

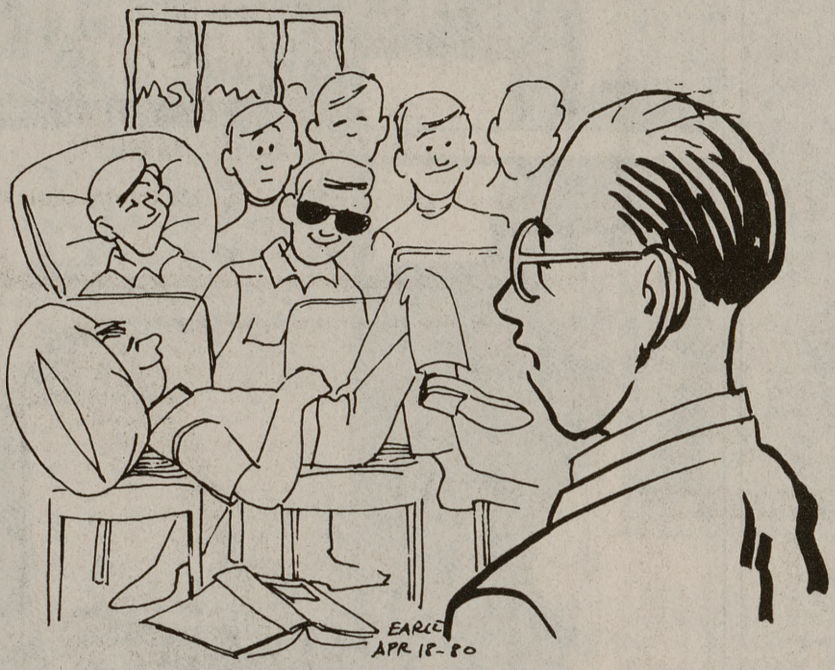
# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY  
MAY 5, 1981

## Slouch

By Jim Earle



"I would suggest that you graduating seniors not overplay your hands."

## Ban on pogonotrophy result of fuzzy thinking

By DICK WEST  
United Press International

WASHINGTON — In me you see a hard core pogonotropher.

I have been engaging in pogonotrophic activities for more than 10 years and feel absolutely no sense of guilt or contrition.

It's true I probably am not as deeply into pogonotrophy as some people you might know. My beard is comparatively short and neatly trimmed.

I am, nonetheless, firmly dedicated to the tenet that both pogonotrophy (beard-growing) and pogonotomy (beard-cutting) are matters of individual choice that should in no way be abridged either by laws or social restraints.

Or school boards. My defensive mechanism on this issue was activated by a report that a school-teacher in Roland, Okla., had been suspended for raising a mustache.

It seems the Roland school system bans all facial hair — beards, mustaches or anything else that might sprout on a teacher's cheeks, chin, upper lip and wattles. Such a proscription is prima facie evidence of sexual discrimination.

I am not privy to the school board's reasoning when it adopted the rule but it may have been guilty of the kind of fuzzy thinking that flawed an Esquire magazine article on shaving last year.

Shaving is "a daily affirmation of masculinity" and "one of the few remaining exclusively male prerogatives," the magazine said. Au contraire!

I can understand why a school board might desire affirmations of masculinity from its male faculty members, but the premise that shaving supplies such evidence is shaky to say the least.

Far from being an affirmation of masculinity, face shaving is a denial of masculinity — a daily expunging of the one thing man can do that woman can't.

It is the growing of facial whiskers, not the shaving of them, that is exclusively male. Anyone of any sex whatsoever can run a razor over the face.

As a matter of fact, according to Esquire, "as many adult women shave as men, though much less often." And presumably in different places.

Is the use of razors by women an affirmation of femininity? If so, then it follows that the razor has become a unisex object, like blue jeans and an assortment of other items that once radiated a macho mystique.

But pogonotrophy, aha! Consider this passage from the Esquire article:

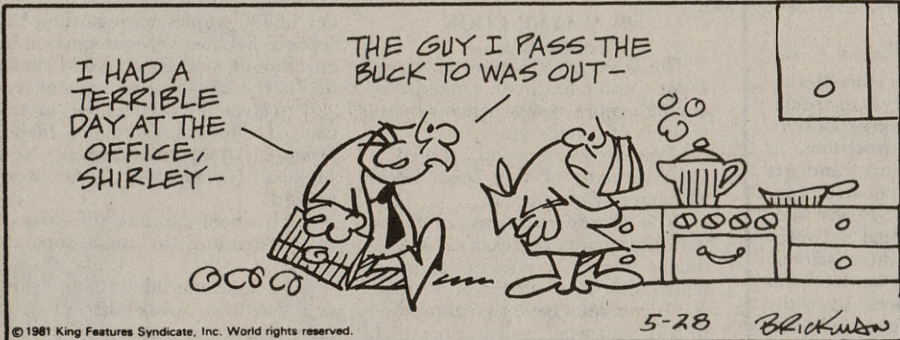
"Despite all the complaints from men about the bother of shaving, 97 percent of the men in a recent study said they would not want to use a cream, were one to be developed, that would permanently rid them of all facial hair."

Now consider the other side of the blade. Suppose a cream were developed that would enable women to grow beards. Would 97 percent avail themselves of it?

Striking beard triumphantly, the defense rests.

the small society

by Brickman

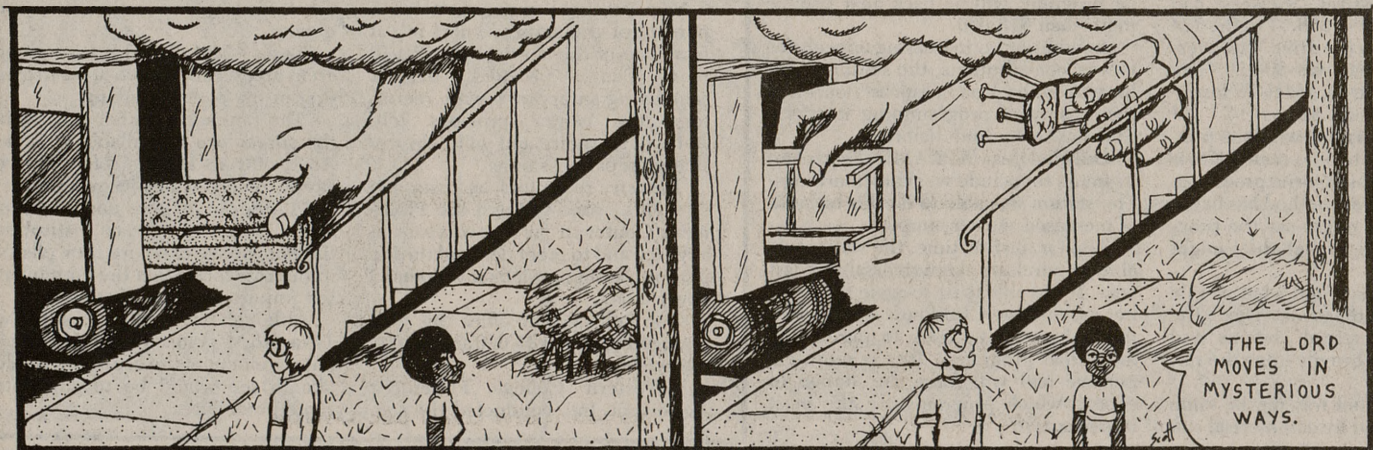


© 1981 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

5-28

Brickman

## Warped



By Scott McCullar

It's your turn

## Aggie code weakens as school grows

Editor:

I transferred here from the University of Texas to escape the insensitive way of a big college where everyone was just a number. UT was too big, too fast and just too uncaring about new freshmen and even others who had been there for years. Coming to Texas A&M I liked the beautiful campus and the people who say "Howdy" even though it is not "Howdy" week. I find a friendly atmosphere in almost every lecture room, information office and even with the students on and off campus.

I also noticed in my catalogue the Aggie Code of Honor. "Aggies do not lie, cheat, steal, nor do they tolerate those who do." I've read about the stealing in the dorms. I've known others who have had items stolen. Last week we even had a young man who was robbed and stabbed to death. I personally have had my locked bike taken and now, last week my purse and rings taken from the MSC cafeteria. (Someone was nice and turned in my license and ID.)

As our University grows, it seems like more incidences are being tolerated. I would hate to see our University grow to be just like others with numbers and just as insensitive. To lose the Aggie Spirit and Code of Honor would make this university just like others. How much more do we have to tolerate? I wish I could suggest a solution. I'm sure a few others feel as I do in wishing to create an even greater Aggie pride and for all who attend school and work here to live up to the Code of Honor.

Mari Angers

## Law Hall offer refused

Editor:

This letter is addressed in general to the boys of Law Hall, and in particular to Walt Culppepper. Any given group of individuals will have their share of bizzare persons, and perhaps Hotard, like California, has more than its share. But we're sure that Law Hall has its complement of strange persons, so don't give us your holier-than-thou trash by inviting us to sing with you at your next serenade. As for "all" the money in our treasury, you can have it — we're broke.

Daniel Boone

Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 20 other signatures.

McKENNA THE EXHIBITION NEWS LEADER COMEBY CHICAGO TRIBUNE.



## Students should learn from history

Editor:

To the response to the letter of Oscar Alvarez and Roberto Alvarez, I like to make these comments:

1. On our letter on April 23, 1981, we tried to explain about the Iranian people whom were oppressed by the dictator shah for more than 25 years. The U.S. government supported their puppet in Iran after C.I.A. engineered a coup in overthrowing the popular government of Dr. Mohammad Mossadegh, and returned the dictator shah to power. From 1953 C.I.A. and Israeli secret police "MOSSAD" established one of the worst criminal secret police in the world named "SAVAK". From 1953 till 1978, the U.S. government had influenced and interfered in the Iranian internal affairs. By the help of U.S. government, Iranian agriculture was totally destroyed and was depended on outside. Iranian arm forces were in hand of U.S. government. Iranian natural resources were being plundered by U.S. government. What the Iranian people had, was a criminal regim and a corrupted society. If I want to write about these things I have to write many pages about what U.S. government had done in Iran.

2. As a student in Texas A&M University, how can I stay quiet and be indifferent and cover the facts about the things that happened to Iranian people. Not only Iran had this problem, but also every single Third World country has problems with these superpowers. These two superpowers are the real troublemakers in the Third World countries. The foreign policy of U.S. government and U.S.S.R. government is to exploit and colonize our country.

3. You as a foreign student try to learn something from history and be aware of what is going on in our nations.

Behnam Rajabian

## Nursing home story misleading

Editor:

We are writing in response to the article

in last Tuesday's paper (April 21) concerning Eva Ashcraft and the Brazos Valley Geriatric Center. We realize the intent of the article was concerning the Delta Zeta adopting Mrs. Ashcraft as their great mother. This was a kind gesture on the part of the DZ's, and that part of the article is pleasing. However, the opening paragraph of the article is what caught our attention. Miss Emshoff's description of the center, "residents hunched in their wheelchair mumbering to each other," "the tile floor vinyl furniture adding no warmth to the depressing scene," and talking of the "pungent odor," we find very defensive and derogating. Her remarks are a fallacy that can be seen by anyone who has spent any length of time at the home. The staff, visitors, and patients are very friendly, and it is not a depressing scene. Yes, Mrs. Ashcraft is one of the more outgoing residents of the center. But there are many more.

We would also like to raise the question concerning Miss Emshoff's right to comment on the story on the DZ's, in which she is a member. To the best of our knowledge, the Battalion policy that bias is to be kept out of the articles.

We work at the Center as physical therapy aides, and have become very attached to the patients in the short period of time we have been there. It is a warm, healthy, and loving atmosphere for residents, visitors, and staff. We invite anyone to come out and visit and see for themselves what a great place it is.

Laura Best '82  
Pam Bailey '82

## Big words make for big confusion

Editor:

I am a student. I go to Texas A&M. Yesterday I read the newspaper. Yesterday, May 4th. The newspaper was the Battalion. I read the Reader's Forum. It was full of words. Please tell me what these big words mean.

Robert Alvarado  
Robert Griffin  
Ken Marquardt

## THE BATTALION

USPS 045-360

MEMBER

Texas Press Association  
Southwest Journalism Congress

Editor ..... Angelique Copeland  
Managing Editor ..... Marcy Boyce  
City Editor ..... Jane Brust  
Asst. City Editor ..... Venita McCollon  
Night News Editor ..... Jennifer Aflerbach  
Photo Editor ..... Greg Gammon  
Sports Editor ..... Ritchie Priddy  
Focus Editor ..... Cathy Saathoff  
Asst. Focus Editor ..... Debbie Nelson  
News Editors ..... Venita McCollon,  
Scott K. Meyer  
Staff Writers ... Frank L. Christlieb, Terry Duran,  
Bernie Fette, Phyllis Henderson, Colette Hutchings,  
Belinda McCoy, Kathy O'Connell, Denise Richter,  
Rick Stolle, Todd Woodard  
Cartoonist ..... Scott McCullar  
Photographer ..... Brian Tate

### EDITORIAL POLICY

The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station. Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Texas A&M University administrators or faculty members, or of the Board of Regents.

The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography courses within the Department of Communications. Questions or comments concerning any editorial matter should be directed to the editor.

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length, and are subject to being cut if they are longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for length, but will make every effort to maintain the writer's intent. Each letter must also be signed, show the writer's name and phone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, but not subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address all inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

The Battalion is published daily during Texas A&M's fall and spring semesters, except for holiday and examination periods. Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester, \$33.50 per school year and \$35 per full year. Advertisements are furnished on request.

Our address: The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. United Press International is entitled exclusively to use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it. Rights of reproduction of all other matter herein reserved. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX.