

CAMPUS CONNECTION

Head of the class

Alternative class offerings present students with new opportunities for gathering knowledge

Unbeknownst to most of the student population, there are a few courses that failed to make it to the brand-new summer and fall class schedules. However, various anonymous sources have access to this classified information, apparently taped by Linda Tripp. So, without further fuss and excitement, here are the classes we could be doing if it weren't for stuffy bureaucrats and cheap suits who are out to squelch our dreams.

- Spanish 105**
The secret to muy bueno guacamole; part of tequila drinking; The Mexican son of the Alamo; Rrrolling rrs for rrronce; Sombreros and Salsa Dancing, rrs only.
- Sociology 303**
Why the societal norms of some cultures permit the wearing of leaderhausen like other cultures just think they're poly. Folkways, mores, Subway's new hot chicken sub — grandiose! — and the lka in Eastern Liechtenstein.
- Russian Ballet, Kinesiology 199**
Communist-style instruction, every-must wait in line for four hours before every three-minute class; Mandato-heavy Vodka drinking may ruin figure, gives a delicate, rosy glow; Trot-



MICHELLE VOSS
columnist

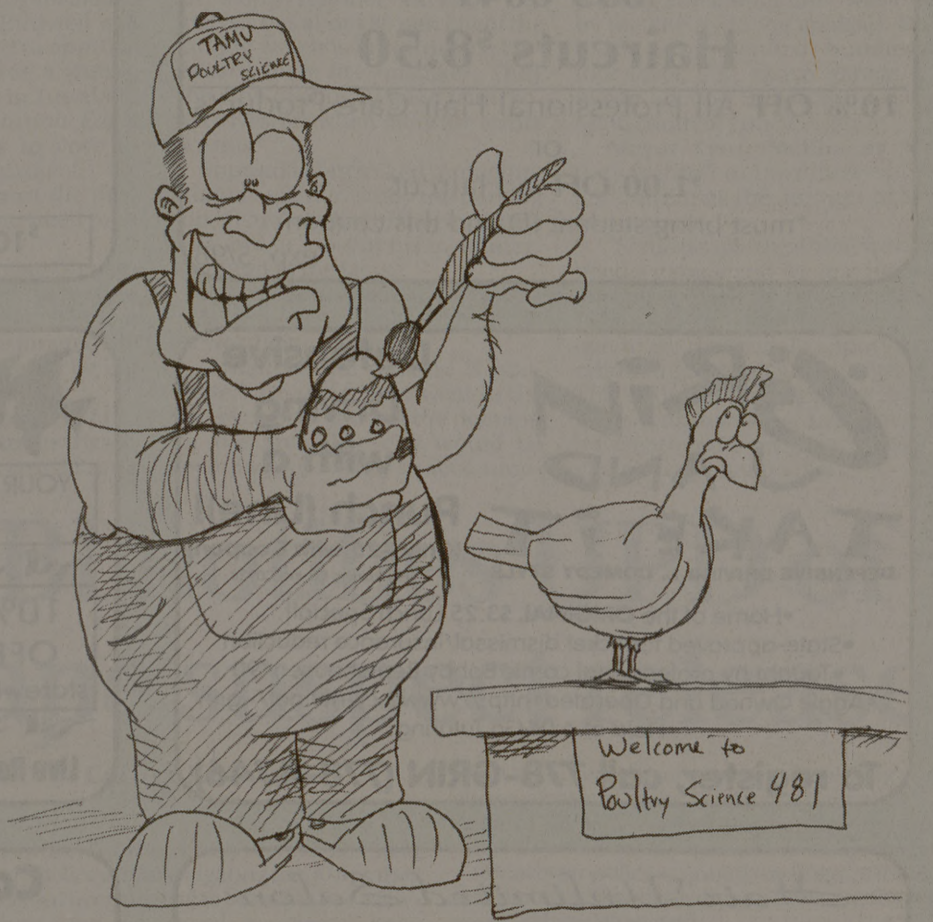
skyites not welcome.

- Poultry Science 481**
After laughing at ourselves for a few days, we'll learn the art and science of nurturing poultry — music, mood lighting and colors of paint that encourage egg-laying.
- Biology 106**
Little things like cells and chromosomes and plant poo-poo — do they really exist or are we just pretending like they do so we scientists can act like we know everything.
- Economics 208**
Etiquette for using your friendly ATM machines; Find out why silly wildlife such as bulls, bears and other members of the animal kingdom are terms used to describe economic markets; Lots 'o supply and demand theories about toothpaste.
- Geography 202**
Why Greenland is ice and Iceland is green and other practical jokes on the world; Migration patterns of burnt-out '80s pop sensations Madonna, Metallica and Aerosmith; Also, the curious disappearance of Alanis Morissette into Canada for a couple of years, ay!
- History 103**
The story of how America was really discovered by drunken Mardi Gras partiers who passed out, woke up here and didn't have 34 cents to call home, so they wrote a constitution on hemp paper and built a really large bong which the Washington Monument is patterned after.
- Psychology 345**
A study of ice cream and clouds in Freudian dream analysis: the sexual innu-

endo of fluffy clouds and ice cream cones . . . hmmm.

- Philosophy 332**
Topics in Ethics and Epistemology; For Ethics — Kant's Categorical Imperative — Handing over toilet tissue to the person in the neighboring stall — a universal moral necessity, or just plain icky; For Epistemology, a feminist approach — how do women know bananas, can women know bananas and is this just oppressive patriarchy at work.
- Horticulture 104**
Why plants smell nice and look pretty; How to kill chiggers; Playing in your Zen garden.
- BANA [we're not sure what this stands for] 203**
Finding the on-off switch on your computer; Things to do while waiting for PINE; How to insult your computer; Designing web pages for the corporate sponsors of our football team so they don't have to pay anyone to do it.
- Human Anatomy 355**
What's up with the human armpit? — a study.
Most likely, everyone harbors feelings of anger, oppression and hatred towards our aloof administrators for withholding these courses from the class schedules.
Our only hope for recourse is a massive student uprising, preferably on President's Bowen's front lawn. There, we can build a miniature bonfire of class schedules and have a University-wide-beer-bonging-contest.

Michelle Voss is a junior English major.



ONE STAR LOWDOWN

Children should not be subject to death-penalty punishments

didn't want to do it, but here it is, the death penalty. Let me get this part out of the way. Yes, I am a Democrat with views that, for the most part, are liberal. I have actually hugged a tree. Many of you that might be slightly challenged by views contrary to your own, please stop reading. I don't want to be the one responsible for shattering your tinsy moral code. Now that it's all settled, let's move on. At this very moment, Texas law concurs that children at the age of 14 can be tried as an adult, and the judicial system can legally allow them to be executed at the age of seventeen. A certain state representative, Mr. Pitt, I believe, would like to amend this law, and allow eleven year-olds to be not only tried as an adult, but executed as well. This bears repeating — 11 years old. I'd hate to be a kid in this guy's house. "You didn't wipe off the sink you used it; it's off to the medieval rack for you." All joking aside, 11 years old is simply too young to allow the death penalty to be implemented. The motivation behind the legislature is clear. The murders in Jonesboro have left every school teacher, every parent and every lawmaker somewhat shaken. But saying that judicial systems should be allowed to execute 11 year-old children is simply a sign of fear, not any type of legal resolution to the crime problem. The death penalty, in its purest form, was supposed to be a means of restraint. Think of it as a small scale equivalent of a nuclear weapon. My in-



BEVERLY MIRELES
columnist

terpretation of the principle is this: You do something really terrible, and you will be punished in the most severe way known to man, the loss of life. In theory, it would seem to work. Who would want to die? But just as nuclear weapons have caused more harm than good, so goes the death penalty. Initially, it's ineffectual. It's the beginning of a vicious cycle. The death penalty hasn't solved any type of crime yet, and it never will. It's only the revengeful response of a society that can't deal with its own depravity. Violence can't be solved through violence. The need for revenge is legitimate. If my parents were murdered, it's probable that I would want to hurt the perpetrator in a very direct and permanent way. Like with life in prison. Not with continuing the cycle of murder. The death penalty isn't a solution and shouldn't be argued as such. Even if you agree that the death penalty is a valid form of punishment, and there are a lot of you, especially on this campus, the age of eleven has to be considered unjust and brutal. Thankfully, Governor Bush finds that lowering the age to eleven is unacceptable. Finally, a Republican politician without the urge for senseless blood lust. Hopefully, this legislation will die quickly, once the shock of the Jonesboro murders has been somewhat diminished and lawmakers have regained their senses. The brutal acts of any person, below or long past the age of eleven, should be dealt with in a manner that justly punishes the crime. However, this punishment should not be one so terrible in its own right that it weakens the moral fabric of society itself.

Beverly Mireles is a freshman microbiology major.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

Deciding upon one mascot will aid A&M on world-class quest

COLLEGE STATION (AP) - In a surprising move sure to baffle and confuse millions of current, former and "not yet but if you don't go there then I'm not paying for it" students, Texas A&M University announced plans Monday to replace the Aggie, the school's beloved current mascot. Heinrich Himmler, university executive vice-president, provost and deputy magistrate, said a new mascot is crucial to A&M's plans to assimilate all the world's educational institutions into the Texas A&M University System by year 2020. "Resistance," Himmler added, "is futile." Himmler pointed out that acclaimed schools such as Harvard, Yale and Brown have such respected and classy mascots that no one even knows what they are. "I firmly believe A&M can never be taken seriously as a world-class university until it drops the Aggie moniker and all the horrible, unworld-class university baggage it carries," Himmler said. Himmler said he has laughed at the occasional Aggie joke tossed around the office. "But I soon realized that other schools weren't laughing with us,



CHRIS MARTIN
columnist

but at us," Himmler said. "The thought makes me weep on the inside, like a sad pathetic clown." But despite the jokes, the leading cause for such a radical change of guard is the outdated role of the agrarian in today's modern society, Himmler said. "The world is changing rapidly, and unfortunately the Aggie has been left behind," Himmler said. "I mean, what's a farmer ever done for me? Mother gets all my food from the supermarket." Joseph Goebbels, university vice-president of public relations and minister of propaganda, said that the Aggie label came from none other than former A&M President Lawrence "sullen-faced" Sullivan Ross, a noted soldier, statesman and hate monger. "Ross needed a way to demoralize the cadets in order to mold them into his personal evil undead army of the night," Goebbels said. "The greatest form of social control is the slur, and thus, the Aggie was born." Board of Directors member Hermann Goering has been placed in charge of the new mascot search committee. "I know the income-supplying social security numbers, er, students, will be upset at abandoning the Aggie, but it must be done to protect the Vasserland, er, campus," Goering said. The committee has been scouring dozens of volumes of analytical data by top avatarologists, pouring through recent team names such as "Raptors," "Flames" and "Diamondbacks." "Lord and butter, even abstract ideas like the 'Heat' and 'Magic' are more respectable than our Aggies. We're considering getting on the intangible boat with 'The Texas A&M Army of Smarmy' right now." Goering also mentioned the committee is considering the "Eleconda," a giant elephant with a genetically-engineered anaconda for a nose, for mascot. Surprisingly, not all administration members are for the change in tradition. One of the most outspoken opponents of the mascot switching has been A&M President Ray Bowen. When asked for his thoughts on the matter, Bowen cryptically replied, "Honk if I'm an Aggie." Bowen then continued his weekly performance of "Ballerina Dancer" on the MSC flag room piano for local underprivileged youth. A&M has long come under fire for having "no good mascot." Texas Tech graduate student Bea O'Problem has been lobbying the state legislature for years to force A&M to pick one mascot and go with it. "You've got Reveille, you've got Aggies, you've got fighting farmers, you've got Ol' Roc — what's that all about," O'Problem asked. "Do you really need all those mascots, or is it a sign of a bigger problem? Can you say 'identity crisis?'"

Chris Martin is a senior journalism major.

32¢
Texas A&M University

MAIL CALL

Abortion treats unborn children to property
Certain writers in *The Battalion* have said they are Christians who believe women have the right to abortion. Are they aware the early church opposed abortion in all cases?

That stance has changed little for most churches to this day. The Christian teaching on abortion developed in a theological context of love. The Old Testament verses, "love God with all your heart" (*Deut. 6:5*) and "love your neighbor as yourself" (*Lev. 19:18*) were singled out as the two commandments on which depended "the whole law and the prophets" (*Matt. 22:40*). The standard for fulfilling these commandments is the sacrifice of one individual's life for another (*John 15:13*) and embodied in the self-sacrifice of Jesus. Not sacrificing another for our life. It should also be noted that at conception, and individual is a single cell, the zygote. A zygote is genetically unique (Sproul, R.C., *Abortion*). In vitro fertilization allows the zygote to live independently of the mother. This makes the pro-abortion advocates appear to claim certain people are property. Some Christians believed African-Americans were property. Most Christians said that was wrong. Since we no longer believe people are property, can my pro-abortion Christian brothers and sisters explain to me what the difference is between advocating slavery and abortion? I don't believe Christ asked us to kill defenseless children for the mistakes of their parents. Harvey Hill College Station resident



Drug Test Required