

Reader's viewpoint draws criticism

Editor:
This letter is in response to the letter by Noe Gutierrez, published in the October 19 edition of The Battalion.
Like most people at A&M, Gutierrez, I ignore the occasional "sour grapes" letter, and just defer to the opinion of its apparently frustrated author. That's not too hard to do. Your letter, however, is so extraordinarily insipid that this response is not only appropriate, but is, in my eyes, quite necessary.
Your letter is fundamentally incorrect, and the principal reason for this is that you've inaccurately represented your primary villain, Texas A&M. Your obviously inquisitive nature will probably require some substantiation for this, so let us examine some tangible facts: Texas A&M's Colleges of Agriculture and Engineering are and have been internationally recognized for

decades; A&M draws more National Merit Scholars than any other state supported school in the Southwest, and our average student's SAT score is higher than the average score at any other state supported school in the Southwest. I could go on and on, but I don't need to... my point should be clear: Check out the demand for our graduates, Gutierrez, next time you're seized with the inspiration to spout another mindless remark about A&M being a "ridiculous excuse for higher learning." Face it, you're barking up the wrong tree.
The tone of your letter is extremely indicative of a very miserable soul. You are, of course, entitled to feel that way if you like; no one's stopping you. Apart from this, however, you need to realize something, and that is, simply, that the "me" generation is no longer upon us. We all came to Texas A&M to receive an education. If you

think that an education is arrived at solely by attending class and studying, you are wholly mistaken, particularly with regards to Texas A&M. The superb nature of Texas A&M cannot and should not be measured only in the area of academic excellence. Instead, our greatness finds its permanence based on several ingrained values, among them, unity and true brotherhood. These two values find expression, in case you don't know, in those traditions you so openly deplore. I see thousands of people working together on Bonfire, sawing Varsity's horns off or sitting solemnly at Muster, and I am moved; you are not, and for this, I honestly pity you. I wish you had enough understanding to see that Bonfire is not erected annually just to flunk people like you and me out, and that being a "Good Ag" doesn't carry with it the dark connotations you perceive. I'm sorry you view them so gloomily.

Editor:
In response to the letter from Noe Gutierrez:
First of all, we're writing this letter because we can see that you have a valid point. However, you grouped the 35,000 students of this University into a category that only a handful belong to. Unfortunately, your reasoning was lost in your limited point of view.
We think what you really object to is being looked down upon for not wanting to participate in traditions, not the traditions themselves. You called A&M a "ridiculous excuse for higher education." You can't object to the quality of education here on the basis of your dislike for the behavior of so few students.
As to your statement of personal behavior being governed by the masses, we interpret that as peer pressure, and if you think that's exclusively at A&M, get off your magic carousel. You also wrote, "if one admires someone of the opposite in silence, solitude, and non-aggressiveness, he is accused of being sick, strange, or perverted." We, Mr. Gutierrez, would not consider you any of these if you admired us in that way. In addition, we feel we speak for the entire

wrong!
Buzz Steiner '81
Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 36 other signatures.
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Your failure to mention such honorable traditions as Silver Tips and was one of the obvious flaws in your generally offensive manner," we will consider it admiration.
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We wrote this letter because we're afraid that some of the responses you're going to receive will only reinforce you object to — i.e., "Highway 69 ways, two-percenters; go to it, give Noe," etc. We respect you for being individualist and we are not trying to credit what you are saying, we merely agree with the manner in which you're saying it. You sound extremely bitter; we regret you haven't found the better of this University. Because believe it or not, we're still here.
Anita Bester
Kayoume Lee
Neely
Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 27 other signatures.

Slouch By Jim Earle

"This is your beautiful music station. Nothing but good, sweet, lovable music with no interruptions, just beautiful music without interference, continually around the clock, no boring repetitive commercials. We give you just music; music the way you like it — music to dream by without interruption all day long. Listen to us, you'll be glad you did. We'll give you the sweetest FM music possible ... blah ... blah ... no interruptions ... blah ..."

From a psychological standpoint, I suppose it is logical to look externally for a scapegoat, but realistically, Gutierrez, you look way too much to Texas A&M as the cause for your problems. Sure, school is the root cause of problems for us all, but come on! Cast some of your aspersions elsewhere (perhaps inwardly) and stop blaming Texas A&M for all of your problems. Your appraisal of Texas A&M and its traditions is unquestionably shortsighted and shallow. You have the right to your opinions, though. So do I, and here you have it... You're

A scenario for deadlock

By ARNOLD SAWISLAK
United Press International
WASHINGTON — With some justification, President Reagan complained during August and September that some people were calling his economic policy a flop before it ever had a chance to go into effect.
His opponents responded that it is not necessary to be bitten by a cobra to know that it is poisonous and continued to put the knock on the Reagan version of supply side economics.
Now it is October and, with the start of the 1982 fiscal year, it is open season on Reaganomics. Perhaps more to the point, there are just 53 political campaigning weeks left until the 1982 elections.
Whatever the fate of the second round of administration budget cuts, the basic direction of the federal government has been changed. Even without further reductions, that change — an end to increasing government intervention aimed at the solution of

social problems — is in place.
However, if the signs of Republican as well as Democratic opposition to further budget cuts are real, the next 14 months could see a deadlock develop between the administration and Congress. That is because the Reagan budget and tax victories actually were closer than the final House and Senate votes on them may have appeared.
The administration won the big contests this year because it was able to hold the Republicans in Congress in line and stampede many already dispirited Democrats. The GOP argument, "You Democrats got us into this mess and now it's our turn to get the country out of it," helped convert what could have been a very close decision either way into a virtual landslide for Reagan.
The failure of the financial markets — which were assumed to be allied with the administration — to respond positively to the budget and tax cutting made these members of Congress, and some of the Re-

publicans as well, wonder whether had been led down the garden path by economic theorists who really had no basis for their forecasts of lower interest rates and improved business conditions.
It is said that before Wall Street will believe the Reagan program will want more budget cuts to assure a no larger than the Reaganists force the spring.
It looks like Congress — or enough to tip the balance — wants some sign Wall Street that it believes in the program before it will make a further commitment. That could produce a standoff.
In that event, it may take another session of public will to break the deadlock. If Reagan gets more votes in House and Senate next November, it will be like a booster rocket for his program he loses congressional substantial strength it could stop the Reagan revolution on tracks.

It's your turn

Errors spoil arguments in letter

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Editor:
This letter is a reply to Richard Leonard's letter in last Tuesday's Battalion.
Although Leonardon seems to be attempting to criticize the Board of Regents and the rate of growth of the University, he makes three serious errors which detract greatly from his argument.
First, as a recent graduate of Michigan, I must point out that the enrollment of the Ann Arbor Campus is closer to 36,000 rather than the 65,000 claimed. This is an enrollment which has changed very little over the past decade.
Second, he is confusing stocks and flows, and is making a correlation between size and overcrowding. Number of students is a "stock," rate of increase is "flow." Although excessive rates of growth may cause problems including overcrowding, this is not necessarily related to size per se. Overcrowding depends upon capacity (ex: students per classroom) not size.
Third, and most important, he is equating size with unfriendliness and declining quality. On this I beg to differ. During four years at Michigan I met many friendly people and Michigan is certainly considered to be one of the nation's finest educational institutions, perhaps in part, because of its size.
Leonardon may have presented a reasonable statement concerning the rate of growth of TAMU and the objectives of the Regents, had it not been for these errors.
I sincerely hope that others who may feel compelled to write letters to the editor in the future will examine their arguments carefully so as not to lose their statements because of unnecessary errors.
Dean Smith
Michigan May '81

roommate and I, along with our suitemates, have been living (and sweating) in rooms with no air conditioning. This would not be a problem if we lived in Puryear, Law, Hart, or any of the non-air conditioned dorms on campus. However, we live in Hughes Hall, and the fees that we paid included an air-conditioned room. It does not seem quite fair that we are not receiving the full quality service we are due to receive.
Following the standard procedure, we gave reported this problem to our resident advisor numerous times, the first of these being the week classes began. She, in turn, has relayed the matter to the head resident advisor. One week ago, the area housing coordinator checked on the problem and promised that our air conditioning would be taken care of within a couple days. Nevertheless, an open window and a fan are still the only source of air conditioning in our rooms. Realizing that this letter cannot get our air conditioner repaired, our next plan of action is to consult the University Housing Office.
We are not looking for someone to blame for the negligence in solving a simple problem. Instead, we would like to express an opinion. We feel that it is shameful for a university of Texas A&M's caliber to offer such poor service. This problem possibly reflects a weakness in communication between departments. As Aggies, we regret this weakness.
Nancy Hayes '85
Hughes Hall

does not show.
I thought about staging a protest that afternoon in front of the man's home but, found the assembly of concerned students too small for revolt. The bald portion of the students feared rain would stimulate hair growth and spot their pressed khaki. Others feared that their alligators would drown, their bermudas were too long to be waders, their mascara would disintegrate, or that their topsiders might be faulty. The best excuse in my survey was that rain is a prime time for sinners to be struck by lightning.
I guess my point of view is lopsided to Texans, but because I pay out-of-state tuition I feel as though I've bought a share of TAMU. As a concerned member, I think we could teach our alpha's and beta's their ABC's if they attended class. The schools whom are among the top ten are located in places where the seasons are much more extreme. If the Aggies cannot get to class in rain, outside of needed instruction, is there hope for achievement?
Perhaps if residents would take advantage of their claimed opportunities there would be no room for Yankee infiltration or that drawled Texan complaint.
Evon L. Wallace
Uninspired Expiring Yankee

out the atrocities he has committed to dogs.
"I tarred some of them, and set fire to them. I cut others open and poured hot water into the body cavity, held their paws over Bunsen burners, crushed the sensitive organs of the male dog, and every bone in its paw with a mallet. Others, I poked out their eyes with a pin and then scraped out the empty sockets."
Such repulsive experimentation is completely unnecessary but is a recurring favorite of animal experimenters. As for animals in the pound, simply because an animal has no home does not mean that animal has feeling for pain. Think about it Aggie. A veiled I was a stray. Instead of being rescued by a caring Aggie, she could have been picked up and placed in the hands of barbarians and subjected to some horrible torture. "The American public has been trained to accept anything that sails on the flag of science." Hans Ruesch.
Meritt Melissa Siers
Pre-Medical

No air conditioning

Editor:
For the entirety of this semester, my

Rain no excuse for walk
Editor:
One day last week one of my classes was postponed due to inclement weather. I find this a poor reason to now spend a nice afternoon making up lost class time. Why aren't the students given a choice in such decisions? It does not leave us with too many options when the man whose salary I pay

Save the animals
Editor:
It is my belief that the author of "Animal experiments touchy issue," which appeared in the October 13 issue of The Battalion, overlooked one essential factor involved in animal experimentation: the majority of people interested in halting animal experimentation are mainly concerned with the desistence of vivisection, or incision on live animals. In his book "Surgical Shock," Dr. George W. Crile points

Officials, not team lose
Editor:
We would like to direct this letter to the football team. We would like to congratulate you all on the great game at Baylor. Even though the score didn't say so, you beat the hell outta Baylor. But you can't expect to beat a football team AND officials. The officiating was terrible, you all have the ball rolling now, so don't two poorly officiated games get to you (the student body) are still behind 500%. We know you're the champs, we'll be there next week when you all beat the hell outta Rice. Maybe this time you get lucky on the officiating. Gig em.
Melissa Rader

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