

## End sports pass woes with old ticket books

We've given it a year, but it still doesn't work. The system of coding sports passes on student I.D. cards is inconvenient.

For part of Monday morning, the computer system at the athletic ticket office was down. Hundreds of seniors standing in line had to wait while ticket office workers wrote down names and social security numbers of all the ticket buyers. Students miss class when such time-consuming errors occur. With the ticket books used two years ago, computer errors were not a problem.

If a student's I.D. card is with a friend who is drawing tickets, that student is unable to use a meal plan, work on certain campus computers, check out recreational sports equipment, cash checks or do a number of other activities which require student I.D.s. Off-campus students must have separate bus passes so they can get to campus when their friends are buying football tickets.

Coding sports passes on I.D. cards is inconvenient to students. It was intended to eliminate waiting in line for ticket books at the beginning of the year, but that problem could be eliminated more easily by having the ticket books mailed.

Computerization often makes campus life easier. In the case of sports passes, the old-fashioned way was the best.

The Battalion Editorial Board



## Pro-life feminist's position illogical, contradictory

Is Maurine McLean for real?

In the article about Maurine McLean (front page of Sept. 10 issue of The Battalion), she came across as someone who was completely lacking in logical reasoning abilities and totally out of touch with history and the current political happenings in the world.

She claims to be a feminist taking a pro-life position, but most of her arguments seem to contradict this stance. For example, "To be a feminist means I think for myself," she said. "I don't need any man or Gloria Steinem to think for me. I look at the evidence on both sides and make my own decisions."

To me, this sounds like a statement made by a pro-choice advocate. She claims that she thinks for herself and has made her own decision based on the

Jesse

Spears

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evidence.

But then she turns around and supports the pro-life movement and opposes allowing other women to make their own decisions. If I were a woman, I would respond to her, "I don't need anyone else to think for me, especially Maurine McLean."

Next, McLean predicts Roe vs. Wade will be reversed "because lawmakers are realizing it wasn't a legislatively sound decision." There are several things that make this a silly statement.

First of all, lawmakers don't have anything to do with reversing Roe vs.

Wade. Only the Supreme Court can reverse a Supreme Court ruling.

The only other way around this is a constitutional amendment. The odds of this happening are right up there with a snowball's chance of surviving in hell.

Second, unless I have misread the newspapers for the past year or so, the legislatures of several states have completely thrown out the idea of restricting abortions in any way.

Public opinion (by way of polls) constantly shows that the majority of Americans don't want to outlaw abortion, and have made this fact well known to politicians. Many politicians that were spouting pro-life, anti-abortion rhetoric have backed off from this position, and in many cases have done a complete flip-flop.

Another sign that she is out of touch

with the real world is McLean's statement that women would not consider abortion if it were illegal. "Making abortion illegal won't set loose a bunch of back-alley butchers," she also says.

**If I were a woman, I would respond to her, "I don't need anyone else to think for me, especially Maurine McLean."**

Obviously, this lady has lived a very sheltered life, or is just ignoring the facts. Before Roe vs. Wade made abortion legal in ALL states, rich women who wanted abortions took trips

to states where it was legal, and poor women risked their lives in back-alley abortions. In addition, in very recent history, the women of Romania had illegal abortions by the thousands because all abortions were illegal.

By Maurine McLean's definition of feminism as "social, political and economic equality for women and I would have to call myself a feminist would also like to point out that I am pro-choice and anti-abortion.

I believe that an abortion is a decision that ultimately rests with the woman that is pregnant. I wish that abortions were unnecessary, but until a foolproof method of contraception is invented and used, I accept the fact that some abortions are necessary.

Jesse Spears is a graduate student electrical engineering.

## Statue ban would censor history

Christopher Henderson's column Thursday claimed that Larry Cox's column on Wednesday was an attack on the NAACP's efforts towards issues facing African-Americans.

Although this can be inferred in part from Cox's article, the issue he was addressing was the NAACP's motive for calling for the removal of four Confederate War hero statues at the University of Texas. Henderson's rebuttal failed to address this primary issue.

Of course, the NAACP makes significant contributions to society and its constituents. But to argue that someone cannot criticize the NAACP's current method because they are not a member or have not read about the efforts of Ebony's 50 future black leaders is to side-step the issue posed by Cox: that the NAACP's efforts in this situation are self-motivated and unsolving of current problems.

I agree with Cox's opinion that people like Jefferson Davis and Martin Luther King, Jr. are both historic figures that shaped our nation and are worth remembering, even though they both had no direct connection with the University of Texas.

Henderson contends, however, that because Martin Luther King headed the movement for civil rights and that Confederate war heroes did not, then they do not deserve to represent their

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era of American history at the U.T. campus.

As stated by Larry Cox, U.T. is not denying the erection of a statue commemorating Martin Luther King. Furthermore, Henderson, it was the NAACP and Thurgood Marshall on behalf of Herman Sweatt in the 1950 case Sweatt v. Painter that opened the first doors for blacks at U.T., and not Martin Luther King.

Henderson argues that it is dangerous to have one's culture eradicated and that the African-Americans have been trying to teach people this for the past four centuries. Calling for the removal of Confederate war hero statues is a blatant attempt to eradicate part of a culture's history, and the Austin NAACP is apparently responsible.

Obviously the Austin chapter has stopped practicing what African-Americans have been teaching for the past four centuries.

Henderson also suggests that because the majority of A&M students are not aware of details of black history that this gives credence to his arguments that the African culture has been erased

through slavery and is not being taught. How many students were asked whether or not classes are taught about African-Americans?

Maybe I am in the minority, but my educational experiences, both secondary and at Texas A&M, have included the contributions of not only blacks, but women and other minorities, as they should.

Moreover, Henderson's argument does not offer a justifiable reason to eliminate the war hero statues.

Henderson does not attempt to address the issue of what principles the statues stand for. Henderson seems to agree with Austin NAACP president Gary Bledsoe that these statues are endorsements of Confederate principles, which Henderson further compares to exploitation and slavery.

Again, this does not directly rebut Cox's view that these heroes represent their right to govern and protect their homes.

I am sure these are the reasons for their erection on the campus and not because these men owned slaves. To call for their removal because these were slave owners is a denial and censorship of history and perpetuates, rather than eliminates, ignorance of our past — whether it be good or bad.

William T. Higgins V is a senior environmental design major.

## Mail Call

### Some rude Ags deserve a horse laugh

EDITOR:

I'm usually very proud to be an Aggie — sometimes more than others. I was especially proud when we let the SMU band play at Kyle Field when the football team was on probation. At other times, it's a little tougher feeling proud, like when you're at a football game around people who don't understand sportsmanship or class. Several 'Aggies' were hissing about the penalty we received for kicking the opening kickoff out-of-bounds. I asked why you might hiss an obvious call and was informed (much to my surprise) "You're supposed to hiss any call against the Aggies. If you don't like it, you can leave. No, I'm afraid not. Hissing is reserved for blatantly poor calls and cheap shots from the opposing team. Hissing our penalized mistakes, which happened to be quite a few in the last couple of games, gives the impression that you're hissing our team, and that is never acceptable. In addition to the hissing, there were people who were just flat rude while the other team's band was performing at half time. Now maybe I don't agree with everything this University is doing to become 'World Class', but I'd like to believe Aggies are No. 1 when it comes to showing class. Visiting bands, fans and football teams are guests at Kyle Field. We should treat them with respect until they give us a damn good reason not to. And to the guy who said I could leave, I'll say it again, I don't think so. I won't ask anyone to leave because they feel they should hiss all day against the Aggies. Everyone has an equal right to attend the best school in the world. Just know that the vast majority of the student body does know how to show some class. Get a life.

Jason Finger '89

### 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.

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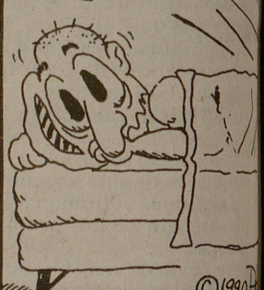
### Adventures In Cartooning

"SLEEP" (CORPS OF CADETS STYLE)



### by Don Atkinson Jr.

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