

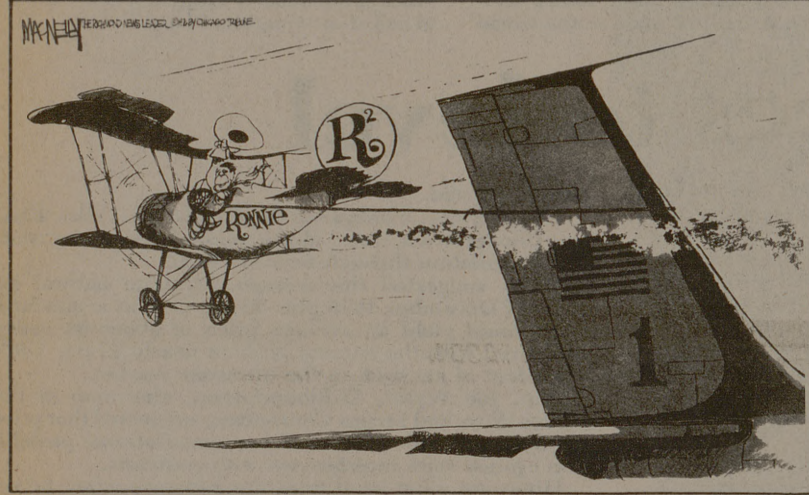
## Editorial

# Gay issue is political

There have been many issues dealt with over the past year by the administration of Texas A&M University. They have handled most very well, but there is a decision to be made that has been delayed by the administration, which concerns the acceptance or denial of recognition of an organization, that puts some school officials between a rock and a hard place.

If the administration does recognize the gay group, students, former students and parents of students will surely show their contempt. Potential donations to the University may be lost, enrollment may decline or possibly nothing at all will happen. We may get a chance to find out because the gay group was told they would receive an answer to their request during the summer.

But the administration's reply may be no. If this is the case, then the school may have to represent itself in court. This action will, most probably, result in recognition of the gay group anyway, so why go through the hassle? Because the group is not wanted here at A&M!



There has been much correspondence to the Battalion this semester concerning the gay organization in the area. At this point the gays are losing. But if the University goes to court, the tide will probably turn. Records show that the courts will most likely grant recognition to the group. School officials can possibly avoid any major conflict by taking action that should have been taken in the first place. That is, do not recognize the group as an official A&M organization, but allow them to post approved information and to have programs in University facilities, if the programs are approved by the administration and are sponsored by a particular department or recognized group on campus.

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**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.

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This is what the group wanted in the first place, and it could have been done relatively easily, but now it is going to be blown out of proportion, it seems. Yes, this column could have been avoided.

Let's face it, gays are human and they have their rights. They do not need to be officially recognized, but recognized—yes. After all, the University does not recognize a Pot Smoker Organization, but they still allow the subject to be talked about. There is a drug abuse line to call in the area also.

For those who will send letters and wish to cite references from the Bible, please refrain. This has been and still is primarily a political decision for the administration and not a religious one.

— KMV

## Listen Up

### Society brands rape victims

**Editor:**  
The article on rape in the May 6 Battalion included a comment by Chief Luther which explains the problem that "women fear they will not be believed that it's something they didn't invite." He suggests that "a rape victim may encourage actions by her dress..."

What evidence does he have that a woman's dress invites rape? Susan Brownmiller, in her extensive research reported in her book *Against Our Will*, concludes that rape is not a crime triggered by the sight of an attractive woman but a crime of violence, usually somewhat planned, whose major purpose is to degrade and humiliate a woman.

This humiliation is carried even further by a society which tends to believe that women lie or that their dress or manner invite rape. It can be solved only when society and its police forces realize that rape is a violent, awful crime, and that its perpetrators, rather than its victims, are criminals.

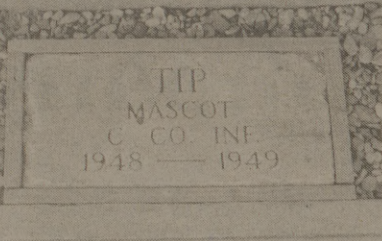
Laif Swanson

### Tombstone returned

The tombstone of Tip, a canine mascot of C Company Infantry, has been returned to its place near Dorm 10 almost two years after it was removed to make way for renovations.

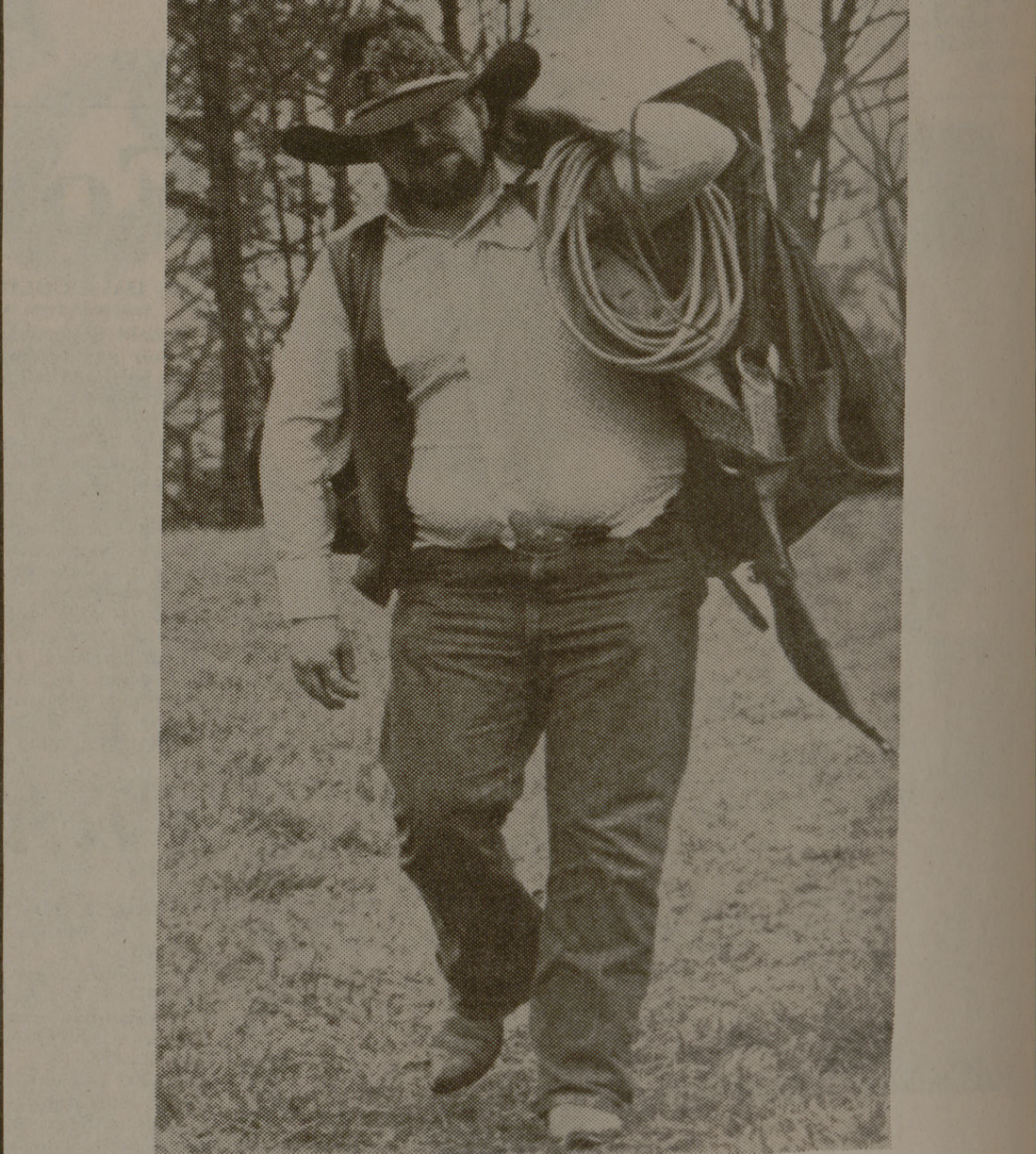
Steve Moore, a freshman in Company B-2 reports that the tombstone was replaced last Friday, probably as a result of a letter which ran in Listen Up last week. The letter inadvertently found its way to the editor's desk 14 months after it was written.

Moore said the stone had been in the keeping of a band member.

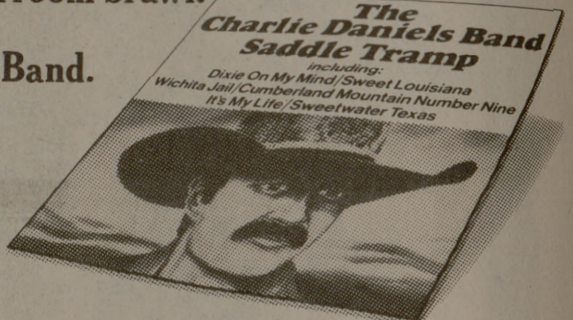


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Fees for each session are payable to the Controller of Accounts, Fiscal Office, Coke Building.

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