



Left to right standing: Richard Williams, production; Mary Cox, writer; Tricia Parker, writer; Marcy Basile, movie reviewer; Cathy Riely, writer. Left to right sitting: Shawn Behlen, co-editor; Leigh-Ellen Clark, co-editor; Walter Smith, music reviewer.

And so we say goodbye...

By SHAWN BEHLEN & LEIGH-ELLEN CLARK

Co-Editor

The above picture is, in fact, an anomaly. For you see, that is the only time in 15 weeks that these nine people have been in the same place at the same time. But after everyone was introduced, we all smiled beatifically for the camera. And now we would like to say goodbye.

We tried many different things with *At Ease* this semester and got mostly positive remarks — for this we breathe a sigh of relief and say a heartfelt thanks. We hope we introduced you to some new people and some new ideas and, even more importantly, made you smile. Our motto in the *At Ease* corner of the *Batt* is “have fun or quit” and nobody quit. In other words, we’ve had a blast and we hope you have too.

And now (in the tradition of using space for purely selfish reasons), we would like to give a public nod of love to the seven people we have draped around us and, at the same time, introduce you to the folks

whose work you’ve been reading and seeing.

First we have Mr. Williams, or “Richie” to those he likes (we *think* we’re still in that group). Richie lives downstairs in the dungeon because he is the production-master every week. He tames the computer, tames the meticulous half of the co-editorship (who happens to be male, but we won’t name any names), deciphers less than legible layout sheets, and spends every Wednesday night here until we finish at 5 a.m. on Thursday. To Richie we’d like to say, “Yes, you do have gorgeous blue eyes — now get back to work!”

Marcy Cox is the one nobody ever sees around this place but she makes her mark. Somehow, she hasn’t fallen victim to the Battalion inertia. She dashes in, dashes off a terrific story and dashes out, leaving behind her humor on the run. Working as a student, an intern and a writer — she is still the only *At Ease*-type with a tan. We thank her for the motivation to finish and go home and for trying to relate to the concept of a deadline — even if it

was for her own sanity rather than ours.

And then there’s Tricia who has put up with any and everything. Any of the really scary assignments called for the Tricia-touch i.e. jungle warfare, peaceful commune people, and an interview with a just-elected student body president (with instructions to ask questions like, “What do you sleep in?” and “Did your mother ever spank you?”). She started off the semester looking for androgynous-types (we still don’t know how she politely said, “You look androgynous — may I interview you?”) We’d like to thank Tricia for her sense of adventure, her amazing writing style and for the millions of wonderful hugs she gave us for positive reinforcement.

Marcy, Marcy, Marcy — the wonderful flick chick. The ups and downs between us and our staff members have been the wildest with Marcy and that has brought us very close. She’s put up with one of us wanting *his* old job back when the responsibility of being a co-editor got to be too much and she has, many a week, found out

what a movie was about when even the producer and director probably didn’t know. But it’s hard to get Marcy down and she wrote on, giving us some great lines and a staff mascot named Flipper. Thanks for the laughs and the tears.

Our great admiration goes to Bill, whom we will always call and think of as “Dad.” There were times when we didn’t know if a single word would get written or edited but we always knew that we would have some great photos. He was also, in many ways, our touchstone. As editor of *At Ease* last semester, he lived through it, and that gave us hope that we could too. Thanks for the trivial pursuit and wine parties that lasted into the night and thanks for letting us be “the kids” (Hi Mom!). A word of encouragement: keep trying and one day we *know* you’ll be able to moonwalk.

Trial-by-fire should be Cathy Riely’s middle name. She joined the family after spring break and the first story she wrote was a feature on the author of a prize-winning poem about Moslems. If you read the Let-

ters to the Editor during that time, you know that some people were displeased with that poem and transferred their anger from the poem to Cathy. But she was a real trooper and took it all in stride. Our hats off

for a level head in that situation and for always keeping us on our toes. (Staying one step ahead of this girl is a major pain.) Good luck in the summer and the fall as you take over our position along with:

Walter. Boy, did you eat a Thesaurus when you were a baby or what? Editing reviews with words that we had never even heard of became common thanks to Mr. Smith. Walter was, quite often, the idea man around the *At Ease* corner. He

came up with “The Year of Living Androgynously” and better designs for page 3, among other things. And above all else, Walter was the one with a smile when everybody else was down. Quite a few times, he made life bearable. Ditto on the good luck.

We love and will remember each of you. ^{^E}