 students from the 400 DECA chapters throughout Texas.

Ginny, along with Junior Gidget Dixon and Miss Cindy Mason, the MacArthur DECA coordinator, traveled to Dallas for the convention after having won first division awards at the area convention. February 1 at Harlandale High School. Gidget won area competition in job interview but did not place at the state convention.

Ginny and Miss Mason are now bound for Atlantic City and the National Convention May 5.

Of the six DECA chapters in the NorthEast District: Churchill had a second place in job interview and Lee had a third

in studies in marketing along with an award for outstanding service station trainee.

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