

Mail Call

Dissolve Aggie Cinema

EDITOR:
Hey Lance Parr, who are you trying to fool? You said in a recent article that "The Last Woman" was not a pornographic movie. Would you say the same thing about a triple-X rated movie?

I personally spoke with Penny Ditton, the advisor for Aggie Cinema, and she told me, "Aggie Cinema showed a triple-X rated movie last year."

She also said that Aggie Cinema voted for the movie "The Last Woman," shown recently, almost unanimously.

I'm also curious why Aggie Cinema doesn't publish the ratings with their movie advertisements in The Battalion? Is it because you don't want to attract the wrong kind of people? It's very deceptive to try and establish a precedent for the kind of perversion that Aggie Cinema is promoting. I think you should resign your position and Aggie Cinema should be dissolved, or at least replaced with some Aggies who haven't seen so many "trash" movies.

David Panak
Graduate student

EDITOR'S NOTE: Penny Ditton said that she did not what she is quoted as saying in this letter. MSC Council President Jason Wilcox said that there is no record of Aggie Cinema ever showing a triple-X rated film.

'Moralists' need to be open-minded

EDITOR:
In my three years at Texas A&M University, I have been embarrassed several times by homophobes, racists and rednecks. Once again I find myself embarrassed; this time it is by close-minded, self-styled moralists.

First, I want to make it clear that I am not denying the value of morality. I feel it is crucial that no person, group or institution be allowed to infringe on the basic human rights of another. Also, I am not writing to complain about Texas A&M University. My purpose is to address a syndrome which occasionally surfaces in the letters appearing on the opinion page of our student newspaper. This syndrome is close-mindedness.

After the showing of the film, "The Last Woman," I was again made painfully aware of the medieval attitudes held by some of my fellow Aggies. Although it is possible that I would not have found the comments of Ms. Wolling and Mr. Well so appalling if they had actually bothered to see the film as I did,

but they did not. Eventually my exasperation and embarrassment subsided as I simply disregarded their opinions as being just something that one encounters at A&M.

However, upon reading the headline of the Feb. 7 edition of The Battalion ("X-rated foreign film prompts petition") I became utterly disgusted. I simply cannot believe that students (i.e. Mr. DeWoody and Ms. Wolling) could condemn the film as pornographic without viewing it. As before, close-mindedness has made itself known through the actions of Aggies. What I do not understand is the fact that mature adults can attend a university and exhibit no signs of intellectual curiosity. Mr. DeWoody and Ms. Wolling, do you know what the focus of the film was? Do you really know what pornography is? Do you know what kinds of pornography are psychologically dangerous? **OR BETTER YET, DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?**

We are all here to gain from the "university experience." Trust me, it does not revolve solely around your BANA 217 class or solving calculus problems. We are all here to ask questions and to gain knowledge, not only about our coursework, but also about the world in which we live. I am merely suggesting that everyone should ask the questions of "why" and "what" and "how" and devote the time and effort required to discover the answers. Presumably, we are all intelligent adults who have at least a modicum of insight and the ability to form our own opinions without relying completely on second-hand information. In closing, I would like to say that I have grown personally during my stay at Texas A&M. I hope this growth continues throughout my life. The most important things I have learned at this school are the benefits of an open mind and the dangers of one that is closed. I hope that Ms. Wolling and Mr. DeWoody take the opportunity to learn of these things lest they bear the stigma of being "dumb Aggies" once they are cast into the real world.

Finally, and most importantly, how can our school be considered a world-class institution when intellectual stagnation is so evident? Have some pride and take the time to learn before you judge.

Mike Todd '91

Adults make own decisions

EDITOR:
We are writing in response to Suzanne Calderon's article concerning the petition boycotting the Aggie Cinema. On behalf of most of the student body, we would like to thank Jennifer Wolling and Matt DeWoody for knowing what we do and do not want to see, for allowing us to relax and to watch

only those things that can pass *their* criterion. For such a long time we were confused and thought that we were adults and could make decisions about what we want to buy, eat and even watch. Now we have the luxury of not thinking and letting these two make our decisions for us.

"The Last Woman" was not pornography, nor was it obscenity. If either of the boycotters had overcome their fear of the words "rated X," they would understand this. They call for a boycott of the Aggie Cinema. It's a great and wonderful thing to believe in a cause. It's ridiculous to be ignorant of what you are attacking. Besides, if you don't even go to the movies, don't try to stop us from watching them. To be honest, if you disapprove of the material, this is America and *no one* can make you go to a movie you don't want to see. **DON'T INFRINGE ON OUR RIGHT TO VIEW. YOU DON'T KNOW US.**

Now, in terms of censorship, yes, I'm for limited censorship. A 12 year-old should not have access to X-rated materials. Children should never be exploited for pedophiles. Where the state feels that parents may not be arduous enough, it accepts control. Hence, there are movie ratings, television censors and laws regulating sexually oriented businesses. For children too young to be responsible for themselves, the state tries to protect them. The state protects children; adults can decide for themselves.

We are glad to see that there are people who are so concerned with morality. One request: **DON'T FORCE YOURS ON US.** Your beliefs are your own. If your life is so orderly that you have time to worry about our morality, enroll in more classes — you've got enough time, apparently. You'll have enough trouble teaching your own children morality, much less a university of 40,000. But, you must start somewhere and practice does make perfect. I'm sure the Sterling C. Evans library has lots of books you don't want us to read. Please, please tell us which ones. We're waiting for your OK.

We don't believe that Texas A&M University supports pornography. If you do and don't like it, Highway 6 runs both ways.

Blas Villanueva '93

Have an opinion? Express it!

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. There is no guarantee that letters submitted will be printed. Each letter must be signed and must include the classification, address and telephone number of the writer. All letters may be brought to 216 Reed McDonald, or sent to Campus Mail Stop 1111.

CLASSIFIEDS



ANY ADS, BUT REAL HEAVYWEIGHTS WHEN RESULTS REALLY COUNT.

No matter what you've got to say, or sell, our Classifieds can help you do the big job.

Battalion Classified

845-0569

We're majoring in a special subject. You.

Get ready to fly for only \$118 roundtrip—twice. Choose from many of the more than 180 Northwest Airlines cities in the 48 contiguous United States.

American Express Student Airfare

\$118 Roundtrip

NORTHWEST AIRLINES

FOR TRAVEL BETWEEN Specified 6 Month Period FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF:





Day or night, we're here to answer questions or help you in an emergency.



Exclusive discounts, articles, profiles... American Express® Card CONNECTIONS is the magazine designed especially for students.

If something you just bought is accidentally damaged, lost or stolen—no problem. Just about everything you buy with the Card is protected.



You're part of a special group of people. So we've created special privileges with you in mind.

The tough assignments and long nights of college will soon pay off. In fact, they already have.

As a student with a bright future, you're eligible for American Express® Cardmembership now. You see, we believe in your potential. That's why we've made it easier for you to qualify for the Card on your own, even if you don't have a job.

And by becoming a Cardmember now, you can take advantage of the exclusive Northwest student travel privilege pictured here.

The fact is, we've added special student benefits like these because we're dedicated to serving our Cardmembers.

So apply now. About six weeks after the Card arrives, you'll receive your Northwest travel certificates.*

Call today. We're looking forward to welcoming one of our most important Cardmembers. You.



Acceptance is easier now, while you're in school, than it ever will be again. To apply, all you have to do is call.



Membership Has Its Privileges®

APPLY NOW:

1-800-446-5389

AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES

NORTHWEST AIRLINES

*If you are already a student American Express Cardmember and have a question on this program, please send your written question, a copy of your student ID and class schedule to: American Express, P.O. Box 35029, Attn: Student Marketing, Greensboro, NC 27425. Fare is for roundtrip travel on Northwest Airlines. Tickets must be purchased within 24 hours after making reservations. Fares are non-refundable and no itinerary changes may be made after purchase. Seats at this fare are limited and may not always be available when you call. Travel must originate by certificate expiration date and be completed within 60 days of that date. Travel may not be available between cities to which Northwest does not have published routings. City fuel surcharges not included in fare from Boston (\$2.50), Chicago (\$5.00), Denver (\$2.00) and Florida cities (\$2.00). Certain blackout dates and other restrictions may apply. For complete offer details, call 1-800-446-5389. © 1990 American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc.

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS® CARD. FOR STUDENTS MORE THAN EVER.