

Listen up

Batt charged with knocking church-goers; forgiven once

Editor:
O.K. who's the wise guy who let it out in print? You guys may edit the only College Newspaper in town, but please try not to act like it. I'm no journalism major, but I do read the Batt—not because I want to but because I have to. You guys better watch it or next year, before you know it, the "Fork" will be running rings around you.

What am I talking about? This—"The Exorcist, however, is a multifaceted film that is not content just scaring people; it does more.

It makes them vomit.
It makes them faint.
It makes them see psychiatrists.
It makes them go to church."

Batt eds I charge you with using propaganda to influence the public thought! I claim you have used the technique of suggestion and association to criticize those that go to church.

Why? You guys are the editors. You all probably have at least an IQ of 100. You all have most assuredly taken the SAT, so you tell me:

Question: What does going to church have to do with vomiting, fainting and those that have emotional or mental disturbances?

Oh yes, I know—you didn't mean it that way at all. Sure. That's what any press agency would say when caught in the act of controlling the public. Regardless of whether it was ill-meant or not is irrelevant. The fact remains that this article remains unconscious propaganda. And un-

conscious propaganda still adversely influences the public!

How? Oh come on eds, we both know the technique of associative persuasion has been used for decades in advertising to gyp the naive masses by causing them to associate power, health, masculinity, and even beauty with various, sometimes useless products, right? And we also know of the press's subtle use of unconscious propaganda to downgrade certain politicians, right? Sure. Now you're in the act too, Batt—right? You've succeeded in doing your readers an injustice, too—congrats!

You are forcing your readers to, at the very least, unconsciously associate church going with vomiting, fainting and the mentally disturbed. Nice going, Batt eds; what do you do for an encore? Anyway, whether intentional or not, you Batt eds were supposed to prevent it. Let your readers decide for themselves whether going to church has anything to do with vomiting, fainting and those who need their heads shrunk. Let them make their own associations.

I'll forgive you this time, but listen up Batt eds—it had better not happen again.

Briggs R. Myrick
★ ★ ★

Beer bugged

Editor:
Last night while enjoying beer at Sparky's I feel that I was unjustly accosted by an employe of the Texas Liquor Control Board.

The agent's name was Roland Stone (no joke Rod). I was told I was being reprimanded for "profanity in a public place." I did utter a slight cuss word to my friends of five years but no complaints were registered to the owner of the establishment. What has come of our society if police, (which I feel are employes of me, Mr. Taxpayer), can harass students because their hair length may differ greatly from Mr. Stones' or because Stone was in a bad mood.

I was asked to leave the establishment or I would be run downtown. I feel (and so do my friends) that I had my constitutional rights violated by this man. I just want to warn the students of this university that sufferages such as this are happening in this community. Be careful Aggies.

Bill Echols
★ ★ ★

Student paper

Editor:
Re: the firing of Steve Goble as managing editor of The Batt. At first reading I must admit that I felt much the way that John Nash (and, I assume, The Batt staff) seemingly feels about the dismissal of Mr. Goble. Further consideration of the matter however led me to conclude quite the opposite.

Many students at this university have been placed in positions of varying degrees of responsibility, myself included. I have observed many student leaders, who, because of these responsibilities have created conflict between their scholastic and extracurricular activities. A past RHA president was one such case. Randy Gillespie chose to step down, he did not try to run the RHA as a non-student.

In my opinion, a student has two choices when confronted with a scholastic-extracurricular conflict. He may:

1. Unburden himself of extracurricular responsibility or,
2. Keep the responsibility at a possible risk to his scholastic standing.

In short, I hereby conclude fault with respect to the following parties:

1. The Student Publications Board, for not acting quickly and decisively on this matter.
2. Mr. Goble, for continuing in a position which should rightfully be held by a student.
3. The editor of The Battalion, for failing to have a qualified successor ready in any event. I assume that Mr. Speer was qualified to take over upon the demise of Mr. Rice.

We are fortunate enough to attend a university where the fol-

lowing phrase is included in every issue of its student newspaper:

"The Battalion is a non-profit, self supporting enterprise operated by STUDENTS (my caps) as a University and Community newspaper."

Let's keep it that way.
Mark Rankin

More listen up

Academics 'hallmark' of greatness

Editor:

Derrick Suehs attributes this year's 17% increase in student enrollment at Texas A&M to its REPUTATION. What reputation, many males, rather few females? The fact that coeds are now admitted to a predominantly male university body is a major factor in increased enrollments, together with A&M's other qualities. Repeated such enrollment increase may well become this University's "problem" but presently is its "pride."

Suehs states "A&M has the best reputation in this state and is becoming well known all over the country. It is known for its Corps of Cadets, traditions, and the way Aggies treat each other and their school. The students are known for their love they have for this great university and for each other."

Wouldn't it have been splendid if Suehs had mentioned A&M's REPUTATION based upon scholastic achievements, academic integrity of its faculty and responsible intellectual discussion. These are the hallmarks of any great university which may be defined as a community of scholars in search of truth. Such a community consists of ALL members of the university, faculty, staff,



'SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH CLAIMING YOU AND NIXON AS DEPENDENTS?'

graduates and undergraduates, at different levels of intellectual maturity.

As long as this university has faculty and staff who demonstrate dictatorial behavior rather than inspirational leadership and moral guidance towards their fellow scholars, A&M's reputation as a university is lowered. Tuesday's fiasco (Student Publication Board meeting) can do nothing but harm to this institution in the academic fraternity.

"Let's keep this university's reputation going in the 'right' direction" by further improving scholastic and intellectual standards and uplifting academic integrity. Let's make it number one in the nation.

Jocelyn Tommerup
★ ★ ★

Free spirit

Editor:
In the past week, I have read so much of Texas A&M as an institute of higher learning that I feel it's ironic that the recent anti-streaker letters are views that one would expect from pre-schoolers. What I don't understand is why is this university so intent on suppressing the free spirit of the students? What is wrong with

having a good time? If the administrators are so immature as not to recognize the stress and tensions that are built up in a college student over weeks of testing and study, either they have forgotten or the administrators never felt the tensions of college. Take your pick.

Does streaking occur every night? No! Do students demonstrate every night? No! Then

what is this university so worried about? This administration and like the students in this university are not human. We're not human, We're Aggies! That's right Administration, wise up! If you think I'm going to Texas A&M to think and act like you, then I must be in the wrong place. This place could be great, don't mess it up any worse than it is!

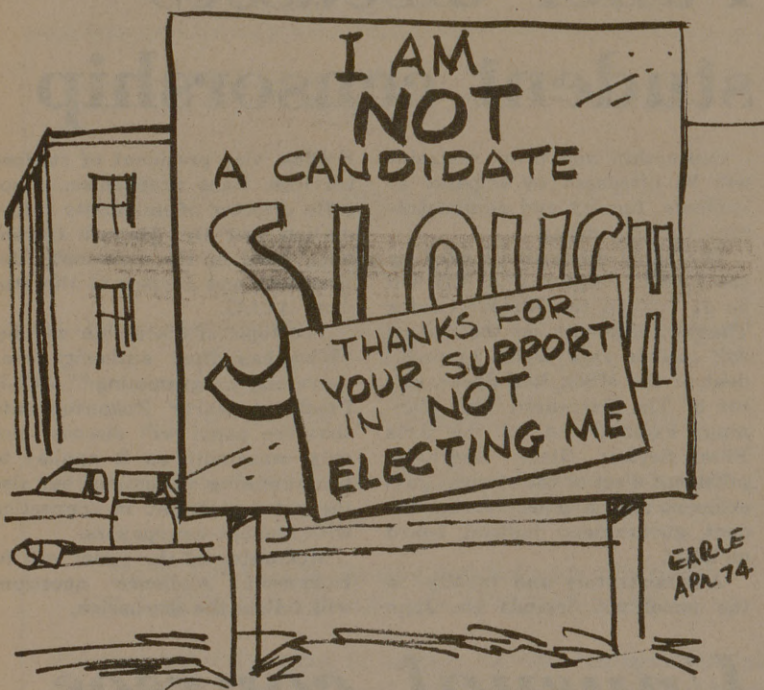
Gene Whitney

Public relation offices open

Applications for the offices of treasurer and chairperson of public relations of the RHA are now being accepted. Application forms may be picked up and returned to the main desk of the Student Programs Office no later than 5 p. m. Friday, April 19. Requirements include at least a 2.5 GPA dorm.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



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.

LETTERS POLICY

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.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Service, Inc. New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

MEMBER

The Associated Press, Texas Press Association

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas, daily except Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and holiday periods. September through May, and once a week during summer school.

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year; \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 5% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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Engineers:
Find out about the Nuclear Navy.
If you think you have the ability and desire to master nuclear engineering, the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Program has openings for about 200 outstanding college graduates. There's a Navy Recruiting Officer ready to give you all the details on how you can become someone special in the new Navy. Lt. Don Winchell, a Navy Nuclear Propulsion Officer, will be on campus April 15-19, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., in Zachry Engineering Center to answer questions about the Nuclear Navy. The Navy Officer Information Team from Houston will also be on campus, in the MSC and in Zachry. Stop and see Lt. Winchell or any other representative for further information.

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