

## Opinion/Commentary/Letters

## Gregson supports Harvey for president

Editor:

It seems that my quote in yesterday's Battalion was a bit premature. It is now evident that the lines of the campaign for President of the Student Body have been drawn and are well defined. I have decided to give Robert Harvey my entire support for this office.

The editor(s) of the Battalion seem to think it is a sin for the Corps to all get out and vote. The essence of any political race is to vote for the best person running—not to judge from which organization he or she is from. The duties of the Student Body President include serving the needs and interests of ALL the students of Texas A&M. It is my opinion that Robert Harvey can and will serve these interests of the students of this University.

The alleged election irregularities in my campaign were blown totally out of proportion. Instead of six complaints being filed with the election commission only one was filed. That complaint, after talking with the election commissioner, was filed by Stanfield himself. My campaign was halted by the ACCUSATIONS of one of my opponents! This seems a long way from sincere concern for student interest. It seems more like someone wants the job so badly that he would resort to anything to get it.

I would urge everyone to seriously consider the choices that we have for Student Body President. Do not look at the organizations that these people are a member of but for who is truly concerned about our interests and needs as students.

— Scott Gregson

## Student jury supported again

Editor:

Within the last two weeks three letters have appeared in The Battalion concerning the dissemination of candidate information and qualifications to the Student Body. All three letters expressed a desire by the students for more information concerning candidates seeking various elected positions. It is quite apparent from these as well as other examples that students are being asked to vote for a candidate whom they know little if anything about.

The question is, should we elect Student Government Officers because they have flashy advertising or should we elect officers who have the qualifications to perform their duties in the best interest of the Student Body? Because the students are faced with voting with little or no information or not voting at all, I submitted the "Student Jury Nominee" proposal to the Student Senate on Wednesday, March 23. A number of us felt that this lack of candidate information could be partially rectified with this system.

Basically this system calls for a

## 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, the Association or the Board of Regents. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a university and community newspaper. Editorial policy is determined by the editor.*

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length by the editor. The editor has the right to edit each letter 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 Letters to the Editor, The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Reprinted nationally by National Education Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Battalion is published Tuesday through Friday from September through May except during exam and holiday periods and the summer, when it is published weekly.

Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester; \$33.25 per school year; \$35.00 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 5% sales tax. Advertising rates furnished on request. Address: The Battalion.

group of randomly selected students to review written statements submitted by the candidates for Student Government President or Vice-President. This group of students would also interview the candidates for approximately one hour to determine the legitimacy of the written statements. After a careful analysis of each candidate, the "Student Jury" would endorse a candidate for each office, with the analysis as well as the endorsement being printed in The Battalion. This system would supplement the voter's knowledge of the candidates as well as offer an endorsement by a randomly selected group of students.

When the "Student Jury" proposal was introduced, the major opposition was led by Senator Robert Harvey, Corps Commander. During last semester's debate on the No-Confidence bill, Mr. Harvey stated, "students are not logical enough to know when to vote no-confidence." Perhaps he meant that if the Student Body had more information dealing with the candidates, they would be in a more rational position to vote for a particular candidate or cast a vote of no-confidence. It would seem logical that Mr. Harvey would then actively support a proposal to increase the amount of information made available to students. Unfortunately, Mr. Harvey as well as a number of other senators vehemently opposed the passage of such a proposal. They argued that this would be "Government by Committee" and that no group of students should be allowed to present endorsements except The Battalion.

The irony of the situation is this. The day prior to the elections last week, the Corps newspaper, The Quadrangle was distributed to all members of the Corps. This paper stated, "The Corps this year is well represented in the campaign with 71 candidates. Perhaps, if this represents a resurgence of the Corps interest in having a voice on campus, the Corps will have the biggest turnout of voters for the election ever. Every vote counts!" The following is a list of the candidates from the Corps. This is not intended in any way as an endorsement but to inform." This publication developed by the Corps leadership served its purpose well. A large number of Corps members cast their ballots as they consulted The Quadrangle. In effect The Quadrangle served as a group endorsement of that group's candidates, with candidates being elected because they are part of a group, not because of their qualifications.

Now don't get me wrong, I am not opposed to the Corps having 71 candidates, that shows an interest on the part of the individuals who filed. On the other hand, if we are to endorse a group of candidates, let's not be hypocritical. Let's develop a system whereby all students understand the legitimacy of the

candidates' qualifications after a careful analysis by their peers.

In order to help rectify the present electoral environment, I would hope that students would follow the suggestion previously offered by The Battalion, "Talk to your new senators, as that is where the decision to implement the system will have to come from."

—John Oeffinger  
Speaker Pro-Tem  
1976-77 Student Senate

## Stanfield expands on two issues

Editor:

I wish to try to expand on two issues which have been misused by my opponent in an effort to alienate students because of his failure to present adequate information on the issues involved. The first of the two issues is that of providing low-cost day care facilities. The monies which were requested for the day care center by the Student Senate are being held in reserve and have been collecting dust for the last ten years. None of the requested money would have come from current student service fee payments.

Though the Student Senate made its voice known with a 36-6 vote in favor of the resolution, two lines of thought were debated. First, Texas A&M is one of the few major universities which does not provide day care facilities for its students needs. Second, many students at A&M are voicing their opinions that because they pay Student Service Fees, they would like to see some student services and not only programming services as offered by the Memorial Student Center.

The day care center was to be funded for two periods and then become self-sufficient after those periods. I use the past tense "was" because one prerequisite of the bill was to investigate the availability of manpower and funding through the College of Education. The funding is not available and the issue is at rest.

The second of the misused issues concerns the Gay Student's Services Organization. Because I voted against the bill presented in the Senate, my opponent has said that I support the G.S.S.O. which is false. The bill asked that the Senate support the administration's delay on giving an answer to the G.S.S.O.'s request. After attempts to amend the bill to request their non-recognition had failed, the original bill was voted on and passed. I voted against the bill because I support inaction on behalf

## WHO is Robert Harvey representing?

Why did Robert Harvey vote against student input in the administration?  
(Senate Bill 77-032-11)

## VOTE in the Student Election Runoffs April 14

pd. pol. announcement by the Concerned Students Group Doug Skee, treasurer

Kenneth I. Powell, Chairman

## soft tip pen

NEW FROM  
**CROSS**  
SINCE 1846

An exciting new gift idea from Cross—refillable soft tip pen in 12 Karat Gold Filled, gift packaged. \$18.50. Mechanically Guaranteed For A Lifetime.

Embrey's Jewelry

415  
Univ. Dr.  
College  
Station  
9-5:30 Mon.-Fri.  
9-5 Sat.  
Graduation  
Gift

## Gay lifestyle a political attitude

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second part of a four-part series on homosexuals, their lives and their problems. The Battalion is aware that the subject is controversial and that almost everyone has strong feelings about it. But The Battalion believes that more is to be gained by intelligent discussion than by rumor and invective. We hope that this series will contribute to understanding and enlightenment.

By GLENNA WHITLEY  
Battalion Staff

The seven men around the kitchen table looked no different than other Texas A&M students. No limp wrists. No feminine giggles as the stereotypes suggest. Their fashionably styled hair and blue jeans are characteristic of thousands of other college students.

But six of the men are homosexuals. The seventh is a heterosexual who lives with two of the homosexuals, Mike and Keith.

Gay lifestyle is viewed today not as a description of sexual preference, but as a political attitude, said Mike Minton, one of the plaintiffs in a suit filed by the Gay Student Services Organization against Texas A&M University in an effort to gain recognition as a student organization.

"The actual labels for sexual preference are homosexual, bisexual, heterosexual, asexual. Gay is a political attitude that says a person should be free to choose whom he loves and be able to discriminate that from gender," Mike M. said. "It shouldn't be a choice of the state, society or an institution."

I had presumed that The Battalion would possess the responsibility to try and prevent false impressions from being created about an individual. Although I was informed the picture would appear in The Battalion, I allowed my picture to be made only as a personal favor to Kim Tyson and had no knowledge of the content of the article. In fact, The Quadrangle was given to me by Kim Tyson herself for making the photo.

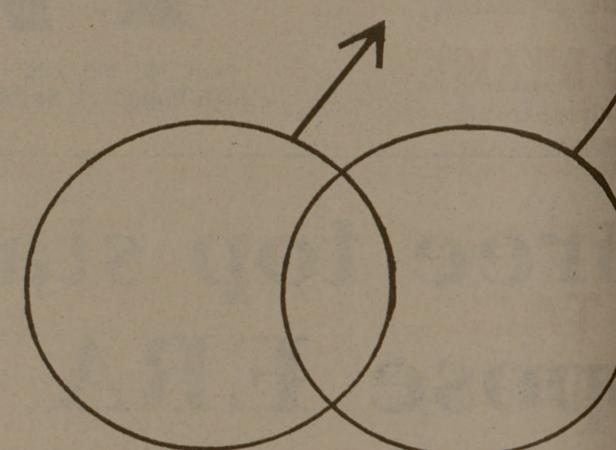
—Craig Contarek '79  
Editor's note: Your picture was not meant to endorse the article, as the article was a simple news story.

As to false impressions, The Battalion is not responsible for assumptions and impressions of its readers. We attempt to print the news as accurately as we can and let the readers draw their own impressions.

Your statements may be warranted, but I must defend The Battalion's reporter /photographer.

The photographer says she asked you twice and both times you agreed to have your picture taken and published in The Battalion.

As to "a personal favor to Kim Tyson," she says she had never met you before.



bars is much freer in terms of playing than at straight bars.

"We can be whatever we want to be. We can be masculine, we can be feminine. We can be in between. We can be neither," he said.

"When I first met Keith, I thought he was a football type, really macho. The same time I saw him, I thought this cannot be the same person. He is heterosexual.

"This is a phenomenon of camping. It's an act that a guy will put on to amuse himself but onlookers," Mike said.

He added that they "camped" several times in community, for example at the Restaurant. On one such trip, one man had on a Japanese kimono, one was dressed up in pants with a rhinestone belt on the crotch, and one was in a hooded caftan.

"One guy dressed up in drag went shopping in Skaggs. Two went to the Ring Dance together. Mike M. said.

"Seriously, on dancing together at the various bars here in town, try to do it discreetly like there is a big crowd," said Mike as everyone laughed.

Mike M. said, "We don't like any of the bars in town tried them..."

The rest of his sentence drowned out by laughter, Keith said that the large discos cater mainly to gay men and to "fag hags," straight women who like to be around gay men.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.

.