Chat & Chew

with Dr. Southerland '65 Vice President for Student Affairs

Tuesday, April 6, 1999 11:30am-1:30pm **MSC** Hallway

- Voice Concerns
- Ask Questions
- Light Refreshments



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THE BATTALION



Bumper stickers used to make political point

AMARILLO (AP) — In Amarillo, Mark Morey is about as close to being considered a good neighbor as maybe Frank Zappa or Andy Kaufman.

He enjoys being an irritant. Rather than making people feel good about themselves, he's more interested in skewering certain socially cherished ideals. The more pompous and self-righteous the claim, the more he loves to deflate it. And one of his sharpest lampoons is his own car.

"I hate bumper stickers, actually. I guess you could say that the car is an extreme case of reaction formation," he said from behind his desk at the Amarillo Art Museum, where he is the curator of education.

His car can be seen as a Darwinian progression from his first sticker, a plain AAA identification. That one decal has mutated into a wicked herd of pop culture run amok. The front fender commands you to "Kill Your Television" and reminds you that "We Are The Veal." The trunk boasts a sizable pink triangle with the slogan "I'm Straight, Not Narrow-Minded.

'One of the reasons I started putting stickers on it was to identify it. I can't tell one car from another because of all the blandness and conformity," he said.

He sees his car as a literal moving target: a lightning rod for the wrath of those who take themselves too seriously. Whether the car is on the road or parked at the mall, it continues provoking and perturbing its viewers. But he can be perturbed himself, he said, by the roving slogans on the minivans and sport utility vehicles wheeling around town.

'I'm offended by bumper stickers I see on other people's cars. There's a kind of hateful smugness implicit in the one that says, 'My child is a good citizen at such-and-such school.' What it really needs to say is, 'My child is a compliant sheep, and I wouldn't have it any other way,'' he said.

Morey said he saw a PBS documentary about people and their bumper stickers and that he felt a

Texas Aggie

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Track Saturday

vs. Colorado

Tennis (W) Saturday 1:30

vs. Vanderbilt

kinship with one man featured in the show.

"This guy said something to the effect of 'Why do you need to share with everybody on the road who you voted for or that you heart cocker spaniels?

The sarcasm is all well and good for adults, but Morey recently found out that children may not want to be as culturally forward as their daddy.

'We pulled up to a place in Wolflin Square, right between like a Mercedes and a Lexus, and my youngest, who's about four, said, 'Can't you have a normal car?' She was troubled by it, but she came

around," he said.

Another PBS documentary about art cars helped his two daughters shed some light on their father's mobile masterpiece, he said.

A drawback to driving an eye-

catching car, particularly one fea-turing scantily clad biker chicks, is that people feel the need to reach out and touch the stickers.

'I have people assault my car. The devil girls are a hot rod cultural motif and they are big-chested and nude. I put stickers, little smiley faces, over the private parts and people will come and pull them off. I have to do a bumper sticker check everyday. But, I have found that when I cover the parts with little American flags, they're left alone. People seem to be loathe to desecrate the American flag," he said.

Morey aspired to the satirical pantheon of cartoonists who make their living by regularly slamming the status quo. But, as fate would have it, he did a stint in the Air Force and came out realizing that he would be better suited to working in the art world from behind the scenes.

"I found out that people would pay me and willingly listen to me expound on art," he said. He worked for the Dallas Muse-

um of Art before moving to Amarillo in 1981, where he met his wife and raised their two children. He teaches art classes at West Texas A&M University as well as filling in art's background for patrons and docents at the Amarillo Museum of Art.

Crucifixion re-enactment



James Paquette (L), a sophomore business major, portra criminal and Zane Lee, a sophomore sociology major, por Jesus Christ in a re-enactment of the crucifixion scene.

NEWS IN BRIEF Career Week examines resume feat

Seminars focusing on resume writing, interviewing, salary negotiation and networking will be offered Monday through Wednesday as part of Liberal Arts Career Week, hosted by The Liberal Arts Student Council and the College of Liberal

The seminars will be in 404 Rudder.

Texas A&M liberal arts graduates will participate in a forum in Rudder Theatre at 7:30 p.m. The forum will

al arts students to ask about the job-search p life after college. A social ticipants will follow the for

The week will conclud reer fair Friday in Ru Hall from 10 a.m. to 4pm reer fair is scheduled to his than 50 companies interes recruiting liberal arts major ternships, co-operational

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