

Shuttle system on the road to improvement

The on-campus shuttle system is running more efficiently than ever. More signs and the addition of counterclockwise routes are improvements for which Bus Operations should be commended. There are, however, some additional improvements that would make the system even more usable.

Since, in most cases, bus drivers will not pick up or drop off passengers at places other than designated bus stops, the signs should be marked to indicate where along the routes buses will stop. A sign also should tell the approximate times riders can expect a bus to stop at that particular location. Finally, the signs should be clearly marked as to which directions and what paths the clockwise and counterclockwise buses take. After a few times on the bus it's easy to figure out what they will do and where they will stop. However, the system should be explained well enough on the signs so that first-time riders will understand the system before they use it. The bus system is generally a good one, and with these improvements it will be even better.

The Battalion Editorial Board

Budget constraints limit library hours

Complaints have been aired about the Sterling C. Evans Library's hours. Some students find it inconvenient that the library closes at 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

What they may not understand is the reason for the abbreviated hours. Money.

Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, the library simply cannot afford to offer the services and selections that everyone would like. Perhaps an alumni fund, similar to the 12th Man Foundation that sponsors student athletes, could be established to sponsor the library and its operations.

The paramount objective of a university is to educate its students. A closed library doesn't facilitate this.

It's a shame that a major artery to our fountain of knowledge is allowed to run dry just because it's Saturday night.

The Battalion Editorial Board

Big bosom bash bodes bad ballad

Rummaging through some old mail the other day, I came upon a newspaper clip a reader from Dallas, Texas, had sent along.

"Bragging between two women over which of them had the bigger bosom escalated into a fight involving a hammer and a tire tool at a truck stop, police said..."

Priceless — and there's more: "Both women suffered cuts and bruises in the scrap that erupted early Sunday in the parking lot of Truck Stops of America in Mesquite, a suburb of Dallas.

"Witnesses told police the two women had been arguing over citizens band radio at about 2 a.m. and agreed to meet at the truck stop to compare bosoms.

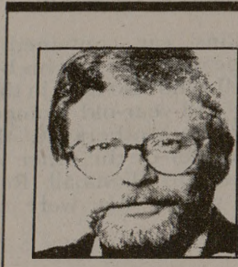
"Police said one woman grabbed a tire tool and struck the other woman five times. Her victim grabbed a hammer from her truck and began defending herself, police said.

"The woman with the tire tool was arrested for instigation of aggravated assault. The other woman was treated at Mesquite Community Hospital and released."

There was no date on the clip, so I called Truck Stops of America in Mesquite, Texas, to inquire.

"It was about a year ago," said the man who answered the phone at the truck stop. "It's all people talked about around here for weeks."

"I don't think it ever came to



Lewis Grizzard
Syndicated Columnist

court," a policeman said. "But I do remember when I filled out the papers I nearly laughed my head off." I asked the officer if he had any way of knowing which of the women did, in fact, have the largest bosom — the one with the hammer or the one with the tire tool — but he said something about being quite busy, and hung up on me.

I think it happened like this. FIRST WOMAN: "Breaker 1-9, this is Chest-a-plenty."

SECOND WOMAN: "Chest-a-plenty, you've got Buxom Betty. So you think you got some big 'uns?"

FIRST WOMAN: "10-4 on that, Buxom Betty. Biggest in Texas."

SECOND WOMAN: "Oh, yeah?"

FIRST WOMAN: "Yeah. Meet me at the truck stop in Mesquite and I'll make yours look like two peach seeds."

Regardless, there's a country song in all this. Call it "The Ballad of the Texas Boob Brawl." Are you listening, Hank Jr.?

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Rain-soaked Carolinas brace for more storm waters

The ups and downs of love

Love is a mysterious thing. It can be the greatest feeling in the world. It can make you feel alive. It can make you feel as though you're floating on air. (Kind of like when you ride the Rudder Tower elevators.)

It can also be the worst feeling in the world. At times it can make you feel like nothing matters in your life. Not even soggy Cap'n Crunch could make you feel so bad.

So why do we as human beings on this planet insist on dealing with such a roller coaster emotion?

Perhaps it's because we enjoy a challenge. After all, love is a challenge, isn't it?

For instance, take blind dates. For both parties, it's just a night of nervous thoughts and sweaty foreheads.

"Will he think I'm ugly?"

"Will she think I'm fat?"

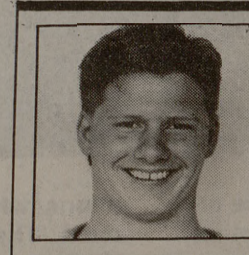
"What if she's fat?"

"What if he looks like Grimace or Big Bird?"

You know the feeling. For the guy, there is the risk of wasting a lot of money (unless you go dutch or she pays.) For the girl, there is the risk of her date being either a total bore or an ugly pucker-hungry stallion.

Either way it's a risk. Even when you already know the person, asking them out for the first time can be a traumatic experience. The one thing the guy is hoping he doesn't hear is, "Why don't we just be friends?" Oh, that phrase eats at my heart!

Then there's the people that only



Robbie Scichili
Guest Columnist

want you for your money. I've never had the fun of experiencing this because I have none. Here's an early warning tip —when you notice your Visa card is in your date's wallet more often than yours, it's time to check and make sure that their wardrobe or compact disc collection hasn't grown.

After a while, it's easy to take your loved one for granted. It's a natural process, but one that can trigger a break-up down the road. If it happens, it could be a sign that this person is not for you. Another sign of this is if you get the sudden urge to throw up when the other person is around.

OK, enough of my ragging. Yes, there is such a thing as true love. I know. I've been there. I know what it's all about.

Candlelight dinners. Nights by the fireplace with a nice chilled Chablis. Picnics in the park. Walking hand-in-hand through the mall. (Are you taking notes, guys?)

Yeah, these are the things that love is made of. There are no guarantees,

but true love can last forever. But why do we put ourselves in position to get hurt? I mean, do we run out to jump off a cliff, just because "it's something to do?"

I think it comes from a need in all of us for that special someone who makes us whole. I think we all need someone to share things with. Someone we can lean on when things get rough. The true definition of love is giving of yourself. The sad part is that sometimes this love doesn't come back.

And that's where the risk lies. But think it's worth it. Love is like jumping off that cliff with a parachute. We have confidence that the chute will open, just as we have confidence that our love with that person will last.

When you think about it, what would we get into a relationship if we felt that someday it was going to end? That's the challenge of love —making it work. I know it sounds mushy (like oatmeal) but hey, isn't love supposed to be mushy?

So why am I writing about this? Maybe because I'm looking for love. Obviously in all the wrong places. I've been looking for cliffs, but I can't find any good ones here in town. Maybe I'll go over to Rudder Tower and try to pick up some cute brunette in the elevators.

Robbie Scichili is a senior journalism major and a guest columnist for The Battalion.

Mail Call

It's all Greek to him

EDITOR:

Michael Kelley's column in Monday's *Battalion* seems to be a little misguided as it pertains to the Greek system.

Michael stated that "Greeks don't like competition." The ironic thing is the fraternal system is not in competition with the Corps. The Greeks are not out to manipulate the student body, but are helping people who want to feel more at ease in a social setting.

Michael also said Greeks and the Corps are "hardly similar." Evidently, Mr. Kelley has not seen both sides of the fence. I, on the other hand, have experienced both. I am currently a member of a fraternity, and I attended New Mexico Military Institute before attending Texas A&M. Both schools (A&M and NMMI) have a rigorous military program. They both train a cadet to follow orders, use the chain of command, and stress social skills. The cadets from the institute that have attended both NMMI and later joined the Corps expressed the similarities between the two systems.

Fraternities also teach a person to follow directions, build confidence in the individual and help in the development of social skills.

He also stated that "the Corps is not just some fraternity that exists, like some Greek organizations." Fraternities were founded long before the Corps marched its first steps.

Mr. Kelley also said "the Corps also differs from Greek organizations in that anyone who wants to become a Corps member is free to do so." Choice seems to be the dividing line here. If one wants to become a member of the Corps, it's by choice.

The same goes for the Greek system. A person has to choose to attend rush functions. The only expense you have is the time interest and desire to become a brother or a sister. You do have to pay monthly dues to keep the organization running. I don't call this buying a friend, but supporting the institution.

Mr. Kelley also asked the question, "what have the Greeks as a whole ever done for Aggieland?" The list of Greek accomplishments is long and distinguished. Sigma

Phi Epsilon's Fight Night raised money for the American Heart Association. Pi Kappa Alpha has taken underprivileged children to Texas A&M games as a group. Phi Delta Theta's all-University volleyball tourney has raised over \$1,000 for the Lou Gehrig's Foundation and the American Heart Association. Zeta Tau Alpha sorority has parties for less fortunate children at the YMCA. Almost every Greek organization on this campus is involved in some form of philanthropy.

The editor's headline was correct, "We are the Aggie Corps, Non-reg and Greek." The headline summed up what is actually true, but it is obvious Mr. Kelley used his own opinions, not the facts.

Richard Ross '90

World-class bonfire

EDITOR:

I am writing in response to that minute group of students here at Texas A&M who have recently been speaking out against some highly regarded traditions, notably bonfire. They say that regardless of the fact that the trees used on bonfire are in an area that will soon be bulldozed, that type of display is not worthy of a "world-class" university with "world-class" ideals.

During bonfire two different groups with different lifestyles, the Corps and the non-regs, come together to work towards a single goal for the good of all. With no concern about the physical strain, thousands of Aggies give freely their spare time to do hard work without expecting anything in return, except for the satisfaction of a job well done.

I don't know what "world-class" ideals people find in conflict with bonfire, but if a spirit of cooperation and a work ethic are not considered to be "world-class" ideals, they certainly should be.

Stephen Cox '91

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 retain the author's intent. Each letter must be signed and must include the classification, address and telephone number of the writer.

The Battalion

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