

Student explains 'disloyal' letter

Editor:
As I am hard to get ahold of, I know nothing of the article that appeared in the Batt on Nov. 6, concerning my problem with the Housing Office, until I read it. I wish to make a few comments that perhaps express my view of the situation a little better.

An administration that takes an explanation directed to the students and misconstrues it as a complaint directed against itself doesn't just lack foresight, it is paranoid. I couldn't work for it again if I was asked to, so keep the "recommendation".

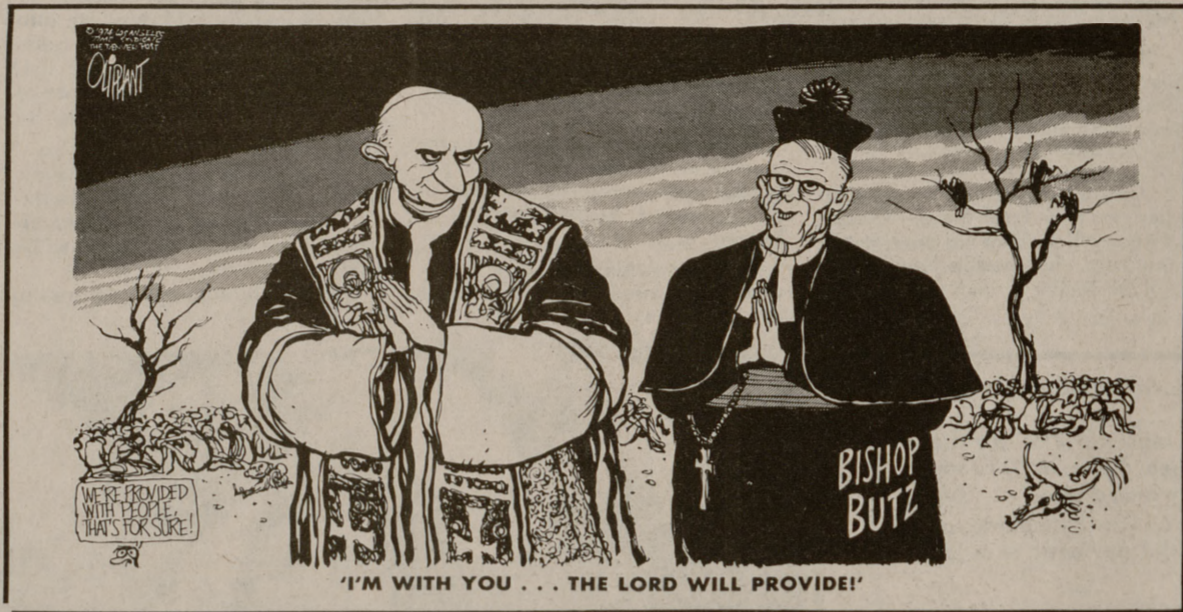
If I had asked the administration to print an explanation on why the Centrex service is the way it is, would it have gotten to the students? We have never received one for the maniacal Northgate wall.

The central point is that the "mis-

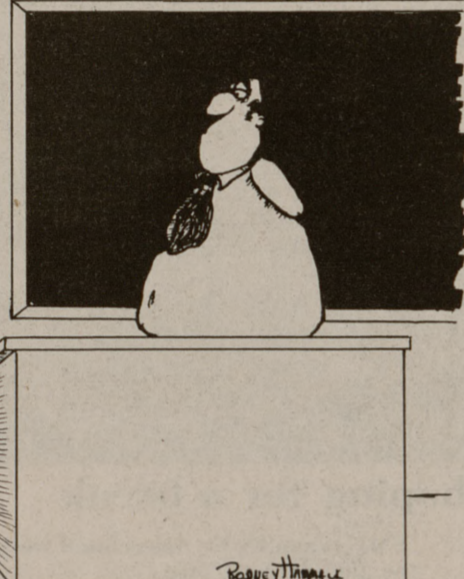
take" I lost my job for was that, as I was told, I lacked the loyalty I owed the University. I owed the University loyalty.

Well, I was paid out of University funds but I feel the students are the University and the two are not separate entities. In my capacity, I felt I presented a student service and was not just an administration flunky. I owed the students, as my employers, loyalty. I owed the administration nothing. If I am disloyal to want to help explain a problem to fellow students, then disloyal I will be.

But why do I have to go against the administration's wishes? The letter of explanation the Housing Office was to publish would have directed students to call Centrex, but I know it would not have told the students why the phone must ring 50 times before it's answered. The



COASTERS



"I'd like to turn in my lab project for extra credit..."

Your Man at Batt

By WILL ANDERSON

When Steve Korte returned to his car earlier this month it wasn't there.

University police had had his car towed away after issuing Korte his eighth ticket for parking on campus without displaying his University sticker. None of the tickets had been paid for.

Korte said he understood why his car was impounded and he had no complaints about the procedure, fines or towing fees; however, he did ask The Battalion why cars are towed away instead of being immobilized with a rhino wheel lock.

A rhino is locked onto the wheel of an offending car to prevent the owner from driving it until he checks with the police to remove it. It is a less expensive and inconvenient method since violators don't have to go to Bryan to get their cars or pay a towing fee.

Chief of Campus Police O. L. Luther said he did not know why the car was towed away instead of immobilized. He suggested that both university wheel locks were already being used.

"University rules allow police to impound any car with three or more unpaid tickets," he said. "Towing is preferred only when a car is illegally parked in a space reserved or disabled drivers. If we put a rhino on the car it could sit there for three or four days taking up the parking space."

"As far as I'm concerned, if the car's not in one of these spaces, I'd use an immobilizer."

He said cars were towed to Bryan because that was the only place that provided a reasonable amount of safety from vandalism to the cars.

I suggested the wheel locks could be the preferred method of impounding except in the cases of parking in reserved or disabled spaces.

Luther said that such a policy was possible but that any ruling would have to be passed by the University Traffic Panel.

Steve Wakefield, senior member of the Traffic Panel, said he was not aware that the university towing policy was a problem. The panel meets again on Nov. 20 and Wakefield said he would bring up consideration of a new policy then.

The Battalion

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system can't go against itself; it must be loyal to itself.

I believed then that the students deserved an explanation and I believed they would not get it unless I made it. I believe it still and would do it all over again in the same manner.

Greg Marchand

Hats off

Editor:

In response to Wm. Sheen's column about the removal of a gentleman's hat in the MSC, I have this to say.

1. Why the hell do you bicker, whimper, whine and complain over time-honored, and manly traditions never before contested at this unique University?

2. In your long wordy and vague letter you use such nebulous words as spontaneity, individualism, etc., to exaggerate, twist, distort, and by any other means project the image that the hat custom is enforced. The signs at both entrances only say please.

Now I'll admit some Aggie may punch you right in the nose for your own lack of respect but he is only doing it because of the pride and love he feels for this college and not because of some University regulation.

3. Lastly, you say, "Do I not have the right to honor the dead of World War II in my own way without fear of personal humiliation or injury?" This shows your main problem is not an infringement of rights or freedom but fear of public humiliation by being roughed by faithful Aggies in the open.

If you are too damn lazy or disloyal to remove your hat in respect of tradition and Aggie dead then, two percent, you may go on fearing fear itself.

Eddie Mee '77

Hats on

Editor:

I think that persons voicing support for the hats-off and keeping-off-the-grass policies of the MSC are making three simultaneous mistakes which reflect their lack of understanding of the true nature of respect.

First, they do not realize that one of the important properties of true respect is that it should never need to be asked for. A man does not beg for respect, or ask for it, or even demand it — he commands it. A request for respect is strong evidence that the person asking for it does not deserve it.

Secondly, a person who asks for respect in behalf of someone else is not only bringing himself down in the eyes of the world—he is also degrading and insulting the people for whom he is asking the respect by implying that they are not capable of commanding respect on their own.

Thirdly, those defending the

MSC policies fail to see the inappropriateness of the MSC as a memorial. A true monument or memorial is a structure that is built for the purpose of being a monument or memorial. Merely being named after or dedicated to someone does not make something a memorial. The MSC's major function as a social hub for the University precludes its appropriateness as a memorial.

I might also point out that living things, such as trees or grass, have lives and purposes of their own. A living thing ought not to be made a memorial to the dead.

I suggest that the University do the following:

- 1) Cease to designate the MSC in its entirety as a memorial.
- 2) Eliminate any policies or regulations explicitly requesting or requiring acts of respect.
- 3) Cease to designate living things as memorials.

I suggest that individual students of the University command respect—not ask for it.

Johnnie B. Linn III



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