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THE BATTALION
OPINION



MAIL CALL

Floriculture-Horticulture Society
Fall Plant Fair

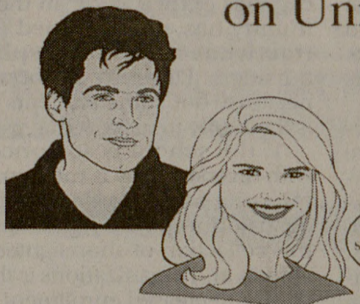
Saturday, October 12
8:00AM - 1:00PM

Horticulture - Forest Science Building
Texas A&M Univ. West Campus

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Houseplants Hanging Baskets

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**Henderson ignites
campus gender war**

This is a letter to both the Battalion and John T. Baker concerning his letter directed at Patrick Smiley. According to The American Heritage Dictionary of the English language, blasphemy is defined as "any contemptuous or profane act, utterance, or writing concerning God." And "to blaspheme" is defined as "to speak of (God or something sacred) in an irreverent or impious manner." Baker speaks of Smiley blaspheming bonfire by saying, "blaspheming various aspects of tradition that promote Aggie Spirit." The Bonfire has nothing to do with God since the last time I checked, and the only things sacred in this world have something to do with God. So Smiley did not "blaspheme" anything, and Baker reflects on his lack of intelligence by overusing the Microsoft Word thesaurus.

Randall Smith
Class of '96

**Students demand
improved fine arts**

Regarding Jon Appgar's October 8 column, "Sounding off for art": It is amazing to me that a university of such high reputation as Texas A&M still does not have a liberal arts program that is comparable to other major state universities such as the University of Texas, Ohio State and UNC-Chapel Hill.

The absence of a film school and other diverse liberal arts curricula here is lamentable. This University should strive to be inclusive of students who

want to pursue studies in diverse fields other than the traditional curricula of engineering, sciences and business.

Science is indeed necessary and useful to the world's progress and development, but art should not be cast aside as a second priority. After all, can you imagine a world without music, without movies or without books?

Texas A&M should not only seek to produce and churn out clones of engineers and scientists but should also aim to nurture and develop the creative spirit to those who want to do so at A&M.

Julian Macauley
Graduate student

**Immigration bill
comes down hard**

Regarding Aja Henderson's Oct. 2 column, "Never deny education":

I am appalled by the recent column on education for illegal immigrants by a so-called "journalist" for The Battalion. I am truly insulted by her opinion that I, an American, an Aggie, am an ignoramus.

Henderson calls me an ignoramus because I believe in a government that is tough on illegal immigration. The recently passed bill in the House of Representatives is one of many steps that must be taken against illegal immigrants.

For programs like these to work to their potential, America must also actively deport known illegal immigrants.

Without actions like this, no amount of bills and laws will prove beneficial.

As America prepares to head into the 21st century, it is not

our duty to provide for the welfare and benefit of illegal immigrants. I have a hard enough time trying to support myself without being taxed into oblivion so illegal aliens can get handouts.

I also seriously question Henderson's attack on the American farmer. She seems to think all farmers have a hundred "wet-backs" working their fields. She thinks there are not an abundance of farmers. Well, she might want to check with the government to find out the quantity of land in CRP programs. Even with all this land not in use we still manage to remain the world leaders in agricultural production.

She must not know about these facts, or maybe she simply chooses to ignore them. I sincerely hope the general public has a better grasp of the facts and sees that actions must be taken against illegal immigrants.

Joshua Shields
Class of '00

**Henderson depicts
nonexistent issue**

Regarding Aja Henderson's Oct. 9 column, "Females Win Battle of Sexes at A&M":

To a person who lives in complete ignorance of the things that go on at Texas A&M, Henderson's column would suggest that males rule this campus with an iron fist.

Either someone is trying to initiate an on-campus gender war, or someone isn't in touch with reality. To suggest that men have any problem whatsoever with being outnumbered is ridiculous.

Ask any male freshman if he minds being in the minority. Most of them will respond with something along the lines of, "Of course not! Hell, it improves my odds of finding a date to Yell Practice!"

There is no such thing as the "Battle of the Sexes." Men and women have happily coexisted on this campus (and the rest of the world, as well) for years, and

they will continue that way for years to come.

So, I have to ask myself, why does Henderson insist on celebrating a relatively unimportant landmark? To answer this question, one must look at Henderson's previous columns.

Thus far, Henderson's columns have all had a common thread linking them: blame. Why was Tupac Shakur murdered? White people, she claimed were afraid of him.

Why is it so important that male freshmen outnumber female freshmen? She tells us that we don't want to be inclusive of women at this university.

Whether it's white people, males, corporate CEOs or the Corps of Cadets, everything she is wrong with the world can be blamed on someone or some organization.

Not her. Them. You will never see Henderson stand up in the middle of the stadium and shout at the tops of her lungs: "I am guilty of stereotyping all males as ignorant, insensitive, brutish swine, and that I am wrong!"

She creates the image that women are actually taking over the school (which they're not) and that it is a great thing for everyone involved (which it wouldn't be).

In actuality, no single gender dominates Texas A&M.

Males and females are treated equally here, in an environment of mutual respect.

John B...

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

The opinion editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, and content. Letters may be submitted in person at Reed McDonald with a valid student ID. Letters may also be mailed to:

The Battalion - Mail Call
013 Reed McDonald
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX
77843-1111

Campus Mail: 1111
Fax: (409) 845-2647
E-mail: Batt@tamvml.tamu.edu

For more details on letter policy, please call 845-3313 and direct your question to the opinion editor.

DAB TRANSIT

Hours of Operation: Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m.-3 a.m. One way trips are only 50 cents!

Maroon Route Clockwise (2 buses)			Red Route			Blue Route		
Street	Approximate Time	Notes	Street	Approximate Time	Notes	Street	Approximate Time	Notes
S. College	00 and 30 min. past hour	Hurricane Harry's, IHOP, Crazy Cajun, Ptarmigan, Big Daddy's, Carney's Pub, College Court Apts, Boozer's, Chicken Oil	S. College	00 and 03 min. past hour		College Main	00 and 30 min. past hour	
University Dr.	10 and 40		Echols House			Church	03 and 33 min. past hour	Northgate
Tarrow	14 and 44	Side Pockets	S. College	01 and 31 min. past hour	Dixie Theatre	Boyet	Transfer to Maroon Route	Northgate and Northside
Lincoln			S. College into Main	03 and 33 min. past hour		University		Rec. Center, McDonald's
Munson	21 and 51	J.D. Wells, The Tap	WJB	06 and 36 min. past hour		Wellborn		
Harvey	25 and 55	Travis House Apts.	Sterling		El Tejano	FM 2818		Tree House Village, DoubleTree
S. Kyle	27 and 57	Sweet Eugene's, Garcia's	24 th		3rd Floor Cantina	SW Pkwy	12 and 42 min. past hour	Walden Pond
		The Scrub Pub, Bullwinkle's	Bryan	07 and 37 min. past hour		Woodsman	13 and 43 past hour	
		Bennigan's, Brazos Brewery	Sims/Finfeather	09 and 39 min. past hour		Woodway		
Bizzell			Groesebeck	10 and 40 min. past hour		Holleman	14 and 44 past hour	
Lewis	02 and 32	Commons, Duncan	FM 2818	15 and 45 min. past hour		Wells		
Throckmorton			Villa Maria	18 and 48 min. past hour		Welsh	17 and 47 past hour	Willowrock, Brownstone
George Bush	04 and 34					SW Pkwy	19 and 49 past hour	Yellow House
Wellborn		Kyle Field (by bridge)				Median		
University Dr.			Cavitt	25 and 55 min. past hour		Trigger	21 and 51 past hour	The Colony
College Main	10 and 40		Glenwood	29 and 59 min. past hour		Dexter		
Church	14 and 44	Northgate and Northside stop by E-Z Mart, Dudley's Draw	S. College	30 and 00 min. past hour		SW Pkwy	22 and 52 past hour	Brownstone, Oakwood, Willowick, Parkway Circle
Boyet		Vertigo / The Cue etc...			What was D&D is now transfer pt. to maroon	Wellborn	24 and 54 past hour	Kyle Field (by the bridge)
University Dr.						University		
Wellborn	18 and 48	Barracuda Bar						
Finfeather		The Cowboy						
Dodge	25 and 55							
S. College								
Maroon Route Counter-Clockwise (2 buses)			Purple Route			Green Route		
Street	Approximate Time	Notes	Street	Approximate Time	Notes	Street	Approximate Time	Notes
S. College	01 and 31 min past hour	What was D&D	University Oaks	02 min. past hour	Plantation Oaks, Sorority Row, etc.	Wellborn		
Dodge			Kyle South	06 min. past hour	The Scrub Pub, Sweet Eugene's, Garcia's	FM 2818		
Finfeather	10 and 40	The Cowboy	Harvey	07 min. past hour		Southwood	09 and 40 min. past hour	Doux Chene Apts
Wellborn		Barracuda Bar	Texas	08 min. past hour		Vally View	10 and 41 min. past hour	
University			George Bush		Taos, Scandia, Sevilla	Longmire	11 and 42 min. past hour	Peppertree
College Main	15 and 45		Park Place		The Enclave	Ponderosa	14 and 45 min. past hour	
Church	20 and 50	Northgate and Northside stop (by E-Z Mart)	Holleman	09 min. past hour		Rio Grande	17 and 48 min. past hour	
Boyet		(make sure it is counter-clockwise)	Anderson	10 min. past hour	Arbor Square	Balcones	19 and 50 min. past hour	
University			SW Pkwy	12 min. past hour		Welsh		
Wellborn	25 and 55	Rec. Center	Texas	14 min. past hour		FM 2818		
George Bush			Holleman	16 min. past hour		Wellborn		
Bizzell	28 and 58		Dartmouth	17 min. past hour		George Bush		
Lewis	00 and 30	Commons, Duncan (southside stop all along Lewis)	Harvey	21 min. past hour	Huntington, Stonewood Village	Bizzell	30 min. past and on the hour	Duncan (Corps), Commons
			Hwy 6 Bypass E.	27 min. past hour	Post Oak Mall	Lewis		Transfer to Maroon route
Throckmorton			Colgate		Chelsea St. Pub, Wolfpen Bowling			
George Bush	09 and 39	Sweet Eugene's, Garcia's, The Scrub Pub, Bullwinkle's	Dartmouth	41 min. past hour		Throckmorton		
Via South Kyle		Bennigan's, Brazos Brewery	Harvey		Univ. Commons, Eastmark	George Bush		
		Travis House	Bypass 6		Wolfpen Creek	Wellborn		
Harvey			University		Amphitheatre			
Scarlet O'Hara	14 and 44	Stops all along University Oaks on demand	Bypass 6		Hollywood			
University Oaks								
Munson								
Linclon	18 and 48	Sidepockets						
Tarrow		Randalls, Fox & Hound, The Kettle, University Tower						
University Dr.								
S. College	25 and 55	Hurricane Harry's, IHOP, Crazy Cajun, College Court, Carney's Pub, Boozer's, Ptarmigan, Big Daddy's, Chicken Oil						

DON'T DRINK
AND DRIVE
BE RESPONSIBLE

Maps and other information available at
www.dabtransit.com

DAB TRANSIT

DAB TRANSIT is a new shuttle service serving Bryan and College Station on Thursday-Saturday nights. Service will run from 8:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.
Convenient routes will take you to virtually any club in B/CS. You can flag the bus down anywhere along the route as long as you're on the same side of the street the bus passes.
Passes Available at Rother's and Randall's
You don't have to be drunk to drive!

Phi Beta Lambda
Battle of the Bands
Thursday, Oct. 10th
3rd Floor Cantina
Get on the bus anywhere
transfer to the red bus