

Don't step in a little hole

It might be a senator's home

By ALAN KILLINGSWORTH

Webster's definition:
Senator — A member of a legislative body resembling or held to resemble a senate.

TAMU's definition:
Senator — A self-righteous creature which hibernates for almost the full year, coming out in April only to solicit votes and to win friends and influence people.

The signs have struck the campus and the politicians are out in numbers. The once green grass around Shisa Dining Hall has turned into a conglomerate of signs. The little bits of paper saying "Vote for ME" are on bulletin boards but are mostly spread on the ground.

But don't worry people. This may be the one time you get to meet the people that run "our" government.

Why do people vote for these creatures?

"Hey, Melbert. Who ya gonna vote for?"

"Definitely the one that has the Snoopy campaign signs. That dog is so smart and anyone that relates to him has to be definite senator material."

"Have you met any of the candidates?"

"Sure. A lot of them have come

by the room. They sure look like they've been busy. One guy must have been brushing his teeth for the last month. He had that Lib-erace smile. The other smelled like British Sterling. I guess they think that if they smell clean we might think they're politically clean."

"Well, there is one good thing. You get to meet the people who are in the government."

"I guess you could say that."

How do these creatures get people to vote for them?

Some people have a lot of gall. They come up to you and say,

"Hi. I'm your senator and I'm running for re-election. I would appreciate your vote."

That is the first time in a year you have ever laid eyes on the person. You didn't even vote for the person in the first place.

And he wants your vote. All you have to do is answer back,

"I didn't get any of your time, why should you get my vote?"

Suppose a candidate comes up to you and says, "Hi. I'm John Doe, and I'm running for senator."

If enough people turn around to the person and say,

"Who?" he might start to get a complex and think that no one knows who he is. Then he might make a point to meet people and tell them what he has in mind.

Who are these little creatures?

That's a good question. Who is your senator? I've lived here

for over three years and I have yet to meet my senator. Or better yet, do I even have one? Dale Foster proved that it was possible to serve students that he didn't even see.

How do these creatures think?

Well, around election time, the only thing they worry about is being elected. Many hours are spent stenciling those big letters of TAMU on their campaign signs.

The fact that they go to school here is obvious but they continue to do it. It's only logic.

"If I go to TAMU then I should be elected."

And people ask why there isn't a fine art department on campus.

With the kind of art that comes out of those signs, there's the question of why they even offer drafting.

How do you get to know these creatures?

Well, you can sit on the steps of the University Center and ask everyone you see if they are your senator.

If he says yes then your troubles are over, or they might be just beginning. After you've been in hibernation for a year, it's hard to communicate.

How do you know the ones that are good for the job?

Look at their past records or if they've never been elected before make sure they understand that they have to do the job they were elected to do or suffer the consequences.

What are the consequences?

As a candidate for president said, "Help get the Student Government off its butt." If they don't, then the student body should help the senator's butt out of the senate... even though it might take two trips.

Listen Up

Yell leader candidates

Puryear gives endorsements

Editor:

After careful consideration the residents of Puryear have voted to support the following candidates for yell leader positions: Dan Barrow, Austin Sterling, Marty Kamerbeek, Mike Roiz and Chuck Hinton. These men have demonstrated a desire to work with the full student body. They all possess substantial experience with Bonfire and each maintains a burning enthusiasm for TAMU traditions. But most of all, these candidates represent every Aggie, not just one segment of the student body.

Puryear Hall has made their choice, now it is the responsibility of the remainder of the Student Body to choose the Centennial yell leaders. We sincerely hope you vote wisely but above all VOTE!! Let's make the Centennial Year the best year in TAMU history under the leadership of Aggies who represent all Aggies.

The Residents of Puryear Hall
Nolen Meers
Dorm Pres.

The Puryear residents invited the yell leader candidates to "make their pitch" this week and the majority of the dorm attended the rally, said resident George Lippe. Afterwards, they voted on their endorsements — Ed.

Walker backed

Editor:

In answer to Dennis Medina (Listen Up; April 2), I would like to shed some informed light on the subject

of Tom Walker, his qualifications for Student Body President, and especially his views on the Book Mart.

First of all, Tom's job as Executive Director does not entail a lot of "doing in the Senate," of the kind that make the front page of the Battalion. As such, he has been responsible for all of the ongoing projects of the executive branch, i.e. Blood Drive, Campus Chest, Parent's Day, Aggie Muster, Refrigerator Rental.

Another project for which Tom is responsible is the Book Mart, of which I am chairman. The Book Mart is not meant to put the bookstores out of business, but rather to benefit the students by offering better prices on books. Tom put in many long hours working with me and the administration to make the Book Mart a success.

Secondly, Tom's platform has been written for several days but because of printing delays, has just been made available. I wonder, though, if Medina's access to Jeff's platform could be related to the fact that his roommate is Jeff's campaign artist and designed the flyer. I know that not everyone has been so fortunate as to have such easy access.

Furthermore, just because Tom's flyers are taped to a store's window does not mean that he is in cahoots with the management. He only approached them and asked. After all, one of his flyers appears in the window of AggieLand Casuals and I know that he does little or no business there.

I strongly support Tom Walker



'Naturally, if we'd had American aid, we would be much braver than this...!'

Editorial

How we'd vote A&M Consol School Board

The A&M Consolidated School District is guaranteed two new faces on its board of trustees after Saturday's election. Of the six people scrambling for the two positions open on the school board, none are incumbents.

Of the four vying for Position 7, a TAMU associate professor in chemistry, Joseph Natowitz, is the best choice. Natowitz's big plus over his competition is his regular attendance at school board meetings for the past year and a half. His knowledge of board activities and experience as teacher and vice president of the College Hills Parent-Teacher Association will enable him to fit right in on the board and be a productive force without "learning the ropes."

Should voter wrath turn against Natowitz, Aileen Wenck would not be a bad second choice. Wenck, a lecturer in A&M's English Department, has been exposed to problems in the district through teaching elementary education majors who student-teach at Consolidated. Wenck has some concrete and innovative ideas to deal with overcrowding, discipline and curriculum changes.

Both Wenck and Natowitz were not afraid to publicly say that a bond election might be needed to deal with the district's space problems.

Both of their competitors, John Sandstedt and James Hennigan, don't think the overcrowding warrants spending money for new facilities.

Although Sandstedt has the advantage of being an attorney, he is distastefully conservative, in more than just money issues. Concerning the high proportion of the district's blacks categorized as "underachievers" and "slow learners" in a government report, Sandstedt at first cited "hereditary" differences between blacks and whites as the cause of the discrepancy. Upon further questioning by a Battalion reporter, he decided "hereditary" was too strong for publication and cited "cultural and environmental factors."

Hennigan is Mr. Discipline and a strong advocate of corporal punishment. He seems more interested in the paddle and holding the line on taxes than dealing with the district's needs.

The race for Position 6 on the school board has been difficult for us to evaluate. It features an A&M political science professor, Bruce Robeck, and a member of the administrative staff at the Texas Transportation Institute, Cubby Manning. Both have had experience working with youth-related organizations. The two men recognize the district's overcrowding problem but neither recommend a bond election or suggest an alternate source of funding. In this race, neither candidate seems to stand far above the other. The Battalion will reserve judgment and await Saturday's outcome.

The Battalion

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