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COMBINATION STADIUM SEAT AND ARTICLE CARRIER

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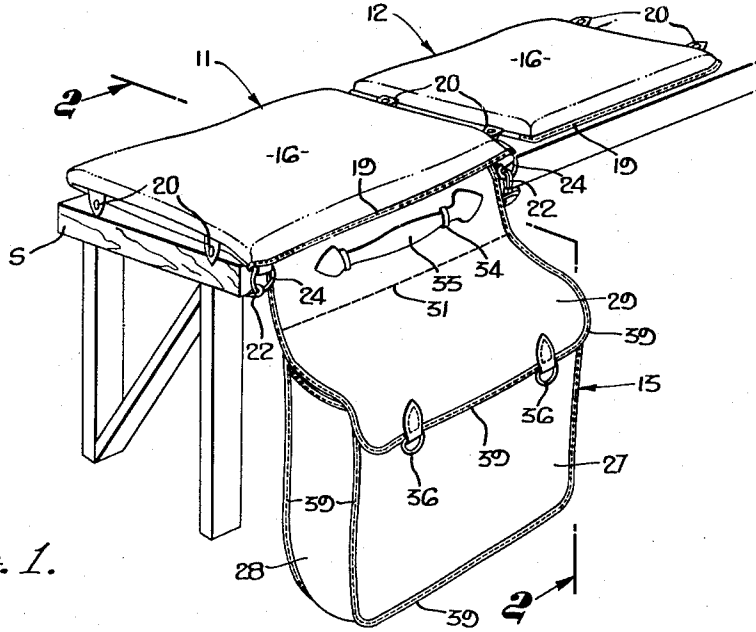


FIG. 1.

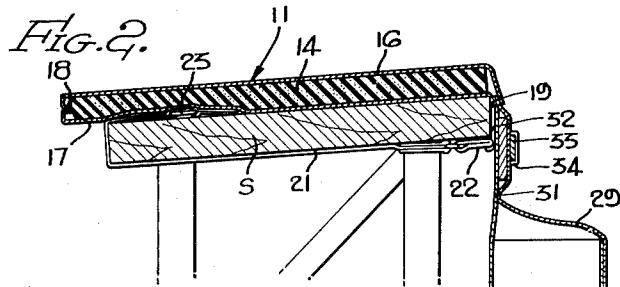


FIG. 2.

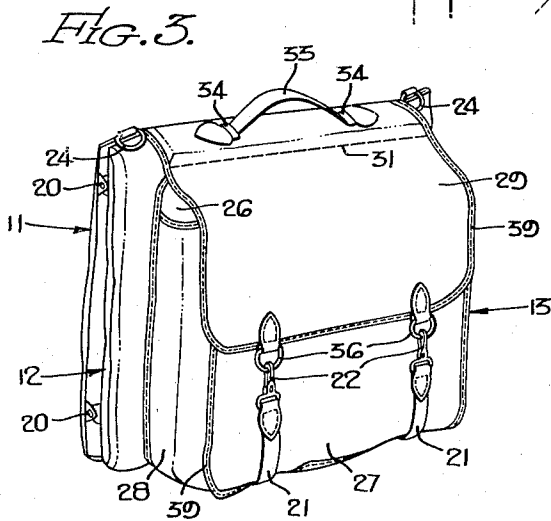
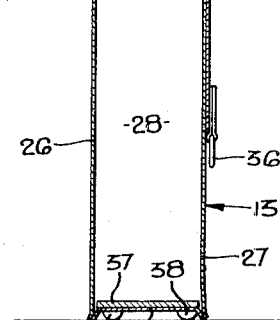


FIG. 3.



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COMBINATION STADIUM SEAT AND ARTICLE CARRIER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 155—133)

The present invention relates to sporting goods in general and particularly to a portable unit which functions both as a stadium seat and as an article carrier. More particularly, the invention comprises a unit adapted to be transported in the manner of a briefcase when not in use and which may readily be opened and positioned firmly upon a hard unyielding permanent stadium seat to provide a soft cushioned seating surface and at the same time a readily accessible container adapted to carry thermos bottles and the like.

The conventional stadium or grandstand seat is a hard unyielding surface formed by an elongated board or slab of concrete usually some seventeen to eighteen inches in width and about sixteen to seventeen inches high. It is generally spaced from the underlying floor of the stadium. Such stadium and grandstand seats while hard and durable are not comfortable, particularly after the fourth or fifth inning in a baseball game or after the first half in a football game. Their hardness does not contribute to human comfort and makes extremely desirable the provision of resilient cushions. The unit constructed in accordance with the present invention provides the human comfort for the user lacking in the conventional stadium or grandstand seat and additionally incorporates as an integral part means by which liquid refreshments can be transported. The bottle-carrying facilities are so arranged that with the seat cushions positioned upon the stadium seat an open-topped container is positioned forward of the seat proper and rearwardly of the legs of the person occupying the seat so that the contents can easily be reached.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new and improved stadium cushion unit.

It is another object of the invention to provide an improved combination stadium cushion and bottle carrier unit.

Another object of the invention is to provide a unit incorporating a plurality of resilient cushions adapted to be positioned upon an unyielding stadium seat and also a container readily available to the user and from which liquid refreshments can be obtained.

These and other more specific objects will appear upon reading the following specification and claims and upon considering in connection therewith the attached drawing to which they relate.

Referring now to the drawing:

In Figure 1 a unit constructed in accordance with the present invention is shown positioned in operative relationship upon a stadium seat;

Figure 2 is a vertical section upon the line 2—2 in Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a view in perspective of the unit removed from the stadium seat and assembled in carrying relationship.

Referring again to the drawing, the unit constructed in accordance with the present invention is seen to comprise a pair of cushions indicated by the reference char-

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acters 11 and 12 and a receptacle or container unit 13 which is attached to cushion 11. The unit is adapted to be opened up and positioned upon a horizontal seat, indicated by the reference character S which in the drawing is shown supported by legs at a suitable height above the ground or floor. Each cushion 11 and 12 comprises a resilient pad 14 and top and bottom surfaces 16 and 17 secured together at seams around their peripheries. The seam may be inturned as at 18 or external as at 19. In the latter event a protective binding is secured along the seam in a conventional manner. The pocket or chamber formed by the covers 16 and 17 provides a closely fitting receptacle or chamber for the resilient pad which may be of foam rubber, kapoc, horse hair or other suitable material. Upon their opposite ends each of the cushions 11 and 12 are provided with snap elements 20 adapted to interengage selectively so that the cushions may extend in flat aligned relationship, as illustrated in Figure 1, or placed in side-by-side relationship as illustrated in Figure 3 in which case all four sets of snaps interengage.

Cushion 11 is provided with a pair of resilient straps 21 carrying conventional spring latches 22 at their free ends and connected by rings 23 at their opposite ends to the undersurface 17 of the cushion. Cooperating freely pivoted rings 24 are carried by the cushion 11 at two of its corners and are adapted to engage the latches 22 with straps 21 extended under the seat S and in order to retain the cushion 11 in place in the manner illustrated in Figure 1. Adjacent cushion 12 is retained in place by its connection through the snaps 20 with cushion 11.

Container or receptacle unit 13 is seen to have a width slightly less than the length of cushion 11. The receptacle comprises a back wall or surface 26, a front wall or surface 27, a collapsible side wall 28 which extends around three sides of the front and back walls 26 and 27, and a cover 29 which overlies both the back wall and the front wall and forms a displaceable closure for the interior of the bag.

As is seen most clearly in Figure 2, back wall 26 and cover 29 extend outwardly beyond the limits of the front wall 27 and the side wall 28 and are connected at seam 19 of the cushion 11. They are also interconnected by a seam 31 at a point spaced from the seam 19 to provide a pocket which seats a rigid plate or strip 32 in fixed position between the cushion 11 and the container 13. This strip forms the rigid back for a handle grip 33 which is attached thereto by suitable connector clasps 34 of conventional type which extend through the cover 29 and into the insert. As is seen clearly in Figures 1, 2 and 3 the cover 29 hangs freely from the seam 31 by which it is attached to the back 26 and is of sufficient length as to extend part way down the front of the front wall 27. At its lower ends it carries a pair of spaced rings 36, similar to rings 23 and 24, which also are adapted to be engaged by the latches 22 with the bag in assembled relation and with the straps 21 extended under the container 13 and upwardly along the front wall 27 in the manner shown clearly in Figure 3.

Container 13 is given a fixed width at its bottom by the provision of a rigid bottom wall 37 upon its interior as shown in Figure 2. Supporting buttons 38 upon its underside contact a supporting surface and prevent scuffing. The marginal edges of the container 13, including the boundaries of the cover 29, are preferably enclosed in a binding 39 for purposes of protection and appearance.

Considerable latitude is possible in the selection of the material from which the walls of the cushions and the container are made. In a preferred form, however, these

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walls are waterproofed fabric or fabric rubberized on its inner surface as to become water- and moisture-proof.

The use of the cushion and carrier unit constructed in accordance with the present invention, is believed to be clear. During transit the unit will be related as illustrated in Figure 3 with the cushions 11 and 12 extended in side-by-side relationship and so secured by the snaps 20. The straps 21 extend downwardly and under the container 13 and then upwardly until the latches 22 engage the rings 36 at the lower extremities of the cover 29 to hold the container 13 against the two cushions. The handle 33 is then positioned on top and the unit can be carried much in the manner of a briefcase.

Upon reaching the stadium and it being desired to position the unit, the latches 22 are unhooked from the rings 36, the snaps 20 along the left side of the cushions 11 and 12 are separated, and the cushion 12 is extended out at the right of cushion 11, as viewed in Figure 1. If it is desired, however, the snaps at the righthand side of cushion 11 could be disconnected and the cushion 12 extended at its left. The straps 21 are then pulled rearwardly, downwardly and forwardly under the stadium seat S and secured to the rings 24 thereby positioning the cushion 11 securely with respect to the seat and so the cushion 12 through its interconnection with the cushion 11. With the cushion 11 so secured, the container 13 hangs downwardly in front of the stadium seat, in the manner clearly illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, the cover 29 extending over the open top of the container. Access to the interior of the receptacle may be gained simply by lifting the cover 29. The removal of the unit is the reverse operation from that just described.

While the particular device herein shown and disclosed in detail is fully capable of attaining the objects and providing the advantages hereinbefore stated, it is to be understood that it is merely illustrative of the presently preferred embodiments of the invention and that no limitations are intended to the details of construction or design herein shown other than as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a stadium cushion unit, a pair of flat resilient cushions, means to secure said cushions in flat side-by-

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side folded relationship and in extended coplanar relationship, a collapsible bag open along one of its ends and secured to the forward edge of one of said cushions, a cover overlying and hinged to the open end of said bag, and securing means secured to one of said cushions and adapted to hold said cushions folded together against one side of said bag, and cooperating securing means on said cover separably engageable with the securing means on said cushion for retaining said cover closed and said cushions folded compactly against said bag.

2. In a compactly folding stadium cushion unit, a pair of cushions provided with snaps along their opposite sides, the snaps on said individual cushions being engageable with the snaps on either side of one another when said unit is unfolded, a collapsible open-topped bag secured to one of said cushions along the edge thereof, a handle grip secured to said unit adjacent the connection between said one cushion and said bag whereby said cushion and said bag hang in side-by-side relationship when said unit is folded for carrying, and a strap secured to said one cushion of a sufficient length to extend under a conventional stadium seat, and cooperating securing means on said cushion adapted to engage the end of said strap to clamp said cushion in place on said seat.

3. The construction recited in claim 2 characterized in that said bag includes a cover for the open top thereof provided with securing means selectively engageable with the said first mentioned securing means to hold said unit compactly folded when not in use.

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