

Listen Up

Film decision said abuse of minority rights, freedom

Editor:

To say the least, I was appalled to read the headlines in last Thursday's Battalion: "Koldus Bans 'Flamingoes.'" With the now officially recognized power of the MSC to determine which programming is to be allowed on campus and which is not, even if no student funds are involved, a very serious precedent has come into existence.

The question is no longer whether a certain movie should or should not be shown or by whom.

The matter changed to one of principle, that being ultimately whether academic freedom is allowed at this university. Also involved, it seems, is another battle over whether the in loco parentis concept of this university will be allowed to stand.

There are "pragmatists" among us who have no use for principles. To them I point out the principles, including that of freedom of ideas, written into our government almost 200 years ago.

There are those who condemn the film involved for its content. I agree with them. But I do not agree that this alone gives a

small group of people an excuse not only to set themselves up as a review board of what is and isn't moral enough for the student body to see, but also to use this incident to extend this power to control what we see and hear on this campus as effectively as the Kremlin controls what is seen and heard in the Soviet Union.

There are also those who believe that programming should be a function only of what the majority want. To them, I would point out the principle of minority rights in our system of government and the example that Socrates was in the minority when condemned to death for "corrupting the morals of youth."

I do not think the administration consists of unreasonable men, but I do think their present efforts in this case are terribly misguided. If the administration's stance remains unchanged, I hope that the Student Senate will reply to Mr. Guerrero's inquiry with: "We are here and are going to investigate this matter." I also desperately hope that this does not become necessary. I,

therefore, appeal to the reason of those in charge to recognize the full extent of what they are doing, and allow the movie to be shown so that this whole affair can be forgotten and we can move on to more important business.

Ralph McTutt

Brick wall

Editor:

I attended the Student Publications meeting concerning the firing of the managing editor, Steve Goble, on the basis that he is a non-student.

Mr. Harrison, one of the board members, stated that it was "a frivolous imposition on the board" to hold such a meeting. Why was it that the board was concerned more over the indignity of having to hold a public meeting rather than the issue at hand? Throughout the meeting, important points made by Steve Goble, Rod Speer and members of the audience were repeatedly passed over—maybe "The Board" should be re-termed "The Brick Wall."

In the course of the meeting it was acknowledged by some members that, yes, Steve Goble is a good managing editor. Steve also clarified that he dropped his courses in the middle of the semester in order to devote his full time and effort to the job. Nowhere in the Rules and Regulations Handbook does it say that a person employed by the newspaper had to be an attending student of A&M. Yet the board decided that because The Battalion is a student newspaper it should be operated by students, despite the excellent point made by Ms. Tommerup that in some of the best universities all over the world there is a special system where the students are exempt from taking courses in order to give their full attention to such important jobs as newspaper positions.

Yet the Board had already made up its mind to fire Steve and would not be deterred (the principle, you know). Not even being objective enough to listen to all the students' opinions, the meeting was adjourned and members quickly dispersed. To the board members, maybe, this meeting was a "frivolous imposition." I, as a student, considered it a serious matter as to

whether we have any voice in determining how our newspaper should be run. I'm thoroughly disgusted with meeting from start to finish. "Student vs. Establishment" is a term I've heard before, but I felt strongly there and resent that as a student I was not worked with but against.

Debbie L.

Front row

Marisa Galvany

by Kaino Kalos

A coloratura soprano voice is a musical instrument possessed as a gift of nature by a fortunate few that, when trained and disciplined, can be as expressive as a violin, as powerful as a clarinet, clearer than a flute and exceed all three in range and flexibility while combining poetry with sound. Marisa Galvany is a dramatic coloratura soprano, and displayed that voice in the Rudder Center Auditorium Tuesday night.

It is traditional for coloraturas to begin a program by gradually displaying the innate qualities of their voices and the versatility of techniques acquired. Usually this requires that they start with light, romantic songs in which the music and lyrics have been blended by the composer and thus present no serious challenge to either voice or dramatic skills. Miss Galvany, however, began with a rather difficult selection by Beethoven that required immediate intensity of control and dexterity in modulation. In the lower contralto range her voice was as rich and warm as an alto sax and the higher notes were properly soft and clear, but the demanding rapid transitions between were sometimes nasal and her voice

caught and broke on the sudden descents.

Next came Schubert's Die Krahe with reversed demands of softness and clarity for the lower notes and power and vibrancy for the higher. Her lyrical articulation was excellent and when she followed with Auf Dem Wasser zu singen, displaying both lyrical and musical articulation of superior quality, it was clear that she possessed the necessary skills, her voice was now under control and something memorable was about to be heard.

A little Brahms to show smoothness of tone and stage presence, a recitative to show that pitch and tempo would present no problem and then Sempere libera! All previous talents and skills combined like honey and hot butter, and not even the "Women's Lib" lyrics or her failure to sustain the final note could prevent that mingling of warm eyes and chilled spines by which we acknowledge a performance to be a new work of art.

For the sake of Miss Galvany and my own I wish I had left at intermission.

She began the second half of her program with the kind of

classical novelty songs that can be tolerated as only warm-ups. She did try and almost succeed in making "Fleur Jettee" sound like an aria, and the Spanish songs that followed almost made me homesick for Rosa's Cantina.

I was waiting for Puccini and hoped that she was, too, but her voice did not remain clear under the pressure of the tempo and range of the aria from "Turandot," and although it responded well to the more modest demands of "Un bel di," the closing was again more than a measure too abrupt.

The two encores were pleasant and predictable but in themselves hardly deserved a standing ovation. But what the hell! We give standing ovations at every performance and this was just not any performance. So we should have given her three; one by custom, one for trying to start at the top and one for breathing new beauty into Verdi's old aria.

Kaino Kalos is the pen name of a faculty member who would prefer to remain anonymous. Kalos will be providing The Battalion with reviews of cultural events brought to TAMU—Ed.

The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the University administration or the Board of Directors. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a University and Community newspaper.

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Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; Dr. Tom Adair, Dr. R. A. Albanese, Dr. H. E. Hierth, W. C. Harrison, Randy Ross, T. Chet Edwards, and Jan Faber.

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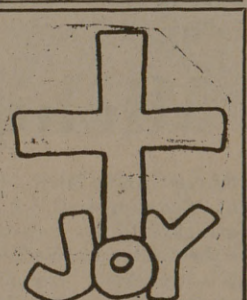
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THE BIG IF!



THE BIG IF!

CHRIST the Lord is risen today!

alleluia

IF CHRIST IS RAISED FROM THE DEAD . . . TRULY RAISED . . . THEN

DEATH IS NOT WHAT IT SEEMS TO BE. LIFE CAN NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN, FOR IT IS TRANSFORMED. THE WORLD'S ORDER IS SHATTERED BY THE NEW ORDER OF GOD. GOD'S RULE HAS ALREADY BROKEN OVER THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

The Christian stakes everything . . . his whole life and everything connected with it . . . on this one fact, that death has been shattered by the resurrection of Christ. If that hasn't happened . . . then we Christians are all on a truly dead-end track. We admit it. But we put all our money on the fact that Christ's grave has been vacated by a living body! We invite you to celebrate that event with us this Easter Sunday.

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL

315 N. Main — 846-6687
Hubert Beck, Pastor

SUNDAY
10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.
BIBLE CLASS
9:30 a.m.

Battalion Do-It-Yourself Censorship Kit



- In the case of streaking incidents, these "Battgoggles" may be cut out and worn. They may also be taken to movies like "Pink Flamingos" and "Gone With the Wind."
- If you see a picture you feel is obscene, paste one of these special Battalion "censor stars" over the offending portions. (These may also be used as a pattern for more stars. Hold them next to some black, middleweight construction paper and cut around the shape.)
- To cope with a word like **** or *****, cut out an appropriate number of *s and paste over the offending copy.
- Should you object to a William Kunstler rally or other speaking event, cut out these circles, wad them up and stuff them in your ears.

This kit should relieve all administration officials from any concern they may have that some material or person might reach the campus unplastered. (Additional copies of this kit are available for any members of the True Texans.)

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