

# At The Movies

by Mike Plake

## "Barbarella"

Roger Vadim knew he had a good thing in Brigitte Bardot, his ex-wife. So he undraped her, reclined her on a couch, and invited a host of Italian photo-bugs to come and click.

Some years later, Vadim found his bright sexy star tarnished, and moved on to blonder, Fondish faces. He married Jane Fonda, alias Cat Ballou, alias a hot property with certain abilities, not the least of which is to follow Lee Marvin on his dirty white horse.

Vadim is partly responsible for Barbarella, and deserves part of the blame. The other part, if you read the credits for production, location and other sundry film helps, goes to Dino De Laurentiis, the Henry Ford of the Italian Movie Machine.

Two things in Barbarella operate on the fantastic level:

THE OPENING SCENE: I'd like to see this replayed for tele-

vision. NASA could sponsor it. Jane Fonda, rolling around weightless inside a spacesuit, inside a six-inch fur-piled, carpeted spaceship, enthralled with something or herself, originates the Astronaut Strip. And she does her thing well. I stand further on the fifth.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY: Enjoyable, comparable to "2001: A Space Odyssey," in some areas of the special effects. As Barbarella seeks her way through the Labyrinth with a Fallen Angel, the cameras take on a dream-like, artificial quality, close to a product of your imagination.

The plot, what there is, is this: Barbarella lives in the age of 40,000 A.D., long after space travel is conquered and the name of the Earth Republic's game, according to the leader's byword, is Love. Sexual intercourse can be had at the drop of a pill, the old, traditional way taken "only

by those poor people" who can't afford the ego-lifting, mind-blowing, hand-holding, pill.

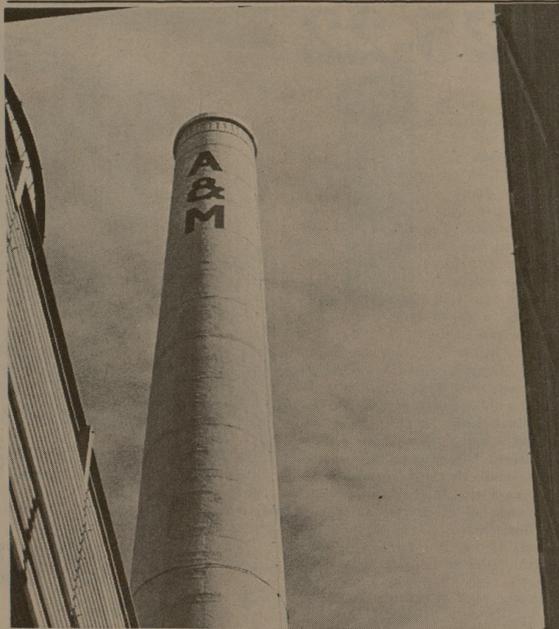
The head man on earth, observing Barbarella in her altogether, says a scientist, played by Milo O'Shea, has left the Earth's domain and is fleeing with the secret of the Positronic Ray, which means exactly that.

So Barbarella flights into the land of evil, sex, fetishes, masochism, sadism, and so on and on, in pursuit of the scientist, who turns out to be bad guy, who puts Barbarella on a pleasure machine that is intended to kill its victim with an overabundance of sexual pleasure.

But not so, Barbarella. She finds that the old fashioned way is best, and she is better than the machine at it. She kills the machine, raises the Fallen Angel, kills the mad scientist, escapes insane children who operate by computer, walking, biting baby dolls.

Not only that, she escapes the death of the birds, the death of the evil Matamoros sea, and discovers the only way to fly.

A lousy flick with an entertaining opening.



**HIGH AND MIGHTY**  
The smokestack rises over 200 feet above the A&M campus. There were two of these monsters before one of them was torn down in 1963 to make room for the new water chilling units. (Photo by Richard Campbell)

## Smokestack Rises Above Ag Campus

By RICHARD CAMPBELL  
Battalion Staff Writer

As Aggies and many others zip up and down Highway 6, they may have occasion to glance at the campus that is Texas A&M and possibly happen to notice a startling incongruity.

Apparent to the eye is the outstanding feature which many say makes our undeniably lovely campus look nonetheless like a prison—that of a 200-foot smokestack.

You have probably wondered why the smokestack is there and if it is even in use at the present time. The smokestack itself is typical of any you would find in a large industrial plant in terms of size but here the resemblance ends. The stack on our campus is

used to carry off excess water vapor from the boilers in the school's physical plant whereas those in industry are used to carry off big amounts of waste and pollution.

The stack rises 204 feet, six inches above the surrounding landscape, has the awesome girth of 14 feet, two inches at the base and eight feet, 10 inches at the top, and was built in 1942 at a cost of \$8,358.94.

In the years before most of us saw the campus, there used to be two of these concrete monsters standing side by side. The older of the two, and the highest, was torn down in 1963 to allow more room for the new water chilling units now erected behind the campus laundry. But now there remains just the one with the A&M painted on its upper torso. It used to have "A&M College" on it until the school was promoted to University status and then it was discovered that "University" would not fit on the tower so they just eliminated the word "College."

Of the odd things that have occurred concerning the stack, the oddest seems to have happened in 1959 when lightning struck the taller stack and took off the top 20 feet. It knocked all of the concrete loose and necessitated the use of lightning rods which now function on the top of the present stack.

The future plans of the stack will be to continue to perform its present job, that of carrying off the non-toxic excess gas from the boilers. So even if the stack's appearance tends to detract from the beauty of the campus as a whole, it does still perform a useful service.

The world's biggest fish is a whale shark. Curiously, the 40-foot monsters feed on microscopic plankton and tiny fishes.



### ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Congressman and Mrs. Olin Teague of College Station have announced the engagement of their daughter, Jill Virginia, to Otis F. Cochran Jr., a Marine Corps officer candidate at Quantico, Va. Miss Teague is a 1968 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.

### This Week At The MSC

Tuesday — SCONA will hold an informal luncheon at noon in the ballroom. The Great Issues Executive Committee meets at noon in room 3-D. At 7 p.m., the Political Forum will meet in the ballroom.

Wednesday — The Public Relations Organization meets in room 3-D at 5 p.m. Contemporary Arts meets at 7:30 p.m. in room 2-D.

Thursday — Great Issues will meet at noon in rooms 2-B-C-D. The Leadership Committee meets at noon in room 3-B. The Great Issues Seminar Service meets at 8 p.m. in the assembly room.

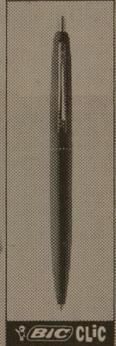
Friday — The MSC Chess Committee meets in rooms 3-B-C. At 8 p.m., the Contemporary Arts Films, "Earth" & "Vampyr" will be shown in the ballroom.

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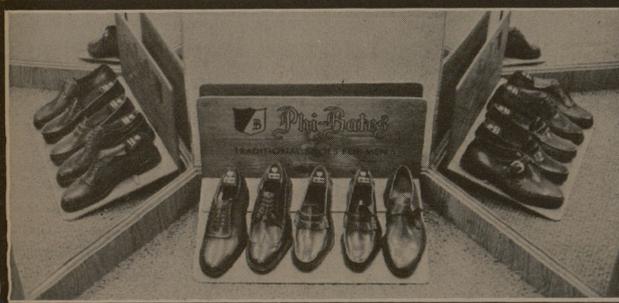


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# Tower Raps Halt

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — Sen. John Tower, R-Tex., said Monday the halt in bombing of North Vietnam "smacks of sheer politics" and added that the action, if desirable at all, "should have been withheld until after the election in order to insure national unity."

Tower made his statement in a news conference here. He is in his hometown to take part in a rally Monday night for fellow townsman Paul Eggers, Republican gubernatorial hopeful.

Tower said his statement was not part of any concerted action by Republicans. Richard Nixon, GOP presidential nominee, has repeatedly refused to call the bombing halt politically motivated.

"The reaction to the bombing halt by President Theiu of South Vietnam suggests this action has been hastily contrived and fully planned," Tower said. He added, "a delay appears to have been desirable, at least until the full cooperation of South Vietnam could have been assured—lacking that, the action should not have been taken in the first place."

Sen. Tower said the halt should not have been called without the full approval of our fighting men and without full reciprocal action by North Vietnam.

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