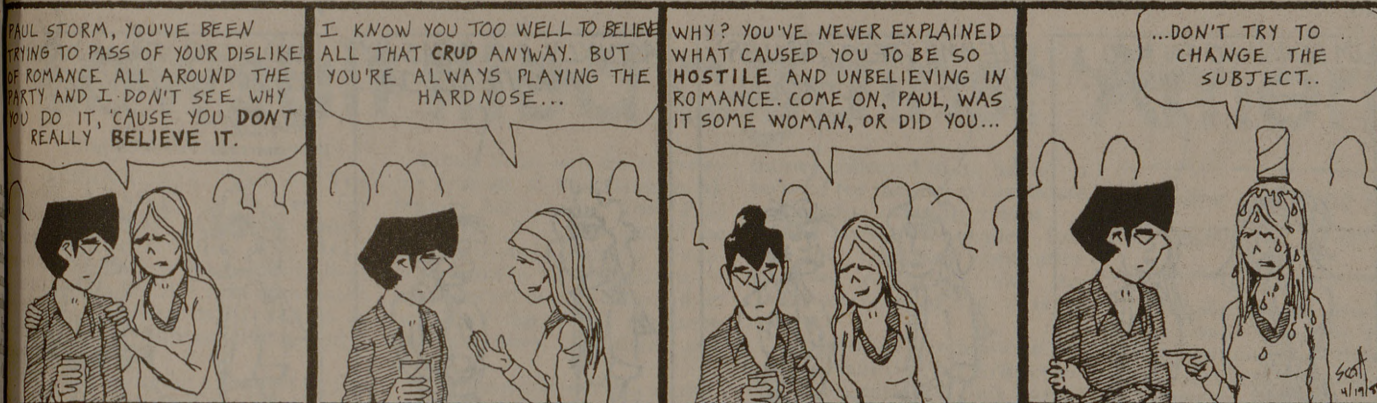


Warped by Scott McCullar



## Students advised to check regulations for final exams

By ED ALANIS  
Staff Writer

With just over two weeks left before final exams, students and faculty alike have begun the frantic process of trying to wrap up a semester. Six projects and two lab finals due during dead week, and four comprehensive finals crammed into the first three days of finals week... everyone knows the story. And for seniors fortunate enough to be graduating, everything is due a week earlier.

Well, if you think you'll never get it all done and you feel like your professors are being unfair, there may be a way to ease some of the stress.

Double check the University regulations and make sure all of your professors are in compli-

ance with the rules. Are your finals being held at the time scheduled by the registrar's office? Do you have three finals in one day? If you're a graduating senior, is your last exam comprehensive? If your professors are in violation of these regulations, there is something you can do.

Assistant deans and advisers say that most conflicts can be worked out with the professors themselves. However, students should not hesitate to take their complaints to the department head when professors refuse to comply with University regulations.

"Most professors that do not follow the rules are new professors, who are unaware of what the rules are," said Patricia Burk, an undergraduate coun-

selor for the College of Liberal Arts. However, Assistant to the Dean of Business Administration, Lynn Zimmermann says there are some cases of flagrant violations.

"We don't have a perfect faculty," Zimmermann said. "With a population of this size, there will likely be someone who will flagrantly challenge the rules."

Many students think they have a complaint, Burk said, when really it's a misunderstanding of the regulations. Graduating seniors complain about unannounced exams at the end of the semester, when actually they missed the day at the beginning of the semester when the exam was announced, she said.

The exact rules can be found on pages 10 and 11 of the 1983-84 Texas A&M University Regulations handbook. If you have a complaint, Zimmermann said there are three steps students can follow:

- Talk to the professor. Probably he or she is simply unaware of the rules.
- Talk to the head of the department. Keep in mind however that his or her first question will be, "have you discussed this with the professor?"
- Talk to the dean of the college. Most conflicts are resolved by talking to the professor, Burk said, and few cases go higher than the head of the department.

## Prof says '1984' isn't here

By KATHLEEN REEVES  
Reporter

George Orwell's "1984" is not a hopeful novel — in the end it leaves readers with the impression that totalitarianism will continue to reign. But Dr. Warren Dixon, assistant professor of political science here, said Tuesday night that a totalitarian regime such as Big Brother in "1984" would be difficult to establish and sustain.

Orwell created Big Brother as the immortal regime that controls the consciousness of everyone except the lower working class.

Dixon said he thinks that kind of regime must have mortal, flesh and blood leaders. He said the immortal Big Brother was not plausible and used totalitarian regimes in recent history to illustrate.

"Would Nazi Germany have been Nazi without Hitler?" he said.

He said a real leader is needed to provide the will and the energy of the total regime. And if a real leader is needed, he said, it is assumed that this leader will die. Thus, he said, a mortal leader produces difficulty for the total regime. The regime would be unable to reproduce a clone and the next generation would have difficulty replicating the same kind of terror the original leader had. He said when a leader dies

the institution is still in place but the founding leader's will is not.

Dixon said Orwell thinks there is still hope within the working class because they are the only ones left alone by Big Brother. But Dixon feels Orwell's optimism is misplaced. He said he believes the optimism lays with the middle class thinkers not the workers. He said it would take someone whose daily job was to think in order to resist the internal pressures.

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## Vets warn dog owners about flea, tick dangers

By KIMBERLEE D. NORRIS  
Reporter

A Texas A&M Veterinarian says that maintaining a good flea and tick program is the best way to protect dogs from a potentially fatal disease which is spreading rapidly through Texas.

Dr. Alice Wolf said that the best way to prevent pets from getting canine ehrlichiosis, a disease carried from Viet Nam to the United States by Army dogs, is to protect them from its carriers.

The April edition of the Texas Veterinary Medical Journal reported on the spread of the disease, which Wolf said is prevalent in Texas because the climate is suited to ticks. However, she said, dog owners can protect their pets by keeping them away from tick infested areas.

"Some dogs catch the 'bug' and get over it with no after effects," she said. "Others are se-

verely affected and will die without treatment."

Another Texas A&M veterinarian, Kenita S. Rogers, said the disease has two stages — the acute stage when the illness first begins, and the chronic stage which is usually fatal.

"If an owner or vet can catch it early, it can be successfully treated with the antibiotic tetracycline," Rogers said. "After it has progressed further, more heroic measures, like blood transfusions, can be required to save the dog."

Wolf said the severity of the disease is different for individual dogs, and compared it to human exposure to influenza.

"You and I might catch the same flu 'bug,'" she said, "but I could be sick for weeks while you are hardly affected. Dogs are the same way."

Wolf said German Shepherds are more susceptible to the disease than other breeds, but any

dog of any breed can catch the potentially fatal disease. The symptoms are hard to pinpoint, she said, because they could describe so many illnesses.

"In its early stages, the disease is characterized by fever, lack of energy and poor appetite," she said. "Later, it can cause excessive bleeding, especially in the nose."

Wolf said the disease causes the victim's bone marrow to compress, making the blood cells unable to manufacture platelets. Platelets allow blood to clot. She said the blood vessels in the nose are easily broken, so a nose bleed can be the first indication of a problem.

"The ehrlichiosis organism is similar to Rickettsia rickettsia, the bug that causes Rocky Mountain spotted fever," Wolf said. "But this disease is not transmittable to humans — spotted fever is."

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