

Farmer looking for 'country gal'

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — "Modern farmer, 33, 6'1", 180, college grad, seeks educated, attractive slender lady to share farm life, build family."

Meet farmer Glenn Murphy of rural Girard. He'll proudly drag out boxes stuffed with more than 600 responses to personal advertisements similar to the one above.

One of his most memorable responses: "She compared what she wanted in a man to a rooster. She didn't care how much he went to the barnyard as long as he came home to roost."

Said Murphy, "That's not what I'm looking for."

What he is looking for is a "displaced country gal."

It was something his father had no trouble finding. But the right farm spouse is becoming increasingly rare in much of rural America, he said.

Schubert

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lifestyle, but they were very supportive.

"There's a lot the Corps has to offer that others don't see, especially the civilian women," Schubert says. "When I talk with civilian women they say, 'Yea, I looked at the Corps. I thought about it, but I didn't think there was a place for me.' Well, there is."

"Someone said once that they wouldn't want their son to pass up the leadership training that the Corps has to offer. Well, why would you want your daughter to pass up that leadership training? There's a lot to offer here to not just men, but also to women."

If A&M hadn't been her University, she says, she might have chosen something different.

"I probably would have done just as well in a sorority, but you make a decision and stick with it," she says. "I'm happy where I am. If I were at another university, I probably would have looked more at a sorority, but it's just that A&M and the Corps appealed to me more."

In the past, Schubert says, male cadets discouraged women from becoming involved in the Corps and that's why it's taken so long to have a woman on the staff.

"I think it was intimidation in the past because the girls weren't accepted," Schubert says, "and so nobody had the confidence and the desire to be up there... Everyone thinks change is negative. In the case of the Corps, change, if you're open-minded, can be positive. They're trying to focus their attention on making the Corps more professional."

Part of that professionalism, Schubert says, includes the acceptance of women. She says the attitude of male cadets toward women in the Corps has changed even in the two years she has been at A&M:

"Even from when I was a freshman it's changed. It's hard to imagine what it was like when women first got into the Corps. From last year to this year there has been a definite change in that I just don't receive negative responses from the guys anymore. But there are still a few."

Some of the negative responses originated after Melanie Zentgraf filed a suit against the University because she was denied membership in Corps groups such as the Ross Volunteers and the Aggie Band. That suit was filed in 1979.

"When the case came up there was a lot of hostility and negative reaction toward the girls," Schubert says. "It was focused on the wrong people. It really wasn't our fight. It wasn't the girls in the Corps. We weren't fighting for anything... If a woman wants to join the band, that's her privilege. I'm not going to recruit women to join the band, and I'm not going to stop women from joining the band. It's each person's choice."

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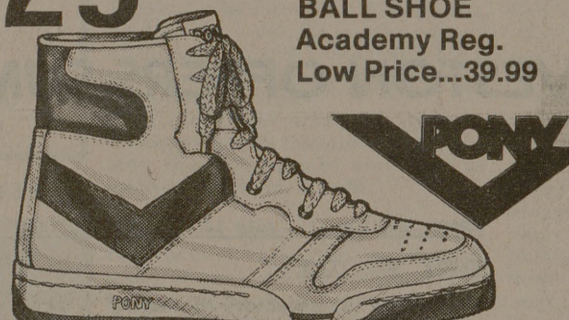
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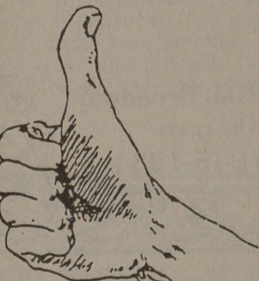


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- Hwy. 59 at E. Mt. Houston
- 8723 Katy Fwy.—Between Voss & Campbell
- 251 FM 1960 E. Bypass at Hwy. 59 (Humble)
- 9990 Kleckley—next to Alameda Mall
- 1420 Texas Ave. S.—College Station—696-5305

- 5130 Cedar—Near Bissonnet (Bellaire)
- 2801 Spencer Hwy. (Pasadena)
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- Hwy. 290 (N.W. Fwy.) at FM 1960
- 3549 Palmer Hwy. (Texas City)
- 6039 Telephone Rd. at Reveille
- 2030 Westheimer—1 blk. E. of Shepherd
- 1700 11th St. (Huntsville)