

Listen up

Draft dodgers right?

Editor:
In reference to Mark Lyon's letter, "Heroes' cut" in the Oct. 15 Battalion, we would like to say that while we can't agree that draft dodgers are the heroes of Vietnam, neither were most of them cowards who ran simply because they "didn't want to get killed."
This may come as a surprise to you, but we don't want to get killed either, and if we did we would want to die for a reason. Fifty thousand plus, healthy, wholesome American men died in Vietnam, and in our opinion they died in vain.
For ten long years a useless sacrifice of America's youth dragged on in a hot jungle 15,000 miles from home while the bureaucrats in Washington did everything they could to prevent an out and out victory. And to show that we don't deny the military their due, if General MacArthur hadn't been prevented from doing his duty in Red China during the Korean War, Vietnam might have never happened.

It's no secret that the Red Chinese are the main force behind the Communist Vietnamese forces.
When the so-called peace treaty was signed, the Communist forces of North Vietnam were still in their field positions, and the ink wasn't dry on the paper before the people of South Vietnam were again being oppressed.
Perhaps Mr. Lyon lost someone dear to him in Vietnam, and if so we would not wish to discredit his patriotism. The draft dodgers were required to make a similar sacrifice, however, leaving their homes and perhaps families without the knowledge that they could ever see them again.
Maybe the draft dodgers had the right idea. No one died in Vietnam to stop the spread of communism in America or anywhere else. We can write this letter without fear of being "jailed or shot," but not because of anything accomplished there.

If Mr. Lyon would study his military science a little harder, he might find that the idea of war is to put a stop to the criminal actions of one nation against another and not to get killed so you won't be called a coward.
Belinda Beall '76
Michele Moss '76
Cindy Walters '76
Manette Bard '76

Respect urged

Editor:
I would like to comment on Lynn Rodger's letter which appeared in the Oct. 17 Battalion.
Maybe the women in the Corps do not yet exhibit the pride and spirit associated with the Corps. Perhaps this is because they are not accepted by many members of the student body and some male members of the Corps.
If everyone would show the women the same admiration that is shown to the male members of the Corps the women too would develop respect and pride for their organization.

Also, I personally cannot wait for the moment that women march onto the field as members of the Aggie Band.
Katherine Beadling

Refs backed

Editor:
It doesn't take a genius to tell that this is football season.
And this year, like others before, complaints are already flying about the men in stripes and the way their calls "could have cost us the game."
No doubt some of these claims are justified. Officials are human; they can and sometimes do make mistakes.

With the development of the instant replay, people naturally assumed that at last this would prove that the officials were indeed doing a poor job. Yet time after time these new techniques have shown that perhaps the referees had better eyesight than we give them credit for.
This better eyesight starts with a better vantage point. It is sometimes difficult to see exactly where the runner stepped out of bounds when we are sitting in the stands.
It might be possible to come up with an alternative system of officiating. Perhaps an electronic system could be designed similar to that used in track and horse racing to detect the winner.
But even if such a "super system" were invented, it couldn't call everything right. The game of football is better off with dedicated men who have the courage to call the plays as they see them, knowing they will be criticized by at least one side on almost every call.
Jim Hendrickson '77

Battalion request

Let us know

The Battalion is writing this because it has a problem. It's not going to take long to write. Maybe 30 minutes. The good thing about it is that someone is going to listen to what it has to say.
The Battalion is trying to give the community what it deserves—full coverage of the news. But that is not its sole purpose. It is also concerned with the people of the community.
The Battalion needs more input. The paper now offers you the Letters to the Editor and Your Man at the Batt. This is your space. You are entitled to its use.
The Battalion urges you to let it know if you have a problem. It will benefit you and the community. A newspaper is the marketplace of ideas. That means that this paper is the marketplace for your ideas. The Battalion wants to hear them.
So, if you have a problem write the Battalion a letter. It won't take long. Maybe 30 minutes. The good thing about it is that someone is going to listen to what you have to say.



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Senate plugged

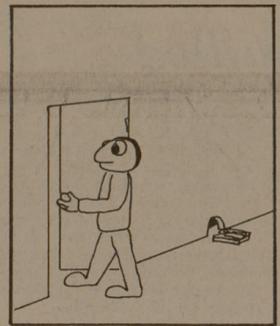
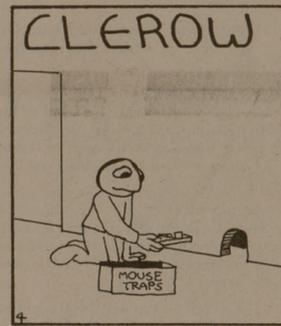
Editor:
To the Aggies who want to know the best way to influence the decisions on vital issues at TAMU:
I am a student senator from the College of Agriculture and of Junior classification. There are about 70 other student senators representing the various colleges and living areas, undergraduates and graduates. We senators compose a legislative body empowered to control the fate of most issues pertinent

to the well-being of the students.
You are aware of the ticket distribution system controversy. Do you know the Senate will be the place where the system will be altered if any altering is felt to be needed? There are several proposals already being considered; will they be what you want?
This is not the only issue, but do you know what the others are and how they might affect you?
The time for student concern is before an issue is settled, otherwise you cannot be assured of getting what is best for you or the student body.
The best way to channel your concern and interest is by letting your senator know how you feel. It is simple: you give him a call or catch him or her sometime on campus or where he lives and let what you want.
Telephone numbers and addresses of each senator can be found on the Student Programs Office on the second floor of the MSC. This procedure doesn't take long; it gives you a better understanding of how his constituents feel, and gives you, the student, the satisfaction of realizing your part in formulating University policy.
In the end you have made Student Senate a useful organ of the student body, permitting it to do the goal for which it was established, namely to provide a system whereby the will of the student body becomes the will of the university in an orderly and democratic fashion.
James Buckner

Your Man at Batt

By WILL ANDERSON

Why are residents of Legett Hall no longer allowed to store their bikes beneath the stairways or behind columns inside the building? Steve Bishkin.
Resident advisers were told to have all bikes removed from hallways to comply with fire regulations, said Dr. Charles W. Powell, director of student affairs. Bikes are not allowed in the hallway of any dorm.
Students may keep them in their rooms in Milner and Legett halls, he said, because there are no available bike racks, he said. This will end when racks are installed.
Students may also keep their bikes padlocked to the railing of the balconied dorms because of the large amount of space.
Storage of bikes in the halls of other dorms, though, is a hazard, he said, because of the obstruction of escape in case of fire.
These rules have always existed, Powell said, and were not enforced earlier due to negligence.



The Battalion

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