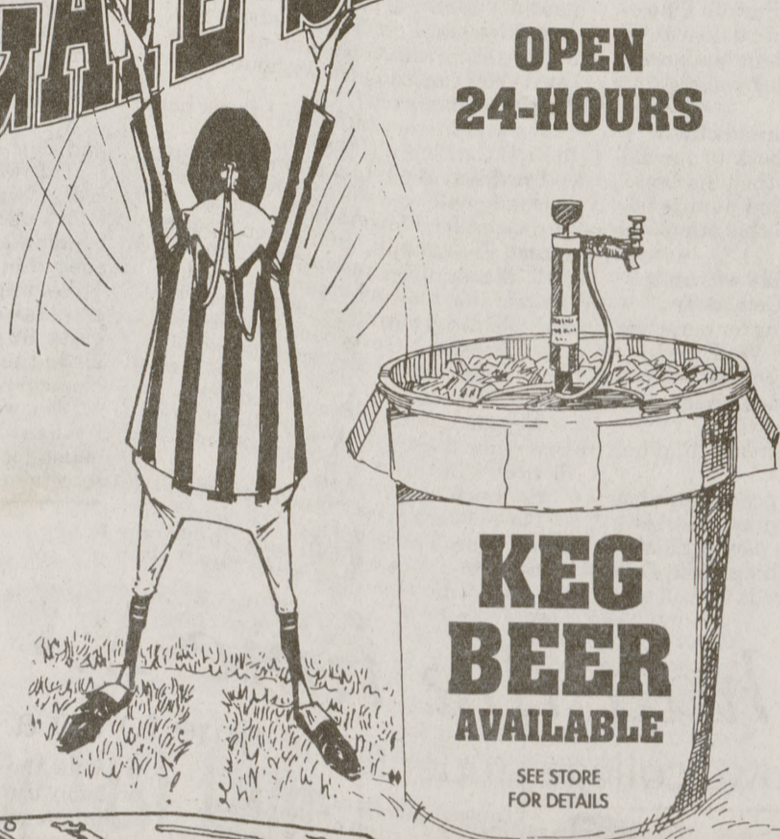


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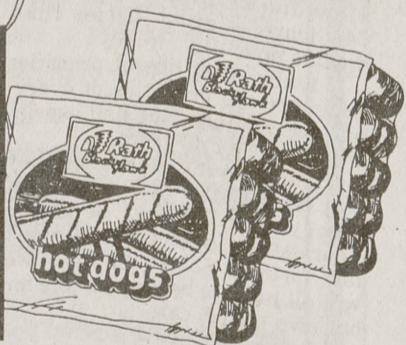


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## MAIL CALL

### Cartoon insulted Catholics, Pope

The cartoon in last Thursday's Battalion seemed designed to ridicule Catholicism by implying the Pope is a closet homosexual.

Was that the intent? I found this cartoon hurtful. The only closet the pope is likely to be in is the confessional. Once a week he confesses his sins before a fellow sinner and asks for God's forgiveness. Why don't you try it sometime?

Michael Murray  
Research Assistant

It's obvious the artist responsible for the cartoon appearing in the Oct. 19 Battalion believes the Catholic Church, even the Pope himself, is hiding something when it comes to homosexuality.

What's not obvious is what that something is supposed to be. The allusions to the military's "Don't ask - Don't tell" policy invites the reader to wonder about the Catholic clergy's sexual orientation and practice and hints at their hypocrisy. This, however, is never explicitly stated, only insinuated.

That's the problem with innuendo, even of the cartoonish variety. Accusations are never made clear. People are left to fill in the gaps for themselves, usually with their own prejudices.

That makes for a rather convenient situation for the accuser but hardly for the accused. It's hard to construct a defense when you have to speculate about the charge.

After all, to any defense the accuser would surely reply: "Why did you take the cartoon that way?" "Why did it touch that particular nerve?" Until or unless the artist has enough professionalism to make explicit and specific accusations, the

proper response to his cartoon is the same as its content - nothing.

Samuel Pry  
Class of '88

### Sommers bashed women, feminism

I went to the College Republicans' presentation of Christina Hoff Sommers.

Those who also attended remember her repeated description of the so-called rage-filled, men-hating gender, feminists.

Well, I am a feminist, but I somehow think that my male friends would disagree with her assumption that I hate them because of that.

My rage came only after hearing Sommers speak. I was insulted by the way she made light of the entire woman's movement. Her talk was more of a stand-up comedy act than an intellectual lecture.

She made numerous jokes about sensitive topics such as the number of women who die of anorexia every year.

I was also appalled to find that in referring to a study citing the number of women raped every year, she disagreed with the statement that a woman "who had sexual intercourse without her consent while under the influence of drugs or alcohol" was raped.

I have always defined rape as exactly that - sex "without consent," regardless of the woman's condition at the time.

However, Sommers refers to women who are offended by such statements or by sexual references made in the classroom as "wimps." Since when does tolerance of such blatantly inappropriate and offensive comments have to go along with women's wish for equality?

Throughout the speech, Som-

mers took parts of studies statistics out of context and them to back up falsehoods.

Since the majority of largely conservative authors has most likely never been posed to these studies and their writings, not many people there realized how she was misrepresenting misquoting these publications.

Thus, her tactics were active and most of the audience members walked away using her words as truth.

Sommers is not a true feminist in any sense of the word. She is just a sell-out who paid a lot of money by a foundation to write a book, presents a distorted view of equality as a place where women joy virtual equality while feminist movement is more than a bunch of male-bashers spouting a conspiracy theory.

Many people buy into view quickly because that way they want to see things.

The cover of Sommers states, "women who hate women." After hearing her presentation, which was bashing at its worst, I think description fits her more than any of the women, feminist non-feminists I have ever known.

Kelly Carr  
Class of '88

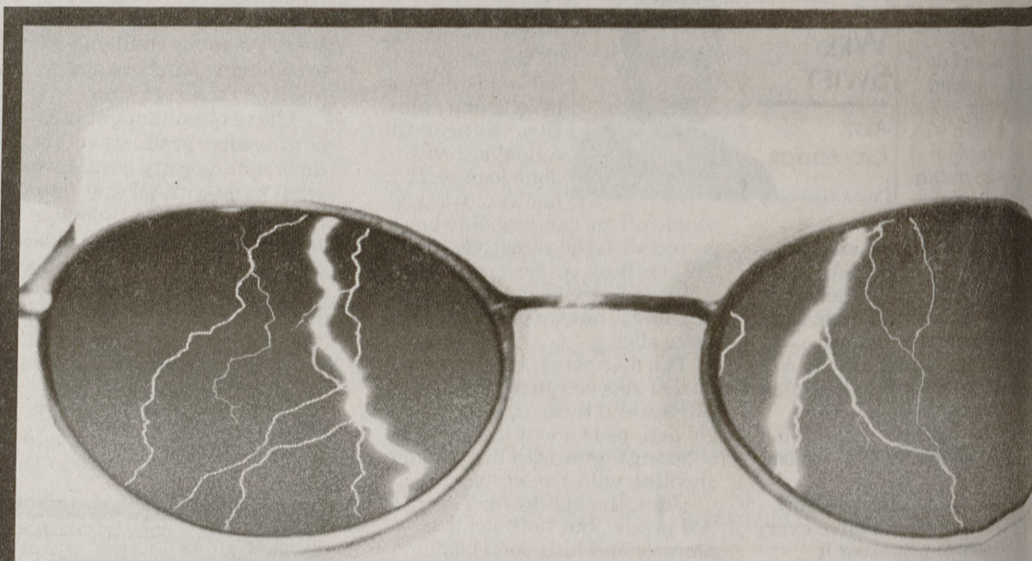
### Support the A&M cross country team

Once again, we are disappointed with the Batt's coverage of the Cross Country team. There have been a couple of home meet on Oct. 14.

This is a big problem. The team has been training ever since early summer. With all the intense, hard work, the team should acknowledge their efforts.

The team ran a strong race and two of the runners, Mike Priest and Shannon Etchings, finished in the top three in their respective divisions. Please support these athletes in the future.

Jeff Carr  
Class of '88  
Mike Carr  
Class of '88



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