

OPINION

Clinton uses scare tactics to combat Republican success

Be afraid. Be very afraid ... Put all your money in a mattress — the rich are about to steal it.

Feed your children — they may never eat again. Drink water now — you may never drink it again.

How has this alarming turn of events ... turned? Simple — we had the nerve to elect those unfeeling, uncaring and damn representatives had the nerve to do exactly what they said they would.

These kids today, what will they think of next? Fortunately, we still have that executive branch around to remind us that we are now on our way to "hell in a hand-basket."

Last week, our heroes at the Environmental Perversion ... uh ... Protection Agency came out with their much-ballyhooed report on the state of America's drinking water. Apparently, 20-30 percent of us drink feces in our water. And it will only get worse if those pesky Republicans change the 1974 Clean Water Act, as they plan to do.

Can I just ask a dumb question, here? If the 1974 act was such a rousing success, why do 1 in 5 of us drink feces — yep, that's the word they

DAVID TAYLOR
COLUMNIST



used — in our water? The story only gets better, though. I guess we should consider ourselves lucky that we are all adults. If we were still children, those Republicans would be trying to starve us to death.

Remember that crazy Republican plan to transfer control of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program to the states, and thereby cut the federal government out of the loop?

Fortunately, we had President Clinton and the efficient Department of Health and Human Services to point out that children were now going to starve.

They forgot to mention that these children were all employed as bureaucrats in the same department, but who was paying attention?

Not only do the Republicans want to starve the kids, they also think those kids should all walk around carrying M-16s or the assault weapon of their choice.

After all, when the assault weapons ban is repealed, we will probably be able to drive through our local McUzi's and order our favorite extra value weapon.

But not if our white knight President Clinton

has his way.

Nope, not on his watch. Of course, automatic rifles were heavily regulated decades before our President hit puberty, but don't tell anyone that because they might get the idea that the assault weapons bill was just a political ploy to gain votes.

Unfortunately, it didn't work and the Democrats lost. But that's another story.

On the other hand, maybe it's not ... Let's see, don't we have some election coming up? Hmm ... the President couldn't be trying to work on his image, could he?

Nah, that would be politics, and Clinton would never make statements just for political gain.

Nope, our President would never have said on Aug. 12, 1992, that he would "end welfare as we know it."

He surely never could have claimed on May 6, 1992, that, "Number one, you require people to take jobs."

After all, if we were to take him at his word, we might think that Bill Clinton would support Republican reforms to the welfare programs.

Then there are those nasty House plans to turn most of the national wealth over to the rich. Fortunately, once again the champion of the proletariat ... uh ... working man comes to the res-

cue. Nope, no tax cuts with President Clinton watching.

Sure, he did say in his very first campaign commercial that he would offer a middle-class tax cut.

But that was before he was shocked, shocked to find that some wealthy people — i.e. people with jobs — might derive a benefit from it.

Besides, a tax cut has never been important to any of us.

On Jan. 14, 1993, President Clinton declared that "for reasons that absolutely mystify me, the press thought the most important issue in the race was the middle-class tax cut."

Silly us.

He went on, "I never did meet any voter who thought that." Of course, that was about the time Gov. and Mrs. Clinton went on a little rafting trip in the hills of Arkansas, wasn't it?

Yep, the greedy and selfish Republicans are at it again. Don't worry, though. It doesn't matter what's been said before, President Clinton and his cabinet will oppose the whole mess.

I wonder, though, do you think they drink feces in Washington D.C.?

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EDITORIAL

HATS OFF

The Texas A&M baseball team deserves congratulations and praise.

Unquestionably, sports are important at Texas A&M. In the hallway of the MSC there is a woodcarving dedicated to the sports traditions that make this University famous, on campus there are several monuments to sports heroes and history, and T-shirts the students wear always seem to mention A&M's prowess on the field of athletic competition.

However, traditions and pride seem to be somewhat limited to Kyle Field.

Today students and faculty should be proud of another group of "fightin' Texas Aggies" — the baseball team. Last Monday the Aggies finished their season with an impressive 44-22-1 record overall, a 12-6 record in conference play and were ranked second in a powerhouse Southwestern Conference. Collegiate Baseball, a national publication, ranked A&M No. 12, while Rice and UT ended at 19th and 23rd. Only Texas Tech did better at 10th.

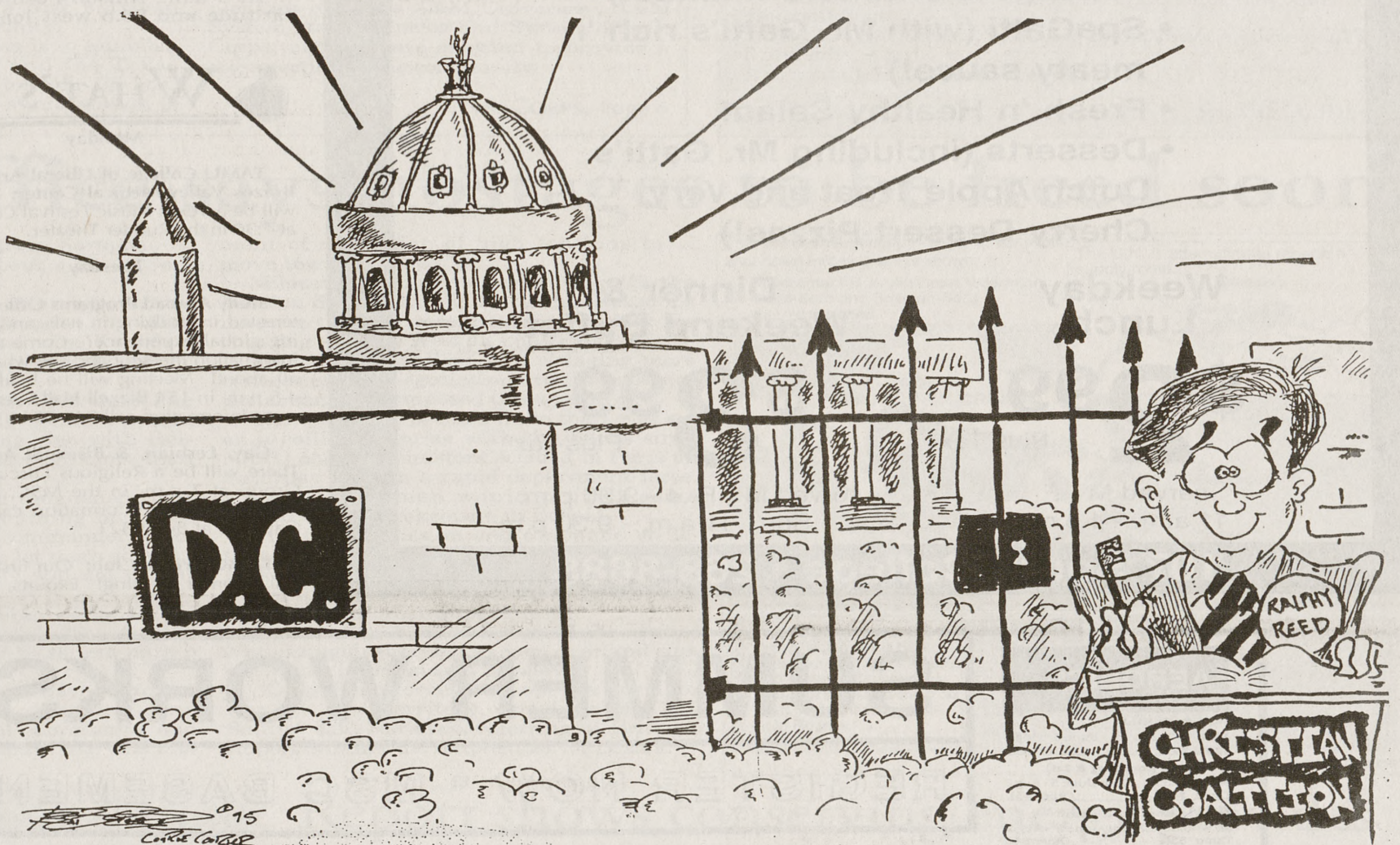
The Aggies came within

one game of entering the College World Series. Their final loss was against Miami, a team they had shut out in the game before. Compared to last year's struggling team that finished 6-12 in the SWC, the Aggies worked hard and overcame the adversity of losing several solid starters.

Leading the team this year was All-American first baseman John Curl. Curl led the league in home runs with 18 (two more than Rice's Jose Cruz, Jr., who was picked third in the Major League draft) and was second in batting average.

This season, the Aggies on the diamond made us as proud as the Aggies on the gridiron, and deserve recognition. The fightin' Texas Aggie Twelfth Man (or Tenth Man as the case may be) also deserves a pat on the back for filling up Olsen field and keeping opposing pitchers and batters off balance.

So here's to a job well done, and good luck next year.



Gramm works overtime to muster support

With summer here, life across America has slowed down. Kids are out of school, and families are going on vacation.

However, the 1996 presidential campaign is just now beginning to heat up, and the large field of Republican candidates are busier than ever, each trying to make sure that they win their party's nomination.

An example of this is former A&M professor Phil Gramm, who currently stands in second place for the Republican nomination, right behind Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole.

By a stroke of good luck, I have secured a copy of a recent week's agenda of Senator Gramm. And by the looks of it, Gramm certainly won't lose the nomination for a lack of effort.

Here it is:

Sunday:

Appear on "Meet the Press," "David Brinkley" or "Face the Nation" — whichever will take me. Criticize Clinton's Bosnia policy for its inconsistency and for his lack of leadership.

Make sure not to be tied down on any position that could later hurt me. Criticize Clinton's inability to handle the pressing issues of today.

Repeat promise of filibustering Henry Foster's surgeon general nomination for as long as it takes to sink it.

Monday:

Fly to Concord, N.H., and speak to local

JASON BROWN
GUEST COLUMNIST



Republicans about why I should be President. Focus on the fact that I have raised enough money to feed the kids I plan to kick off of welfare. Trumpet the endorsement of a local magistrate.

Tuesday:

Fly to somewhere in Iowa — it doesn't matter where. Give speech railing against Clinton for his lack of leadership on important issues.

Tell them how important it is that we have an anti-flag-burning amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and thank the farmers on behalf of the country for their corn.

Wednesday:

Fly to Orange County, Calif., and lament to local officials about the loss of federalism in the U.S. at the hands of Washington. Tell them how state and local governments do a much better job of managing taxpayers' money than the national government does. Stop by airport in College Station, Texas, on the way back to Washington to remind Aggies how much they mean to me. Leave five minutes later.

Thursday:

Meet with Ralph Reed of the Christian Coalition and Wayne LaPierre of the National Rifle Association. Tell them whatever they want to hear, and promise them whatever it takes to get their endorsement. Visit the Senate for a couple of minutes. If

there are any votes, consult with Jesse Helms for guidance.

Friday:

Appear on "Larry King Live." Step up attacks on Whitewater. If asked about soft-porn tape, just say there was nothing sinister and that I lost money on the deal. Emphasize the need for a President who can bring this country together. Reiterate promise of ending all affirmative action programs the second I get into office. Repeat call for massive tax cuts offset by Medicare, Medicaid and food stamp cuts.

Saturday:

Go to Christian Coalition breakfast and give speech about the crisis of values in this country and the breakup of the American family. Lunch with Bob Packwood. Call son. Pay alimony. Go to bed early to get enough sleep for another appearance on "Meet the Press," "David Brinkley" or "Face the Nation" tomorrow morning.

Clearly, Phil Gramm is hard at work to get the nomination, and he should be. The United States has not seen anything like him since the Nixon-Agnew combination, and this country needs a President with the integrity, ideas and leadership skills to lead us through a time of great uncertainty. Phil Gramm obviously thinks he is that man, unless he is just on a power trip. But that would be difficult to believe.

Jason Brown is a senior political science major



MAIL CALL

Being homosexual is a person's choice

I am writing in response to Margaret Gordon's May 31 column titled, "Exposure to homosexuality educates many."

Gordon made the statement, "While scientists still have not discovered the cause of homosexuality, it is now rarely thought of as a choice."

I am one of the "supposed" few who still believe and always will believe that homosexuality is a choice. This statement does not mean that I "hate" homosexuals, am "homophobic" or that I just

haven't been around anyone who is homosexual.

About five years ago, my best friend in high school decided that she was homosexual.

Her decision did not change the fact that she is my friend, but I didn't and still don't agree with her choice. I do not claim any infinite or even a little knowledge as to how the world would or could be a perfect place, but I do know someone who does.

You can read about Him in the Bible. True happiness, joy and peace can only be found in Christ, not in a lifestyle or choice.

*Kathy Carson
Graduate student*

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