Press and public gain from ruling

American journalists.

In a unanimous decision, the Court ruled that judges may only in "rare circumstances" bar reporters and the public from jury selection in criminal trials.

Previously, the jury selection, or *voir dire*, portion of the trial, could be closed to the press and public at the judge's discretion. The Court's decision, however, further extends the concept of a open, public trial. Chief Justice Warren Burger aid judges should only close the selection proceedings when a prospective juror may be publicly embarrassed by the series tice. of questions.

opinions, believe that the rights of propective jurors will have to be defined more freedom. learly in subsequent cases.

KF

Despite President Reagan's recent claims that the press is unpatriotic and not on "our side," the Supreme Court the public. The Sixth Amendment Wednesday upheld additional rights for guarantees justice through speedy and public trials to all American citizens.

The editors of The Battalion feel that the rights of those accused of crimes override the rights to privacy of prospective jurors, some of whom will eventually decide the defendant's fate.

Justice only can be administered in fair and open procedures at all stages of the trial, not in closed sessions where potential for bargaining between the prosecution and the defense exists. The presence of the public and the press in jury selections will be an additional aid to jus-

By ruling against closure of jury selec-Several justices, writing in separate tion, the Supreme Court has further nions, believe that the rights of prop-

- The Battalion Editorial Board

Letters: Aggie code valid

In response to Ms. Wiesepape's editorial on the Aggie Honor Code, I think an important ideology was misrepresented. It seems that the Honor Code of not lying, cheating, or stealing, along with intolerance of those who do, was perceived to be a fact rather than a code of

When taken in a factual context, the Honor Code does take on a sense of hypocrisy because it is ridiculous to think that out of 35,000 people in a common environment, all will exhibit these saintly qualities. It also becomes easy to refute the Honor Code with specific examples of students' misguided achievements and

embarrassing predicaments.

Like Ms. Wiesepape inferred, the Honor Code is taught to most incoming freshmen who go through orientation processes, but this does not guarantee strict compliance the minute they set foot on the campus.

It seems the best way to interpret such a demanding statement on life would be to consider it first as a goal for one's own

self, and only then expect to see it on a University-wide basis. The problems the Honor Code seeks to combat are very personal in nature, and it takes more than codified peer pressure to completely solve them, although I do think it is a

With such a personality-oriented statement, "practical enforcement" may be too idealistic, while dropping the Honor Code to "avoid the taint of hypocrisy" does not pass my cost-benefit analysis.

If all students do their best possible to maintain the standards represented by the Aggie Code of Honor, then I believe a sound majority that attends Texas A&M will maintain its respected and admired reputation, despite the few who continue to lie, cheat or steal.

Doug Rogers Class of '83

Act of God?

The damage that God reportedly did in several dorm rooms over the holidays wasn't caused by any neglect of God or the students. If God had turned off the heat in the dorms, I could see how one would be able to call it an act of God. In my opinion, neither God nor the students turned off the heat in the dorm — God turned off the heat outside.

It's a matter of ethics. I believe the Univeristy turned off the heat in the dorms, so they should pay for the dam-

I would like to suggest that next year, when the University turns off the heat in the dorms, they make some effort to draw the water from the steam and water lines. I believe this would save money as was the intention this year

Halt arms race

The Student Peace Action is not, in fact, as a group, advocating unilateral disarmament, nor are any of the other organizations also organizing the walk and rally this Saturday. I suppose it is natural, however, to assume, as does B. Mecum, that a person whose philosophy and politics differs from your own is suffering from a lack of information and understanding of the issues at hand. Is questioning or protesting the actions of the U.S. government, in itself, really evidence of nonsensical, unrealistic beliefs?

Those organizations (Student Peace Action, Brazos Valley Sierra Club, Brazos Valley National Organization for Women) involved in the walk and rally (8:30 a.m., St. Theresa Church, Lucky at Hall in Bryan, down Hwy. 6) and the individuals comprising each, hold a great variety of philosophies and politics, have many different opinions about the prob-lem and have many different ideas concerning the answer.

Two things these individuals have in common is a distaste for the jeopardy and uncertainty in which their future existence has been placed, and a demand for an honest attempt at reversing the nuclear arms race. It is my personal opinion that the popular we'll-talk-after-wecatch-up approach toward this end is not completely honest and has proven itself useless in the past. I personally feel that reversing the nuclear arms race is not only possible, but simply must be accomplished before most of us have any reason to suspect that we will be alive tomorrow.

S. Cogburn Class of '87

Dawin omitted their fin

Abortion: no

neutral ground

January 22, 1984 marks the anniversity of the legalized slaught

the people in most states.

mother's womb.

unborn babies, via the Supreme (mayor Roe v. Wade pro-abortion decision Thursday

judiciary body made a legislative which overruled the legally stated with the people in most stores.

In one decision, the Supreme ters at the overturned abortion laws across will run country and determined that a be which wi

any gestation age could be killed seat and said such an excuse as the psycholin Nove health of the mother was reasone special

to tear or burn the baby out of announce

Eleven years later, the murder Rege fenseless babies continues. Aborton

proven itself to be of psychological

ment to the women as well. By not sp

ing up, one gives consent to this more day holocaust. There is no ne

Jacob Paul le (Editor's note: this letter was acco

nied by 13 signatures.)

ground.

Editor:
On Jan. 14, the Texas Board of Lording plus, at its tion ratified a measure stating that veek. The textbooks do not have to mention control peer Surface and his theory of evolution eviews to the state of t

By this move, the Board will relations of itself of a great burden and will allow. At the publishing companies, who are all trying to correlate public opinion Air profit margins, to quietly succumb vocal minority of persons who are mently anti-evolution. Is the To By RO Board of Education so spineless that connot resist pressure from the damentalist Christian hordes, orist For simply a majority of Board member week, the

actually do not believe evolution scrension a In other action, the Board lets. 15 pilots 10-year-old rule equating evolution other ideas of human origin, suchas unctionism tionism.

It appears that Texas has an oteve Hu lished history of ignorance in solumbo education. It is incredible that scienad just ta in the 1980s have to defend evolu 13/Alpha Perhaps when one remembers that your President, Ronald Reagan stated publicly that he does not fully port evolution, it is easier to under the proliferation of this anti-science. religion viewpoint.

Is the Board's measure consistent Reagan's drive to improve scienced tion in America? Obviously, thete The Co

The various cliques of fundamente in sour ists, "creation scientists" and their Human porters (some in high places) and proval, it tactics that try to supress true scientiayo, dire repugnant to me. repugnant to me.

For those of you who feel likewis e city its believe that such things produce is hother write letters to your legislators, the spital me Board of Education or other govern Board of Education or other goven figureheads to express your dismay

Board's ratification. All persons interested in educal fredo's a especially persons directly involved atovision to sciences, should be outraged and parking frightened. Indeed, this selective A parking frightened. Indeed, this selective a parking sion of one of the most important ark, was retifice advances of mankind reminds the rewritten histories described to the rewritten histories described Orwell's 1984.

Rex Allen Haissioners Geology Graduate Strained.

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perf

And

How the Bowl

by ART BUCHWALD

Columnist for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate The child came into his father's study.

"Daddy, what was the world like before there was Super Bowl Sunday?' The elder was startled by the question

"Why do you ask, son?" "Well, if this is Super Bowl XVIII, that

means there was a time when there was no Super Bowl Sunday. What did people do to get through the winter? "It's hard to think back when there wasn't a Super Bowl Sunday. I guess we

went to church in the morning, read the newspapers, watched an old movie on television or, if you were unlucky, your relatives would stop by uninvited to spend the afternoon with you.

In some parts of the country, people had nothing better to do but shovel snow off their walks. In the Sun Belt I guess they moved their lawns. Before Super Bowl Sunday no one gave a damn about January. Thank heaven you'll never live through those times."

"But how did they sell light beer, if there was no Super Bowl Sunday?

There was no light beer in those days, son. You had to drink your beer with teams.

one-third more calories. It was a dark period for breweries and ex-athletes who did TV commercials.'

"Why are the Super Bowl games listed in Roman numerals?" the boy asked.

Because the people who thought up the Super Bowl wanted it to be the most important sporting event of the year. By using Roman numerals they were able to distinguish their championship game from the Rose Bowl and the Orange and Cotton Bowl, which were nothing more than hyped-up college games. The farsighted Super Bowl founders were determined to make it the biggest, most spectacular gridiron contest between men ever to be seen on television. By placing Roman numerals on the games they guaranteed that mania would infect the land."
"Is Super Bowl Sunday more impor-

tant than Christmas?"

"Let's say it's in the same class. In many parts of the land Super Bowl Sunday has taken on a religious significance that even its disciples never dreamed of. For example, this year in Washington and Los Angeles, people of all denominations will get on their knees, face in the direction of Tampa and pray for their respective

"Millions more will gather around their television sets rooting for one or the other team of gladiators, not for religious reasons, but because the contest will decide once and for all the professional football championship of the world."

"Some of my friends say Super Bowl Sunday no longer is a religious holiday, and is only an excuse for a lot of people to make a lot of money.

'Your friends are wrong. No one involved with the Super Bowl ever thinks about the money. The thing that makes the Super Bowl so super is that they've managed to keep crass commercialism from sullying the game. The players, the owners, the TV advertisers and even the bookies would be the last ones to let financial considerations interfere with the joys and thrills of Super Bowl

"What's the point spread, Dad?"

"Washington by III, but I had to give IV to Healy because he's always looking

M-TV production difficult

By Dave Spence

Very late last Saturday night I decided to on my newly souped-up, cable-modified TV. The image on the screen at that moment was of a rail-thin, British post-adolescent with starched, I-guess-you'dcall-it-yellow hair sitting in a pub booth with, I think, a girl. (It might have been his bass player, I wasn't sure). They were sipping sodas and he was singing "her" a song off his newest album, which is near the top of the charts this week.

As with most people, the "wee-er" the hours get in the night, the more strangely things strike me, and that night I began to imagine what on earth it must be like for

those poor video directors to get emerging rock stars, some bordering on illiteracy, to act worth a damn.

the Ed Sullivan Show, but today almost every single release is accompanied by a promotional video.

reader's forum

Small studios from Berlin to London to L.A. must be jammed with cameras, special-effects equipment, restless rock groups with infinitely strange names, and frustrated third-rate (i.e., "artsy") film

directors trying to shoot videos as fast as the songs are recorded.

"All right, quiet on the set! I need the band members over here. Dirk, you get in the hot rod. Flem, you sit next to him and beat the dash with your drumsticks. Bo. you're at the corner buying flowers from the girl. And Blood — where's Blood? – ah, Blood, you are in the intersection with the flower girl.

"We stot with me smashin' me guitar,

right?"
"No, Blood, you hang on to your guitar. You play it, remember? In the middle of the intersection, like in the script."
"Then I smash it latuh?"

"Sure, sure. But get in your place now. Listen fellas, Blood plays a few bars to start off with and about that time Bo walks up to the girl to buy some flowers. Blood — still in the intersection — gets raging jealous and begins the vocals with, 'Oh, oh, oh, baby, if he touches you I'll smash his life.'

"E says 'smash 'is life."

"Right. Sorry, Bo. He sings 'smash his life,' then, Dirk, you charge Blood with the hot rod like you're going to run him over for kicks — while you, Flem, are beating on the dash. This time try to keep the same tempo as the song. You looked pretty clumsy in that last video.'

"This car's not fast enough fo' me. I need a fastuh car.

"This one will have to do. We've already painted the flames all over it like you wanted.'

"When 'e comes, I smash me guitar on is hood, right?'

"No, you're not done playing it yet. You dodge the hot rod and run over to Bo and the girl. You should be to 'Oh, oh, oh, baby, your carnations electrify my

"But these are geraniums."
"I know, but Blood smashed all our

carnations in yesterdays shooting. OK .. the finale: Dirk, you turn the car around and this time ram the flower stand fullthrottle. Flowers go flying. The girl runs off in fright. Bo decides she's not worth it. Dirk, in the wreck you destroy Blood's guitar, so the two of you become friends. You all pile in the car, back over the guitar once -

(Sigh) "Twice. And then drive off in a screech of rubber.

(Editor's note: Dave Spence is a senior English major).

"You won't believe this, but I've already been asked if we were holding class on Friday before Spring Break."

The Battalion

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The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Communications. Questions or comments concerning any editorial mat-

ter 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 style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must also be signed and show the address and telephone number of the writer. Columns and guest editorials also are welcome, and are 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, or phone (409) 845-2611. Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in

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