

Opinion

The Battalion

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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.

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Cotton bound

Jackie Sherrill's Aggies have proved that old habits die hard, entering the Cotton Bowl for the third consecutive year and defeating the University of Texas for the fourth consecutive year.

But though the 20-13 win over Texas made the Class of '88 the first group of A&M students to defeat the Longhorns four years running, the season's successes have been hard-fought.

Last year and the year before, the Aggies made their way to the SWC championship with a mature, experienced team led by record-setting quarterback Kevin Murray. This year, A&M had to overcome the loss of seven defensive starters and several offensive standouts to earn the right to face Notre Dame on Jan. 1 in Dallas. The Aggies, picked behind Arkansas in most preseason polls, showed great determination in making their way to the top.

Beat the hell outta Notre Dame. Gig 'em.

— The Battalion Editorial Board

Mail Call

Brian Frederick is confused

EDITOR:

Brian Frederick's article in the Nov. 17 Battalion was testament (and not new) to how very confused this man is. It is too bad that an argument, in his mind, must always be related to a "moral" issue. I suggest Mr. Frederick distinguish between moral and ethical in the future.

Furthermore, instead of conjecturing over the moot point of Hitler being right or wrong, we need to examine the factors that led him to power and that let to his butcherings. I think everyone would agree that the Holocaust was a tragedy, but what of the Crusades? Are they not similar in nature? In both cases people killed for what they deemed morally and absolutely right. And what of the Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini and his Revolutionary Guards? I'm sure if you asked them, they would respond toward Iran the same way you do toward America, Mr. Frederick. You see, human rights are fundamental to the existence of everyone and have nothing to do with "morality." Let's pull down the flags in "God's country."

Darin Williams
grad student

Just say no to Ol' Sarge

EDITOR:

Since Coach Jackie Sherrill first came to Texas A&M in 1982, I have been one of his greatest admirers. He has taken Texas A&M to two consecutive Cotton Bowls (and possibly a third). He has brought national prestige to the football program. Aside from the winning tradition, I have loved the ideas Coach Sherrill has had. He has worked on bonfire each year, toured Texas hospitals to visit handicapped children and initiated the 12th Man kickoff team, which has gained national recognition.

However, Coach Sherrill has a new idea that I definitely will not support. At a breakfast on Nov. 18, Sherrill informed leaders of Student Government of his newest idea: A seven-foot "Ol' Sarge" mascot-type outfit to be occupied by a student during A&M athletic events. He said the head of the figure is near completion at a cost of nearly \$2,000. He pointed out that the student side of Kyle Field has Reveille, the yell leaders, and the howitzer to promote spirit, but the former students have nothing. He said the "Ol' Sarge" creature will shake hands with small children and promote spirit on the former students' side of Kyle Field but will not replace Reveille as our mascot.

I strongly oppose this "Ol' Sarge" creature for many reasons. Texas A&M has always been envied by other schools because we are different. But TCU, Rice and Texas Tech already have these dressed-up mascot figures. I paid special attention to TCU's horned frog this past weekend and I watched him run, slide, roll on the ground, and do backflips. I was proud to be an Aggie and not have such an obnoxious mascot representing my school. I am not a member of the Corps of Cadets. However, it seems to me that if I were, I would be embarrassed to have this "Ol' Sarge" mascot (wearing a Corps uniform) indirectly representing my group, possibly on national television. I have spoken with several former students concerning this "Ol' Sarge" creature. Although a few seemed indifferent towards the subject, most were opposed to the idea.

Personally, I don't like the idea of this "Ol' Sarge" creature because it will be embarrassing. It is not in the tradition of Texas A&M. I have attempted to be open-minded, but I just don't like the idea and I don't ever want to see the creature. What will be next? Pom Poms, pep rallies, and cheerleaders? I hope that Aggies will be able to unite in opposition of the new mascot before it is unveiled in Kyle Field, or G. Rollie White coliseum.

Blake Allyn Pounds '89

Editor's Note: Two Battalion reporters have contacted the sports information office about the rumored "Ol' Sarge" mascot. According to the office, no such mascot has been proposed and no plans are being made to propose one.

Unjustified criticism

EDITOR:

Sitting on my motorcycle in the Zachry parking lot, I proceeded to read a letter to the editor titled "Continuing Chaos." The letter referred to the motorcycle/moped parking problem to the rear of Zachry and how the recent construction of the new engineering building failed to produce additional motorcycle/moped parking spaces.

After reading the letter, I looked up to view the two-thirds empty motorcycle parking section of about 120 spaces. I then rode to the motorcycle parking section directly across from the Reed McDonald Building, where I again had no problem finding a parking space. This spurred me to waste 15 minutes in response to the letter. I do not appreciate unjustified criticism.

Steve Ihnen '89

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 classification, address and telephone number of the writer.



Helpful hints for creating supermarket of the 80s

Mankind has certainly progressed.

We've gone from "Pong" to "Pac-Man." We've gone from chicken legs to chicken nuggets. We've gone from "The A-Team" on network TV to "The A-Team" on syndicated TV.

And we've gone from do-it-yourself parking at the grocery store to valet parking at the grocery store.

That's right, kids. Valet parking at the supermarket, believe it or not.

The store in question? The flagship Randall's Supermarket in Houston. And who says Houston isn't cultured?

When I found out about valet parking at this supermarket, my curiosity was piqued. I had a very difficult time picturing valet parking for a wood-paneled station wagon loaded with 14 Little League players, a basset hound and a mother who forgot to take the curlers out of her hair that morning. I just couldn't picture it.

So I called the manager of the flagship Randall's. He told me that the parking lot of the store was often crowded and that his customers liked having spaces found for them.

I didn't mention the basset hound. From our limited conversation, I sud-



Mark Nair

denly came to the conclusion that this Randall's was a special store for special people. Special people like this don't bring basset hounds to the store. Special people like this hire babysitters for their basset hounds instead. Special people like this don't have kids in Little League. They have kids who play violins.

I take it, then, that this supermarket is catering to the well-to-do, the crème de la crème, the uppity uppity, the yuppies who deny they are yuppies.

And I suppose this is commendable. But for the true cosmopolitan supermarket of the 80s, it needs a little more. This is where I come in. Allow me to elaborate.

• Valet parking is a good start. What Randall's needs now is a system of chauffeur driven golf carts to take the shoppers from aisle to aisle. When the shopper needs an item, he or she merely points out the item to the chauffeur. The chauffeur leaps out of the cart, retrieves the item, and hands it to the relaxed and mild-mannered shopper.

• All male employees should wear tuxedos, made out of 100 percent cotton. All female employees should wear long, flowing evening gowns. Corsets are optional.

• Instead of having a "10 items or less" line, the store should have a "500 dollars or less line."

• Following the example of other high-class establishments in Beverly Hills, the store should not accept checks, cash, or money orders. Rather, the store should only accept platinum credit

cards, or its own private credit card. The store should name its private credit card "The Chic Shopper" and have shoppers apply for it by invitation only.

• No sales. In fact, everything should be marked up by at least 3000 percent. A jar of peanut butter should range from \$120 to \$600.

• Hot tubs, masseurs, masseuses, and wide screen TVs should be scattered around the store at regular intervals for the convenience of the shoppers.

• Everything should have fancy labels. There should be no such things as "generic" or "no name" products.

• No video rentals.

• No kids.

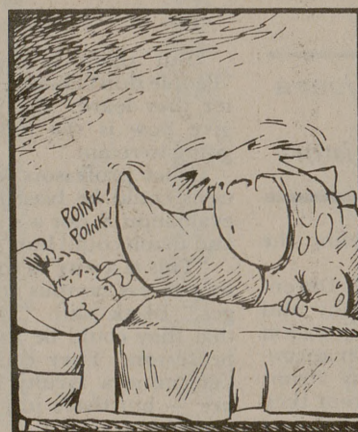
• No Muzak.

These, though, are just a few suggestions for the new and improved supermarket of the 80s. I'm sure, as time goes on and new ideas are applied, more ideas will spring up. But, until then, valet parking and customer service are here to stay.

And that just shows how great America really is. After all, in the Soviet Union people stand in line for weeks to buy a loaf of bread. In the United States, we have valet parking. In the Soviet Union, people are ecstatic just to get their hands on some Levi's. In the United States, we drink Perrier with spoons.

Makes you proud, doesn't it?
Mark Nair is a senior political science major and a columnist for The Battalion.

BLOOM COUNTY



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