

with great relish and childlike zeal, yet the cost of which you appear to fail to consider. Think about the spilled blood you mock as you sit on that grass Thursday.

It is the epitome of self-gratification to rabble rouse with issues to which you hold no apparent personal convictions. Rather to work to bring about those changes you feel necessary than to consistently open can upon can of worms, merely to delight at the dirty mess as it squirms upon the ground. In the furor to protest, why not stop to consider your reasons to protest and the true meaning of your actions? Perhaps it would be fitting to bring the mothers of fallen Aggie veterans to your little outing Thursday?

In sum, you're giving liberal thought a bad name and we don't appreciate it. We don't all advocate knocking over tombstones.

**Ken Hendrickson**

### Don't forget the price of freedom

EDITOR:

We all have our different views, and each of us, as an American, is entitled to express our own opinion. We are given this right in the Constitution of the United States because our founding fathers believed in the inborn right to freedom; the freedom we still believe in today. Many Americans, though, have paid to uphold this right with their own blood and hardship. But are we to forget the price that was paid so that we could express our own views? Should we defile the sanctity of certain traditions which honor these men?

Just as the United States honors American triumphs on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, we, as Aggies, honor past achievements, and the men who accomplished them, in our traditions. A certain group of fellow Aggies, though, feels that it is necessary to express their views through an action that not only desecrates the very essence of our freedom but displays utter disrespect towards the Aggies who gave their life for each of us as well.

Not walking on the Memorial Student Center grass is not merely a tradition for the sake of tradition, which this group claims to be their cause, but it is an act of respect given to those men who fought for a belief held by all Americans.

Purposely walking, not to mention sitting, on the MSC grass is an action that is provocative and shows little maturity. It is done more for attention than for making any insignificant point. What can one gain by throwing his derision at something that represents our existence as a free country?

Let us never forget why these traditions were begun. "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his

life for his friends." John 15:13. (Inscription: Memorial Student Center).

**Steve Dearing**  
Class of '87

### Aggie war dead died for right to chose

EDITOR:

I don't believe that the Aggies who died in the wars died for the grass surrounding the MSC. They died for the rights and privileges of the individual in our society.

I choose not to walk on the grass out of respect for these Ags, but that does not give me the right to verbally abuse and/or physically remove those who choose not to respect our war dead.

I would rather allow everyone to make up their own mind than for me to tell them how to act. Isn't that why we fought the wars?

**Brent Boyd**  
Class of '85

### Express opinions don't harass others

EDITOR:

I would like to congratulate Cadet Rod Arnold for expressing his views in the Battalion. He was not happy with my previous letter, but he had more guts than the Band Queer who gave me a crank phone call in the middle of the night.

However, I think he went overboard by "condemning" me and labeling me as a liberal. The Letters sections is a place where people can express their opinion. It is too bad if you disagree with someone. If you can't respect that concept, then your mother wears army boots.

It is my opinion that the death of Bruce Goodrich was caused by tradition. Realizing this, then there may be other traditions that hurt the University, including the Aggie Band.

If the Corps didn't want to change, then they should have become an all-male all-military private school. It is time that the majority of Texas A&M students have access to all University functions, such as the band.

**Kevin Thomas**  
Junior

### A&M no longer all-military school

EDITOR:

Thank you, Rod Arnold, for doing your part to ensure that Texas A&M re-

mains in a mire of academic mediocrity that the Corps has been the author of for over a century now. If you would take a few seconds away from your sacred military duties to think about A&M's past, you would see that only after Corps participation was made optional did this school ever start competing academically with UT.

And as for our "nationwide-known traditions," this school is more known nationwide for the continual Corps-related blunders (saber-swinging, "motivational run," etc.) than for our traditions or, more importantly, for our academics.

There are those of us who came to A&M because of the educational facilities and to contribute our talents and ideas to A&M's future, not to be told to

accept things the way they are or to "get the hell to Austin." So please, Arnold, if you must be a narrow-minded, militaristic, would-be macho man, consider joining the army right now, because you obviously don't care anything about being educated (which requires open-mindedness) and you're doing A&M more harm than good. I'm not advocating that we abolish the Corps, just that we realize that A&M is no longer a military school but a university, which by its very nature must be composed of independent, open-minded people to survive. If you really love A&M let it grow!

**Bill Harbour**

### Town Hall failing to get good concerts

EDITOR:

Rock and roll fans, listen up! If you

were planning on seeing 'Chicago' Nov. 13th in "Jolly Rollie," forget it.

According to Town Hall, they were "unable to schedule" a concert, even though 'Chicago' must have an open date.

Sounds a little weak, doesn't it. In whatever reasons, Town Hall has, in the past few years, failed to provide the students, staff and faculty with a respectable number of quality concerts, especially rock and roll groups. Enough is too much! If you would like to see 'Chicago' or other groups perform here then join us by writing or calling Town Hall and let them know how you feel.

**J.R. Schoonover**  
Class of '82  
accompanied by 5 signatures

## Citizens for Decency: citizens fighting porno

On October 24, 1984 The Battalion's Editorial Board column contained several misleading statements concerning the community organization, Citizens for Decency.

Reader's Forum  
Reader's Forum  
Reader's Forum

The first claim that the Editorial Board made was that the "ultimate goal for CFD is enforced morality." In response, it is important to understand that all laws legislate morality. There are laws against murder, rape, theft, and yes, even obscenity, all of which legislate morality. Prohibition against murder is public morality expressed in law. Prohibition against theft is public morality expressed in law.

United State's obscenity laws deal with the freedom to sell, or broader, the freedom to distribute (selling, loaning, or giving away). In our democratic society, a person who distributes any material is answerable to the laws of the the society. While he may eat poisoned soup in the privacy of his own home; he may not sell, loan, or give it away. He is subject to FDA legislation, which represents the will of the majority. The majority do not want poisoned soup peddled for public distribution. The minority, therefore (enjoying the nausea of poisoned soup), abide by that majority will. They cannot peddle their poisoned soup.

Public morality is a common denominator, the quintessence of community sentiment. It is something the community as a whole agrees on. Therefore, federal, state or local obscenity laws in no way attempt to impose individual moral standards on others. There is no imposition. There is consensus. That's what it means to live in a democracy. Harris and Gallup polls say that 80 percent of America opposes pornography; strong obscenity laws are therefore inevitable.

The second claim made by the Editorial Board was that CFD wants "to control what all Americans can read. To control what pictures Americans can see. To control the thoughts its members (CFD) deem decent

enough for Americans to think." In response, nobody is telling anybody what he can read or not read, what he can see or not see, and what he can think or not think. The community is setting up standards for itself against the effects of pornography on society.

Anyone is free to print, publish or film what he wishes. However, once it is released, he is responsible before the law. The Supreme Court has said that a man has the right to view pornography in his own home. However, it said subsequently that this does not give another man the right to distribute or exhibit pornography. It reiterated in 1973 that the privacy right does not extend to places of public accommodation such as movie houses, book stores, etc.

The final claims made by the Editorial Board is that members of CFD are "fanatics" and "book-burners." In response to being called book-burners we have never burned one single book nor do we have any plans to do so. In response to being called "fanatics" the membership of CFD comprises many concerned citizens in our community. People from all walks of life, doctors, lawyers, city officials, professors, businessmen, etc. They are concerned about the horrid effects of pornography, (i.e. bestiality, rape, child-molestation, incest), etc., on our society. One need only look to Times Square in New York City to see what pornography does to a physical area. Times Square always had a somewhat honky tonk aura. But, it was not until the adult theaters and the adult bookstores opened that the area began to be peopled by prostitutes, pimps, and pushers.

It has been proven that pornography attracts other crime and leads to the deterioration of entire areas. In my opinion I think "fanatic" is too strong a word to use to describe members of CFD. "Concerned citizens" does a better job. Citizens should be concerned as they realize the effect pornography will have in our community if it goes unchallenged.

**Diana Smallwood**  
Citizens for Decency

**The Battalion**  
OSPS 045 360  
Member of  
Texas Press Association  
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 in 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 must include the address and telephone number of the writer.  
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### COMPARE THE EXPERIENCE

Our District Attorney must have extensive prosecution experience. Our District Attorney must have the ability to vigorously prosecute criminals and not waste the taxpayer's money. Bill Turner is our District Attorney and he has a record we can be proud of.

	CASES PROSECUTED	JURY TRIALS AS PROSECUTOR	YEARS AS A PROSECUTOR	YEARS AS AN ATTORNEY	FORFEITURES COLLECTED
District Attorney Bill Turner	1400	70	6	6	\$170,000 (This year alone)
Hank Paine	54	13	Fired after 1 1/2 years for dismissing a friend's case.	4	0



District Attorney Bill Turner has faced his opponent in the courtroom five times. Bill's opponent has lost all five times. When Bill's opponent was an Assistant District Attorney, his job was to collect forfeitures. He never collected one dime—that cost the taxpayers over \$50,000 a year. District Attorney Bill Turner has assessed retributions to victims that amount to over \$262,000.

Thanks, Bill Turner, you're a District Attorney we can be proud of.

**KEEP BILL TURNER**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Paid for by the Bill Turner for District Attorney Campaign