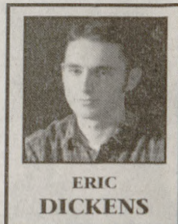


Hump it, Aags! (responsibly)

Are you having trouble telling your significant other you have been seeing his best friend on the side?



ERIC DICKENS

ing the MTV show "Loveline" to AggieLand. For those who are not familiar with the show, "Loveline" is hosted by a virtual have and have-not of adult maturity in Adam Carolla and Dr. Drew Pinsky.

The program, which gives MTV's viewers a break from all those videos the station plays, will be rolling out the dirty jokes and a little bit of sexual knowledge on the A&M campus this Saturday.

In everyday life, many aspects of love, sex and relationships are often banished to the proverbial sexual closet. People typically do not want to strike up conversations about Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's) or what it is like to not be able to tell anybody about their sexual orientation.

Further, all too often, people who do seek out help for their sexual woes are given bad, or simply wrong, advice. Dr. Drew, McCord and occasionally

Carolla, offer a great source for honest, straight-forward and, most importantly, accurate information about all things sexual.

While the show may be helpful for its standard viewers, Aggies in particular will benefit from the show's one-night gig at A&M. In College Station, the sexual gag order seems to be in effect stronger than at many other places.

Presumed heterosexuality is almost a tradition at A&M. But in reality there is a variety of sexual attitudes, beliefs and practices amongst the student body.

As for preventing and learning about sexually related medical problems, "Loveline" can help A&M students in that subject too. College Station may be known for its conservatism, but that restrained atti-

tude does not always hold up between the sheets. STI's do get caught and students will have questions about what to do.

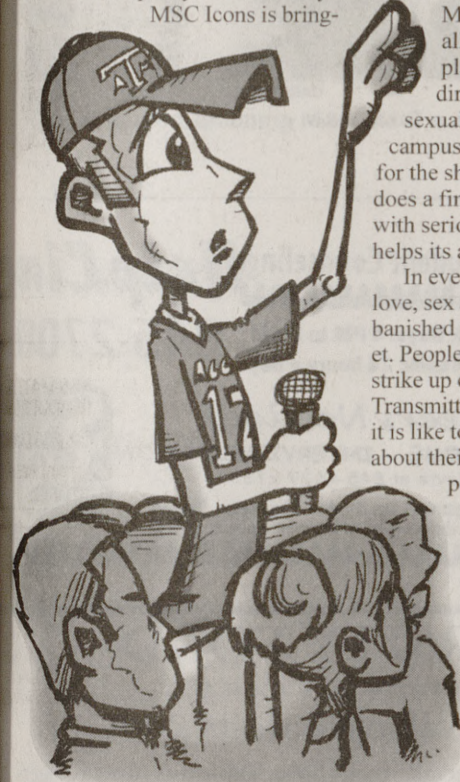
MTV's "Loveline" coming to the MSC is a great opportunity for Aggies to learn about themselves and about their fellow students. Public forums on sexual topics are invaluable ways to open a listener's mind to ways of thinking outside their own.



RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

And if you are one of those students who has a problem to ask of the show's hosts, here is one last word of advice: Pay attention to the blonde guy with wire-rim glasses and try to ignore the curly haired foul-mouth sitting beside him.

Eric Dickens is a junior English major.



MAIL CALL

Student defends Evans Library renovations

In response to Summer Hicks' April 28 column.

As a student who has attended A&M for five years and been employed at Evans Library, I feel there are issues in Hicks' column that must be addressed.

First, I have seen the library improve by leaps and bounds since I have attended A&M. I believe that in Hicks' desire to prove her point, she has lent herself to extreme exaggeration and unfair manipulation of observed library conditions.

Also, Hicks can hardly fault student workers for not being able to "offer much assistance beyond their section." I know few people who would be willing to memorize the Dewey Decimal system and keep up with the ever-changing configuration of a library under construction for minimum wage.

Anyone can look at something and say "fix it!" In the future it would be nice to see an column contain some suggestions instead of just criticism.

Lisa L. Johnson Class of '99

I personally had no opinion on this Iraq issue until I went to one of the meetings the Students for Peace sponsored.

The speaker was well informed, had data, and had visited Iraq on several occasions.

The Students for Peace are not pro-Hussein, there pro-human rights. The people of Iraq should not all have to suffer from a dictator or our need for oil. It seems Passwaters' research entailed reading the evening news or listening to our government's stance.

We can all agree that Hussein is a dictator, but as far as the history of warfare goes, never has cutting off a country from resources and rest of the world made the citizens in that country turn against its leaders. If anything it gives them extra support.

Maybe Passwaters should have gone to one of the events the Students for Peace held before he insulted the group and its president.

Chris Langford Class of '00

Metallica MP3 lawsuit a futile action

Two weeks ago, the band Metallica filed a federal lawsuit against Napster Inc., a California based company that creates software for searching and downloading MP3s.

In addition, Metallica tried to be the hero of the day by bringing a suit against the University of Southern California (USC), Yale University and Indiana University, saying the schools encouraged users to illegally trade the band's music.

The suit is the music industry's attempt to protect itself from the rising threat of MP3 technology. MP3s are compressed digital files that allow users to upload and download music easily.

While copyrighting is vital to protect artists' works, Metallica's lawsuit is just another one of the music industry's vain efforts to handle the problems the Internet presents.

There are just way too many obstacles involved with stopping Internet music piracy. Authorities have to deal with lawbreakers based outside of the United States. Sure, there are a

few high-profile sites out there that can be punished, but how are you going to control the millions of small-time violators who trade via personal Websites, FTP servers and email?

Unless authorities want to spend the time and money to arrest a couple million people, policing

Metallica's lawsuit is just another one of the music industry's vain efforts to handle the problems the Internet presents.

music on the Internet is like trying to stop people from speeding. You might manage to pull someone over here and there, but an occasional fine is not going to keep anyone's foot off the gas. It's sad but true.

Trying to cut the head off the chicken by suing organizations that provide Internet service,

such as USC and Indiana, is impractical. Providers have too many users to be expected to control exactly what their customers decide to do with their Internet service.

So if you cannot stop the problem, adapt and deal with it. Software such as Napster, Gnutella and Scour are not the easiest applications to use. Finding the song you want still requires work, so it is more convenient to go buy the CD.

The industry can take advantage of this by finding a way to make music easily available and providing software for users who pay to download each song, but who cannot store the music on their hard drives.

In addition, many lower-profile bands already profit from MP3 technology as it helps to get their music out into the mainstream. The music industry can continue to encourage that in order to help more bands succeed in the business.

By finding ways to adapt to this new technology, the music industry can turn the page on its useless attempt to stop the rise of MP3s and instead it can profit by them.

Staff editorial from The Daily Collegian at Pennsylvania State University.

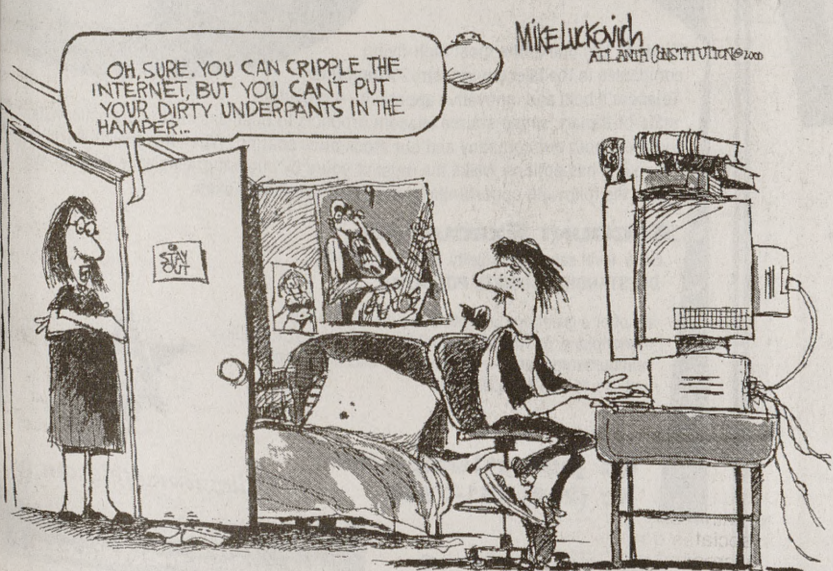
Student organization promotes different view

In response to Mark Passwaters' April 26 column.

It didn't surprise me that someone would take a potshot at one of the few groups on this campus raising awareness about the injustices in our world. Students for Peace are trying to give us a different view on the Iraq Sanctions other than the one promoted by our mass media.

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 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 77843-1111

Campus Mail: 1111 Fax: (409) 845-2647 E-mail: battletters@hotmail.com



MIKE LUCKWICH ALL ABOUT CHESTNUTVILLE

'Multi-Millionaire' wife after money

There must be something seriously wrong with Rick Rockwell, the spurned bride-groom from Fox's (unintentional) comedic program, "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?" Darva Conger, his lawfully wedded wife, refused to hold his hand, much less take her clothes off for him.

Darva is willing to take her clothes off for an audience of millions in Playboy. Maybe he did not pay her enough. One thing that the events following "Millionaire" have certainly shown is that Darva is certainly "available" if the price is right.

It would be cruel to call Conger, a supposed "war veteran" (note: serving in the military while a war is going on 10,000 miles away does not make you a veteran) a gold-digging tramp. Perhaps this should simply be called a great example of capitalism.

Conger has been handed a silver platter opportunity to make money. Since she cannot take the silver platter and

sell it, she has every right to take advantage of her newfound fame and make millions of dollars. So what if she makes a sham out of the institution of marriage and makes a complete idiot out of herself on national TV? It is all good when the checks roll in.

Now Hugh Hefner has come forth with the biggest check of all, so Conger is going to lose her clothes fast as she can. Smile for the cameras, Darva, and show the nation how far someone can go when they have no self respect or class. Rest assured that you will be remembered for a long time to come, though the mention of your name will probably be followed by roars of laughter.

Rockwell can also be sure that he will be remembered as well, as the guy whose wife would bare all for the world, but would not touch him. Somehow, it is doubtful that this will help him pick up the ladies at the bar. "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?" How about, "Who Wants to Look Like an Idiot?"

— Mark Passwaters

VIEW POINTS

Who wants to be a racist?

Regis Philbin, long regarded by some as a sign of the coming Apocalypse, almost had to name his show, "Who Wants to be a Rich White Guy?"

After 82 shows and 192 contestants, Steven Clark made (dubious) history as the first African-American man to be on the show. Additionally, only 26 contestants (13 percent) have been women.

The problem was traced to the telephone selection process, where minorities and women simply are not qualifying. The telephone cannot determine skin color, being a sound-based system, but it is obviously barring the advancement of certain groups.

There are two schools of thought about this. The first is the "Regis equals racist" camp. They believe the questions are inherently biased against minorities. The other is the "White men equal trivia buffs" camp. They believe white men have enough free time to learn useless facts.

— Chris Huffines

Friday, Apr...
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