

## Town Hall concerts may be obsolete

Will MSC Town Hall continue to schedule concerts at Texas A&M?

Committee Chairman Karen Snow says yes.

But taking a realistic look at the problems the committee is facing, the answer may be no.

One of the paramount problems is the lack of facilities. Translated: G. Rollie White Coliseum. The building is a dinosaur — it simply was not designed to handle the large crowds and technologically sophisticated set-ups of today's concerts.

Added to that is the reluctance of most groups to make Texas A&M a major concert date. Concerts here are just "pick-up" dates, and groups rarely are willing to schedule appearances in advance.

Town Hall has faced those problems in the past.

But recently, they've had an added setback. The growing popularity of

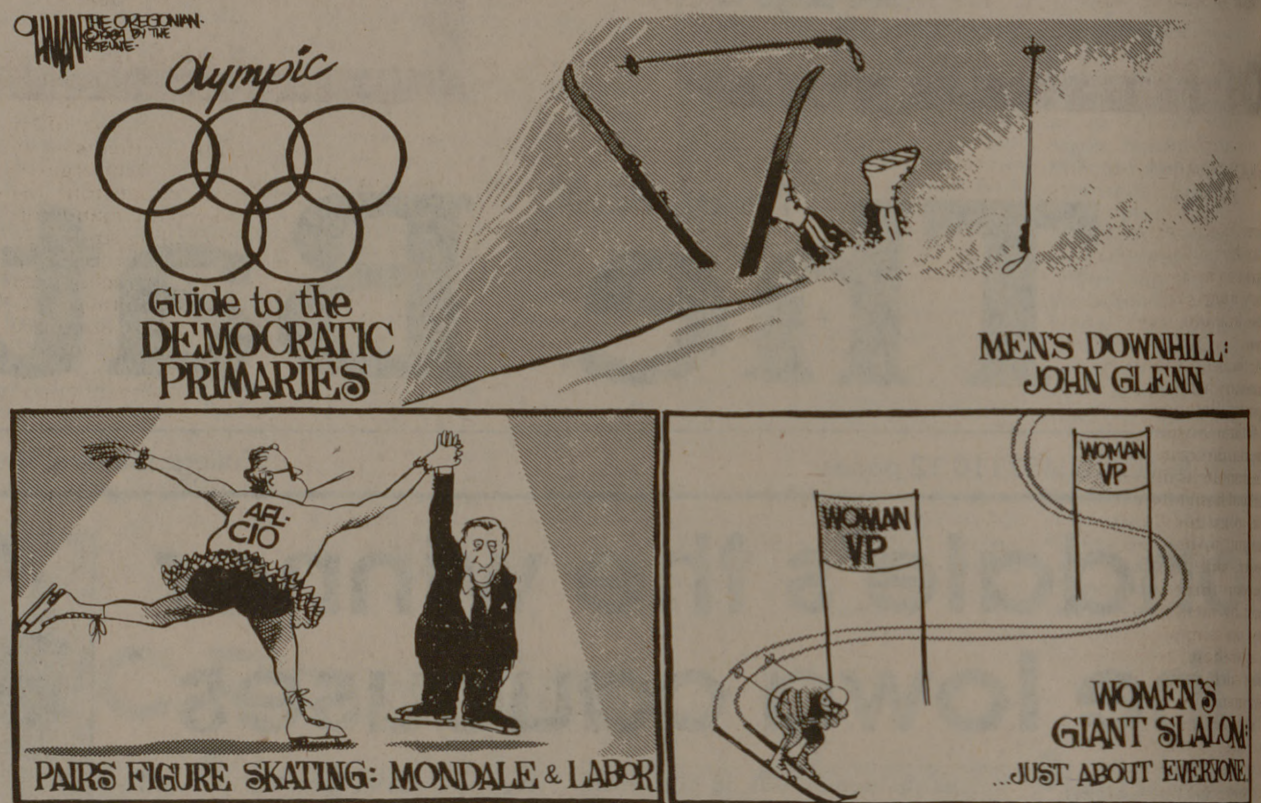
Music Television has sent shock waves through the entire music industry — and Town Hall is no exception.

Ticket prices are up, attendance is down, and fewer performers are touring. It seems it's now more cost-beneficial to produce a video than to go on the road to promote an album.

A new special events center is the only thing that can save Town Hall. Without it, scheduling concerts will become increasingly more difficult.

It's a shame that a student group which has served A&M so well in the past may find itself unable to continue the job, simply because of a lack of adequate facilities. If Town Hall — and the concerts the group brings to A&M — are lost, Aggies will lose not only a valuable tool for participating in "real world" experiences, but also a valuable entertainment service in a town where entertainment is hard to find.

— The Battalion Editorial Board



## Construction poses major inconvenience

Monday mornings are usually bad enough, but yesterday my day was really ruined by the actions of some inconsiderate boob in the campus planning office.

It seems this campus is looking more and more like Beirut every week with construction sites developing everywhere.

Now a boundary fence has been placed around parking lot 7 between the Cyclotron, Doherty Building and Halbouty Geosciences Building. Those who planned the location of this fence have committed a very dumb error.

The only continuous pedestrian walkway between two of the largest buildings on campus — Zachry Engineering Center and the Blocker Building — has been cut off. This also cuts off the Civil Engineering Building from the Blocker Building, the location of the Texas

Transportation Institute, which employs a large portion of civil engineering graduate students and professors as researchers.

### reader's forum

Now, the only way to safely or cleanly walk between these two areas is to walk a long block south to Ross Street and along in front of Halbouty and the Reed McDonald Building. This adds about 10 minutes to the walk — not good for making classes on time.

Short cuts were found quickly this morning. But the grounds maintenance department won't appreciate the mud hole where their grass used to be in front of the Cyclotron, nor will the Emergency Medical Technicians like to

make so many runs to Lot 5 picking up students who have been hit by cars speeding through the lot.

It seems to me this whole problem should have never arisen. This is a university campus, a place where students come to better themselves with greater knowledge. But those in administrative positions seem to be geared toward making life miserable for the students.

Administrative personnel should never forget the axiom: "If it weren't for us students, you wouldn't have a job."

Perhaps that is a bit harsh and naive, but I really feel those in administrative positions ought to think more along the lines of how their actions will affect students. That sure would make this campus a more pleasant place to learn.

Steven C. Bahrt  
Graduate Student

## Letters:

### University attitude toward students poor

**Editor:**  
In regards to Operation Mop Up, which was reviewed in Thursday's Battalion, I am appalled. Why should the students have to raise money to pay for things damaged by the stupidity of the landlord? The University's approach to the recent floods is in keeping with their past actions of "penny-pinching" at the expense of the students.

When I came back from Christmas, finding a note on my door from the housing office that informed me that they weren't responsible for the damage to be found inside, I wasn't really surprised.

Sure, we can pay more than \$1 million for a football coach, but we can't

pay a few hundred dollars to keep the heating on in the 50-year-old dorms so that their plumbing doesn't explode.

Sure, we can offer \$1 million to a Nobel Laureate in physics, but we can't afford to hire a few more math professors so that the engineering students can understand their professors.

The flooding and subsequent insensitivity of the Housing Department is just another in a long series of events that shows just how little the University really cares about its students. Even though I'm leaving in May, I hope this isn't the wave of the future.

Bill Tillotson  
Class of '84

### No free publicity

**Editor:**  
I was absolutely astounded to see that

The Battalion would print a letter from someone advertising a book that he wrote.

Who cares if Walter L. Bradley wrote a book on the origins of life?

It is hard to believe that a person in academia would publish in a field he probably knows little about, using the same arguments and some type of misuse of passages that an uneducated person would use.

It is even harder to believe that The Battalion would print such a letter giving free publicity to a person so that he could make a profit.

I move that The Battalion publish the titles of all of the books printed by Texas A&M professors in the last two years free of charge. Furthermore, that each professor be given space to write a small synopsis of their book.

Stephen Weiss

### Opposing views

**Editor:**  
Walter Bradley's letter of Feb. 17 takes the view that we can perhaps teach evolution as well as creationism. Mike Smith's letter tells us what God is going to do to gays.

There is one thing these letters have in common. They are both written by "Christians." Any similarities end there.

Dr. Bradley writes with the view that while his opinions have merit, so do the opinions of others. Smith, however, disagrees.

To quote Smith, "all you gays out there, if you don't change and ask to be forgiven then stay away from me and my friends. My friends and I are normal, and we would rather pair up with ones which are of the opposite sex like God wanted us guys to do in the first place."

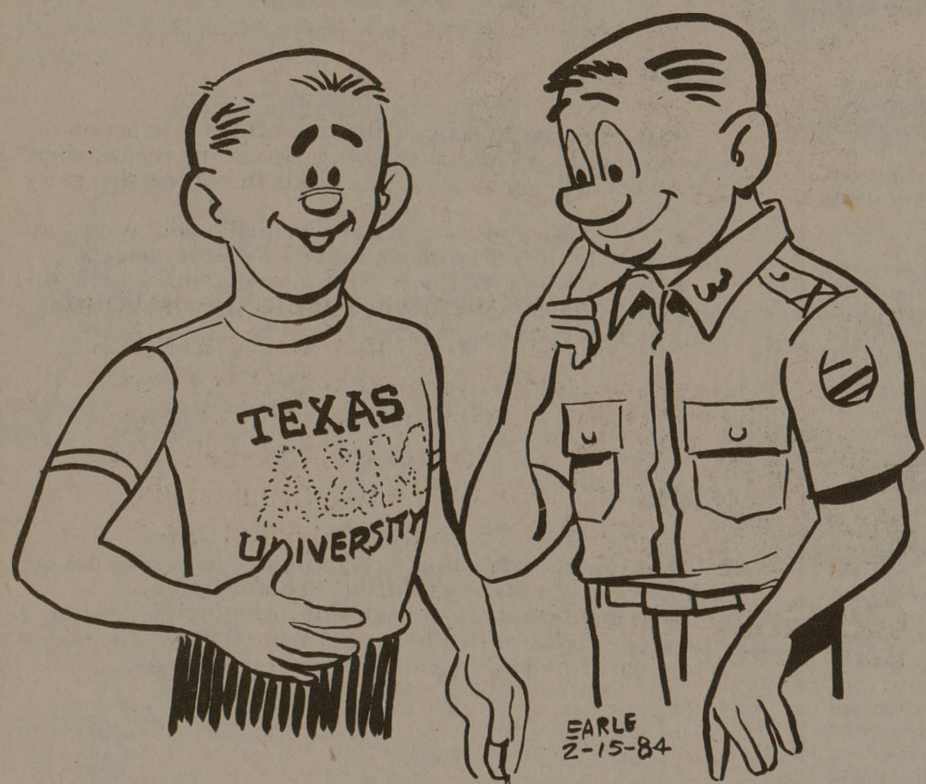
Now, to quote Dr. Bradley's last paragraph, "As Norman Geisler has said, 'If it was bigotry in 1925, then it is still bigotry in 1984. Bigotry has not changed in the past half century, only the bigots have.'"

Two "Christian" letters. Two "Christian" authors. Perhaps your God arranged those letters to be printed on the same day, Smith. Perhaps not. Whichever is the case, I thank the God that you profess to believe in that I am not "normal" like you.

Scott Swearingen  
Class of '85

### Slouch

by Jim Earle



"I'm glad the court case is over so I can put my logo back on."

## Deciding not to go to Andropov's funeral

By Art Buchwald  
Columnist for The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

When Yuri Andropov died Feb. 10, the big question in the White House was whether the president should attend the funeral or not. The arguments pro and con concerning this question had nothing to do with sentimentality, but how Mr. Reagan's presence or absence would be perceived by the world.

This is how the argument went in the White House.

"If the president goes to Andropov's funeral, it will be a signal he's weakening his position on the placement of the cruise missiles."

"I disagree. By attending the funeral the president will show that he is still willing to talk to the Soviets, if they're willing to bargain on the S-20 missiles in good faith."

"You expect them to make concessions at a funeral?"  
"Not necessarily at the funeral, but afterwards when the president pays his condolences to the Soviet leaders, whoever the hell they are."

"Don't you think paying condolences to the other Soviet leaders is a dangerous thing to do?"

"What's dangerous about it?"  
"Suppose the Soviet leaders refuse to accept them. How do you think that will look in the headlines? 'Reagan Condolences for Andropov Rebuffed by Kremlin.'"

"Why don't we find out before we let the president go if the Kremlin is willing to accept Mr. Reagan's personal condolences. If they say no, then we won't let him attend the funeral."

"I don't trust the Soviets. They could tell us they'll accept them, and then when the boss gets to Moscow they'll say they changed their mind."

"So what kind of signal are we sending to Moscow if the president doesn't go?"

"George Bush."  
"He's not a signal. He's the vice president."

"Bush went to Brezhnev's funeral, so the signal we're sending is that relations between the United States and the

U.S.S.R. are the same as they were when Andropov came to power."

"Okay, maybe that would be the signal we're sending to the new Soviet leaders. But what signal are we sending to the people around the world? The signal is getting a little frightened over all this perpowper saber-rattling. If the president went to the funeral it might help those who are afraid Reagan could lead us into a nuclear confrontation with the Russians. Also, don't forget the fallout at home. Reagan would knock the Democrats off the news but also the Winter Olympics."

"It could kick back on us. How do our conservative constituents see an American president offering his condolences to the Communists?"

"Suppose he went and offered personal condolences to the Andropov family but not to the Politburo?"  
"They would take that as a significant flexion of the way to Moscow to continue the cold war."

"How about the president calling the Politburo from Santa Barbara, offering his personal condolences to the other Soviet leaders? The 'Superbowl' would be a split screen arena on TV."

"You can't get the whole Politburo on a split screen, dummy. Besides, I think just a call to the Politburo room will bring the Russians back to neva to continue the arms talks."

"It certainly won't. But the scenario is if the president goes to neva, gives his personal condolences to the Soviets will refuse to return neva. Then the media will write Reagan's trip to Andropov's funeral as a flop."

"I agree. I say we send Bush to neva with the funeral, with a note from the president regretting he could not come himself."

"What excuse will the president give?"

"He was so overcome by grief he decided to attend a prayer breakfast in Iowa instead."

## The Battalion

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The Battalion also serves as a laboratory paper for students in reporting, editing, photography classes within the Department of Communications.

**Letters Policy**  
Letters to the Editor should not exceed words in length. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must be signed and include the address and telephone number of the writer.

Reader's Forum columns and guest editorials are welcome. Address all inquiries to the editorial page editor.

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