



THE BATTALION Editorial Board

Mark Evans, Editor in chief
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EDITORIAL

ACT AGAINST AIDS

Texas A&M should develop research efforts

Texas A&M should devote more effort to AIDS research.

Of the 50 publicly funded AIDS research projects in Texas, Texas A&M is supporting none...

As a major research university and a public institution, Texas A&M needs to actively work to solve the AIDS crisis.

Science and medicine are not the only fields which can foster AIDS research.

It is extremely important that research continue. When budgets get tight, research is often the first thing to go.

AIDS research benefits more than just AIDS patients. The knowledge gained from this research can benefit many people in many fields.

When research is conducted in pursuit of a specific goal, often the knowledge gained finds application in numerous other places.

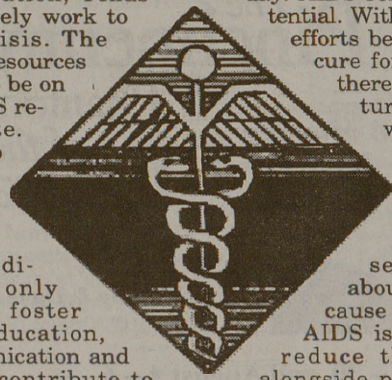
For example, the effort to put a man on the moon developed countless innovations - from satellite communications to Tang - that are widely used today.

AIDS research has similar potential. With all the resources and efforts being put into finding a cure for this deadly disease, there is a wide range of future applications of this work which cannot yet even be imagined.

Another benefit of increased research is increased awareness. More research and education about the AIDS virus will cause people to realize how AIDS is transmitted and will reduce the fear of working alongside people with AIDS and reduce activities which cause the spread of the disease.

More tolerance and understanding for AIDS patients and less people with AIDS are certainly good things. Fewer people will die, and money will be saved in trying to find a cure.

Texas A&M should be a part of this effort. It is time for the University to do its part to combat AIDS.



Tune in to reality of Woodstock

Twentysomethings must find own defining moment, not emulate hippies

Everyone has probably heard about this "new Woodstock" thing. A bunch of bands are getting together to perform for people, just like in the grand old 1960s.

This isn't the 1960s anymore. Has anyone considered the fact that a redone Woodstock is just kind of a sham? After all, it isn't about peace or freedom or any of those other abused but lofty words.

Tune in, turn on, and drop out. This cute phrase captures the essence of what our hippie ancestors were trying to accomplish, if they were not dying in Vietnam at the time.

Now, I decided to try to understand what everyone sees in all this '60s revival. First of all, hippie-type clothing is now "in." But, the whole idea behind hippiness is that it is supposed to be "out."

Second, people have been doing the drug thing for a while. How many times are people going to have to get screwed up in order to figure out that drugs are stupid.

Third, dropping out of society doesn't work for very long. It is great to do your own thing and to go out and find America. It's even more exciting if a person can find a way to see some of the world and meet new people.

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aders argue current... perspectives of feminism

I would like to commend Elizabeth Preston. Her July 28 column on the feminist movement has given me renewed confidence in my opinions and beliefs.

Feminist groups have about exhausted every argument imaginable. I am happy to see that Preston's column was neither passive nor militant.

There are participants of the women's movement, who at one time or another, expect that this nation should halt the evolution of society as we know it and implement laws and legislation that automatically give women certain inalienable rights.

Blame is not the issue here. We cannot correct the mistakes our ancestors made, but we can learn from them.

I am not idealistic enough to believe this will happen overnight, nor will this one letter in a college newspaper in a college town make a monumental difference.

Stacy Stuart Class of '94

JOSEF ELCHANAN Columnist



behind and spend time with nature. On the other hand, everyone should remember that the vast majority of those '60s communes are closed down and that the people who used to run them are now bank presidents and lawyers.

We are supposed to stand on the shoulders of giants, not steal their clothes and shoes and run around making the same mistakes. Yet, that

We are supposed to stand on the shoulders of giants, not steal their clothes and shoes and run around making the same mistakes.

is what so many of our fellow college students are doing. Some of them want to use 15th-century religion to solve 21st-century problems.

I guess that might be kind of gruesome, since so many of our generation are skinheads or Klansmen, and so many are shooting each other in cities across the country for drug money

and so many killed themselves when they were 14 or 15. Growing up, I really knew people in Plano, Texas, who hung themselves and blew their chests out with pistols.

Yeah, I guess it must be much easier for all of us to lie to ourselves and melt our brains away rather than thinking about that fact that most of our leaders are liars and thieves and that the world did not get much better, whether our fathers went to war or whether they stayed here and protested against it.

Instead, lets act like hippies. Nope, it won't be quite that easy. There will be security at this Woodstock and lots of electronic equipment and no Jimmy Hendrix.

The real question here asks when we all are going to discover our own Woodstock, our own defining moment.

Can't we do something a little different, something that suits our needs as the generation that is supposedly disenfranchised from the American Dream?

The other day I rented a copy of "Easy Rider." The whole point of the movie is that two guys are doing something they want to do, without harming anyone else.

In the end, they die, just like many of the dreams of their generation, crushed under the stresses of their times. To have wisdom is to learn. Instead of making the same mistakes, as well as showing the same kind of poor taste, let us all try something different from ourselves, but also something original, and a bit more productive.

Josef Elchanan is a senior business management major

ERIN HILL Columnist



raiser came to the door. I was used to having magazines handy whenever I wanted one.

As a student who moves frequently it can be inconvenient to have subscriptions, so I went without. But it didn't take long before I fell behind in my horoscope and knowledge of who was marrying whom in Hollywood.

On a more intellectual note, I missed John Leo's opinions, George Will's columns and Hints from Heloise.

Things were tough then. It was the periodicals section that made recovery possible. The 7,000 magazines (newspapers not included that total) were there for me when no others were. For that I'm thankful.

Once upon a time I had to do a research project. I

located a relevant article in a periodical called The English Journal, of which I had never heard. The article was great, so I looked for more in back issues.

I knew that I spent too much time with The English Journal when my roommates started leaving my phone messages on its shelf. But it was time well spent. From The English Journal I learned

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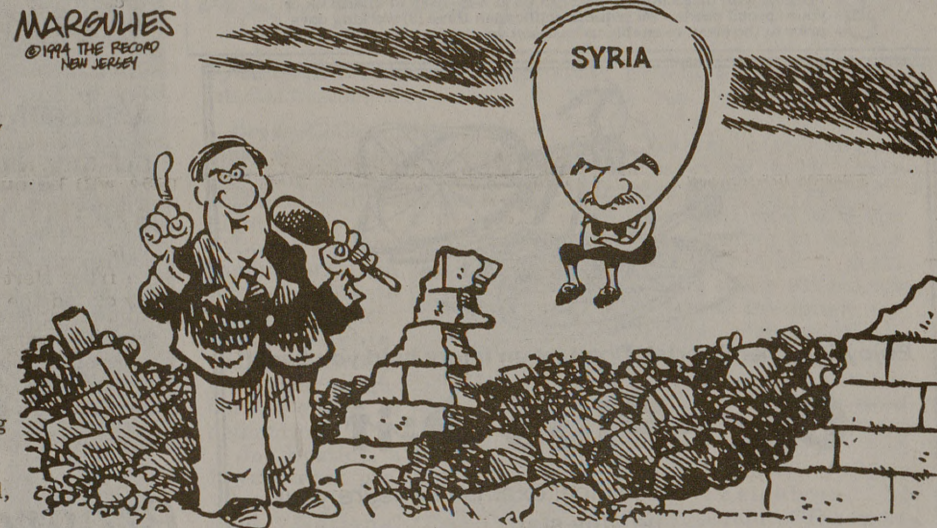
subtleties about being a high school English teacher (my chosen profession) that I couldn't pick up in any college classroom.

Some of my other discoveries were The New Republic and Mother Jones. It is fascinating to read well-written pieces from that side of the political spectrum. And I try to give equal time to The

As a former student returning to College Station for a medical school rotation, it is refreshing to see that despite all the changes on campus in the past four years, the Battalion Opinion page remains steadfastly committed to its pursuit of knee-jerk liberalism.

Elizabeth Preston illustrates this beautifully in last Thursday's attack on religious institutions and defense of a woman's right to sexual promiscuity and other traditionally male behaviors. I've seen firsthand the effects of women's sexual liberation - AIDS, herpes, sterility, abortion and single motherhood to name a few.

Women of our generation have made great strides towards achieving equality with men and have adopted many "male



"With Jordan joining the peace process, another wall has fallen in the Middle East..."



Readers argue current perspectives of feminism

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behaviors," among them the right to smoke cigarettes, abuse alcohol, be sexually promiscuous and neglect family in pursuit of career.

Matt Poling Class of '90

The Battalion encourages letters to the editor and will print as many as space allows. Letters must be 300 words or less and include the author's name, class, and phone number.

Address letters to: The Battalion - Mail Call 013 Reed McDonald Texas A&M University College Station, TX 77843-1111 Fax: (409) 845-2647 E-mail: Batt@TAM2000.tamu.edu