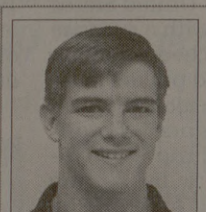


Wanted: Male Escort

Eliminating gender bias in Corps service exemplifies practicing political correctness

A dark and lonely night. The wind is howling. A silent sliver of moonlight casts its deathly, silver pallor across the faded concrete as a lone, solitary figure hurries across campus.



CHRIS HUFFINES
columnist

Behind the figure, the quick pop of shoe on ground is heard. Someone, something is there. The figure begins to tremble, all but running in haste to get away, to get anywhere where the danger behind. Heart racing, the figure races toward a lit door. Keeping the door open, he hurries inside, safe at last. This is a familiar story to over half the student body here at Texas A&M, the story of fear and the bit denial of protection while walking across campus. While women enjoy the protection of the Corps of Det's Escort Service, we men are forced to walk in every night. Men's rights are being violated, and one but men can regain them. The Corps Escort Service unfairly discriminates against men, and it just stop.

Forget the fact almost 95 percent of sexual assaults are against women; men cannot be denied their equality. Forget muggers and murderers sitting in the shadows view women as easier targets than men; men demand equality. And forget common sense says both the entire idea and this column are really stupid; political correctness requires everything be equal.

If men are not allowed to make use of the Escort Service, think of all the damage that could be caused. After the Fish Drill Team fiasco, the entire Escort Ser-

vice would have to be disbanded. Then a twenty-thousand student class-action lawsuit, spearheaded by F. Lee Bailey and Johnny Cochran, would be slapped on A&M.

The University would be dragged through a slow trial full of weeping male Aggies testifying about how they cannot sleep without a night light because of the severe emotional trauma suffered while walking across campus alone at night. And then the parade of psychiatrists testifying to exactly how horrible it is for their patients to have suffered so horribly every night. That, and the infamous, "Men were not picked, you must convict," closing statement would create a mockery of justice the likes of which O.J. Simpson would cringe at.

Then there would be the appeals, the picketing, the mass of men leading lives of quiet desperation. It would be a circus.

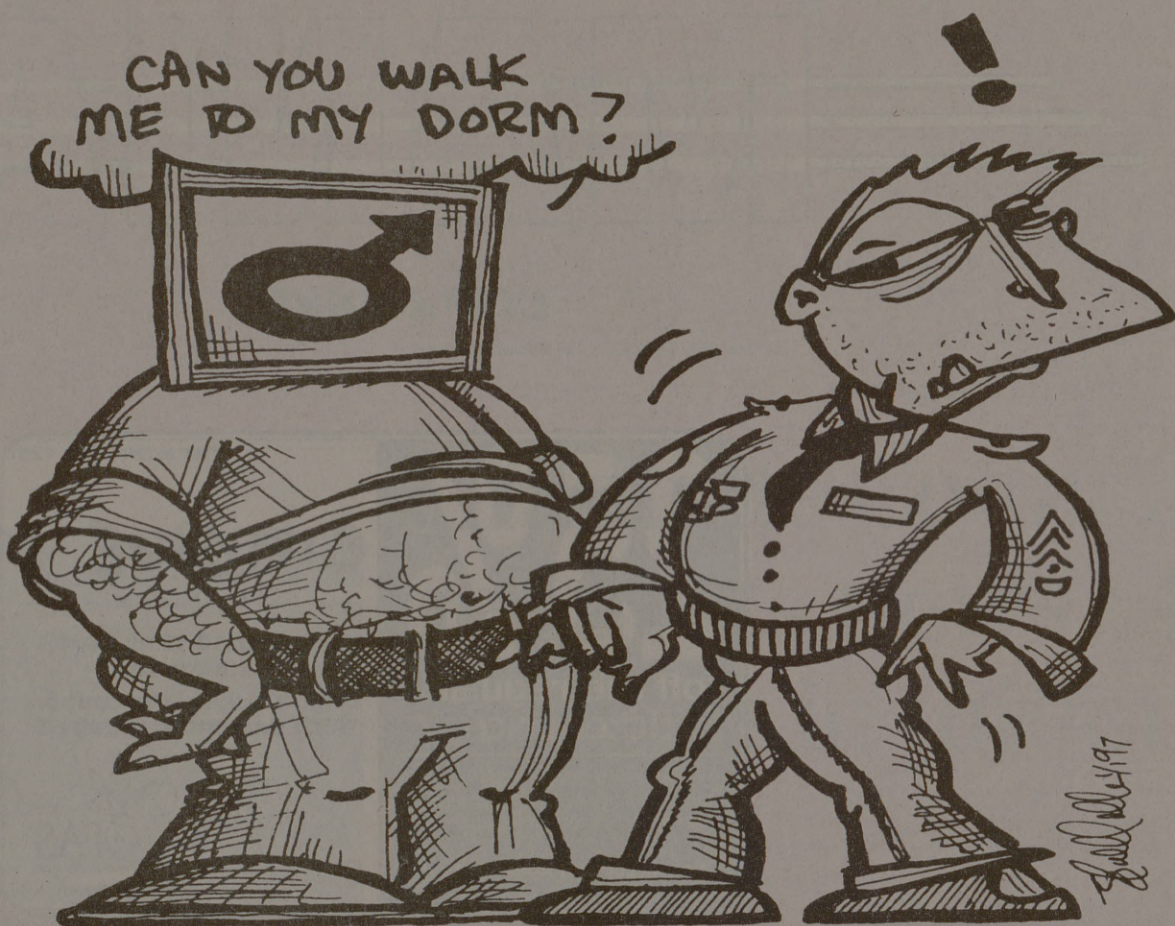
In the end, even the men who would use the Escort Service would look back at the entire situation and shake their heads, wishing for Ol' Army days, when things were a little less equal, but made a lot more sense.

All of that pain and misery would be irrelevant, though, because there would be equality. No one would feel left out, and the world would be one step closer to Utopia, which is unachievable, but that's really not the issue.

No, the fact is measureless human sorrow and misery would have been caused in the name of an unreachable ideal and political correctness.

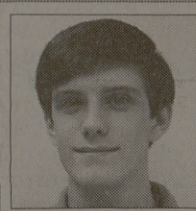
Men of the world, unite.

Chris Huffines is a sophomore speech communications major.



Terrorist environmentalists deserve punishment for actions

Swooping in on unsuspecting men and women with mechanical precision, the black-uniformed troops rushed into the front room and seized the building.



DONNY FERGUSON
columnist

Though it sounds like something out of "PTTS-The Movie," the Waco-style raid was instead launched by members of an environmental fringe group who have now sued the government for damages they incurred during the highly illegal raid.

Environmental terrorists with the ultra-radical group "Earth First!" masterminded a paramilitary raid on the Eureka, California, office of Congressman Frank Riggs.

Clad in black, some wearing ski masks, the "Green Gestapo" smashed open the front door, assaulted the frightened employees, chained themselves to a large tree stump they placed in the center of the office and linked arms in metal sleeves called "lock boxes."

Police officers soon arrived on the scene and asked the criminals to leave.

The eco-terrorists were repeatedly warned of the possibility pepper spray would have to be used to disperse the lawbreakers, yet they refused to leave.

After several hours, numerous requests to surrender peacefully and repeated refusals, officers dabbed some spray under the eye of one protester and asked them to leave again. Again they refused. Officers were forced to spray four more Earth First! militants to break up the riot.

The only thing more disgusting than the toadlickers' siege on Congressman Riggs' office was the eco-thugs' reaction to police efforts to break up the attackers.

The toad-licking treehuggers have sued, claiming their civil rights were violated by the police officers called to the scene. Compared to the rights they have taken from the American people, these environmentalists' sacrifice was insignificant.

For the past three decades,

they have robbed honest Americans of their homes, their property and their livelihoods. The reign of terrorist environmentalists have unleashed on innocent property owners reads like an Orwellian novel and dwarfs anything the Green Gestapo has experienced.

In the nearby Texas hill country, Marj and Roger Krueger bought a \$53,000 lot where they planned to finally build their dream home.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, they and other citizens were stopped from building their homes after an endangered golden-cheeked warbler was found in a canyon next to their land.

A congressional report found James and Mary Mills of Broad Channel, New York, were fined \$30,000 for building a deck onto their home because it cast a shadow on a supposed wetland.

Homeowners often are sued and fined by environmentalists for removing trash, adding dirt or plowing wet areas of their property in a heavy-handed, zealous attempt to protect "wetlands," even if they are on private property.

Eco-thugs even had Ronald Angelocci thrown in jail for putting dirt in his backyard. A close family member suffered from severe allergies and life-threatening asthma, prompting Angelocci to fill in the wet, low area where the pollenous plants grew.

Obsessed with government power and indifferent to human suffering, environmentalists waged a legal jihad against him and had him jailed for violating the Clean Water Act.

Resurrecting visions of KGB raids, two dozen state and federal agents swooped in on the Bakersfield, California, farm of Taung Ming-Lin, racing about his property and taking pictures. Federal agents somehow found out Lin accidentally had run over a Tipton kangaroo rat while plowing his field.

Trying him like a murderer, government prosecutors told the court Lin, "did knowingly take and aid and abet the taking of an endangered species of wildlife, to wit, Tipton kangaroo rats."

The zealous fervor with which environmentalists crucify those who disturb kangaroo rats is frightening. In fact, according to *The Washington Times*, shin-

ing a flashlight on a rat is punishable by one year in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

The golden calf of environmentalism is undoubtedly the spotted owl. Government efforts to save the supposedly endangered animal have cost over 30,000 jobs, reduced lumber harvests by 3.9 billion board feet and closed off over 4.2 million acres.

Thanks to environmentalists, the cost of building a 2,000-square-foot home skyrocketed \$4,000 in only three years, forcing 80,000 potential homeowners out of the market.

Adding insult to injury is the fact spotted owl are by no means endangered. According to the Audubon Society, 1,500 spotted owl pairs must thrive to save off the species extinction. Steven Self and Thomas Nelson, researchers for the environmentally progressive Sierra Pacific company, find close to 8,000 pair live in California alone.

The liberal New Republic found "as many as 10,000 pair may exist..."

Both figures by environmentally friendly sources are three to five times as many needed to protect the species. Nevertheless, eco-thugs continue their quest to harass honest Americans and inflict severe economic damage in the name of Mother Earth.

The innumerable lawsuits, police raids, property seizures, loss of jobs and increased consumer prices are far more serious than the temporary discomfort of belligerent lawbreakers who raid offices and destroy property.

In a movement rife with militant extremism, Earth First! thugs are the Hezbollah of the environmentalist movement. Often destroying property, sabotaging bulldozers and pounding nails into trees to cause chainsaws to explode, it's about time Earth First! got a taste of its own medicine.

After three decades of terrorizing property owners, destroying jobs, robbing people of their livelihood and exploiting unchecked government power to fulfill their whims, the eco-thugs who invaded Congressman Riggs' got what they deserved.

Donny Ferguson is a junior political science major.



MAIL CALL

Worthy purpose served by camp

In response to Kendall Kelly's column 'The Crying Game.'

I would like to say "Keep your opinion to yourself." For eighteen years my mother loved and cared for me, and when I was accepted to A&M, she was the proudest mother in the world. For weeks she told everyone her daughter was going to be a first-generation Aggie, but as the time for me to leave grew near her joy turned to sadness. After I left she would often call just to see what I was doing or to ask me if I had eaten.

This does not mean she is meddling in my business. It just means she cares, because for the past eighteen years she had known where I was, who I was with and when I would be home. Just because I am off at college she is suppose to quit worrying about me? If the Aggie Mom's Fish Camp helps mothers such as my own to cope with the stress and sadness they feel when us Aggies leave, then what is the point in bad-mouthing it?

Many mothers question themselves as to whether or not they did the best they could in raising us, and if we are able to make the right choices without them being there to guide us. The camp is only for the mothers in helping them deal with what they are go-

ing through. I am very sorry Kendall Kelly would be embarrassed if her mother attended the camp, because I would be proud if my mother was to attend the Aggie Mom's Fish Camp.

*Teri Brazelton
Class of '00*

Ridiculing moms abuses position

It seems to me columnist Kendall Kelly has left her compassion and manners back where she came from. If she can't find anything better to do than ridicule a few loyal Aggie Moms, then she should utilize her "talents" elsewhere. Just because someone has the privilege of writing for a daily newspaper, that does not give them the right to act rude and condescending to their readers and the very public that supports them.

*Bryan Alan Hill
Class of '95
University of New Mexico
Graduate Student*

Speech article not without errors

I was glad to see James Lyon's presentation make the front page of *The Battalion*. Most of the article accurately reports the contents of his talk.

However Mr. Lyons was misquoted on one not-so-trivial matter. The quote in the insert box of the article says: "The public is less interested on what is going out of the national forests and more on what is on the roll of film from the recreation parks (sic)."

As Under Secretary of United States Department of Agriculture, with oversight of the Forest Service and Natural Resource Con-

servation Service, I'm sure he said "...rolls of film from the national forests."

Neither the USDA Forest Service or the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (or any other federal agency, including the United States Department of Interior, National Park Service) manage any category of lands or waters known as "recreation parks."

This is not written as a letter to the editorial staff. It is not written to criticize the work of Ms. Becks. It only serves to bring the quote to your attention so that the information can be verified and corrected.

*Myron F. Floyd, Ph. D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Recreation, Park
and Tourism Sciences*

Volleyball wins deserve coverage

I just finished looking through today's Batt and again found myself disappointed.

You gave coverage to a mens' pre-conference basketball game, yet ignored the final two Big 12 matches of the Volleyball Team. You also skipped over the fact the Volleyball team is hosting the first and second rounds of the NCAA tournament.

Your reporting on the last two home games included running the same photo with two different captions and reporting a match the girls won in four was won in three games. This is a top-twenty program and deserves at least equal attention to the basketball programs. Speaking of the basketball programs, there was no mention of the women's Aggie basketball team's weekend play; could this be a gender thing?

*Bill Coady
Lecturer
Dept. of Health and Kinesiology*

