

Battalion Classifieds

Horak

(Continued from page 1)

college couples. They meet, they each other for awhile, then one of the parties decides it's just meant to be.

Turner said situations like that happen in great frequency. "Why should Mr. Horak be special?" he asked. "Because he was pressed? Lots of people are pressed and they don't go to extremes Mr. Horak did."

Again, Higginbotham said refer to the history of Horak's relationship with Sexton. Sexton, whose first serious friend was Horak, said she listed Horak, sometimes twice a week as long as several hours, but she said she just wanted to be friends. She said he couldn't accept that didn't want the serious relationship he did.

At one point she might have married Horak, she said she accepted his proposal in August 1988. The two had been dating since October 1987, and during the summer he together in his parent's Cup Christi house.

He had two jobs that summer took classes at night in order to money for the ring. He said they cussed getting married after graduated. Both were sophomores nuclear engineering majors at the Corps.

"I wasn't sure I was going to school because I didn't have enough money," Horak said. "But I was thinking about going on active duty in the Navy, saving money and going back to school later."

Horak, who was in the Navy to serve, did return to school in the but sometime in October his plans drastically changed as the engagement ring he gave Sexton returned.

"I was pretty depressed and shocked," Horak said. "I was treating her the way I always had and she never complained. It was hard to see her everyday in class."

"She sat as far away as she could. She began to ignore me. I tried talk to her after class and called her I just wanted to know why she decided to break-up."

Horak said she told him he was right for her, but "I loved her." In early December Horak took his own life by ingesting roommate's (a quadriplegic to whom Horak was an attendant) prescription muscle relaxants and sleeping pills.

After his failed suicide attempt Horak had to attend counseling sessions at the Texas A&M Counseling Services in order to continue living in his Aston dorm room. Sexton went with him once and was told the counselor that she should make clean break from him.

"I needed help," Horak said. "I had a hard time handling the break-up. I was depressed all the time, wasn't sleeping or eating and grades were falling. I felt I needed help."

"I tried to kill myself," Horak said on each word. "It was the first time I ever tried that." It was during these counseling sessions that Horak talked about ing Sexton.

"I was scared because I was having homicidal thoughts," he said. "I thought about killing Trish and told them."

Dr. Richard Coons, a psychiatrist from Austin, testified that Horak was not insane, but "he definitely had problems and needs treatment."

Coons, who had met for two hours with Horak 90 days after he was arrested, said Horak had been suffering for quite some time of "major depressive episode."

"A&M Counseling Services records show that from December to March, Horak had a mental illness," Coons said. "I believe he had a biological chemical imbalance in his brain, which is highly common and treatable."

Turner said the Counseling Services didn't give Horak any medication, while in their analysis of Horak they didn't find anti-depressive medication necessary.

A counselor did call and warn Sexton that Horak was making threats on her life in February. Higginbotham said his friend's mind was deteriorating more and more, and as the homicidal thoughts reoccurred and he sought help, Horak was met with a deaf ear.

"No one did anything except Horak to ignore Trish," Higginbotham said. "That's like having a nail in your shoe — it's hard to think about it, it drives you mad when, but at some point, Horak wrote twelve letters and notes on back sheets of an engineering paper which were basically goodbye letters to his friends and family. On March 21 they were found laying on the desk with a .223-caliber cartridge standing on top of the pad."

Among them was a letter to Sexton in which he wrote: "You stupid, foolish, stubborn girl. I was asking for much, nothing you couldn't give me. Nothing at all reasonable. It was by all accounts something you owed me. This is your fault."

Higginbotham said that although he's not sure he will defend Horak he believed Horak will appeal.

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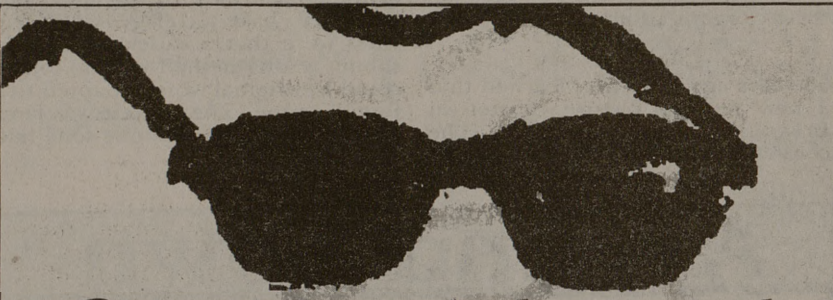
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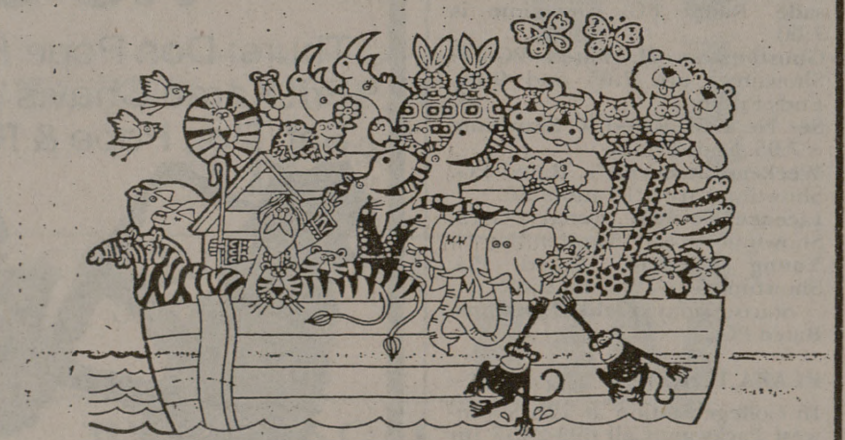
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