

Cloud 9 ... a bird's eye view

Student on the Council?

Magruder may run for College Station position

By GERALD OLIVIER
The perennial question in College Station is, "Will a student run for the council?" The answer is yes in the form of Greg Magruder, Resident Hall Association president. Magruder told the Battalion he will file for the office this week. (The deadline for filing is Friday.)
Magruder will not be unopposed in his bid for Councilman. Gary Halter, a political science professor, is running for Place 1. The incumbent, Fred Brison, will not seek re-election.
In Place 5, Larry Bravenec seems to be on the way to unopposed re-election to his second term.



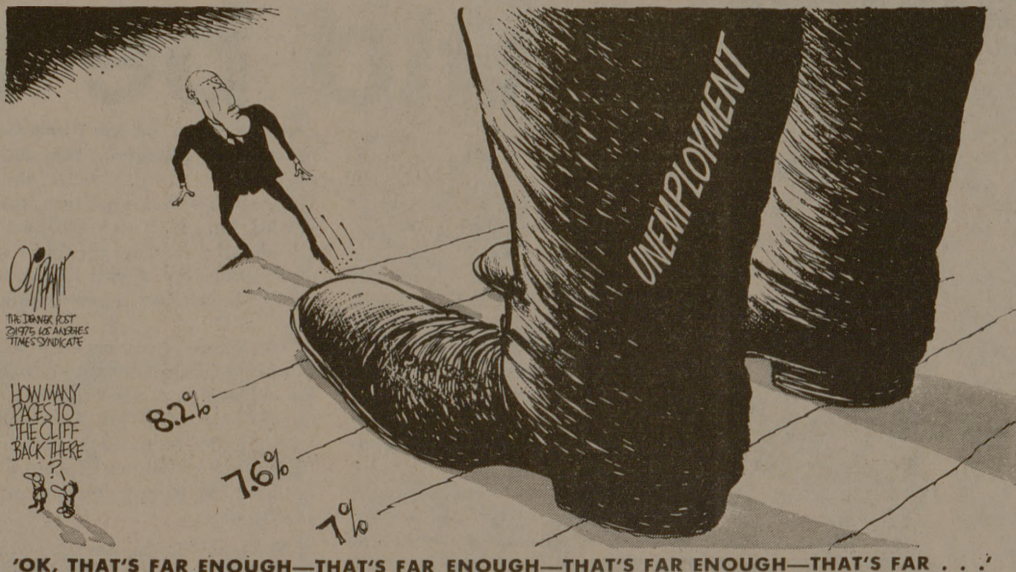
Place 3 has a clearly defined battle of differing ideologies. Bob Bell, KTAM station manager and a political moderate, will oppose conservative incumbent Don Dale.
A student, any student, cannot win this election. In order to achieve victory, a large student turnout supporting the student candidate would be required.
However, students at A&M do not perceive city politics as important. Most on-campus students lead lives which appear to end at the Northgate Wall or Jersey Street. Add this to the poor election turnouts in the past (last spring 171 votes

were cast at the campus voting box) and the student candidate will have to win in the community at large, just like his competition.
All three of the available races seem dismal for student candidates. Bravenec is the Dolph Briscoe of College Station. Soft-spoken, he becomes vocal only on issues he has strong feelings about.
One of the hottest issues in this campaign will be the controversial rezoning of local real estate developer Harry Seaback's land behind Dominik Drive. Bravenec was a strong supporter of the Dominik home owners.

This issue, combined with his strong victory last year and his good local name identification, makes Bravenec an unbeatable foe.
Both candidates in Place 3 seem beyond the reach of a student.
Dale and Bell appear headed for the shootout of the year. Bell lost a close race for mayor to O. M. Holt last year and is planning a strong door-to-door campaign for Dale's post.
Dale is a political veteran in the city. He has a strong following with conservatives and business interests. It seems everyone has

heard of Don Dale and this name identification would hurt a student candidate.
Dale's main problem will lie with his stand on zoning. He voted for Seaback's proposal and has repeated his belief in this move. Dale has been under fire from Dominik Drive homeowners for his neglect of citizen interest in this issue.
The only possible seat for a student would be Place 1 and a race against Halter. Halter is an urban politics professor and a self-proclaimed liberal. His strength comes from his political science

training and an appeal to liberals in the community. If he runs unopposed he can expect a large percentage of the student vote due to his campus affiliation.
Magruder's tactics will include an intensive get-out-the-vote campaign on campus. With a large student vote and plenty of hand shaking, Magruder could give Halter a close race. It seems doubtful that the student vote will be large enough to defeat Halter's support in the community at large.
Magruder does have good reason to run, despite the odds. He can solve the problem of weak name identification by being on this year's ballot. He can inform the community on his stand on the issues.
Magruder will quickly become familiar with city politics instead of the campus action he is used to dealing with. He can prepare himself for a race next year, a race he can win. Homer Adams, Jim Dozier, Jim Gardner and O. M. Holt will be up for reelection in the spring of '76. A student, especially one with good name identification and prior running experience, could win any one of the three council seats or the mayorship then.
None of the candidates this year needs to be worried about Magruder; but look out Homer, next year is almost here.



Listen Up

Board values 'commended'

Heaven forbid!
We realize it is very important for the TAMU Board of Directors to be "up to par" with other Universities and corporate headquarters as quoted by Gen. A. R. Luedeker.
TAMU continues to push ahead for the future with great achievement. So we would like to suggest some other improvements for The University. How about contracting a famous artist to draw a new water tower, or maybe we could buy a gold lined Dog House for "Reveille" with running dog bones...

We just want to commend the Board of Directors and say... "KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK."
Jamie DeWitt
Tim Hale
David Giles

Music courses

I write this letter in response to an earlier letter concerning the lack of a music program for nonregs here at the university. The writer felt that he was being slighted at Texas A&M because the university does not offer a music program in which he can participate. According to that

person, the university is not a well rounded institution of higher education and is partly responsible for suppressing his musical abilities.
I believe that in choosing to further his education at Texas A&M this person should have realized that this university, like many others, concentrates on instruction in selected areas of study. The name Texas A&M came from the original name, Texas Agricultural & Mechanical College, given to the University when it first started as a land grant college in 1876. As the University broadened its instructional curriculum over the years the name was changed simply to A&M.
Although the present curriculums offered by this university are varied, a large portion of the university's academic concentration lies in the fields of agriculture and the sciences. The school is known for academic excellence in these areas and for this reason attracts large numbers of students pursuing these majors. Courses and curriculums are designed to meet the needs of all the students attending the university. Certainly not every individual's needs can be satisfied.

When choosing to attend the university a student can find out what opportunities are available at the university.
If he feels that there is reason to add music to the present curriculum, I then must ask if there is not reason to add homemaking courses, also? After all, none are offered here and I'm sure there are some students who desire them.
There are numerous other state schools that offer courses not offered here at A&M. If a student wants to take courses that A&M does not offer I suggest that he finds a school that offers what he wants and go there.

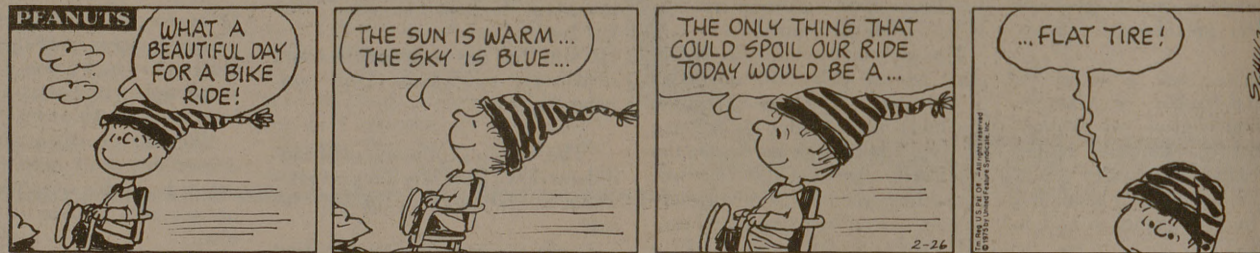
Patti Hux

Students act

Editor:
After reading the letter submitted by Mike Rasmussen and David Tittsworth concerning the student pub (Student pub, Feb. 11), I question the logic behind their opinion. They stated that because the final decision of whether or not to establish the pub was up to Dr. Jack Williams and the Board of Regents, TAMU students should cease all

discussions on the subject. This is an absurd idea.
Americans do not ignore presidential campaigns just because their political representatives have the final decision in that matter. They become involved and support their beliefs. In the same manner, students here should voice their opinions. Those who are truly in favor of constructing the pub can help to influence Dr. Williams' and the Board of Regents' decision. If they just sit passively and act uninterested, then surely the resolvers will think the pub unwarranted. And should Rasmussen and Tittsworth reconsider their appeal, they might recognize themselves as the ones with the "closed-minds," not the Board of Regents.

Jacqueline Dubel



The Battalion

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