

inside

Dear Readers:

In our never-ending attempt to cover topics which are of direct interest to you, our readers, we looked into an issue which is hot at the present time. President Frank E. Vandiver has been presented with a proposal from the Faculty Senate which calls for a smoking ban throughout the entire Texas A&M campus. A committee from the Student Senate is working on a response to the faculty's proposal to present to Vandiver.

Although the outcome of the issue has not been determined as of yet, At Ease felt this topic would interest both smokers and nonsmokers.

Our main story deals with smoking in the student body: problems, statistics and testimonials from student smokers. Experts can't quite seem to agree on whether the percentage of smokers on campus has increased or decreased, but many individuals are seriously worried about their health as smokers.

Second, we looked into the tobacco industry and its financial future. Although much legislation has been pushed through by anti-tobacco lobbyists, tobacco industry officials say there has only been a minute drop in sales. Along the same line, we've included a story about one suit involving the tobacco industry, as well as a run-down of popular methods to stop smoking.

Our Aggienizing Answers this week focuses on the proposed smoking ban on campus, asking students what they think of the idea of the proposal. And the profile section features the organizer of the local Great American Smokeout. This graduate student felt the need for such a program at Texas A&M, and took it upon herself to help her fellow Aggies kick their smoking habit.

Finally, we want to thank you for all the attention!! page contributions we have received since our rather bold request in last week's issue. We strongly encourage you to contribute to this page, as it prevents us from worrying about what we will run on the page and it gives you the opportunity to show off your talents.

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Smoking: a burning issue _____ 8

The smoking controversy continues to flare on the Texas A&M campus as students battle over the right to clean air versus the right to smoke. We talked to some on-campus students about smoking problems in the residence halls, and also to some experts about the population of young smokers.

Tobacco trouble _____ 10

What has happened to the tobacco industry? Recently, its pressure on legislators seems to have abated, but is there more stormy weather ahead?

So you want to quit? _____ 11

If you smoke, could you quit cold turkey? Or would you need one or more of the various books, tapes, pills or substitutes to help you kick the habit? In case you're interested, here are highlights of some of the hottest.

Nonsmoking Profile _____ 6

Meet the student who organized the Great American Smokeout at A&M. We tried to find out what kind of person it takes to organize such an event.

Aggienizing Answers _____ 6

With all the recent talk about the possible smoking ban on campus, we were interested to find out what students thought. The responses were mixed, but almost everyone had an opinion on the proposed ban.

Movie reviews _____ 5

Matt says "Julia and Julia," is a film requiring a more-than-usual amount of concentration, but that it is a nice break from "formula movies."

Album review _____ 5

Shane says Sinead O'Conner shows dynamic vocal prowess on her new album, "The Lion and the Cobra," but that she isn't quite ready to be called "the next big thing."

Live music _____ 4

Shane saw Eric Johnson in a club performance this weekend, and says all the rave reviews about him were accurate, if not understated.