

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"No issue in particular, just all issues!"

David Middlebrooke

Election Commission strikes again

Slower than a speeding snail, less effective than a used high-lighter, the Election Commission has gloriously completed its third year of mishandling student elections, the third in a seemingly endless series.

In case you're wondering what that's all about, let me begin by explaining that, while the polls closed at 8 yesterday, the election results were not available until shortly before noon today. More about this in a moment.

Some of you who have been here a while will remember the big uproar two years ago concerning Al Reinert, a candidate for Student Senate president. The Election Commission couldn't seem to decide what grade point ratio meant—whether it should include just A&M work or work from other schools—as far as election eligibility was concerned.

When it was all over, Reinert—who had won the election—was disqualified, and a new election had to be held.

Last year, no one seemed to understand the election regulations, except in relation to how they benefited him or his cause.

This year, though, the problem

is not even that complicated. The Election Commission has simply discovered—and been overwhelmed with awe for—the computer.

All of this year's election results have been tabulated by the computer. Data Processing Center personnel have cooperated in the matter, and we now get more accurate results, the Commission tells us.

But is not the price of this questionable accuracy—the long delay between poll closing and final results—perhaps too high? Is the computer really more accurate, or is it a labor-saving device for commissioners, and not much more?

In the case in point, commissioners were supposed to (or at least they should have been) take ballots over to the DPC throughout the day, so when polls closed not much would be left to key-punch and tabulate. Well, no ballots found their way to the DPC before 6 p.m.

The DPC people just couldn't handle all of it that fast. Came 9 p.m., they had to go home with the work unfinished. So, keypunch operators did not finish their job until this morning, and results

From other campuses

Student backs beliefs, matches talk with action

By JAMES R. JACKSON

Chris Stegman, a student at Washington State University, is taking a definite stand for his beliefs. According to the student newspaper there, he has decided that by paying the \$71 of income tax that he owes and by consenting to be inducted into the armed forces, he would be violating his principles. He has refused to do both.

Stegman sent his 1040 to the IRS with the following printed in large letters: WE WON'T PAY. STOP THE WAR. STOP THE DRAFT. NO MEN & NO \$ = NO WAR.

In a leaflet he is distributing

across campus, Stegman explains his positions and some of his reasons for arriving at these positions.

"In short," the statement reads, "I will not cooperate in any way with the United States Government until it changes its priorities from destructive (warlike) to constructive (peaceful) measures."

According to an article in the SMU student newspaper, hundreds of former GIs marched from the locked gates of Arlington National Cemetery to the step of the Capitol Monday to protest U.S. involvement in the Indochina war. They carried a huge red and

white banner proclaiming, "Vets Against the War." Shouting anti-war slogans, the demonstrators, many of them wearing the olive fatigues they wore in Vietnam, raised clenched fists and shook them at President Nixon's helicopter when it flew over.

As they marched, the protesters shouted such slogans as "Power to the People," "Hidi, Hidi, Hidi, Mr. Nixon's got to go," "Peace Now," and sometimes, "One, two, three, four, we don't want your f..... war."

They complained about not being allowed inside the cemetery, but held a memorial service outside the iron gates and left two

wreaths of roses, asking that they be placed at the Tomb of the Unknowns in honor of Americans who died in Indo China.

An article in the V.M.I. Cadet, student newspaper at the Virginia Military Institute, described the new movie, "Bramlet," soon to be released.

According to the article, Col. Bramlet is just the hero our country needs. It says it's about time we returned to glorifying the "true American man."

The movie will cover Bramlet's fiery and often stormy career from his famous "mad dash" haircut inspection before Christmas

furlough in the winter of 1970 to the dark days following his famous "drink heard round the world" which almost brought his Army career to a halt by forcing him to leave VMI prior to gaining his commission.

Perhaps the highest point in Col. Bramlet's career came during his second tour in Vietnam, in which he shot a correspondent from Associated Press. "Hell," he laughed, blowing the smoke from his revolver, "I thought the long-haired freak was a water buffalo!"

The movie is expected to bring the antihero trend in the movie industry to a halt.

Computer keeps an eye on heart performance

WASHINGTON (NASA)—Critically ill patients recovering from open-heart surgery someday may have a computer to thank, as well as the doctors, if an experimental system developed at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Lewis Research Center works out.

The Lewis Center, in Cleveland, has turned over to St. Vincent Charity Hospital in the city a small, inexpensive analog computer that can continuously monitor changes in a patient's blood pressure and cardiac output. The computer, designed by Vernon D.

Gebben and John A. Webb, Jr., of Lewis, took about a year to develop and cost about \$1,500.

"The computer measures trends such as the increase or decrease of the stroke volume of the heart, or changes in how long the heart valve stays open, for instance," Gebben says. A nurse or doctor thus could detect certain abnormalities very early.

The analog system, known as the PPC (pressure pulse contour) cardiac computer, was modeled after a digital computer program in regular use at the Latter-Day Saints Hospital in Salt Lake City,

Utah.

The analog computer uses the same equations as the digital computer to calculate cardiac output from continuous readings of pressure with time. However, the analog system is both cheaper and smaller than its counterpart, making it more practical for small hospitals to use.

The Lewis engineers who designed the cardiac computer are experts in control systems and instrumentation for jet aircraft. Because of their experience in this field they have helped solve problems of artificial heart valves for St. Vincent Charity Hospital, and have developed a control system for an experimental artificial heart for the Cleveland Clinic.

Projects such as these are part of NASA's continuing effort to make the fullest possible use of its technology and cooperate with local institutions.

Development of this computer was the result of a cooperative research program between NASA and Dr. Earle B. Kay and Dr. Akio Suzuki, specialists in open heart surgery at St. Vincent. They plan to use the computer on an experimental basis before application to human patients. The doctors are particularly interested in using the computer to measure the effects of drugs given patients who remain critical

after open heart surgery.

Experience at Salt Lake City has shown this type of computer can detect complications in patients earlier than can standard methods of monitoring.

In operation, the computer would be directly linked to a patient. To obtain a precise measurement of blood pressure, a tiny Teflon tube is inserted through an artery in the patient's arm up to a point near the heart.

A transducer attached to the tube outside the arm converts the pressure measurement into an electrical signal that can be handled by the computer. Relations between pressure and time are used to compute changes in blood flow.

The computer displays six measurements or calculated results: end-diastolic pressure, the lowest point in the blood pressure; the notch pressure, showing the blood pressure when the aortic valve closes; the systolic period, or length of time the valve remains open; the heart rate in beats-per-minute; the calculated per cent stroke volume change, a measure of volumetric change; and the calculated per cent cardiac output changes indicating changes in the heart's efficiency.

Such a profile provides an approximate picture of what is happening. It's not completely ac-

curate, Gebben explains, because the equation used by the computer cannot take into account changes in the elasticity of blood vessels that occur as a drug wears off in a patient.

Gebben points out the computer also could be hooked up to a tape recorder and a strip chart recorder to give a doctor a representative sampling of the heart's activity for days at a time.

For this purpose, the tape recorder would turn on automatically, say, every 15 minutes, to record the pressure signal for 10 beats of the heart. Later on the taped pressure signal is replayed through the computer and displayed on the strip chart, thus producing a dynamic trend record for analysis.

Correction

The Battalion may have given a false impression in its Wednesday story on the board of directors' meeting.

While the story suggested Student Body President Kent Caperton received his information on the coed housing issue from board member William Lewie Jr. of Waco, Caperton said Wednesday afternoon he received his information from A&M President Dr. Jack K. Williams and from his presence at the board's meeting.

were not out until near noon.

This is hard on everyone—candidates especially, the DPC, and (you might have guessed) The Battalion and the A&M Press people.

The old method of voting machines and paper ballots sure was a lot faster. I think those methods should be used, not the computer. It might save money, and certainly is less trouble than the computer method.

And when you get right down

to it, why have an Election Commission? The Student Senate could just as easily handle elections. And they'd have to do a better job—I don't see how anyone could do a worse one.

After all, in local, state and national elections, vote counting goes on until the task is finished, even if it takes until 3 a.m. Do A&M students deserve less?

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT

Snook PTA will sponsor a donkey basketball game at 8 p.m. in the old Snook gym.

Phi Eta Sigma will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Aerospace Engineering Department conference room to hold the year's final initiation ceremony.

SATURDAY

Chemistry Wives Club will hold a Chemistry Department picnic at 12:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, Highway 21 South. Tickets may be purchased at the department office.

MONDAY

Wildlife Science Wives Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at 705 Inwood, Bryan, to elect club officers. A volleyball game will begin at 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Williamson County Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC Social Room to discuss a barbecue.

Lincoln Union will meet at 8 p.m. in the MSC Birch Room for an organizational meeting. For information, call 846-3294.

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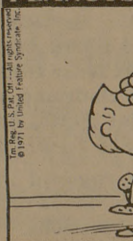
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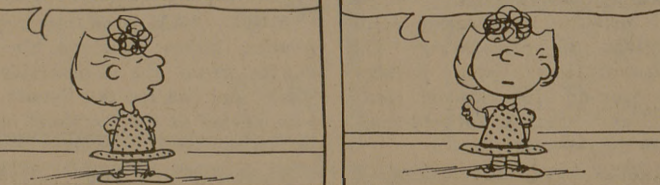
FOR "SHOW AND TELL" TODAY I HAVE SOMETHING UNIQUE...



I'M NOT GOING TO TELL ABOUT A PET OR SHOW YOU A TOY OR A BOOK OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...



INSTEAD I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ALL ABOUT SOMEONE I CONSIDER QUITE FASCINATING...



MYSELF !!!



By Charles M. Schulz

6 Aggie-Exes get new ranks

Promotion of six Texas A&M graduates in the U. S. Army was recently announced.

Robert E. Bradley, 1956 graduate from Sherman, pinned the silver oak leaf of lieutenant colonel. Captain's bars went to Jose A. Dodier, class of 1968 member of Laredo. New first lieutenant's are 1969 graduates Jack R. Coleman of Huntsville, Nelson R. Remmler of New Braunfels, William F. Schlenker of Johnson City and Neill W. Wait of Miami Lakes, Fla.

Bradley heads the technical research branch of the Army's Missile and Munitions Center and School, Redstone Arsenal, Ala. A history major at A&M, he was in Battery "B" Field Artillery.

Dodier received his promotion as safety officer at the Fort Sam Houston Medical Training Center. He was in Company H-2 and an industrial distribution major.

Schlenker, supply and motor officer of the 7th Ordnance Company in Korea, studied economics at Texas A&M.

Shop officer of the 3rd Infantry Division's 703rd Maintenance Battalion in Schweinfurt, Germany, Remmler received his degree in industrial technology.

Wait studied history and is with the 172nd Infantry Brigade in Alaska.

Coleman commands Headquarters Company, 553rd Supply and Service Battalion, 13th Support Brigade, at Fort Hood. An agronomy major, he was freshman and sophomore class president and 2nd Battalion executive officer as an A&M senior.

tonight on the tube

2:30	3 (5) Edge of Night	15 (12) Sesame Street (PBS)
	15 (12) Sesame Street (PBS) (Repeat of Wednesday)	6:00 3 (5) Evening News
3:00	3 (5) Gomer Pyle	6:30 3 (5) Family Affair
3:30	3 (5) Town Talk	15 (12) Camp and Community Today
	15 (12) Jean Shepherd's America (PBS)	7:00 3 (5) Jim Nabors
4:00	3 (5) That Girl	15 (12) The French Chef (PBS)
	15 (12) The World We Live In (NET)	7:30 15 (12) Masterpiece Theatre: The Spoils of Poynton (PBS)
4:30	3 (5) Bewitched	8:00 3 (5) CBS Movie
	15 (12) What's New (NET)	8:30 15 (12) Entertainment Now
5:00	3 (5) General Hospital	9:00 15 (12) Fanfare (NET)
	15 (12) Misterogers' Neighborhood (PBS)	10:00 3 (5) Final News
5:30	3 (5) CBS News	10:30 3 (5) Dan August
		11:30 3 (5) The Detectives

Bingo—Weekdays at 5, BCS-TV/9. Nothing to buy. You need not be present to win.

The Battalion

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LETTERS POLICY

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