

and even the Corps against any breakers of tradition or school rules as a backdrop."

Oh! The horror of it all! But that's not the worst of it! This veritable hell-hole condones beauty pageants, bonfires and what may even be worse; the use of real journalists to operate the school newspaper instead of profound thinkers such as Bill Sparks. (Reader's Forum, Oct. 30th).

One could only wish that highway 6 ran both ways.

Scott Humphrey
Class of '85

SAE Aggies say they do not haze

EDITOR: I never cease to be amazed at the coverage of fraternities in the Battalion. Reaching all the way to Austin, several days late, for your lead story in Monday's edition was a little obvious in its bias, merely an attempt to distract an informed student body from the negligent death of Cadet Goodrich.

In reply, I would remind your readers of the following:

1) The obligate comparison of the Corps death and the SAE incident of more than a month ago is dangerous and bound to be misleading. The severity of a muscle strain and that of an accidental death defies comparison. The basis of the two events is similar and I will press that point below. However, the point of negligence and insensitivity, well as the impact on those involved is worlds apart. Besides, in talking with me of the guys at Texas it is not altogether clear the relationship between injury and exercise session.

2) The SAE Chapter at Texas A&M is no way comparable to the Chapter of E at t.u. I would not put anyone down; however, our philosophies are very different — WE DO NOT HAZE. You don't believe that come and check out.

3) The Nation Office of SAE explicitly prohibits hazing. The big difference here being, we close Chapters which don't seem to get the message. If you don't believe that, ask a member from one of the Chapters which have been closed . . . including the one at CU.

The poor judgement of placing the cries under one headline in the lead demands protest. However, hazing in

general ought to evoke a more powerful outcry. Let's all realize the true story here.

Keith D. Newman
College Station

Maranatha bigots at it once again

EDITOR: Those Maranatha bigots are at it again. Their ad (Oct. 25) claiming "Medical Aspects of Homosexuality" taught me more about the dangers of religious fanaticism than of the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases.

Why are the Maranathas dangerous? They claim our health is threatened by gays, therefore we must 'suppress' gays and kill gay rights. Such drastic measures would be fine in a totalitarian theocracy (Iran, for example), but in our democracy you at least need sound facts to justify them.

If these health threats are to be believed, why did the ad fail to cite any of its claims? Why weren't any recognized sex therapists quoted? I suggest you couldn't get Dr. Ruth Westheimer to agree with any of the Maranatha's claims in a million years.

R.A. Mecum
WFS

Maranatha's gone too far this time

EDITOR: The ad sponsored by Maranatha Christian Fellowship in the October 25 Battalion was the most vicious (and pornographic) anti-sexual statement I've read all year. (I'm curious to know Citizens for Decency's opinion of the description of the sex acts found in the ad.) This "Christian" fellowship has simply gone too far. Surely they've embarrassed other Christians on campus with their cruel, tasteless "Medical Aspects of Homosexuality."

When I was in junior high in the late Fifties, my best friend was forbidden by her parents (who were devout churchgoers) to swim in pools that permitted black children to enter.

The reason? "Everyone knew" that black children and their parents had no control over their sexual appetites, and a swimming pool with even one black kid could quickly spread VD. Integra-

tion of the schools was out of the question. According to "medical authorities," black children harbored lice, scabs, and infection, thus endangering fine, moral white kids.

A hundred years ago, Irish immigrants were the "diseased" ones. Recently it was blacks. Now it's homosexuals. The "medical facts" that were used to support injustice were based on hatred then, and they are based on hatred now.

Kristin Parsons
College Station

Enough is enough gays are humans

EDITOR: Enough is enough! I'm referring to all of the articles and letters concerning GSS and gays. What's the matter with A&M? Yes, this a conservative school, a school with many traditions, etc. but there have been homosexuals on this campus since the 1800's. Who are all of these "self-righteous" heterosexuals condemning the GSS and gays?

When I read the advertisement "Medical Aspects of Homosexuality," I was shocked! Was that intended as a scare tactic for all of the naive straights on campus?

Why wasn't there an ad about medical aspects of heterosexuality? V.D., herpes, syphilis, pre-marital intercourse, and unwanted pregnancy? A&M will never beat the GSS.

Gay men and women are human beings. Not all gays engage in promiscuous sex with one another. They have meaningful, lasting relationships.

Being gay is not 100 percent sexual. Just like anyone else, they look for a loving, understanding person to share their lives with.

Give it up, A&M. Gays have been around since the beginning of time and they're not going to disappear, not even on this "sacred" campus. I don't feel A&M has a chance in this battle, even in the Supreme Court.

So all of you Aggies who are now totally paranoid of gays, just chill out! They're not out to get you, they're just out to live their own lives in the land of the free, so live and let live!

Jennifer Blankenship
College Station

EDITOR'S NOTE: Anyone may place an editorial advertisement — within cer-

tain rules (contact the advertising department of the paper) in The Battalion. If you wish to buy an ad regarding the medical aspects of heterosexuality contact the advertising department.

Batt Editorial Board hypocrites, pornographers

EDITOR:

What a bunch of hypocrites! Y'all defend the GSS' right to exist but disapprove of the Citizens for Decency. Why? Because you disagree with their motives (i.e. eliminate pornography). You go on to make off-the-wall accusations like — "Before long they'll be burning the classics of literature . . ." I suppose by classics you guys mean Hustler, Penthouse, etc.

The ultimate journalistic ploy is to claim it's one group trying to push their morality on the rest of us! Wake up, editors, every law is someone's morality.

Yes, the Citizens for Decency think pornography is immoral for obvious reasons (encourages lust - yes, Christians consider that wrong/immoral; degrades women; and recent studies indicate pornography encourages violent tendencies like rape). Pornographers can't stand criticism, so it's very doubtful you guys will print this letter; however, I am beginning to understand your line of reasoning.

Let's close down the police departments — they only serve to enforce one group's morality on another. After all, armed robbery and murder are two of the most personal choices a person ever makes.

Wowee! the next time someone gets in my way on the sidewalk, I'll just shoot him. Hey — don't foist your religion on me!

In closing, let me say — I love freedom of the press but when you guys start telling the rest of us what is a "decent" organization and what isn't; well the hypocrisy of it all makes me sick!

Since I usually disagree with you — the editors, none of my several letters have been published; so I doubt I'll see this in print but I do ask you to consider what I've said (I know you're really just trying to do a "decent" job).

Murphy Smith
Aggie Prof

Black awareness for all

EDITOR:

Imagine this typical scene: A white student walks into the MSC entrance by the bookstore. He happens to look up and reads the following banner: "MSC Black Awareness — Voices of Praise presents GOSPELFEST 84." His thoughts are, "Oh, Black Awareness, that's for Black people, not me."

On Friday, Oct. 19, I was present at the discussion the Gay Student Services Organization held by Rudder Fountain. One of the representatives of the GSS argued for recognition by questioning the purposes of MSC Black Awareness Committee (BAC). He wrongly implied that Black Awareness was an example of a recognized self-serving organization in order to justify his stance. So many people like him share the disillusion that Black Awareness is the synonym for Blacks Only.

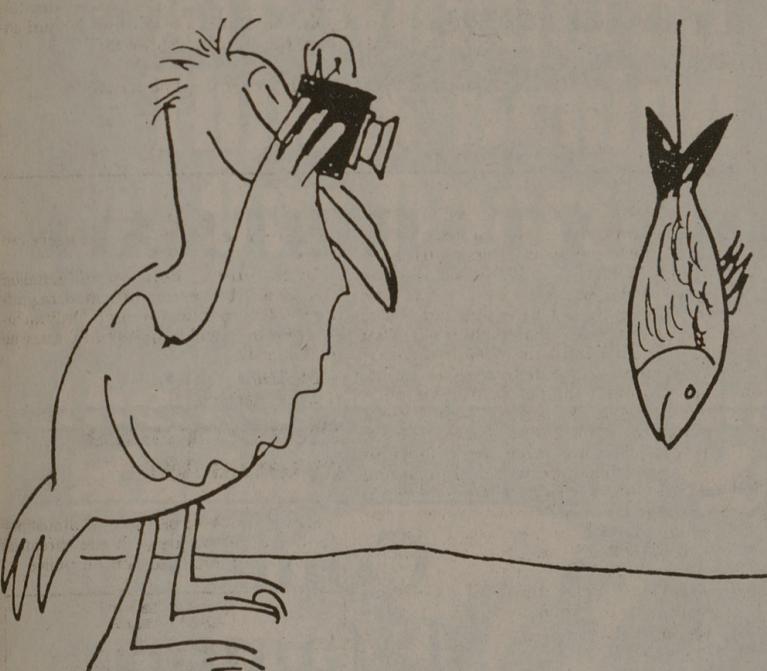
The programming goals of MSC BAC are the same for the entire MSC organization of committees: to provide high quality programming to all Aggies. No neon sign below BAC posters blink "White people need not come." It's only the mental signs in people's minds that do blink.

America was founded on the principle of tolerance and unity between its diverse cultures. This principle, however, is not accepted by all Americans because of the misconceptions or prejudices they bear. Only by acquiring accurate knowledge about the lifestyle of another culture can these misconceptions be swept away.

Alex Haley will speak at Rudder on Nov. 7 as one of the highlights of the upcoming Racial Awareness Week. The Voices of Praise, a gospel choir and subcommittee of Black Awareness, presents the dynamic 3rd Annual GOSPELFEST 84 this Saturday, at 7:00 p.m. The energy and good feelings generated by this musical is open to everyone on campus.

Remove yourself from the comforting isolation of your own culture and explore the unique cultures that co-exist around you. Try attending a BAC sponsored function such as GOSPELFEST 84 this Saturday. By learning more about other cultures, you will gain enrichment and a clearer understanding of the world we all share equally.

Teresa Brashear
Class of '85



OK, SO WE LIED.
BUT THIS TIME WE'RE NOT LYING.
TODAY IS THE LAST DAY FOR FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES TO TAKE CLASS PICTURES FOR THE 1985 AGGIELAND.

Location: The Pavilion
Hours: 8:30-12 and 1 to 4:30

In order to accommodate the flux, the Junior and Senior sessions @ YBA has been postponed until Friday, Nov. 2nd.