



Generation gap over Tubularman comics

I would like to address to Bob Knebel's Feb. 25 letter: How long has he been reading Tubes? Knebel's solution perplexes me: "Replace crude Boomer with someone clever, entertaining and subtle." Does he realize that if that happened there would only be 2 comics left that fit those specifications -- Margulies and dp?

Some of us actually enjoy Tubes because it deals with such topics in a hilarious way, and these are the topics that we all think about -- at least with a passing thought -- but we are afraid to talk about.

Do Knebel remember when he was in his late teens and early 20s? I'm sure these topics crossed his mind at least more than once, although at the time such topics were taboo.

There are several "comics" that I despise, but I don't complain about them. Solution: Don't read those comics with which you don't agree.

Katie Cunningham Class of '94

Food services serve unsanitary surprise

What is up with the food services on this campus? Thursday evening, I had the lovely experience of watching a food service woman empty a dripping bag of garbage with her bare hands, set down the bag and immediately turn around and touch the meat that was on the grill. She knew I saw her, and I was completely disgusted.

First of all, I would think that any sane person, after emptying the garbage, would be thoughtful enough to wash his or her hands before touching the food that patrons put in their mouths.

Secondly I know there are sanitation regulations for the food industry. I

have worked in food services before. It was mandatory for us to wear HAIR NETS and GLOVES. This particularly disgusting incident is not the only one that I have witnessed on campus.

Either these things happen quite frequently, or I have just had the misfortune of witnessing them twice!! If something doesn't improve, I would suggest that people watch more carefully as their food is prepared or eat elsewhere.

Susan Spicer Class of '95

'Howdy' is dead; long live 'howdy'

"Howdy" is dead.

That may be blunt. That may be harsh, but it is true. I say "howdy" to everyone that I pass on campus. It may sound odd repeating the word to three or four people in a row, but if one of those people deserves to be acknowledged, why not recognize the others? Why not answer with a howdy when given one? Why wait to see if the other person says it first. Why do Corps members choose to say howdy only to other Corps members? Probably because they have to.

I believe that is a bunch of crap. when I first started coming up here as a child, one could not walk across campus without receiving a "howdy" at least 96 times. I grew up saying the word to everyone. The first semester saw a bunch of fish that did just that. Where did they go?

Is it that great a burden to look someone in the eye and say a kind word? Think of what a warm smile and a friendly "howdy" can do for another person, especially someone who may be having a bad day. To me, that makes the burden that much easier to carry.

Brent Radford Class of '96

Remedies for phlegm madness, snuffle fest

It never fails. Inevitably the individual who's head is producing rivers of phlegm and/or snot sits near me during my longest classes. Never will I understand the need to snuffle and snort every half-second.

During Fish Camp, Counselors should teach nasal courtesy along with Aggie traditions. The program should include my three level model that guides the small-minded few along easy steps to snot suppression. Primarily, the incoming freshman would learn to think and plan ahead.

Step 1. Ideally the first symptoms of congestion, the student should take advantage of our pre-paid health care. Unfortunately its inefficiencies and inconveniences oftentimes force the student to bypass Step 1.

Step 2. Select an over-the-counter medication that works for the individual. Personally, I find that Sudafed best clears my head without drowsiness.

Step 3. The final option embraces simplicity -- keep a snot rag. The breathing-impaired should carry facial tissue -- handkerchief, toilet paper, etc. -- with them at all times. It is possible to blow one's nose in class without a massive disturbance. I have even watched the timid type use tissue to soak up their runny noses instead of blowing.

Within a few generations, students could take their tests in peace. The only thing annoying about taking a test would be the exam and not someone's drainage problem. Preparation is the key.

Michael Mogonye Class of '93

Lee is a film maker, not a spokesman

This letter is in response to Roy D. Parsons statement concerning Spike Lee. Parsons argument consisted of ignorance.

First of all, he states that Lee was hired with a sum in excess of \$10,000 to come speak on campus. Lee came to the Texas Film Festival simply because, as Mr. Lee put it, "I was asked."

Parsons then asks why Spike Lee did not make a movie based on the life of Mahatma Gandhi. Is it so wrong for an African-American to make a movie

about one of the most influential black leaders in history? Is it so wrong to use one's talents to educate the world about the life and teachings of an extremely influential leader? "Hoffa" was a movie about a very controversial white leader. It contained its fair share of violent protests. Why did you not write to protest that movie as well?

Parson's also associated Lee's movies with the Los Angeles riot and other violent protests. Spike Lee does not promote violent protests in his movies. He merely shows the problems that affect young African-Americans, in hopes of bringing the issue into the open so that a solution can be found. He said himself, "I am not a spokesman for 35 million African-Americans, I am a filmmaker."

Kevin Stewart Class of '96

Same old same old, GOP vs. Democrats

I'm writing in response to Corky McMillan's recent demands stated in the Batt on Feb. 26, "Yo, Republican! Sit down and shut up." Why doesn't he put a "cork" in it? He has quite an open mind for a Democrat.

I'm sure he received it from the Democratic Party since they're determined to give everything away nowadays. Furthermore, as far as working together goes, the Republicans worked with the Democrats to pass the 1990 Tax Bill, and that was one of the big reasons that the GOP did not receive more support 1992 election.

Clinton may be in charge, but until he gives us a reason to support him don't expect Republicans to change our beliefs. In fact, our beliefs have been proven time and again throughout history.

For example, no tax increase in the history of the United States has ever reduced the deficit. The only way to reduce the deficit is to reduce pork-barrel spending. Why wouldn't Congress ever give President Reagan and President Bush the line item veto? The reason is because they knew our former presidents would cut outrageous Congressional spending. They won't give it to President Clinton either.

I also like how McMillan stated his bottom line: "Clinton's plan hasn't failed yet, so no complaining until it does." I admire someone who is such an optimist. So, how long will take for

his plan to fail? I'll give it a lot less time than eight years. However, I'm sure the Republicans will receive the blame for the failure even though they control no part of the government.

McMillan also needs to be corrected on one last point. President Clinton did not receive a majority of the vote. To begin with, a majority of the people in the United States did not vote. Also, six out of 10 voters did not vote for Clinton. Therefore, no majority was received in the 1992 election.

Finally, I'll take four years Clinton for another 12 years of Republican rule. Of course it will only take a couple years for most sane people to see how big a mistake was made.

Blaise Walker Class of '91

If Corky McMillan would follow the events in Washington, he might see quite a few Democrats complaining about Clinton's economic plan. As for working together, McMillan seems to forget how well the Democrats worked with the past few administrations.

Bottom Line: Clinton's economic plan has been tried before, and every time a major tax increase has been passed, the economy has suffered, an example being in 1990. According to the Congressional Budget Committee, since 1947 every dollar in new taxes has resulted in \$1.47 in new spending. What about spending cuts? Clinton has yet to announce any major cuts, therefore it is hard for anyone to come up with an alternate plan.

Finally, no election is a sure thing and three years is a long time in politics; just ask George Bush.

Paul Ache Graduate Student

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