

Mail Call

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.

Letter should be addressed to: Mail Call, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

Imp start stupidity

EDITOR:
I would like to reply to the letter from the K. Davis printed on Oct. 2. What a hazardous duty pay the University Police receives does not cover stupidity—which exactly what giving a jump start to someone in the rain is. You were fortunate that weren't electrocuted—not to mention possibility of the battery blowing up in your face and causing serious injury. But, as old saying goes, God takes care of fools and children. Before you ask, my father is sure I knew how to jump start a car properly many years ago.

Rorie Cooper '81

Stick to the truth

EDITOR:
Judging from Karl Pallmeyer's column of Oct. 4, I feel it is safe to say that he is missing a point of numerous letters that have commented about his "opinions."

Freedom of the press, as we have heard at a museum, is a Constitutional right. I think everyone is in agreement that this freedom must and shall remain inviolate, however, freedom of the press is not what is at issue.

Most of the grievances leveled at Pallmeyer concern a important but sometimes neglected five letter word called TRUTH. Truth can be difficult to find but it is out there, somewhere, waiting for well informed, free-thinking individuals to search it out.

Opinion on the other hand is not necessarily truth as it can be one's view of events in situations as he or she sees it. All good and honest, but how does all of this relate to the journalism major in question?

When Pallmeyer writes "... Reagan appropriated \$250,000 to AIDS research," and the facts show (as they do) that Reagan requested an appropriation in 1985 of \$26,300,000 (granted Pallmeyer's figure is off by 126 million), that is not an example of truth or even opinion, but untruth. An example of an opinion could read, "Considering the extreme seriousness of this disease, I don't feel that President Reagan's request is enough..." et cetera.

Everyone has a right to have as well as express an opinion, but to engage in the writing

of untruths is a practice that should remain out of our fine newspaper. In short, Pallmeyer, attack anyone or anything you want, but stick to the TRUTH.

**Trevor Chamberlain
Graduate Student**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Pallmeyer's facts were indeed in error. Thank you for bringing the matter to our attention. However, your information also is wrong. The president stated in a recent press conference that \$100 million had been appropriated for AIDS research. The figures you quote as fact are proposed for the 1986 budget which hasn't been approved yet.

In need of keys

EDITOR:

Last Monday I went to play raquetball in DeWare Field House at 7 p.m. on court 17. When I arrived, I tossed my keys up on the shelf above the door. There were two girls playing inside, and they also had various possessions on the shelf.

When I entered the court to play and they left, they picked up their possessions AND MY KEYS! I can't drive, check my mail, or go home now, so I hope they read this letter soon and call me at 823-7415. If no answer, call 260-0944.

The reservation for the girls mentioned above was at 6 p.m. under the name "Delaney." If anyone knows a girl with a similar last name, please show them this letter. Thanks.

Lewis Frazier

Invalid rebuttal

EDITOR:

MSC Great Issues had an open forum Thursday. The topic under discussion was gynecological care at the A.P. Health Center. The point made by many of the speakers was that these services were inadequate, the lack of birth control unjustified and that the health center, which has the funds for two more doctors, should correct the situation to meet the needs of the students.

A rebuttal was made by one speaker: that this person's \$15 health center fee should not be used to support birth control, which is against this person's moral code. I would like to demonstrate the inaccuracy of this argument.

If I have a cold, I may go to the health center and see a doctor. The health center fee covers this visit. However, if lab tests are needed, I must pay. If a prescription is issued, I must pay.

Now, if I want to see the gynecologist at the health center, the visit to this doctor also is free. But just as I must pay for lab tests and prescriptions for a cold, so must I pay for these same services again. Therefore, the rebuttal is invalid.

There is only one difference between having sinuses checked and having my reproductive organs checked: discrimination against women.

Georgette Nicolaides

Let's be gentlemen

EDITOR:

Since I came here two years ago, several steps have been taken toward making Texas A&M a generic, identity-less, world-clone university: University recognition of the Gay Student Services and fraternities, women in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and Ross Volunteers, the outlawing of Good Bull, ad infinitum.

Aggies, if no other traditions survive until our children attend A&M, let us hope that this one does: that Aggies continue to follow Lawrence Sullivan Ross' example of being a "knightly gentleman."

Evidence of just how low a university can sink was on display Oct. 5 in Lubbock. A few red-ass Aggies were brave enough to sit with some of their friends in the Tech student section. Each time they stood in vocal support of our football team, they were pelted from behind by cups of ice. They came home bruised, hoarse, and happy.

Aggies, there were also reports of bottles being thrown at our players, band and beloved mascot Reveille V. Our yell leaders wisely never ran to the goalpost on the Tech student end of Jones Stadium. Even though only a few of the Tech students threw objects at the visitors, this does not in any way excuse the rest of the student body, which lifted nary a finger to stop them.

I hope I don't live to see the day that a sorry spectacle such as this occurs within Kyle Field. Even though we may not like our opposition, let's continue to be "gentlemen" toward them.

Adam D. Hartman, '87

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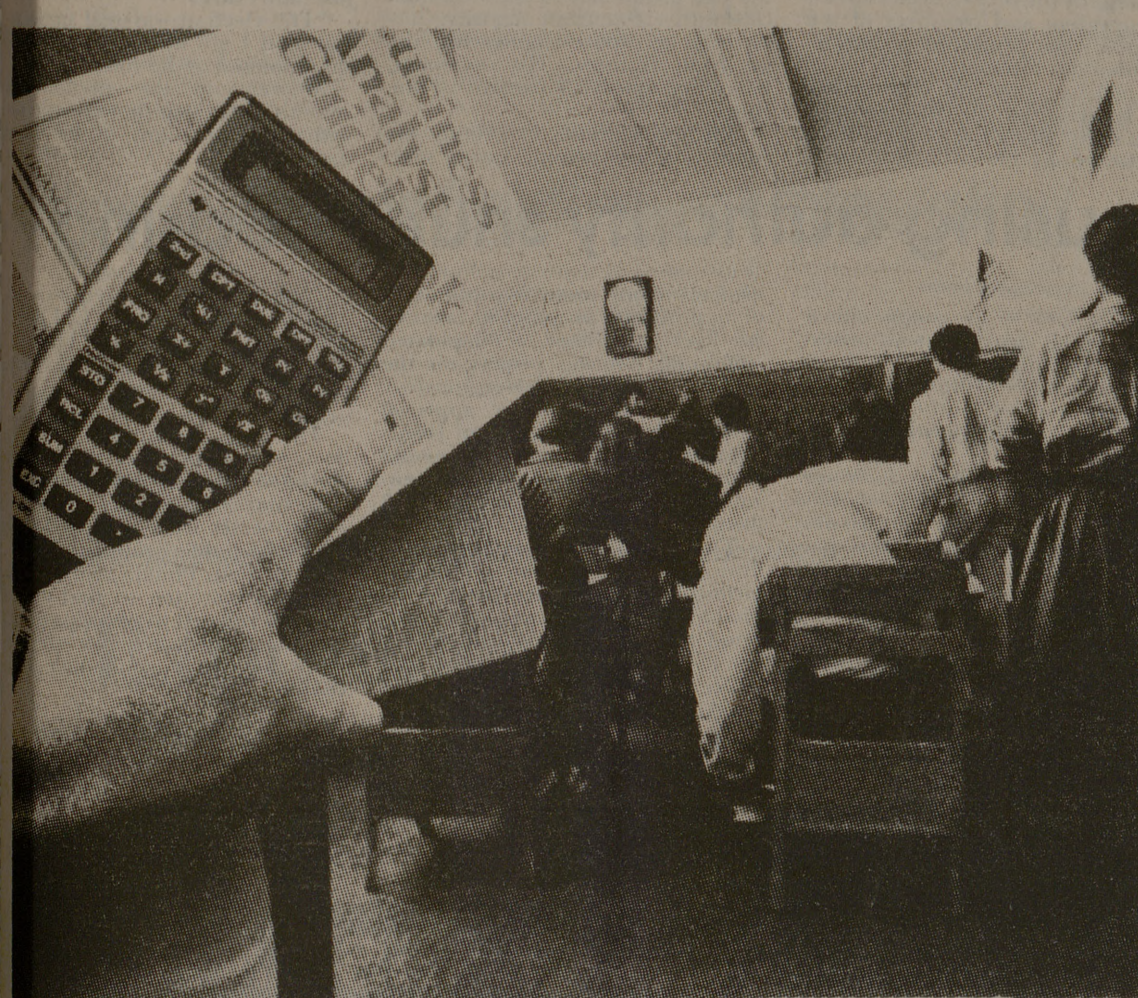
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