

ANGELES (AP) — All great Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of driving under the influence of marijuana, the police said.

former Los Angeles star was arrested about 10 miles northwest of the intersection of the 10 and 105 freeways, police said.

was booked and released on his own recognizance, said a police spokesman.

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the explosion of toys that is home, before rushing to the vet school for necropsy. His necropsy rotation returns home to eat dinner with his wife and children.

said these few hours are the best of his life. "I don't want to go to work," he said. "I want to be home with my wife."

Chapman said he has been thinking about his particular circumstances and added responsibilities.

et school experience much more than the average vet school student. Chapman said he sees himself practicing in a small rural community, running his own practice.

ional reporting by JP Beato.

JP Beato/The Battalion

man, fourth-year vet student, talks to his next rotation.

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original discussion was an attempt to the project, not a call for construction of a 32,000-sq-ft structure. The courtroom work space will be provided by the judge. The number of clerks to aid the public will be reduced from three to six, and the feet would be dedicated to administration.

going to present our plans again when the budget convenes, and if the plan is approved, construction will begin in late September. "October," Cryan said. "The new building will be completed in the fall of 2001."

Station residents, like Hunneman, a junior four-year, have found that the days are inconvenient and stressful. "I had to drive back to Station to take care of a patient," Hunneman said. "By the time the date came around, I had passed after the patient was unable to remember that I wished to."

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camp is free, and Turner said students are encouraged to attend. Linkous, a junior nutrition major, said Aggie Camp is a good place to go to get to know the students who do not want to go to Fish Camp.

Linkous said.

OPINION

THE BATTALION

Rage in the skies FAA and airline companies need to take a stronger stance against air rage

For many Aggies, summer break is a time to take to the skies in search of fun and relaxation in a new locale. But, this summer, flights may have a different ambience than previous years. "Air rage," which is when a passenger is verbally or physically abusive toward other passengers or the aircrew, is on the rise, leaving passengers and aircrews fearing for their safety.

On July 5, a passenger allegedly threw a beer can at a flight attendant and later broke into the cockpit and hit the pilot on the arm. This disruption caused the pilot to return the plane to Anchorage, Alaska, where the plane departed. On July 7, flight attendants' and ground crews' unions called for a "day of action" against air rage. Union members rallied for an international agreement on the prosecution of air rage offenders. They also wanted airport and airline authorities to provide aircrews with training on how to handle air rage situations and to introduce security policies aimed at air rage.

One factor leading to cases of air rage is the delay of flights. Many people are forced to wait in airports or on planes, but most people do not react by attacking the flight crews. Some passengers today blame the aircrews for delays, which the staff have no way of controlling, and take out their frustrations on the flight attendants. According to the International Transportation Workers' Federation, a union that includes airplane crew workers, U.S. flight crews have reported a substantial increase in incidents of air rage in the last two years. In 1997, only 66 incidents were reported, compared with more than 500 in 1999. Likewise, according to San Francisco airport spokesperson Ron Wilson, his city alone has seen 111 air rage incidents in the past 18 months. Though the perpetrators of these incidents are few out

of the total number of daily flights, it shows the beginning of a startling trend.

Crews are not the only people negatively affected by air rage. By lashing out, angry passengers endanger the lives of everyone on the plane. If there were stricter punishments for these outbursts, such as larger fines and longer jail sentences, and these punishments were printed on plane tickets, the welfare of passengers and crew would be less threatened.

Currently, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) fines people \$1,100 for assaulting crew members. All things considered, this amount is not enough compared with the potential damage that could be caused. When a passenger attacks any member of the crew, the balance of work is disturbed and can have dire consequences. Crew members have specific tasks, especially during an emergency, and if they cannot perform their duties, everyone's safety is jeopardized.

The FAA is considering increasing the fine for assaulting a crew member to \$25,000. Hopefully, a much larger fine will make many offenders think twice before assaulting a flight attendant for serving the wrong drink. The FAA is also proposing an increase in the fine for disrupting a flight to the degree of causing such a disturbance that the flight is forced to return to where it took off from. The FAA wants to increase the fine to \$250,000 and introduce the possibility of a 20-year prison sentence for such a disturbance. These stricter punishments will prevent many incidents and they will also protect the passengers and crew.

Another proposed step in preventing air rage is putting a description of these crimes and their punishments on passengers' tickets. Passengers will be forewarned that this kind of behavior is not acceptable. By



KELSEY ROBERTS/THE BATTALION

issuing a ticket notice, the airlines and their employees will be able to take charge of a situation with the knowledge that the offenders had proper notice of punishments. The descriptions of these kinds will not allow for ignorance of the law and help protect airlines against potential lawsuits.

While society should address the issue of violence and acceptable behavior, the government and airline companies need to take the initiative to prevent and

prosecute these crimes. The airlines could take an even more aggressive stance and ban violators from flying with them in the future. This action may seem harsh, but when these offenders are risking the lives of so many people, airlines must take an aggressive stance. It is better to lose these offenders' business than to have to explain the deaths of passengers because of air rage.

Brianne Porter is a sophomore chemical engineering major.

New logos not traditional

Texas A&M students are hesitant to embrace the Athletic Department's revamped logos. While to some, the new icons may seem a petty change, many students are disturbed by the Athletic Department's disregard for student input. Texas A&M, Nike and Athletic Director Wally Groff tinkered with the simplicity of A&M's logos. The block lettering "A&M" and "ATM" logos that are required to be on all athletic uniforms are now standardized. Also, a set of new logos based on old A&M images will be used as secondary insignias running alongside the main block ATM logo.

Groff has been itching to adopt this plan for several years. Since no one voiced any problems with the traditional maroon-and-white emblems, and no student body groups were pushing for new logos, it seemed Groff would have to change them on his own. Obviously, concern for the student body was not at the heart of the decision. The logo revamping not only breaks tradition, but was completely unnecessary.

Although Texas A&M is home to one of the wealthiest athletic departments in the nation, greed appears to be the motive behind new logo alteration. Created to distinguish athletic teams from each other, the new logos will nonetheless appear on all types of apparel available at stores everywhere. Nike and the athletic department know that changing a team's logo and releasing merchandise with the new logo will drive sales. The Athletic Department hopes to start a fad, and in turn, make a few bucks off Aggie fans.

Prestigious and popular, Nike is ranked as one of the top sporting goods companies in the world. The A&M Athletic Department has one year remaining in its multiple-year association with Nike. During the association, the international corporation has continued to tinker with A&M uniforms, looking for ways to profit from A&M students and fans. Several years ago, Nike made changes to football uniforms for no apparent reason, changing the jersey collars to a strange camouflage of maroon and

white. Copies of the new uniform went on sale shortly thereafter, making the old ones unpopular. The recent logo change seems to be another step in a profit-oriented pattern. Intended to be about athletes, the decision to create the logos will do nothing for the entire student body — it was a waste of time and energy.

Texas A&M is known for its spirit of tradition. People worldwide associate Aggieland with its allegiance to maintaining its roots. The recent logo changes make a mockery of A&M's traditional logos. The fancy new logos will supposedly modernize A&M, but simultaneously cheapen the time-honored practices of Aggie life. One new logo mimics the New York Yankees' style of overlapping letters. The design is not only unoriginal, but it appears to represent another team. The logo changes are not only unnecessary, but in some cases, the logos no longer accurately represent A&M.

Nike's apathy toward A&M tradition is obvious in some of the new images. Ol' Sarge has been disembodied, photographs of E. King Gill and Reveille have become mere line drawings and the bonfire symbol is outdated. Since future bonfires will not be built in the traditional wedding-cake design depicted in the new Nike logo, the logo does not correctly represent A&M. The revised markings lessen the value of Aggie tradition.

The logo revamping is not only a comical and a blatant excuse to make money, the Athletic Department is trying to mask the decision by claiming it will improve athletics. But teams are not required to feature any of the secondary logos, showing that the new policy is not targeted at athletes and teams, but rather aimed at producing new merchandise to get into fans' and students' wallets.

The logo revamping is not a major crisis; however, the principle underlying the issue is worthy of criticism. A bit of tradition has been taken away in order to provide more revenue for the Athletic Department. The decision was a total waste of time. There is no point in fixing something that was not broken in the first place.

Amber Rasco is junior journalism major.

Morality issues behind prostitution ignore concerns of public safety

Americans love to pay lip service to the concepts of American liberty and rugged individualism, but when it comes to their actual practice, many of those same Americans seem somewhat more reticent.

Not one state has been successful in its attempt to truly legalize euthanasia. Sure, Oregon passed a ballot measure, but as long as there are judges willing to hold their state hostage for their own political ends, such voter-decrees carry little weight. And when it comes to the personal choice to gamble or use mind-altering drugs, the country still seems to be thinking with its Bible instead of its brains.

Though feminism and women's rights receive equal theoretical consideration, once again, society seems more comfortable sitting around intellectualizing than attempting to realize such goals. And although it may seem far removed from any discussion of women's liberation, the legalization of prostitution has to be considered in such lofty light.

After all, what is the debate over prostitution about, if not about women's rights to do whatever they want with their own bodies, and be safe in doing it? It is pointless to try and glorify the act of prostitution itself; even in the best of circumstances, an individual is still selling her or his

body to another, probably unsavory, individual for cheap, loveless sex.

But that is not the issue. Some may moralize away, explaining why prostitution is wrong from both a spiritual and an intellectual perspective, but that is not every opinion. And a country's laws should not be based on morals or opinions, no matter how well-intentioned.

And no matter how reprehensible people imagine legalized prostitution to be, it is nothing compared to illegal prostitution.

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Just compare the United States with Holland. In Amsterdam, as many know, prostitution is not only legal, it is regulated by the government. Prostitutes are required to use condoms and other forms of protection against both

pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, and they are checked on a monthly basis to make sure they are free of any and all illness.

Now compare that with the streets of New York City. One viewing of HBO's documentary "Hookers on the Point" will more than demonstrate the sickening state of prostitution in this country. Women are forced to take on sometimes dangerous "johns" in dangerous settings, usually back alleys and unfamiliar cars.

They are not tested for communicable diseases, and have to resort to even more dangerous behaviors, such as drug use, to escape the reality of being pimped out of the money they more than earned. Regulated prostitution is kinder, gentler prostitution.

Which is not to say that it is perfect. As long as sick souls become prostitutes and sicker souls utilize them, society will have a long way to go. But as long as this country sticks its head in the sand and pretends that this behavior does not exist, or that its simple-minded vice squads are doing anything positive about it, the United States will continue to leave undeserving victims behind on so-called quest for enlightenment.

Jake Ten Pas is a columnist with the OSU Daily Barometer at Oregon State University.

Mail Call

Protecting same-sex marriages a priority

In response to Cayla Carr's July 18 column.

There are several flaws within Carr's piece on gays in the Episcopal Church. First, Carr's use of the term "religion" reflects a lack of familiarity with the distinction between a religion and a denomination. The Episcopal Church is a Christian denomination, like the Roman Catholic Church and the Assemblies of God. Christianity, on the other hand, is a religion. Also, while Episcopalians are committed to freedom of religion within society, the limits of religious expression are circumscribed within the Episcopal Church. A plurality of technological

views is tolerated, but it is still a Christian church.

Finally, what she does say about current policy regarding gays and lesbians is false. A congregation or diocese cannot do whatever it wants. The church has taken a vague stance at best, an anti-gay and anti-lesbian stance at worst. I say the latter because if a priest blesses a same-sex union, she or he may face charges. The case of the heresy trial of a suffragan bishop for blessing same-sex unions is a case in point.

Protecting the rights of gays and lesbians on a national level to have their nuptials blessed is the only way of ensuring that conservatives do not try every cleric who performs such ceremonies. No one is forcing anyone to bless the same-sex unions. Initiatives like the ones debated at General Con-

vention will protect gays and lesbians, allowing them to express their love within covenant relationships.

Andreai A. Buckareff
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