

# VP explains yell leader resolution

By JEFF DUNN  
SG Vice President for Academic Affairs

There seems to have been a great misunderstanding in regard to the Student Senate's Yell Leader Resolution deleting the word, "male," from the requirements. The fault of this cannot be pinpointed to anything or anyone in particular, but it appears to me that there was a gross misinterpretation of facts surrounding the issue.

I feel that my "yes" vote on this resolution was done in the best interests of Texas A&M, however, I respect the "no" votes of my colleagues in the Senate. I was very pleased by the Senate's vote and I believe that once every student realizes all the facts of this issue, the student body will also agree.

This resolution did not encourage and favor female Yell Leaders. It did nothing but strike out the word, "male," from the requirements of a candidate. The Senate felt that no elected position on this campus should include a written discriminatory policy against women. As student leaders, we are held responsible for the running of elections and the setting of candidate qualifications. We do not want to be held accountable for promoting any

discrimination in this area, because if we do then we would also be vulnerable in other areas of university policy in regard to written discrimination. It should also be remembered that the final approval or disapproval of ANY candidate will always ultimately lie with a vote from the student body.

It is argued that a tradition as sacred as yell leader should have a clause restricting females from running as a candidate. This clause violated the US Constitution, violated the laws of this state and violated our own Student Bill of Rights, which guarantees equal treatment in all areas of the university. A clause restricting females from being a candidate is clearly discriminatory and it would never stand up in a court. Some say that we should make such a female go through the hassle of a court ruling if she wants to run, but it seems obvious to me, and to all, that she would win her case, and I believe that she would enhance her chances of election as well as embarrass TAMU, across the state and the nation.

The student body is overwhelmingly against having female yell leaders. I believe that this is the case at Texas A&M. Essentially, those who voted "yes" saw this as an

opportunity to make it even harder for a female to achieve that goal. The reasoning behind this is that our rule restricting females from running would last only until a female decided to challenge it. We are only kidding ourselves if we believe that a written discriminatory policy will adequately prevent females from being a candidate for yell leader because it just won't do it.

It was a hard decision for us to vote "yes" because we anticipated so much over-reaction and emotion, yet if each student will stop to think about this issue he will realize that we had to strike out the male requirements before any trouble could arise.

Curt Marsh has stated that he wanted to cheat this female out of any free publicity on the issue. I agree, for it would definitely enhance her chances, as it did in 1971 when a few freshman girls were elected to the Senate on the basis that their signs were burned down in front of Duncan Hall. We, the student body, will preserve the tradition of male yell leaders at the polls, for only then will we have a real tradition.

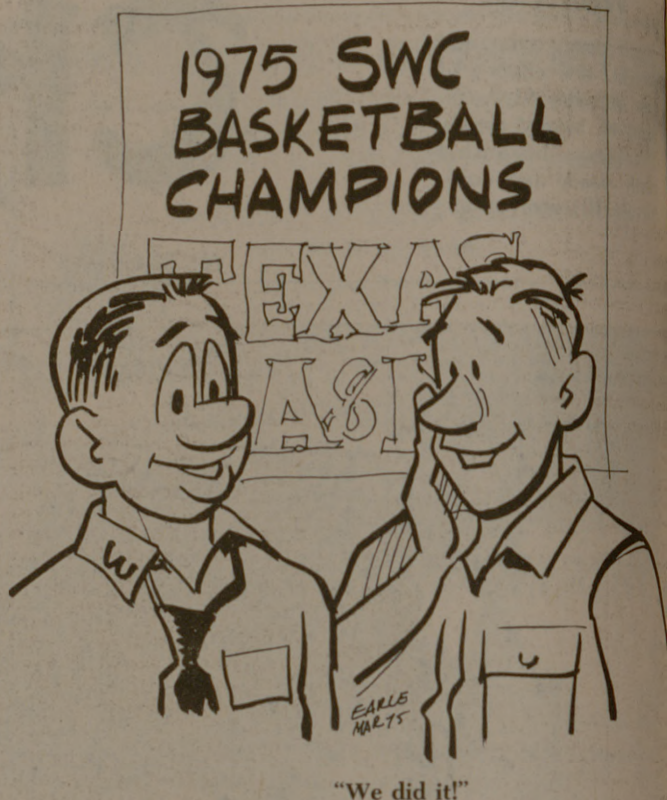
Some students think those who voted "yes" were in favor of female yell leaders. No! no! Nothing could be farther from the truth! Al-

though I can only speak for myself, I feel that most, if not all, of those who voted in favor of the resolution would not like to see female yell leaders at A&M. To us, males on the track at Kyle Field is one of the most impressive traditions we have here. It would dishearten my view of A&M if this university should ever elect a female yell leader, and our vote in the Senate reflected that view.

The debate in the Senate was centered on whether a female could handle the job of being a yell leader. That is really an irrelevant part of the controversy, because those senators were assuming that a female would be elected. I say that female yell leader candidates would not have the chance of a snowball in hell if they ran in 1975, but if there should ever be a time at A&M when a majority of students would like to see a female yell leader, then it would seem to be a futile attempt to

try to prevent her by claiming some discriminatory rule against her. Our vote did not make it easier for her to win, it made it rougher because she now has to fight for it like everyone else.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I have no antagonistic attitudes toward anyone in regard to this resolution, including those Senators who voted "no." However, let me leave you with some advice and some comments on the entire issue. First, do not be fooled by hearsay, and do not come to any conclusions until you are satisfied of the facts. We realize, however, that hearsay can sometimes be easily spread. The Battalion made a big issue of how everyone voted but it failed to explain in detail what the real issue was about. Second, do not hesitate to challenge a senator on his vote, for each senator should be held accountable to his beliefs. But once again, be sure of your facts.



## The economic reply

# Keep your pistol

### Some dark night you may need it as a club

By MIKE PERRIN

Banning pistol bullets is one of the worst mistakes the federal government can make. But they may do it anyway.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is going to take public opinion on a proposed ban of handgun ammunition. That really won't do away with handgun ammunition — it will only make millions of Americans subject to criminal prosecution.

Under the proposal, all handgun ammo would be disallowed except for police, the military, licensed pistol clubs (like the Cosa Nostra?), and licensed security guards. You, the average citizen would not be able to have handgun ammunition unless you wanted to break the law. Some present uses of this ammo include protection of life, protection of property and sport.

Each one of these deserves consideration. So does America's number one killer and crippler: the home. More accidents or injuries which lead to discomfort, crippling and death occur in the home than any other place.

That is the logical spot to start if

we want to legislate something. Therefore, I propose the following guidelines for the American home using the same reasoning being used to ban handgun ammo:

1.) No more children. Almost everyone was a child at one time. Everyone who is injured or killed in the home was once a child. So do away with children.

2.) No more indoor plumbing — more injuries occur in the bathroom than in any other single room. This lethal location is too volatile to control, so just eliminate it — except for the police, the military and a few other groups whose job it is to spot weird goings-on in bathrooms. After all, we don't want to deprive these men and women of their livelihood. Therefore, if they are bathroom-dependent, we will excuse them from the ban.

3.) The kitchen — the next best spot to get maimed is the kitchen — burns, scrapes, slips all occur with alarming frequency — bruises, contusion and abrasions, not to mention concussions, happen in the kitchen. Since this is the next most lethal spot in the house, alternate guidelines are proposed: no more sharp objects like knives and forks, no more breakable objects like glasses and plates, no heat sources like stoves, no water slippery

sources like sinks, defrosting refrigerators or ice cubes.

4.) It is recommended that the rest of the house be wrapped in rubber to prevent injuries or deaths from falls. Those guidelines, although far from comprehensive, should at least start to bring under control this most deadly of all American institutions.

Now let's turn to the minor issue of handguns. After all, this ban is not really on handgun ammunition, but on handguns since they are useless without the bullets.

Handguns are around at a lot of robberies and killings, correct? No, banning handguns cure this? No. Why? The answer is simple — criminals do not obey the law. Aha, cries the opposition, those crimes are not committed by criminals, but by ordinary citizens. All are not.

If a person is mad enough to kill someone or wants to rob a Seven-Eleven, there is no problem finding a way to do it. There will be a flourishing black market in handgun ammo, and other methods of destruction can be used — poison, knives, cars, shoving, rifles, shotguns, bows and arrows, acid and a host of others.

Since handguns occur with crimes, then we do away with handguns and we do away with crime, right? Wrong. Handguns are

a way to commit, not a reason to commit, crimes.

Handguns must not be evil in themselves because even with the ban, the police, military and other groups can have them. If they are really evil, why let anyone have them? The reason those groups get them is because the sponsors of the proposal know that criminals will still have the handguns and the police will need them for their own protection. That indicates the basic inconsistency in their argument — the majority of handgun crimes involve not criminals but ordinary citizens, then the police do not need guns.

That doesn't even include the theory of protection FROM the police and military.

The big beneficiaries from this proposal will be those who operate pistol clubs — their future will be assured as millions of Americans flock to their doors so they can shoot handguns.

In short, then, crime won't go down. Similar reasoning applied to other problems appears ridiculous, and one interest benefits from that proposal.

Tell the Product Safety Commission there should be no ban on handgun ammo.

## Your man at Batt

### Senator no good?

# Trade him in

By WILL ANDERSON

The Student Senate is a time-consuming, often difficult activity. Whatever problems it has are only compounded by senators who are not willing to put out even the minimum requirements for their positions.

A large number of appointed senators was indicated by Tom Walker, SG executive director (The Aggie forum, March 6). Walker said those appointments were made necessary after senators discovered the Senate involved some work and quit.

The Senate would improve if students would seriously consider the candidates for the Senate, he said.

There is another way besides the vote students can express their displeasure with the way their senator is representing (or not representing) their views in SG — throw the bum out. Below is a form to be used in requesting a review of your senator by the Judicial Board.

Think who your senator is and how he has performed, or not performed. If you do not know who your senator is, you may already be starting a strong case against him.

Whatever functions served by SG could be produced more effectively if the Senate was trimmed of its deadwood. So consider your senator; does he contribute? If not, his removal will not only be accepted by the rest of the Senate, I'm sure it will be appreciated.

If you think your senator knows how his constituents feel but votes the other way, there may be grounds for his removal. The recent deleting of the word, "male," from the requirements for yell leader is an immediate example (Tradition yields; Page 1, Feb. 27). No ruling

has been made on misrepresentation yet.

I disagree with Jeff Dunn (see The Aggie forum) when he says a senator should be held accountable for his beliefs; those are the senator's own business. But the senator's actions do concern me and he should be held accountable for them. That is a fact.

Dunn is correct when he says the comparative abilities of females as yell leader are "an irrelevant part of the controversy." The question

hinges on one point: Did your senator represent his constituents' views?

When a senator puts his beliefs before the beliefs of his constituents, he no longer represents the majority view of the people that elected him. Obviously, when a senator ceases to be representative, he should cease to be a senator. If the constituents' opinions have no weight then there is no use in voting in the first place; anyone can misrepresent you equally as well.

### Motion to Dismiss a Student Senator

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
I wish to file for a hearing to be held at the earliest possible time to remove my senator, \_\_\_\_\_ from his seat in Student Government for the following reason(s):

1. He does not belong to a Senate committee as required by the Student Body Constitution.  
2. He has not participated in a project as required by the Student Body Constitution.  
3. He has not communicated with me, his constituency, nor has he relayed his views to me as required by the Student Body Constitution.

I wish/do not wish to be represented by another student, faculty member, lawyer or other person of my choice. (If you do wish to be represented by someone else, place his/her name here: \_\_\_\_\_)

I understand that I will have to produce evidence to prove my charges.

Signature

Address

You may call the Student Government office, 845-3051, for the name of your senator if you do not know already.

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