

Listen Up

MSC Council control over programming defended

The MSC Council has recently been the object of a number of vocal critics. While I believe much of their judgment is based upon misinformation about the MSC, there are only two requests I would make of them:

1. That they be consistent in their standards.

2. That they consider the implications of their arguments.

One standard in question appears to be whether or not the governing body of an organization should have the right to make final decisions in its operation. I find it somewhat hypocritical that the Battalion editor could argue the MSC Council should not review the actions of its own committees, yet at the same time defend his own power to review, change and "censor" articles written by his reporters. I also find it rather inconsistent that some student senators suggest total autonomy for MSC committees while retaining their right to review and/or disregard the products of Senate committees. It is indeed convenient for critics to apply one standard to the MSC

and another to their organizations... self-reflection is painful at times.

The implication of giving MSC committees and sub-committees unchecked power in their use of student service fees is interesting. For example, the annual expenditure of nearly \$200,000, which includes \$33,000 in service fees, by the Town Hall committee could be dictated by the whims of its chairman. If the Great Issues committee wanted to spend its entire \$16,000 budget on gurus and evangelists, no one could stop it from doing so. Of course, the Council could impeach these committees' chairmen, but little good it would do 19,000 students whose money was already committed in contracts. It seems that the students of A&M deserve better checks and balances on the expenditure of their money.

In regards to the specific rejection of "Pink Flamingos," I can only say that it was a judgment decision based on reviews and advertised comments about the film. Although I personally voted in favor of showing it, this was not

because I thought the film would be educational. Rather, I felt its showing would vindicate the Council from its recent criticism. While Mr. McNutt certainly has the right to suggest the film, which included a man and woman having intercourse while pouring chicken blood on their bodies, may be educational because it shows "what is going on in this world," the MSC Council must have the right to consider such films in relation to its objectives.

No human judgment is completely objective; but unless the students of A&M are willing to allow the unchecked use of their services fees, the MSC Council must continue to exercise prior restraint in the infrequent cases where it questions one of its committee's programs.

Chet Edwards
VP of Committees, MSC Council

Streak incident

Editor:
I am an animal. At least, according to President Williams, anyone who comes en masse to

his home to ask a question is doing "a great harm to the university and is an animal."

I was with approximately 1,000 other A&M students in the mall in front of the Academic Building. I must assume that everyone there had come to see a streak and were not offended by nudity. I saw no one there being forced to watch. About 11:00 the lights came on and groups of people started to leave. About that time one poor old streaker was unfortunate enough to get caught by the KK. We started for the "Y" well behind most of the crowd and came around on the southwest corner. The crowd was all facing away from where we were.

A guy was standing there in white shorts and a helmet. Some man in a white shirt (no uniform) grabbed him and tried to drag him into the door. He resisted. They struggled and the man got a necklock on the guy and dragged him toward the door. A man in a suit came out and together they got the guy inside.

My question is, why was this guy dragged inside? He had on shorts. Maybe he didn't have anything on under them but I was naked under my clothes, too.

It was because of this incident that I went over to President Williams' home. The students were peaceful, but vocal. We had a legitimate question as to what would be done to those streakers caught. We were told to disperse and that we were "doing great damage to a great university."

Why is quadding and stripping and dumping someone outside of town condoned as "good bull" but streakers get suspended? I enjoy the quadding and the streaks (haven't been in on a "dump") as a welcome break from the books.

Could the Batt possibly find out what happened to the guy in white shorts, why he was dragged inside the "Y" and whether

charges were pressed; or at least let me know how to go about it myself?

Alicia Wisener

What happened to "the guy in white shorts" is explained in a page 1 news story.

According to Dean Powell, streakers are no longer being suspended, but receive conduct probation.—Ed.

Observations

Editor:
Several observations from an out-cast "leftist."

1. Larry McRoberts' call for a boycott of vending machines is based on the wrong premise. He says that the monies received from sales is excessive and unnecessary for the A&M Board of Directors to have to spend. I hardly think so. Rather he should say that he is jealous of the use of funds without his consent, and that I can understand. McRoberts, has been infuriated by the spending of funds to improve the third level of the Kyle Field press box which he and most people will never see. But those who do see it, former students with money (and lots of it), state legislators and others can do more good than McRoberts may ever do for the future students of Texas A&M. I don't support the high price of drinks, but I do support Dr. Williams in his earnest desire to make this a better place for students who follow our own

Streakers

(Continued from page 1)

crowd wanted to hear," said Johnson, "and I was trying to quiet it. I didn't feel that the mob's tactics would work."

Johnson asked the president what was going to happen to the streakers, and what appeals they could make.

Williams said he was awakened by the crowd and was unfamiliar with the situation.

The mob demanded that the streakers be freed from punishment, and someone asked if the university regulations could be changed.

"I don't think there is a university regulation against streaking," said Williams. He added, "But this is no sanctuary against state law."

The president went to bed and Johnson urged students to disperse. "Let's not hurt the guys that are in trouble," he shouted. He was aided in his pleas by Howard Perry, assistant vice president for student services.

The mob became stubborn and adamant.

"I'm embarrassed by the students' reaction," Perry told reporters. "Coming to the president's house like this is a disgrace to the university and the state."

The crowd gradually grew smaller after Perry and Johnson left the steps of the president's house and everyone was gone from the president's lawn by midnight.

Where I Stand

Pd. Pol. Ad
by Bob Bell

the views of Bob Bell
candidate for mayor of College Station

City Goals and Objectives:

There are some very basic goals which College Station needs to achieve and I am pledged to support these goals:

1. An active beautification program for city owned lands, roadways, and public areas. Individuals will be encouraged to participate in a city-wide beautification program.
2. Parks and public recreation areas are not adequate. An expanded program of year round recreation for citizens of all ages is needed but College Station needs to provide parks, public meeting facilities, and perhaps it will be possible to erect a community center which will include a public library within a few years. A study by local citizens must begin immediately.
3. The most efficient use of city personnel and the most effective allocation of city funds must be given first consideration. The rapid growth of College Station means decision and plans made now will have greater impact on the direction of tomorrow's city.

His son, Matthew, attends College Station Public Kindergarten and his son, Michael, attends French's Wee Aggie-land School.

Vote for Bob Bell for Mayor of College Station, Tuesday, April 2, 1974.

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Faculty forum

Parking system called too inflexible

This is the first contribution The Battalion has received this semester in the Faculty Forum column. We encourage all faculty members to write for this column. By DONALD L. WOODS

Texas A&M continues to grow at a phenomenal rate and the parking of vehicles on campus has far outstripped the ability of the university to provide additional parking space. At the present time, the parking fund, generated entirely from vehicle registration fees, is depleted and a sizeable fraction of the expected income for the 1974-75 academic year will be needed to complete parking facilities presently under construction. With an expected enrollment of 21,000 this fall, up some 13 per cent from the fall of 1973, an additional 1,500 vehicles will come to the campus. The problem then is to accommodate

more vehicles than can be parked in the space available. The luxury of convenience which we, the students, employes and faculty alike, have enjoyed for so many years must yield to the necessity of accommodation. We are no longer a sleepy, little campus, but a major university.

A frequently heard comment by faculty and students alike is that parking on campus is a right. After all, "I pay \$18 per year and that entitles me to park!" This simply is not true. The university has made every effort to accommodate the desires of the campus population, but it is under no obligation to provide parking for anyone. Campus parking is a privilege and not a right. True, the funds used to construct most campus parking areas came from vehicle registration fees, but only because this was the only possi-

ble source of funds due to legal constraints.

The only thing constant is change. The change for most people will be giving up a few of the privileges we have enjoyed in the past. A plan that would eliminate numbered parking areas in favor of a limited number of parking zones is currently under consideration. This plan, if approved, would maximize space utilization at the expense of individual convenience. The privileges once accorded students and faculty can no longer be afforded.

A proposal involving a radical change or eliminating the duplicate registration permit privilege due primarily to abuses by faculty-staff members and their families is under study. Some changes in this area should be expected. The concept of individual re-

served parking spaces, long a status symbol for some faculty-staff members, is under attack from all sides. Severe restriction on individual reserved parking spaces or possibly even elimination of such spaces in the near future is probable.

The time has come to shed the parking policies of the past. The present system is too inflexible to adapt to a constantly changing demand. A new approach to parking space allocation will be required to accommodate the increased enrollment expected next year. Rather than being critical of the university administration for a few personal privileges lost, let us be appreciative of their efforts to accommodate us all.

Donald Woods is a research engineer for The Texas Transportation Institute and serves on the University Traffic Panel.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"... overcoat, raincoat, umbrella, bathing suit, shoes sultan oil — maybe something will be for th' weekend weather!"

The Aggie Cinema presents:

Sunflowers are familiar to millions, yet no one ever saw them the way Vincent Van Gogh did.

So with the Olympics: a recurring spectacle familiar to people around the world. This is no chronological record, no summary of winners and losers.

Rather, it is the separate visions of eight singular film artists.

This is:

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ALSO

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March 29 & 30 \$1.00
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by Ken Russell

The Battalion

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