

THE RUNAROUND

For less than a penny, students can get the hassle of a lifetime

Dear CHRISTIAN STURDIVANT: Congratulations! We here at the Rockola CD Club have just received your order for the four-part CD series titled *Billy Blue and the Woo Woo Boogaloo*.

CHRIS STIDVENT
COLUMNIST



possible. Sincerely, Rockola.

Dear Rockola CD Club: Perhaps you didn't receive my first letter. As I said then, I never ordered any CDs from your club.

Once again, I know nothing about *Billy Blue and the Woo Woo Boogaloo*. You sent me these two CDs; I am returning them. I never listened to them. I never opened them. I don't want them.

I hope this will letter terminate all correspondence between us. Thank you.

Dear CHRISTIAN STURDIVANT, Come now, MR. STURDIVANT, haven't you been reading your mail? We know that, by now, you have received all four of the *Billy Blue* CDs that you ordered.

Since you have not returned them or sent us any explanation, we must assume that you are completely satisfied with them.

Now, we here at Rockola can "groove" with what it's like to be a fan of SOFT POP/JAZZ. We understand that sometimes you can get so "caught up in the feeling" that you forget that all of that great music costs money.

We're sending you another bill, and we have to ask you to take care of this one as soon as possible. Thanks!

Dear Crapola CD Company: For the last time, stop bothering me. I realize that, as a college student with little time and money, I might seem to be a defenseless target for ruthless, mass-marketing campaigns such as your own.

As of this moment, your company has sent me the same four CDs on eight different occasions. I returned the *Woo Woos* the first five times, clearly this

gesture was ignored.

Since then, my friends and I have enjoyed taking *Billy Blue's* collection to the park and throwing it into the river. Time after time, he provides us with hours of amusement. Rest assured, you will have to send your band of Mafioso thumb-breakers after me before I pay your company one thin cent. Good day.

MR. STURDIVANT: As a good American, you must realize that even in the land of the free, you can never get something for nothing. Rockola CD Club has been patient; they have been kind. They sent you your CDs; you

sent them nothing.

They have now turned your account over to us, the Luigi and Associates Credit Agency. We have you scheduled for a beating two weeks from today unless you pay Rockola what you owe them.

Allow me to repeat myself, CHRISTIAN, this is your last warning. Pay your bills!

Dear Luigi and Associates: I regret to inform you that Christian Sturdivant passed away two weeks ago. You read that correctly.

I am now dead. Even if I wanted to, I could never pay you now. Once again, I am currently deceased.

Dear MR. STURDIVANT's next of kin: We are sorry to hear of your FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER'S illness! We realize that these next few months will be times of much grief and distress. Perhaps we here at Rockola could help you ease the pain!

Mysteriously, we have just discovered an extra supply of one of our most popular CDs, *Billy Blue and the Woo Woo Boogaloo*, hidden here in our warehouses. We'll send you one, completely hassle free.

Chris Stidvent is a senior English and philosophy major



Wednesday • April 10, 1996
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We can't rely on MTV to woo young voters

At all the music concerts I've attended in the past few years, I've never seen a politician. No Pat Buchanan at Pearl Jam, Ross Perot at R.E.M., Steve Forbes at Smashing Pumpkins or Bill Clinton at Belly.

ROB CLARK
COLUMNIST



Griiiiiind! We got Snoop Doggy Dogg coming up with a track off his *Doggystyle* album, but right now, I have with me my main man, President George George Bush!

Bush: Well, thank you, Eric, it's a pleasure to be here.

Nies: Yeah, so what's up with that re-election thang?

Bush: Well, we're out there trying to get our message out to —

Nies (interrupting): Awwwwwww yeah, that's what I'm talkin' about. Yo G, thanks for coming by, why don't you introduce the next video?

Bush: Uh, OK, this is the latest jam from Snoop Doggy Doo Doo — is that right? This is called, oh my goodness, "Gin and Juice." Is that Kurt Loder or that nice Tabitha Soren around here somewhere?

As with anything on MTV, a little immaturity is to be expected. The "boxers or briefs" question posed to Clinton wasn't quite what MTV executives had in mind, but the forums did provide a new avenue of communication between two different age groups. Of course, anyone depending on MTV for news, history or political coverage probably should catch a clue (Hint: McCarthyism has nothing to do with *Singled Out!* host Jenny McCarthy).

With the '96 campaign in full bloom, some have begun to pay attention to young voters. Bob Dole has already had an extensive inter-

view with Soren, and Clinton's success in '92 should translate into future MTV appearances before November. But it isn't just appearing on the network that makes a statement, it's addressing the issues that matter to young people. Soren threw blunt questions at Dole about abortion, homosexuality and violence in entertainment instead of dancing around what can be dangerous issues.

But on the opposite end is Perot, who paid a visit to A&M two weeks ago. What seemed to be an outreach opportunity for his Reform Party turned ugly, as Perot turned testy with some students' questions.

When asked why young voters who are disillusioned with political rhetoric should support the Reform Party, Perot barked, "I don't care whether you vote for our party or not. I've already made that clear."

While his public relations crew was probably cringing in fear of the effects of such a reaction, Perot remained agitated, and his statements prompted the headline "Perot snaps at student questioners" in the *Austin American-Statesman*. If Perot, or whoever represents his Reform Party, can truly represent young America, his reception would be much better. To use his own physical analogy, we're all ears.

Young voters should not be ignored. We don't need "I believe the children are our future" schmaltz-fests or condemning labels. Just a little respect now and then.

Rob Clark is a senior journalism major



MAIL CALL

Muster rules strive to be fair for all

I am writing in response to a letter printed last week concerning Muster. I would like to clear up any misconceptions concerning the campus Muster ceremony and the criteria used for the Roll Call list.

Muster on campus honors currently enrolled students, members of Brazos County and members of the 50-year reunion class who return to campus for Muster to celebrate their golden anniversary.

People who fall within this criteria are guaranteed to be part of the Roll Call; however, the committee also tries to accommodate people with special circumstances. These requests are considered in April. This is to ensure that, given our time and space constraints in G. Rollie White, we are able to accommodate those who fall within the general criteria first.

These rules have been established with only fairness in mind. They may sound rigid at first, but with the large number of students and former students who pass away each year, they must be enforced.

The people on the committee with whom I work take their responsibilities seriously. Many times they have difficult decisions, but they always hold themselves with dignity and grace. They give freely of their time and service, and they are to be commended.

There are over 400 Musters around the world on April 21st, and our Roll Call is no more special than any of those. This ceremony may be the most grand, but whether it is here; Henderson, Texas; New York City; Great Falls, Montana; or Okinawa, Japan, the spirit and beauty remain consistent. Muster is what sets Aggies apart and what binds us together, no matter where we are in the world.

Muster exception should be the rule

I wish to thank the Muster Committee for making an exception to its criteria allowing my mother (Class of '75) to be on the Roll Call at the A&M Muster. I also want to apologize to anyone who felt I was attacking Muster. That is the last thing my letter (Mail Call April 4) was intended to do. In fact, I wrote the letter because I felt my mother might be excluded from the most important Aggie tradition. That is why I want to make it clear that I still disagree with the Muster Committee's criteria for the Roll Call. I understand that not every Aggie who died in the past year can be on the Roll Call at this one Muster.

However, my point is that I live in College Station. The Muster I am supposed to attend is at G. Rollie White. Therefore, my mother's case should not be an exception, but be part of the criteria. I state again that I think the Muster Committee should change its criteria, because situations like this will occur again. I did not intend to discourage anyone from attending Aggie Muster. I hope everyone will come out and be a part of the most important Aggie Tradition.

*James A. Hodges
Class of '91*

*Christine Hodges
Class of '92*

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.

We reserve the right to edit letters for length, style, and accuracy. Letters may be submitted in person at 013 Reed McDonald. A valid student ID is required. Letters may also be mailed to:

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*Kim Greebon
Class of '96*