

Unforgiven, Uncovered, and Unintelligent...

Dedicated to Dave.

It seems that now that A&M has run out of completely everything to write into mail call, we're back to the traditions articles.

I've seen an infinite amount of letters desperately trying to compel the campus to say 'Howdy' to each other.

I've read the letters describing Muster and Silver Taps as incredibly moving experiences.

Unfortunately, I've also read letters regarding a "Bag a Bowhead for Jesus" t-shirt circulated at A&M. The letter regarding the emotionally-charged "Jesus-Bowhead" incident read:

"This greatly offended me even though I had no idea what it meant."

The rationale involved in such an argument goes beyond reason, and we have no choice but to bow to the pressure of the easily offended and convert our traditions so they are more stream-lined and aerodynamic for the '90s.

Perhaps it is in this same spirit that someone wrote in The Battalion in yesterday's paper asking about one of the fundamental traditions here at Texas A&M regarding hat-wear.

"I have a question that perhaps one of the Battalion writers or A&M students can clear up." The letter started.

Well, I qualify as both, and who could resist commenting on an issue



WILLIAM HARRISON
Sports Fool

See Harrison/Page 8

Straight down the middle

A&M golfer Marco Gortana came from far away to play at Aggieland

By DAVID WINDER

The Battalion

It's not what you know, it's who you know.

That cliché fits perfectly for junior golfer Marco Gortana.

The Italian national who was born in South Africa started winning European amateur events while still in high school.

His success caught the eye of professional golfer Gary Player who told him that he should attend a college in the United States.

Player then sent Gortana's credentials to colleges all over the country.

"A lot of colleges showed interest, like UCLA and Houston," Gortana said. "I ended up choosing Texas A&M because I liked Coach (Bob) Ellis."

Ellis has not been disappointed either as Gortana has brought home two first place trophies while finishing second twice.

He has also finished in the top twenty 14 times.

"My freshman year, I went out and played my first tournament and finished second," Gortana said. "Then except for a couple of times my play was just mediocre."

"I know I can finish in the top ten or top twenty every time I go out there. It's just a matter of me playing well enough to do it."

This year he has played consistent enough to do it. In his last three tournaments he has finished no worse than second place.

He has scored victories at the Crown Colony Intercollegiate and the Louisiana Classics.

For his efforts he was named Southwest Conference Male Athlete of the Month of February along with indoor track athlete Jimmy Oliver of TCU.

"The personal awards are great but here at Texas A&M we play as a team," Gortana said.

"Our team should be competing in every tournament."

The Texas A&M Men's team is currently ranked 16th in the nation.

"Since we play the Southwest Conference Championships on our home course (Pebble Creek Country Club) no one should beat us," Gortana said.

"I think coach would really be disappointed if we lost, I know I would."

Still after all his success Gortana does not see himself as the leader of the team.

"Our seniors are our leaders," Gortana said. "They have the seniority so you have to respect them."

"The freshman might look up me because I've won some tournaments, but I don't go around blowing my horn about it."

His ultimate goal is to one day play on the PGA tour.

"This summer I'm going to play in some amateur events in Europe, which should really help," Gortana said. "I also know a lot of people who are willing to help me financially if I choose to go the route."

For now though Marco is just concentrating on collegiate golf.

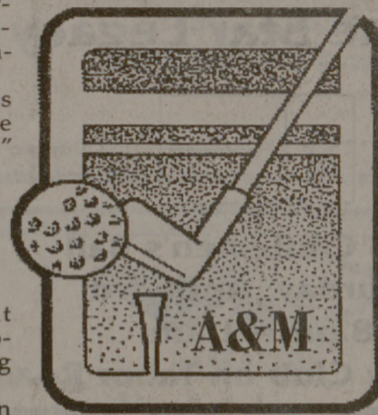
"It was so hard to win that first tournament because I never won one before," Gortana said. "But now that I've won one, it's just a matter of me going out there."

"Who knows where my limit is?"



JIMI HENDRIX/The Battalion

Junior golfer Marco Gortana hits a practice ball at Pebble Creek Country Club.



Loose Diamonds

Pear Shape



Weight	Color	Clarity	Price
1.02	F	Si1	\$3575 ⁰⁰
.73	G	Si2/I1	2178 ⁰⁰
.71	H	Si2	2250 ⁰⁰
.42	H	VS1	820 ⁰⁰

Emerald/Princess



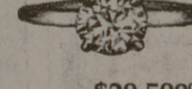
Weight	Cut	Color	Clarity	Price
1.14	Emerald Cut	H	VVS2	\$5600 ⁰⁰
.66	Princess Cut	H	VVS2	1850 ⁰⁰

Oval



Weight	Color	Clarity	Price
2.81	H/I	Si21	\$11,977 ⁰⁰
1.53	I/J	Si2	5800 ⁰⁰
1.09	H	Si1	3631 ⁰⁰
1.03	I/J	Si1/VS2	3512 ⁰⁰
.77	I	Si1/Si2	2267 ⁰⁰
.71	E	Si	2586 ⁰⁰
.56	G	Si2	1175 ⁰⁰

Round Diamond



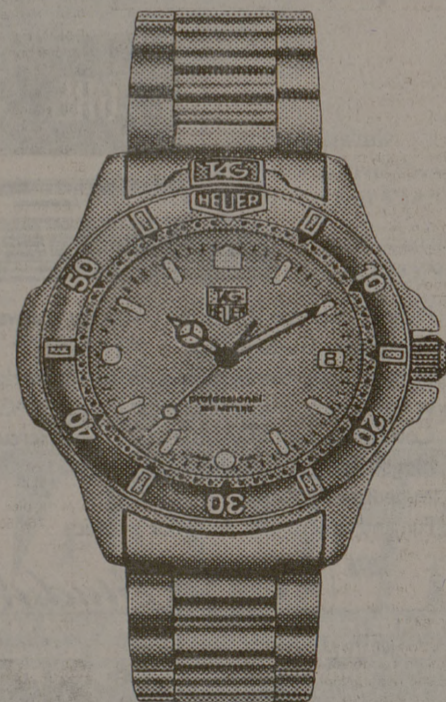
Weight	Color	Clarity	Price
9.51	K	I1/I2	\$29,500 ⁰⁰
2.48	F	I1	9610 ⁰⁰
2.34	J	Si2	8900 ⁰⁰
2.10	H	Si2	10,500 ⁰⁰
1.64	J	Si1	6600 ⁰⁰
1.37	K	VS1	4795 ⁰⁰
1.12	D	Si2	4500 ⁰⁰
1.03	G	VS1/VVS2	5300 ⁰⁰
.96	E	Si2	3900 ⁰⁰
.92	I	Si1/Si2	3208 ⁰⁰
.86	I/J	VS2/VS1	2932 ⁰⁰
.75	E	VS1/VVS2	3475 ⁰⁰
.72	D	Si1	2700 ⁰⁰
.72	G	Si1/Si2	2300 ⁰⁰
.71	J	Si2	1850 ⁰⁰
.71	G	Si2/I1	1750 ⁰⁰
.65	H	Si2	1763 ⁰⁰
.52	J	Si1	1108 ⁰⁰
.52	H/I	Si2/I1	700 ⁰⁰
.50	J	VS2	1065 ⁰⁰
.46	J	Si2	980 ⁰⁰
.47	G	Si2	890 ⁰⁰

Marquise Cut



Weight	Color	Clarity	Price
1.47	I/J	Si2/I	\$4800 ⁰⁰
.90	F/G	Si2	3500 ⁰⁰
.89	I	Si2/I1	2414 ⁰⁰
.83	D	Si2	3900 ⁰⁰
.75	G	VS1/VVS2	3500 ⁰⁰
.71	F	Si2	2750 ⁰⁰
.62	I	Si2/Si1	1900 ⁰⁰
.61	F	Si1/VS2	2080 ⁰⁰
.58	F	Si1/Si2	1700 ⁰⁰
.57	E	VVS1	2565 ⁰⁰
.54	H	Si2	1590 ⁰⁰
.46	H	Si1/Si2	1354 ⁰⁰
.46	I	Si2	1125 ⁰⁰

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