Project Patterns
Tim Lister

Circa 2007

We Are Hard-Wired
To Recognize Patterns

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Once You've Seen One…

A Pattern Language…

An American Pattern…

A Slant

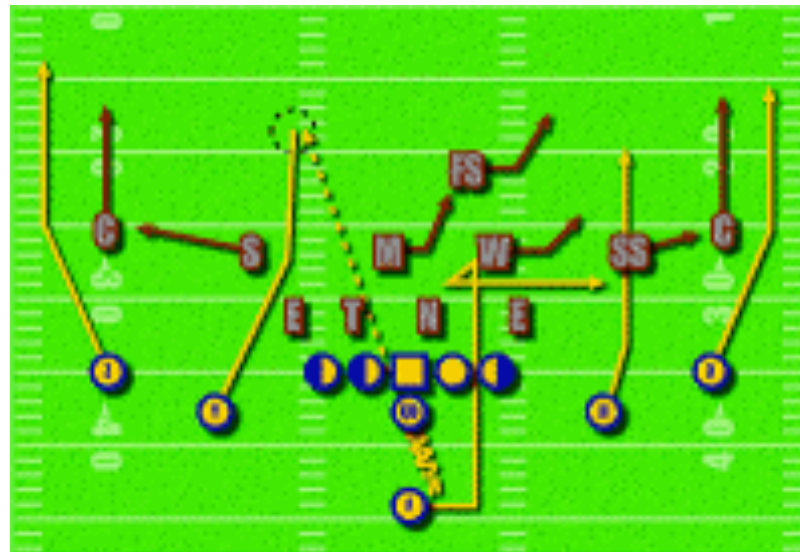Diagram 1

A Texas Pattern…

Patterns In Our Sphere…

Patterns Can Be
Good, Bad, Or Neutral

They can be very powerful

"Dreaming permits each and every one of us to be quietly and safely insane every night of our lives."

William Dement
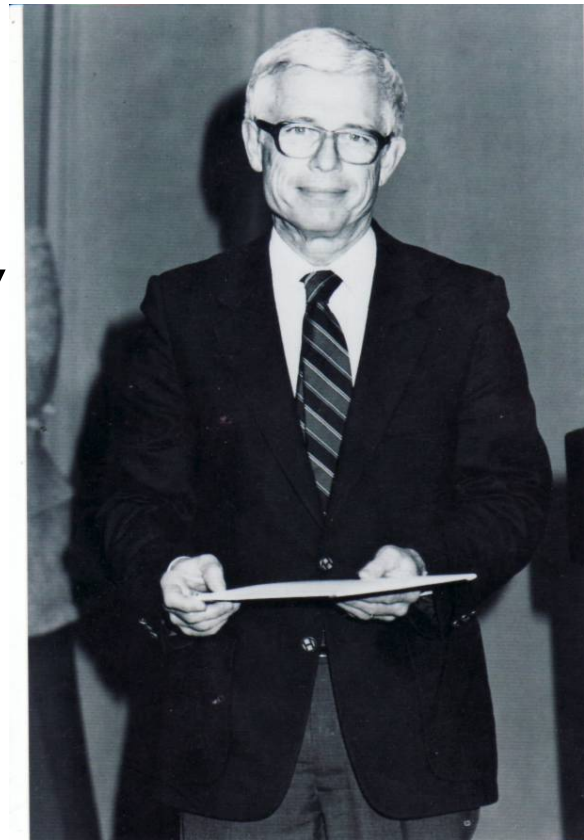
They Trump Best Practices !

Learn by Example…

"Only mathematicians and physicists prefer to learn by concept. All others prefer to learn by example."
            Bill Lister

Safety Valve

To counter the intensity of their work, the team devises a pressure release activity that becomes a regular part of team life.

Mañana

The loss of a "natural" sense of urgency.

Lessons Unlearned

Retrospectives rarely trigger change. (Sorry.)

Project Sluts

Managers who just can't say, "No."

Dead Fish Pattern

From Day One, the project has no chance of meeting its goals; most people on the project know this and say nothing.

(It sits on the table of far too many projects.)

Dead Fish Pattern

- How can we accept projects formulated to fail?
- Everybody smells it right away.
- Everybody hunkers down.

Who's to blame for this loathsome situation?

Who's to blame for this loathsome situation?

Me, and my generation.

Dead Fish Pattern

The joy of success. It lets you:

- ☀ try hard
- ☀ learn
- ☀ experiment
- ☀ have pride

We will be talking about patterns for the next few days.

No better time to strike up a conversation about Patterns than lunch, or over a pint…is that a pattern?

Recognizing project behavior patterns

- why is this project like other projects?
- why is this project different from other projects?
- what is the abstraction?
- how can we make it memorable?
- destructive patterns are easier to find, then try looking for the opposite