

Continuing saga of Woody & Mia

Life stranger than fiction for beleaguered filmmaker

You can't be in love with me. You don't know what love means. I don't know what love means. Nobody out there knows what the hell is going on.

— Woody Allen, 'Manhattan'



CHRIS WHITLEY
Columnist

It is ironic that a film about a middle-aged man falling in love with a girl less than half his age should so aptly describe the filmmaker himself.

For Woody Allen, life is imitating art.

Over the past 13 years, it seemed as if he had the perfect relationship. He and actress Mia Farrow enjoyed a lasting love affair without being "shackled" by the bonds of wedlock.

Now, the lives of these two icons have been shattered by their breakup and their ensuing allegations of each other's improprieties. What became the idyllic single relationship has turned into just another messy divorce.

Yet as the allegations and proceedings drag on endlessly in our television sets every evening, it seems that the most heinous crime that Woody committed was falling in love with the wrong person.

He has admitted to his new affair with Mia's 21-year-old adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Previn, which has caused a public outcry. Although the relationship technically is not incestuous, it has been placed deep within the fringes of morality by the public. Woody, himself, admitted in the middle of his custody trial last week that he probably "screwed up" by latching onto Soon-Yi.

Yet his relationship with Soon-Yi was not the only mistake he made. Woody found out only after his breakup with Mia exactly how unstable she had become.

Woody told '60 Minutes' that Mia had sent him a beautifully ornate Valentine's Day card. Inside, however, skewers were poked through a picture of Mia and

her children. Stabbed through Mia's heart was a steak knife, with a cutout picture of Soon-Yi attached to its handle.

Woody also said that he received phone calls in the middle of the night from Mia, threatening his life.

Then, Mia claimed that Woody had sexually molested their biological daughter, Dylan. Woody has insisted that Mia concocted this story as a means of winning over the children. Since then, a team of doctors from Yale University have found no evidence of child abuse.

To hear the story as Woody tells it, Mia has changed from one of America's sweethearts into a psychotic.

Those who have seen Allen's movies know that the characters he plays hardly ever choose the "right girl," and it ends up working against him. In 'Manhattan,' he plays a character who marries a bisexual and ends up getting dumped for another woman. 'Crimes and Misdemeanors' showed Woody playing a man who leaves his failing marriage for a girl, played by Mia, who falls for Woody's arch enemy.

His last film, 'Husbands and Wives,' was almost an autobiography. Woody plays a professor who has an affair with one of his teenage students while at the same time fighting off problems with his wife, also played by Mia. At the end of the movie, Woody's character describes how he has habitually picked the wrong woman.

Presently, Woody is in the midst of a story that might top any he has ever written. Yet he cannot control the outcome of this screenplay. As he and Mia air out their dirty laundry in a court battle for custody of three of the children, only the judge can provide the ending to the story.

Perhaps the best example of Woody's struggle of "life versus art" lies in the last scene of his Oscar-winning movie, 'Annie Hall.' As the movie ends, Woody looks at the camera and says, "You're always trying to get things to come out perfect in art, because it's real difficult in life."

Whitley is a junior journalism major.

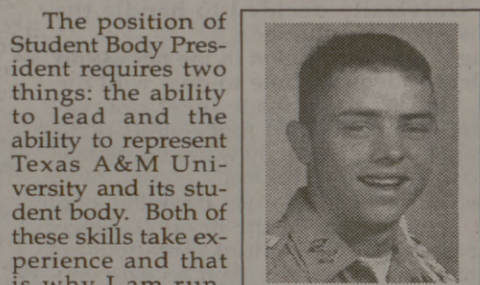
Campus Elections '93

Which candidate will make the best Student Body President?



BRIAN WALKER
Student Body President Candidate

What can the office of Student Body President do for you? Better yet, what does Student Government do for you now? Student Government does a host of things you are very familiar with, such as Parents' Weekend, Big Event, Traditions Council, Silver Taps and even Aggie Muster; however, there are many things you may not be familiar with....



RICK TAYLOR
Student Body President Candidate

The position of Student Body President requires two things: the ability to lead and the ability to represent Texas A&M University and its student body. Both of these skills take experience and that is why I am running for Student Body President. Within the last four years, the leadership positions I have held have taught me the importance of the planning, organizing and delegating which is necessary to reach any goal. During this past year I have had many chances to represent Texas A&M across the nation and state. As a part of the Corps staff, the second in command of the Ross Volunteers and a member of the Traditions Council, I have been afforded the great chance to speak to Aggie Moms' Clubs, A&M student organizations and each of the Fish Camp and Freshman Orientations last summer. I am confident in my experience in both areas, which would help in my role as Student Body President.

As Student Body President, my first job would be to tackle the issue of multiculturalism. We need to create a Vice President of Multicultural Issues in Student Government so that we will always have someone in charge of overseeing the multicultural issues that affect the student body. This vice president will direct a committee in charge of recruiting minority student involvement in Student Government and will oversee another committee that will act as a liaison between minority student organizations and Student Government.

We also need to set up a group to present a program at every Freshman Orientation to increase freshman awareness of and sensitivity to other cultures. Freshman Orientation is an ideal place to present a multicultural program because freshmen would be more receptive to ideas presented in this form rather than in a three-hour required class.

Another important issue is lowering the cost of books which can be done by using an on-campus database where students can sell their books to other students through the use of computers. Other issues are providing better lighting for the west campus and working with disabled students for better access into buildings on campus. I believe that it is important for the Student Body President to push the two resolutions passed by the Student Senate, the new fall break and the extra reading day, through the required channels to ensure their implementation by the A&M administration.

Texas A&M's Student Body President must remember that no matter how much change is to occur, the things you don't change here are those that separate us from any other school. Those things are our traditions. The Texas A&M student body must look for the individual who has the dedication and leadership experience to take Texas A&M and the student body to greater heights.

Walker is a junior management major

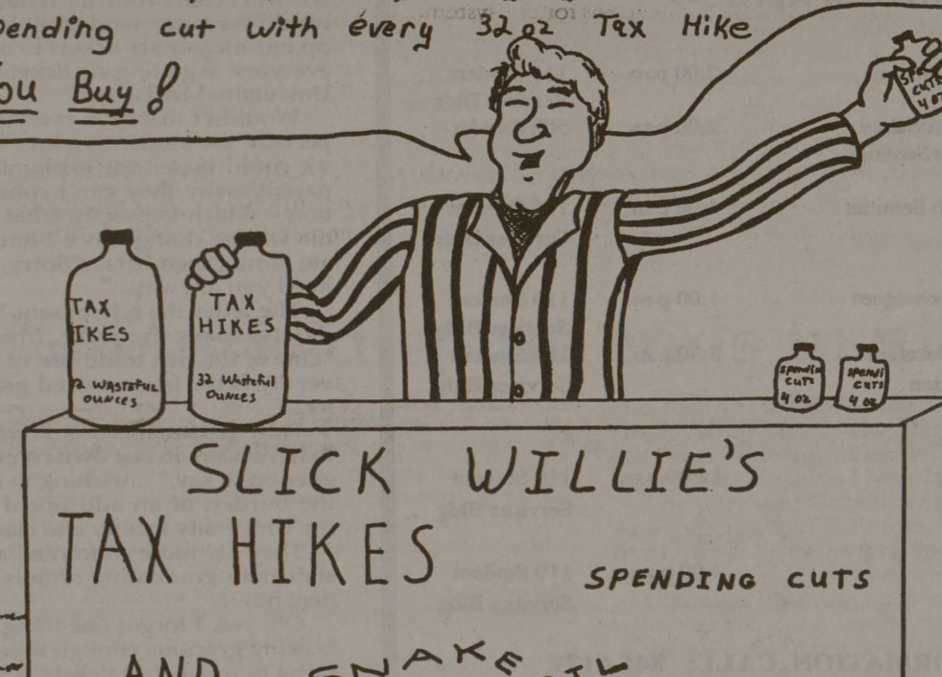
Taylor is a senior political science major

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Gibe (jtb)

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Ignoring issue won't combat ignorance

Here is a little quiz for you Ags, 1) If you are dyslexic how do you take exams? 2) You broke your leg and are meeting friends in the commons for dinner, how do you get down there?

3) Under the provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), how much do most accommodations for disabled workers cost employers?

The answers to these questions are simple enough: 1) through extended time testing services provided by Support Services for Students with Disabilities, 2) by obtaining a key to the elevator from the South Area Office, 3) 50 percent of all accommodations cost less than \$50.00.

However, disability issues are not an adventure in trivia, nor are they a debate on the most politically correct terms to use. They are relevant, pervasive issues with deep implications for everyone in some form or fashion.

One in six Americans has a disability, and that figure is projected to increase to

one in three by the year 2025. Are you listening yet? Those figures mean that you are likely to become disabled at some time in your life. Yes, you.

The real barrier for people with a disability is not their own limitations, but those of the people around them.

The only way to combat the ignorance, fear, and lack of awareness that pervade mainstream society is through education. As a news medium, one would think that The Battalion would live up to the commitment of all media in general - to inform and educate its readers of relevant issues. The question now is, just what is news, what is "relevant" to the Battalion?

Feb. 10 was the date of Access Challenge, an event co-sponsored by Networks and Support Services for Students with Disabilities. Networks is a student organization serving the handicapped through outreach, student speakers, and through programs. One such program, Access Challenge, consists of demonstrations and simulations designed to convey some of what life as a student with a disability is like. The only possible way for this program to benefit anyone is to have people attend it. Logical though that

sounds, the Battalion went above and beyond the call of a news medium to not cover the event. The "lead in" was run the day of Access Challenge, and then the event itself was not even covered. We also had the state head of the ADA, Rdn Trull, speak at Dr. Koldus's Division meeting. This went equally unreported.

There are a lot of newsworthy events that go unreported due to lack of resources, I am fully aware of that. However, the information which was to be conveyed had little to do with Networks, Support Services, or even Access Challenge. It had to do with fear, misconceptions, and misunderstandings about disabilities. It had to do with knowledge about the programs and services offered by the university to those who have, or need to find out if they have, a disability. It had to do with how federal mandates, such as ADA, affect life now and their implications for the future.

The Battalion did a serious injustice to the members of Networks, to Support Services, and a disservice to the student body as a whole by failing in its duty to inform its readers. Every other major news medium in Bryan-College Station thought this was news, maybe the Battalion knows better.

I should extend my gratitude for appearing in the paper at all, and for appearing in What's Up on the right day (our speaker's name was misspelled but I am sure he didn't mind). Who knows, next year we may even make Police Beat.

Andrea Nixon
President, Networks