

Mail Call

Rebuild 'Challenger'

EDITOR:

We would like to let everyone know that efforts are underway to collect funds to replace the space shuttle Challenger. If you would like to contribute, you can send your contribution to the following address:

Space Shuttle Fund
P.O. Box 511
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

In the meantime, we hope that the causes of the disaster are corrected, and that the program can resume as soon as possible.

Gregory S. Meyer
accompanied by 8 signatures

A few minor differences

EDITOR:

In response to Cynthia Gay's Monday column...

It was the most gutless piece of so-called feminist propaganda I've ever read, as contradictory as the WOMEN FOR REAGAN buttons in the 1984 election.

It was just gutless.

Such naivety to assume that we women are actually a part of a non-discriminatory society? Please. What does she think we are fighting for? And the battle is not nearly won.

And "lady" is a word which implies a "lifestyle" — a way of passively existing — a way that women were supposed to exist in a man's world. It isn't a complimentary adjective for a WOMAN in 1986. It is a term which I find patronizing.

The FEMINIST REALIZATION has not quite slapped Cynthia Gay — almost. Feminism is not a fad or even a trend, but a way of life. Perhaps a hard back copy of Gloria Steinem's — *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions* — would help? She says:

"Women are human beings first with minor differences from men that apply largely to the single act of reproduction. We share the dreams, capabilities, and weaknesses of all human beings, but our occasional pregnancies and other visible differences have been used to create an "inferior" group and an elaborate division of labor."

The realization is single and obvious — but look at how far the system around us is from this new vision.

Sheila J. Cloudt

A breath of fresh air

EDITOR:

A hearty "Amen" goes to Cynthia Gay for Monday's column "No career is demeaning as long as it's a challenge." It is a breath of fresh air to hear a lady extol the merit of a career as a mother and homemaker for the young women of today.

If a woman intends on pursuing a career in a previously male-oriented profession purely for the purpose of proving a point or making herself "significant," she is missing the boat entirely. A woman that insists upon being treated "just like a man" (a step down if you ask me!) and then, as often as not, expects to be treated "like a lady" seems to be trying to have the proverbial cake and eat it too.

An out-of-home career for a woman is perfectly fine and respectable, but (forgive my possibly-dented male prospective ladies) I fail to see any career more significant than devoting your 8-hour work day to seeing that young children are reared to become responsible, mature citizens of their community and nation. We certainly could use some more of those!

Hal Hammons
Class of '88

Not part of tradition

EDITOR:

We have a new car at our house and I was planning to put a sticker on the back of the car to show the world I am a Texas Aggie. This has been my custom for 45 years.

Wednesday afternoon, I picked up a bumper sticker which read "AGGIES: PRIDE TRADITION" to put on the new wagon. Something happened and the sticker didn't get stuck.

Now, I am pleased that I didn't put it on. After the conduct of our student body at the Arkansas basketball game, I don't have much "PRIDE" left.

As far as TRADITION, where did this silly newspaper act come from? Our TRADITION for many years was that NO ONE throw ANYTHING on our basketball court. What happened to this old and true TRADITION?

Come on AGGIES — let's go back to behaving like ladies and gentlemen at the basketball games. Like Shelby said, "Don't throw anything on the floor but yell like hell for the team."

Thanks for hearing me out.

Robert M. Logan '40
Director Emetrius
Student Financial Aid

Puritanism alive and well at A&M

EDITOR:

This letter is in response to Brian Sterlings letter "Don't be fooled by liberal tunes" (The Batt Jan. 29). Sterling, thank you for proving to everyone that Puritanism is alive and thriving at Texas A&M! Where did you come from?

Andreas Vollenwieder, and the artist on Windham Hill Records, are just artists, that's all! Their music is left to be interpreted by the listener. Sterling, the listeners are you and I. I have no idea where you get the feeling that this music is meant to make the population easy to control, but I can assure you that the artists had no such intentions. I submit that you, Sterling, are suffering from a severe case of paranoia!

Sterling also calls for a boycott of "liberal" publications such as The Battalion. Is the truth liberal? Brian, how often does God speak to you? You may need a psychiatrist worse than I think you do.

In closing I would like to say that we all attend Texas A&M UNIVERSITY! 36,000 different viewpoints. Brian, if you do not approve of open-mindedness that is inherent at a UNIVERSITY then I suggest you transfer to a small COLLEGE where everyone is of one viewpoint. Congratulations to the "liberal" Batt staff. Keep it up.

Todd R. Wright
Liberal Class of '89

That's entertainment

EDITOR:

In response to Brian Sterling and Ralph Kramer's letters on Jan. 29-30, don't be fooled by headbangers trying to see the right.

I, as well, enjoy listening to Judas Priest's "Breaking the Law," especially while driving to church on Sunday. I also enjoy reading Hour of Prophecy with Iron Maiden's "Number of the Beast" playing in the background.

The past two sentences have been an overt example of sarcasm. I apologize if I have offended anyone, however I shall try to make a point of his.

First of all, I truthfully enjoy the music of Judas Priest, Iron Maiden, Twisted Sister, etc. I also have a subscription to the New York Times, go to nightclubs and listen to KAMU-FM. The reason? The purpose behind music and liberal journalism is entertainment, not the overthrow of the government. At least that's what I get out of it.

I admit to the sweet melodies of New Age music. Isn't it great? But, I also think it's great to drive down the freeway listening to Sammy Hagar scream "I Can't Drive 55," or listening to Chuck Mangione "Feel So Good," or listening to Ricky Skaggs tell me he's "Just a Country Boy" or even reading an essay by William Safire telling us who the bad guys are.

If Brian and Ralph have never listened to country music in the morning, jazz or new age music in the afternoon, read Rolling Stone or the New York Times before going slam-dancing at night, then START ENTERTAINING YOURSELVES. This way people won't think you really do "Bang Your Heads" before making up stories for The Batt.

James Muccio '86

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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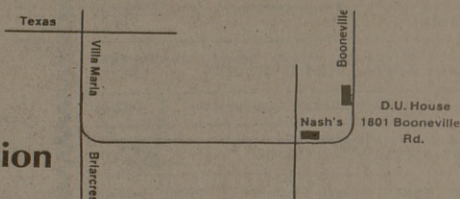
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