

Tricks of the trade revealed in dating book

Light has finally dawned amidst the fog of conflicting ideas about what roles men and women should take in dating relationships.

Encapsulated in a list of 37 do's and don'ts of dating, a book entitled *The Rules* gives women advice on how to capture the man of their dreams.

With a picture of a diamond engagement ring on the cover and a promise inside the book to win the man of every girl's dream, *The Rules* presents a list of ... well, rules on how to look, behave and handle

oneself around men. And the ultimate goal of following these rules? Let's just say that those women currently without a sweetheart will soon have a legitimate reason for picking up a copy of *Modern Rules* at the newsstand.

Of course, there is no 30-day trial with a money-back guarantee. And for those girls whose aim in life is to remain single, this book may be better used as a liner for their litter box.

But the traditional approach to dating this book promotes is worthy of consideration. In a time when feminist ideology has so informed us with the concept of identical roles in relationships, it is ironic that the popularity of the book lies in its fresh message to men: let the man be the initiator.

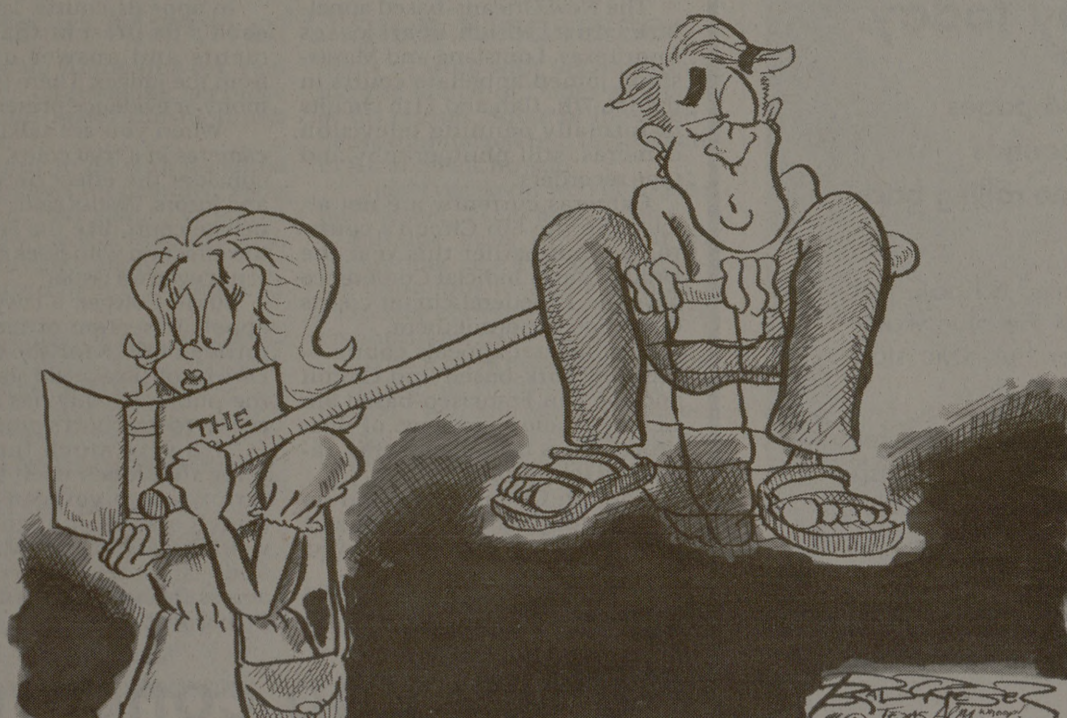
The Rules goes against the idea of women making the first move, saying that they should let men call (Rule #5),

and to them first (Rule #2), and to make the lead in a relationship (Rule #17).

Step backwards to a time when men were the pursuers. Some, this may seem like a case. After all,

there are some so-called "feminist hints" that would be the most of today's college women cringe, such as the advice to "never

leave the house without wearing makeup" and to always "wear lip-



stick, even when jogging." But regardless of little kinks in the authors' theories, one can't help but see the truth behind these old-fashioned tidbits of romantic wisdom.

We live in a time when no one knows who should make the first move or be the leader in the relationship. Rather than providing a woman with the freedom to express herself in a relationship, the feminist-rooted ideology of "doing what you feel like doing" has left her in a state of confusion over whether or not she should make the first move.

It's refreshing to hear someone has finally been brave enough to bring a certain level of standards and expectations back to dating. Along with the advice to let men make the first move, other rules are given

to restore some of the mysteriousness and excitement to a relationship. For example, women are advised not to open up their emotions too early to a man and to not see him more than once or twice a week in the early stages of the relationship.

To many women this view of romance may seem frivolous, oppressive or even downright stupid. Today's modern women are used to going after what they want, and getting it.

In the workplace, this attitude is fine. But when it comes to relationships, we should recognize that there are natural differences between men and women that require distinction in their romantic roles.

Although following these 37 commands word for word may not result in marital bliss, it would be wise for women and men to make a return to a more traditional style of dating.

Letting a guy make the first move is not an attack on the capabilities of each gender, but rather an appreciation of how their differences make them more compatible

Media's biased coverage commits mortal sins

"In the Beginning, GOD created Heaven and Earth" (GENESIS 1:1).

Blasphemy, you say? Ah, but the overstrikes are nothing more than a graphic representation of a frightening trend in our national — and local — media.

Those censors who charade as producers, publishers and editors are systematically degrading and erasing God from the evening news and morning papers.

Unless, of course, it is an attack on religion. Then they can't stop rolling the film or get to the press fast enough as religion is taken hostage.

And the reporters and commentators who work for these media moguls are expected to fall into formation, goose-step and compromise their principles — and faith — time and time again.

Don't believe me? When was the last time anyone saw a clip or column actually defending religion?

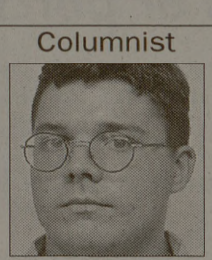
And I'm not talking about anything seen on Christian Broadcast News or read in the Catholic Herald. Other than this week's unusual slant on the Book of Genesis by Time Magazine, it's been a while, hasn't it?

Oh, but the media are supposed to be unbiased — or at least secular. Well, my friends, I'm here to tell you, "It ain't neither!"

If the media were truly unbiased, there would be both criticism and defense of religion. If they were secular, neither side would be given a forum.

To say the least, those in power have failed miserably at implementing and adhering to either policy of fairness.

Instead, audiences are bombarded with a blatantly one-sided, biased attack. Be it Creation, the



Michael Heinrich
 Teaching certification student

prophets, Christ or Mohammed, these media Neros are quick to purge but not to uphold.

Pope John Paul II declared in an Oct. 22 message that "there is a temptation to place religion and the Church on the margins of society." And I must say many of those in the media's upper echelons have been quick to take the fruit from the serpent.

Ironically, I've always found it to be a much more noble endeavor to uphold something held dear than to ignorantly criticize and dismiss. And until our media's producers, publishers and editors are convinced of this, the faithful must continue to wait in vigilance.

The wait will be long, though, as these Pulitzers fear their mediums will be transformed into a mutation of the Catholic Herald by some religious zealot on their staff.

But I must argue that few, if any, responsible reporters and columnists deviously await the chance to preach from their allotted space as if it were a pulpit of conversion.

My friends, the truth is inescapable. Religion — namely Christianity — is under attack in this country. Yesterday, school prayer was at issue and Protestant fundamentalists were painted as dangerous radicals.

Today, the Roman Catholic Church is depicted as a dinosaur stumbling into the Paleolithic Era while modern, secular society blissfully evolves to perfection. And tomorrow ... well, God only knows.

But until then, I implore this newspaper's readership to sit passively no longer.

Always remember the Devil's greatest accomplishment was convincing the world he never existed.

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Editorial round-up

(AP) — The following is a sampling of editorial opinion from newspapers:

Austin American-States on lawsuit reform overkill
 Texans for Lawsuit Reform, an organization representing major corporate interests in Texas, has led a firm to discredit public-interest and consumer groups that oppose legislation limiting lawsuits. Which groups are being targeted? Why it's the powers at Citizen Action, Public Citizen, Greenpeace, Sierra Club and the Audubon Society. That isn't a list likely to offend the chemical, oil, insurance and other big-business interests lobby so forcefully in the Texas Capitol. In fact, it is a bit like the neighborhood bully seeking out the tallest kids on the block to whip just for the heck of it. Lawsuit reform is a legitimate area of interest for both businesses and consumers. But attempting to take the public interest out of the discussion appears so ruthless it could backfire.

Social Security. They had passed on it. No one had even claimed that the other fellow was against Social Security, because it would have opened the subject to debate in an election year. But a member of the audience asked a question, and it turned out that President Clinton and Republican candidate Bob Dole are pretty much on the same page. Clinton pointed out that Social Security and Medicare are very different subjects, requiring different solutions. Then he said an "adjustment" for Social Security might best be done by a bipartisan commission, as it was in 1983. He even gave Dole credit for his role on that commission. Dole appeared to agree, fully supporting a commission. It was the only answer either man could give, because it is obvious real changes are needed to preserve Social Security for future generations. After the election, maybe some of Washington's cooler heads can actually sit down and start talking about giving it longer life.

and interviewing survivors of systematic rape. These investigators report to the United Nations international crimes tribunals on Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. The tribunals' most passionate defender may be Richard Goldstone, chief prosecutor for the Bosnian tribunal and now leads the Rwandan panel. Goldstone is a nondescript man whose careful sentences belie his intensity. At a recent speech, he focused on how international humanitarian law is meant to protect innocent noncombatants during conflicts. The United Nations tribunals are meant to enforce the rules of war. These first-ever U.N. tribunals have raised hopes for impartial justice among survivors, he said. That expectation of justice can forestall an endless cycle of retribution. He argued that U.N. peacekeepers should help locate and arrest suspected war criminals. "Imagine the effect of police chiefs ... saying they weren't going to arrest a serial rapist or a mass murderer. The public wouldn't stand for it," Goldstone said. He pleaded for Americans to support the tribunals. The international community must establish justice or "the 21st century will be even bloodier than the one we are closing now," he concluded. The tribunals cannot be abandoned. They are an imperfect but noble attempt to confront incomprehensible evil.



MAIL CALL

Double standard applied to Corps

Regarding Brandon Hausenfluck's Oct. 25 article, "Kappa Alpha, Corps under investigation":

The double-standard held toward hazing involving the Corps of Cadets and Fraternities was shown again in The Battalion. Kappa Alpha and the Corps are under investigation for possible hazing incidents.

Instead of looking at the article which discusses this subject, one has only to look at two of the other articles in the Oct. 25 Battalion. "Chow Down in Duncan" and "Corps spurs shoes for spirit."

These articles explain two different "traditions" that the Corps of Cadets participate in. One involves the eating practices at Duncan Dining Center. It explains how freshman and sophomore cadets are not allowed to eat until the last ten minutes of chow time. The other article explains the tradition of wearing "fish spurs." One freshman cadet explained these traditions, which might be construed as hazing, by saying, "... it teaches us respect for the upperclassmen. They went through it and now it is our turn."

Open your eyes. This has been the argument for hazing practices for years. It is about time that the Department of Student Affairs quit spending all of its time watching fraternities with a microscope, and begin watching the Corps of Cadets openly haze on campus through "good bull traditions" like fish spurs, pulling out, and running on the Quad.

Jason Husselman
 Class of '99

Jury makes correct decision for Cuellar

Regarding Heather Pace's Oct. 24 column, "Decision's ramifications go beyond right and wrong":

Cuellar was not wrongly convicted according to the Texas Penal Code. Any person who gets behind the wheel of a car drunk knows the possible consequences of this action. If he or she kills anyone, it is manslaughter. Whether this is voluntary or involuntary is arguable, but it is murder none the less. Pace argues in her column that according to Texas law Krystal Zuniga was not a person (born and alive) and therefore Cuellar did not commit the crime of manslaughter.

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I was not in the courtroom to hear what was said, but from what I have heard, an emergency Caesarean section was performed and then 43 hours later a nearly two day old baby girl died of injuries that a drunk driver inflicted.

This is not the first case of a drunk driver using a car as his or her weapon to kill someone. The point here is that the man was drunk. Had he been sober and in an auto accident it would have been just that, an accident. In this scenario, manslaughter would not have been an issue, but in reality Cuellar's negligence makes him a murderer. The line for when a fetus becomes a "person" has been drawn, and in this case, the integrity of that line has been sustained.

Tim Hofer
 Class of '97

Immature column loses readership

Regarding Aja Henderson's Oct. 23 column, "Hormonal students should hide away":

I'm sure all of the sexually active students aren't trying to get caught by their roommates. And then to jump on the University, saying it's their fault because the beds are not big and fluffy enough? Saying couples are merely napping together, when all of a sudden they are on top of each other because the bed is too small and they can't stay still because the bed is uncomfortable, is just her way of trying to be humorous. Her views are too juvenile for me to read her columns anymore.

Chris Green
 Class of '00

The Battalion encourages letters to the editor. Letters must be 300 words or fewer and include the author's name, class, and phone number. The opinion editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, and accuracy. Letters may be submitted in person at 013 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
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 Campus Mail: 1111
 Fax: (409) 845-2647
 E-mail: Batt@tamvm1.tamu.edu
 For more details on letter policy, please call 845-3313 and direct your question to the opinion editor.