

Volleyball team deserves support in football land

Since this is football season in the middle of football country, why should you spend your Wednesday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum?

- Well, you won't be rained on.
- If you're not a student, you won't have to pay \$15 for a ticket.
- If you're a student and you have an all-sports pass you can get in free.
- Even if the Aggies don't win, the winning team won't be coached by a former Texas A&M coach.
- The Texas A&M women's volleyball team's record is 18-2. (That's 18 wins not 3.)
- Last year, over 2,500 fans came when the Aggies played the University of Texas.
- Women athletes live in real student dorms — not Cain Hall — and the women's team is not going into seclusion in Navasota before its next home game.

So, Wednesday night go to the volleyball extravaganza — G. Rollie White Coliseum: 7:30 p.m.

Let's help Texas A&M beat Texas — at least on the volleyball court Aggies have a chance to win the Southwest Conference.

The Battalion Editorial Board

Walking, riding and driving

9:45 A.M. Monday morning.

If I don't hurry, I'll be late to my 10 o'clock class.

No time to lace up the 10 rings on my high-top Nikes; slap on my Pony velcro tennis shoes, pull on my light blue knit shirt — an ocean pacific shirt but not the kind with waves and stuff, I don't want to look like a surf-bum if I have to meet with anyone important today. Grabbing my four-year-old Texsport backpack, I'm out the door.

It's a nice day; I'll walk.

Into the street, along the center stripe and across. Past the 7-11. Along the boardwalk where Boogies used to be, or was it the Alamo or was it an old boarding house? Over some remains of Sunday night good times at the Dixie Chicken, shattered beer bottles spread among deserted plastic cups. And finally to the University street crossing. The sign proclaims, "Don't Walk." So I press the button and stand. Car after truck after van zip past much faster than the law should allow. The light turns to green; the sign turns to Walk, and I step off the curb.

A fog-horning honk sends me springboarding out of the way. A truck-driver makes a quick right-turn on red giving me a stay-on-the-curb-pedestrians-don't-belong-in-the-streets scowl. I step to the right trying to avoid a bicyclist coming full pedal towards me. At the last minute he swerves out of my path.

"No brakes," he says half-smiling, half-annoyed by my cursing his soul, his family and his mode of transportation. Strutting along at my 6-foot 2-inch pace I arrive at the door of my classroom. Eight minutes past ten. Should I go in or should I go on?

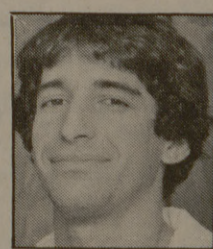
9:45 A.M. Monday morning.

If I don't hurry, I'll be late to my 10 o'clock class.

It's a nice day; I'll walk.

I'll never find a place to park. It'll take too long to walk. I'd better pedal to class.

Past the 7-11. Along the boardwalk where Boogies used to be, or was it the Alamo or was it an old boarding house? Over some remains of Sunday night good times at the Dixie



Donn Friedman

Chicken, shattered beer bottles spread among deserted plastic cups. Grr, I just fixed that flat tire, I hope I missed the glass. Finally to the University street crossing. The sign proclaims, "Don't Walk." So I don't. I stand next to my bike.

Car after truck after van zip past much faster than the law should allow. The light turns to green; the sign turns to Walk, and I drag my bike off the curb and climb back into my saddle.

A fog-horning honk sends me hot-wheeling across the street. A truck-driver makes a quick right-turn on red giving me a stay-on-the-curb-bikes-don't-belong-in-the-streets scowl. I move towards the left trying to avoid a pedestrian coming full stride towards me. At the last minute I swerve.

"No brakes," I say half-smiling, half-annoyed by my cursing my soul, my family and my mode of transportation.

Cruising on my Gitane ten-speed, camouflaged with a sick coat of black paint to reduce its desirability to thieves, arrive at the door of my classroom. Eight minutes past ten. Should I go in or should I go on?

9:45 A.M. Monday morning.

If I don't hurry, I'll be late to my 10 o'clock class. I'd better drive. Grab my keys. I hope I can find a parking space close in. Back out into the street, stupid pedestrian walking down the center stripe. Get out of the street scum.

Past the 7-11. Along University to the stop-light.

The light shines red. I stop. Right turn on red. Aggie after Aggie piles off the curb creating an endless, impassable river of humanity. Honking my horn, I zip past the Aggie's foot and bike scowling a stay-on-the-curb-pedestrians-don't-belong-in-the-streets scowl.

After finding a not-too-illegal parking spot, I arrive at the door of my classroom. Eight minutes past ten. Should I go in or should I go home?

9:45 A.M. Monday morning.

If I don't hurry I'll be late for my 10 o'clock class.

Pulling off my matching maroon socks, my freshly washed blue jeans, I slip back under the covers. I just can't face that Monday morning traffic.

Donn Friedman is a weekly columnist for The Battalion. His column appears on Wednesdays.

Real student leaders ... don't wear tweed

I had the opportunity last Thursday of observing something I rarely have a chance to see in my wanderings around the A&M campus — a real live student leader.

Oh, of course The Battalion Editor Stephanie Ross is a student leader, but she doesn't seem to fit in with the category of student leader (read — politician-in-training).

David Alders roamed into The Battalion office to submit a letter to the editor. I'm the sports editor and member of the Battalion Editorial Board so I got to read it. It was quite an illuminating experience.

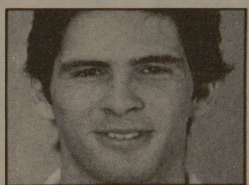
Never in the course of one letter has one man reached so many times for a dictionary, with so much confusion, for so small a result.

After passing the crumpled piece of paper around to eight journalism majors, two English majors and a business major, the wall of perplexed and confused faces multiplied with exponential regularity.

Basically, Alder's letter said, "Why don't the students stop complaining about things to The Battalion, and talk to me about them instead?"

Though I realize Alders is probably sincere in his plea, I submit to you that there is little reason to talk to A&M's student government. They are too busy doing more important things.

Of course the student government's idea of important is open to debate.



Ed Cassavoy

Where any other competent or even semi-comatose university student government would be raising serious questions about the hazing tragedy, A&M's elected representatives are silent. We're not talking about complaining about more student parking. We're talking about a very important university issue.

Instead I think student leaders here at A&M have their priorities as nicely tailored to their needs as their three piece suits.

Why do I get the suspicious feeling that refining the next resume, or buying the next addition to their political wardrobe is more important — or maybe easier to handle — than trying to grapple with student concerns?

Harsh criticism? I don't think so. We elected these people to positions of prominence not to fatten their personal clip file, but to have someone that students can say, "Hey you're the guy (or girl) that has to speak up for me."

Again silence is the only answer we get from our elected representatives.

Usually, student government is an accurate gauge of the attitudes and views of the entire university. A&M follows that rule nicely.

The apathetic and lethargic mentality of most Aggie students towards anything to do with current issues is mirrored, appropriately enough, by their elected representatives. Texas A&M students get what we deserve.

Of course let's not just single out just the student body president.

Only a fourth of the Off-Campus Senators showed up for the last Off Campus Aggies meeting. I thought the one prerequisite of being elected to an office is that you actually communicate with your own constituency.

It's sort of like Ronald Reagan getting reelected and immediately flying to Tahiti for a four year vacation.

I also just find it hard to swallow that student government leaders failed to address any new issues for the University agenda.

A&M students that wish to voice their campus concerns are left with no representation to speak of. The majority of the A&M student body chooses to be little more than sheep plodding their way through the corridors of a vast technical school. For them, as long as they get their football tickets on the 50 yard line, Texas A&M is functioning smoothly.

What are the student government leaders doing with their time? I do know where they work. Up in the second floor of the Pavilion. Judging from the plush surroundings, all their efforts have not been wasted. I thought I was walking into the offices of some giant corporation. Maybe I wasn't wrong. Just got the wrong company.

Maybe student government can succeed in getting listed on the New York Stock exchange.

For those people who have a legitimate beef, complaint or problem that they wish to address — there's the comforting fact that they can always write a letter to the editor.

Ed Cassavoy is the Sports Editor for The Battalion.

LETTERS:

Delighted by Faculty Senate's anti-hazing resolution

EDITOR:

We were delighted to read that the Faculty Senate adopted a resolution condemning hazing.

We are sure that the junior, or untenured, faculty ("Fish") must be relieved to know that they will not be awakened at 2:00 a.m. by the senior faculty, led by full professors and department heads, to be beaten with axe handles or to have water poured from upper floor windows onto sensitive parts of their anatomy.

Doug Spence
Hubert P. van Tuyl

Aggie Football: a disaster area

EDITOR:

Well Aggie fans, sit back and prepare yourself for another typical Texas A&M football season. A season of renewed hope, high expectations, and talk of challenging SMU and Texas for the SWC crown. This year's version of Aggie football will be lucky to beat out Rice for eighth place in the conference. The Aggies were fortunate enough to escape non-conference play without a loss. Thanks to the foresight of our head coach, the "class of WAC," Brigham Young was removed from our preseason schedule and replaced by the "laugh of WAC," UTEP.

The result, an undeserved victory. Two more dismal performances followed and were explained by both players and coaches alike that "it's hard to get up for teams like UTEP and Arkan-

sas State." After the Arkansas State game a Houston sportswriter remarked that "the Aggies are undefeated, uninspired and unimpressive."

This could be the poorest team that Coach Sherrill has yet to put on Kyle Field. Our offense is offensive, our defense defenseless, and our vastly overrated coaching staff is absolutely incapable of motivating or preparing a football team for action.

In Coach Sherrill's three year tenure, the Aggies have suffered humiliating losses at the hands of Boston College, Oklahoma State, Texas Tech, California, SMU, Texas and Arkansas.

During this same time period the Aggies have defeated one team that finished the season with a winning record (Arkansas 6-5).

Perhaps we should apply to the Governor's Office for state relief, as the Aggie football program would have no trouble qualifying as a "disaster area."

Pete Greaves
Class of '80

Sex clubs should not be recognized

EDITOR:

Regarding the Gay Student Services bid for a campus club:

I have been extremely bothered by the widening acceptance of homosexuality as a societal norm. We all think of homosexuals as folks who like "different scenery." But wait a minute. What is a homosexual? It is not someone who merely has a passion for members of his/her sex . . . it is someone who HAS sex with members of the same sex. Now, to spell it out, this means mutual masturbation, oral copulation and anal intercourse.

Now tell me, why does a homosexual

have to constantly advertise this? I know of no one who openly comes out and expresses their sexual activities excepting homosexuals and perverts, both by branding themselves (when you say you're "gay," I know your sex life).

Now back to the club. First, what is the reason for such a club? It can't be to enlighten us on homosexuality, we all know what that is. It must then be for the following purposes: (1) to promote homosexuality, and (2) to provide activities where homosexuals can meet other homosexuals. If the second reason applies, why should the university supply a dating service when (undoubtedly) there are places for homosexuals to meet where they can enjoy more privacy and a better ambience?

The point is that the issue is sex. I'm against recognizing a club for homosexuals as I would be in sanctioning clubs for those who prefer having sex with children or animals, or a club for The Proliferation of Heterosexual Acts. (Shute, why not a club for adulterers and one for maso-sadists?)

Finally, there have been many homosexuals who have gained my respect because they DIDN'T advertise their sexual tendencies, but kept private those things which should always be kept private. So, GSS . . . just be people, not "gays," etc. If you didn't insist upon advertising your sex lives, no one would "know" (or care), and you'd be treated as you wished.

Bruce Kiene
Graduate Student

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mutual masturbation, oral copulation, and anal intercourse are heterosexual acts also.

Bar owners not responsible for drunks

EDITOR:

In regard to the Batt's Editorial on

bar owners being responsible for the accidents involving drunk drivers. I disagree. Whatever happened to self-responsibility? Consider, for a moment, the person who produces guns. Is he also responsible for the persons who buys that gun and uses it to kill?

Definitely not! That person chose to kill. Just as the drunk chooses to drive. The clubs and bars don't put drunks on the road. Drunks put themselves on the road. When are we going to stop blaming others and making excuses for our own negligence and irresponsibility?

Kim L. Manganaro
College Station

Alders: bigger words than ideas

EDITOR:

Golly, Mr. Alders — you sure are smart. I wish I could use really big words and be a BMOC. Golly.

And, oh boy, you sure do stick up for the administration. (Is that the right word, Mr. Alders?) I bet when you are a lawyer you can defend big, bad corporations real good, too.

Know what? I looked up a word in my dictionary: condescending. Gee whiz, it kinda fits the tone of your letter. If I was as smart as you I'd probably resent your arrogance (that means not very nice, Mr. Alders). But since I'm full of "irrepressible . . . youth" — I suppose I'll forget about it . . . till the next time you run for ANYTHING.

Catherine L. Bennett
Class of '85

Alders: business for Webster's

EDITOR:

RE: David Alders' letter:
Never has someone said so much that means so little to so many so late.

The Battalion editorials may make students think, but David Alders makes them use dictionaries.

Peter Rocha
Class of 84

P.S. Much-flagellated? Is that like a paramecium?

The Battalion

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Member of

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Southwest Journalism Conference

In memoriam
Bill Robinson, 1962-1984, Editor

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Editorial Policy

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

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

Letters Policy

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length. 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 be signed and include the address and telephone number of the writer. The Battalion is published Monday through Friday during Texas A&M regular semesters, except for holidays and examination periods. Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester, \$33.25 per school year and \$35 per fall year. Advertising rates furnished on request. Our address: The Battalion, 216 Reed McDaniel Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. Editorial staff phone number: (409) 845-2630. Advertising: (409) 845-2611. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.