



MARGULIES  
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## Mail Call

### More on-campus parking, please

EDITOR:

The parking situation for students who live off campus is becoming increasingly unfair. More and more spaces are being allocated to staff and students who live on campus. We who do not live on campus pay fees and should be able to find a place to park when we arrive on campus. We understand that on-campus students should be able to park near their residence halls, but by the same token, we are paying to park on campus and there are not enough spaces for us. We are not asking for the spaces in front of the dorms, but we should be able to find a place to park within a reasonable distance from our classes or a bus stop.

As things stand, many of us are unable to find spaces at all. For example, half the parking lot of Kleberg is now designated for staff, as are all the spaces on the street in front of Kleberg. Most of the time at least half of these spaces are empty while the side designated for students is always full.

We have also been told that all the spaces in the existing parking garage and the new one that is being built will also be for on-campus students. The combination of these changes tells us the needs of off campus students are of no concern. Appropriate action needs to be taken in this matter. We would appreciate prompt consideration of this matter.

Cindy Bryan  
Graduate student  
Accompanied by 407 signatures

### Family: main focus in life

EDITOR:

This letter is in response to Adam Mathieu's column "Values Should be Reconsidered."

I share Mathieu's view that those who commit suicide are not "stupid." However, I think "weak realists" is a better label for these people. It is frightening that a large part of the

general public does not realize all the follies of our society. If our society is so advanced and fulfilling then why does the drug (alcohol included) problem exist? Why is drinking the norm rather than the exception?

Fortunately, most people do not give up that easily (case in point, Buck Helm's cling for life after the San Francisco earthquake). Stories such as this always "stop hearts" since most people realize no barrier is impervious if one has the determination and will to survive.

The solution is simple but agonizingly elusive. Countless past generations knew the answer but somehow it has been misplaced in our complex, fast-paced society. The answer is loving, meaningful relationships and family. Family is the optimum escape. It is the escape God intended. One person cannot change all the injustices prevalent in our society, but one person can certainly change the lives of those closest to him or her (i.e. wife of husband and family members).

You (the readers) are at a crossroads. You are obviously at A&M to obtain your degree and consequently a "good job." However, remember that corporations are entities, not persons. They do not care about people (employees), and they do not tolerate mistakes.

The "bottom line" is that they care only for the bottom line. Contrastingly, people care, relationships are elastic. So I ask you, which is more important, family or company X?

It is rather easy to become "unfocused" and not realize the important things in life. I know, I've been there. The question of "what is the meaning of life," tortured my soul unrelentingly for months. I eventually came to the conclusion that life is completely meaningless without family. My purpose in writing this letter is to hopefully help Mr. Mathieu and others to become "focused."

Christopher B. Green '92

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.

## Tolerance key to co-existence

I lost count of how many times the University of Mississippi band played "Dixie" while the Rebels were upsetting Georgia, 17-13.

There were 31,000 at the game. Everybody who wasn't from Georgia had a Confederate flag.

Before the game began, there had been a prayer. And two guys sitting in front of me each brought in a bottle of Jim Beam.

All this prompted my friend Bugar Seely, a veteran Georgia fan, to say, "They still wave the flag, still sing 'Dixie,' they can still pray and they can still bring liquor into the game. No wonder they beat us."

It hasn't been easy being Mississippi. I was thinking. You read those surveys and Mississippi always seems to come up a loser in such things as education and poverty levels.

And then there was the movie, "Mississippi Burning," which portrayed the entire state as a roost for drawing, ignorant racists.

The University of Mississippi once at

### Lewis Grizzard

Syndicated Columnist

least had good football teams to help the self-image. Those were the days of national championships and major bowl games.

But that all went away, too. Ole Miss football has been in a mostly tattered state the last 15 years.

I guess that's why they celebrated as they did here the Saturday when Georgia had fallen.

An Ole Miss football game in Oxford is a trip in a time machine. A trip backward.

The Georgia band doesn't play "Dixie" anymore. And fear of an American Civil Liberties Union suit has stopped public prayer before Georgia home games.

After the game the Ole Miss people were still waving those flags and the little band was still playing "Dixie." It was 1958.

So I asked a guy, "How can you peo-

ple get away with playing 'Dixie,' waving your flags, praying before the game and bringing booze in?"

"We're not supposed to," he replied. "But we do it anyway."

And where do black people fit into all of this?

The football team was filled with blacks, two members of the miniband were black and there was a black family standing outside their van, eating chicken and taking an active part in the post-game celebration.

Maybe Mississippians, both black and white, have figured it out. The key to any sort of co-existence is tolerance, even of symbols that once stood for hate.

Good luck, Rebels, for the rest of the season.

## Police Beat informs entertains readers

Wednesday is one of my FAVORITE days. Not just because it is the day before Thursday, (my last day of class for the week and the day MY column runs), but because it is the day that *The Battalion* runs its Police Beat column. And oh how entertaining it is!

And you know, it really isn't there for entertainment. It is actually put into *The Batt* to make students aware crimes that occur at A&M. All Aggies don't lie, cheat, steal or tolerate those who do, right? Wrong. Although we think Aggeland is some sort of Utopia that could never, never, ever have any kind of crime associated with it, crime surrounds us. And the University Police provides *The Battalion* with the "significant activities of the University Police Department" so that all of us will be a little more crime conscious.

But the Police Beat column does more than just inform. It DEFINITELY entertains. I know that many of you out there would never even pick up *The Batt* if it wasn't for Police Beat. And I am fairly certain everyone remembers some incident they read in Police Beat (and it's probably not an incident involving a backpack getting stolen). I have a few personal favorites...

There always seems to be someone masturbating somewhere. My favorite was the guy who masturbated while driving his car in circles around the Albritton Bell Tower. How stimulating. And PLEASE tell me what is so sexually arousing about the library? Books are just not that exciting to me (and I'm even a journalism major). Then there's the guy who crawled around the library on all fours looking up girls skirts? Luckily, the UPD nabbed him. And what about those couples we find between stacks, passionately embraced in the throws of ecstasy, the exhibitionists lurking amongst the romance novels and those heinous criminals who assault their female victims by putting their arms around them at the reference desk?

But wait, there's more! The "misdemeanor theft" section of Police Beat always seems to be the longest. There are about 3 million backpacks, 2 million bicycles, 400,000 wallets, 256,343 purses, 1,293 rings, 234 textbooks, 3 hubcaps...etc. stolen WEEKLY. And you would think that after reading about all of these thefts, people would quit leaving all of their stuff everywhere. It is like leaving the keys in your unlocked car and putting a sign that says "steal me" on the back of it. And besides, if we would quit being so careless about our belongings, start locking our doors and chaining our bicycles, it would get rid of a lot of the extraneous information in the Police Beat column, and we could get straight to the juicy stuff.

And what always amazes me is what people actually report. In yesterday's Police Beat, "a student reported that a man touched her leg with an umbrella during a class in the Academic Building, and she found this contact offensive." Does this girl have the "STOP TOUCHING ME" disease that we all had when we were kids? Or how about "a student was assaulted by an unknown person who struck him in the face. There was no known provocation for the attack." Do you really think the perpetrator of this crime actually thought, "I think I will bash this guy's face in...BOOSHI!"

This reminds me of being a kid on the playground and completely deny-



Damon Arhos  
Columnist

ing that I had done ANYTHING. I would give you the best of the best. Here are a few of the Police Beat reportings from the past that I think deserve some additional attention:

And Public Intoxication is always a fun one. Drunk people sure do strange things. Police Beat said yesterday that some drunk idiot tried to direct traffic on East Main Drive during Midnight Yell Practice. I guess he thought the stop lights weren't doing a very good job of it.

For a grand finale, I thought I would give you the best of the best. Here are a few of the Police Beat reportings from the past that I think deserve some additional attention:

- Someone entered the display case in the library and added messages written on condoms to the display.
- A female student reported that a male student had struck her on the buttocks with a ping-pong paddle while she was in the MSC basement. A man questioned later by officers said he had struck the woman with the paddle.
- A Walton Hall resident reported that he woke up to a strange odor on the morning of April 4.
- A white male with blond hair was seen removing a pig from the swim center and putting it into a pickup truck.
- A police officer and a Davis-Garr resident entered a third floor room in search of stolen highway signs. After they entered, they found a naked man lying on the bed. As the officer approached the man, he laughed and exposed himself by raising a magazine he was using to cover his genitals.
- A student was caught pressing his body against several women on an intracampus shuttle-bus during an undercover investigation conducted by officers in response to a students complaint.
- University Police received a report that someone tried to steal a brown Jersey calf from a pen just east of the A&M Cattle Center.
- University Police received a report that someone covered holes one, three, four, five, six and eight of the A&M golf course.
- A woman reported seeing a wooden stick with a mirror attached come through the wall from the direction of the men's restroom while in the third floor ladies' restroom of the Engineering Building.

I can hardly wait until next Wednesday.

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The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Journalism.

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