

Listen Up

Tree removal criticized as 'dubious'

Editor:

The Battalion of March 6 stated that proposed campus landscaping includes the removal of trees in the median on Main Street, in order to more clearly define the entrances to the campus. According to General A. R. Luedecke, "The trees must be removed because they obscure the view to the center of the campus."

In our opinion, the trees lining the center of Main Street are a much better sight than the concrete lawns sprouting around the campus. Cutting down trees would more clearly define the parking lot between the YMCA and the Coke Building. Too many trees have been removed from the campus for buildings and parking lots. We feel that removing trees to bring concrete and the pigeon-infested Academic Building into view is a dubious plan, at best. Let's keep the trees with their shade and let Sully suck it up for the view from the tracks.

- David Funderburke '75
- Nathan E. Bauer Jr. '75
- David W. Hightower '75
- Kent Hubbard '75
- Mike Isenhower '75
- Jerome Urbanosky '75
- Dan Tuffly '76
- Roger Biggers '76
- J. R. Sparrow
- Steve Hicks '77
- Dan Freeman
- Rosendo Martinez '77
- Andy Graham
- Stanley Howard '75
- John Allen '76

- Charles Gimarc '75
- George Evans '77
- Dale Butler '75
- Bill Griffin '76
- David J. Russo '73
- William J. Farris '75
- Robb Muil '75
- Becky O' Neal

★ ★ ★

Editor:

In the March 6 Batt Mr. A. R. Luedecke is quoted as saying "The trees (in the medians in Main Street) must be removed because they obscure the view to the center of the campus." This statement is totally irresponsible and is, if not criminal, certainly immoral in its lack of concern for other living things. This attitude is typical of the entire administration of this university in its program of "improvements."

I, personally, will do everything in my power to stop this wanton destruction of life and beauty and call upon all other students who have any concern for the state of their world to join me in saving these harmless, graceful living beings. We must not allow our university to be degraded by the destruction of trees simply to "improve" the view. Viva la Midnight Skulker!

P. Douglas Winship

The plants endangered are technically bushes not trees. For the sake of clarity we should point out that the trees on either side of Main Street are not in any way jeopardized by the plans. —Ed.

Kunstler

Sir,

I would like to comment on certain statements made by Mr. William Kunstler in his campus presentation.

The A&M administration did not violate Mr. Kunstler's rights as granted by the Constitution. Censorship consists of denying a person the right to speak, not of refusing to pay him to speak. The first amendment was satisfied when the administration freely allowed the use of the Rudder Center Sunday night and in no way impeded student attendance.

Mr. Kunstler advocates booing a disagreeable speaker off the stage. This is a direct violation of freedom of speech, even though Mr. Kunstler tried to justify it by calling it an "action of the people." "The People" have no more right to silence a speaker than an individual does.

Mr. Kunstler called for the removal of Rep. Teague from his position as Executive Director of SCNA because the congressman is "a partisan politician responsible to a constituency." If all "partisan politicians" were disqualified the position would have to be filled by someone who simply lacked the interest to take a stand on the important issues of the day, hardly an optimum choice for the post. Furthermore, I am not sorry Rep. Teague is responsible to a constituency, especially one that includes TAMU students.

I would be anxious if the post were occupied by a partisan politician like Mr. Kunstler (and the description does fit him as well as it does Rep. Teague) who is responsible to no one.

Finally, if Mr. Kunstler so actively supports and endorses so many groups that justify planting bombs by asserting that they are protecting their Constitutional rights, how can he condemn the White House Plumbers for planting bugs for the same cause? Surely he doesn't think the first Amendment is so much more important than a fifth which states "No person shall . . . be deprived of life liberty, or property without due process of law." If the Constitution and other laws of this land are to provide adequate protection for all citizens they must not be subverted for any cause. Lawrence E. Arnold Jr. '69

he is, after all, in the vanguard of those taking action right now to do just that.

I was especially pleased to see that Steve Kosub, of the SCNA fiasco fame, was in the audience to hear Mr. Kunstler. After his talk, Mr. Kunstler invited Mr. Kosub up on stage, and Mr. Kosub accepted. I wonder if President Williams even attended; and I think everyone who did attend would really like to hear what, if anything, Williams has to say about the remarks Mr. Kunstler directed at him. The Battalion would do us a great service by attempting to obtain a statement on this subject from our president.

Charles W. Hill, Jr.

We did. He had no comment and added that he never met the man.—Ed.

Parking fines

Dear Sirs,

I just received a copy of the new fines for parking violations. They are:

- 1st offense—drawn and halved.
- 2nd offense—drawn and quartered.
- 3rd offense—drawn and sixthed.
- 4th offense—drawn and eighthed.
- 5th offense—not able to escort a duck on campus. Warren Courtney Brown

More Kunstler

Editor:

As a graduate student at Texas A&M and as a member of the American Civil Liberties Union, I am pleased that William Kunstler finally did manage to address an audience here. I did not agree with everything he had to say. He was, however, forthright and thought provoking, and his ideas on the problems of our society certainly have a place in any forum attempting to study the re-ordering of America's priorities—

DR. STEWART D. STEPHENSON

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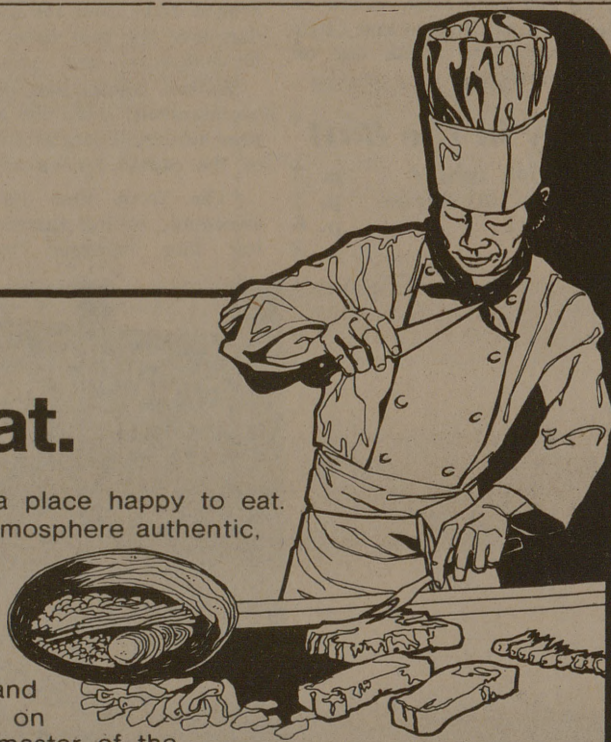
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