

Editorial

Endorsements

... a vote for clean hands

Only three of the six executive positions of the Student Senate are being contested.

Student body president and vice-president of finance each have three contenders and vice-president of student services has two.

For student body president The Battalion endorses **FRED McCLURE**. Beneath his excess verbiage lies sound theory and good ideas. McClure is an impressive individual with a strong personality. He'll be a definite asset in the students' dealings with other schools and organizations.

Of McClure's two opponents, Duane Thompson is unimpressive and Richard Scruggs' greatest attribute is his past non-involvement with Student Government. Scruggs has some good ideas, but McClure is still the best choice.

In the race for vice-president of finance, The Battalion endorses **HAL BRUNSON**. Admittedly, he's been involved in student senate since his freshman year, but he nonetheless shows the promise of effectiveness. His plans are not so long-range to be beyond his grasp; his view of his position is realistic and down-to-earth.

Brunson's opponents are Scott Gregson and Dan Kasper. Gregson admits unfamiliarity with too many major governing groups on campus to be an effective manager of student funds.

Kasper is scared to death of University administrators, totally ignorant of his rights. To study the business affairs of the University, Kasper says with a sigh, "If you have to you could go to the records and see what they've done."

In the student services vice-president race, Troie Pruitt has definitely been out-classed by the energetic **GREG BALL**. Ball is a freshman and has not been tainted by this year's unproductive, chaotic senate. He's in touch with the every-day student and knows what he wants from his student service fees.

Of the uncontested races, all three, regrettably, are old-line senate members. Susan Rudd, running for vice-president of rules and regulations, lacks the force necessary to represent students in campus policy matters. She feels the Board of Regents shouldn't be bothered, referring instead to a nebulous "administration" little realizing the two are one and the same. The Battalion votes **NO CONFIDENCE** on this one.

JERRI WARD, running for vice-president of external affairs has some good answers to campaign questions. That, however, might just come with practice, since she's held the position for two semesters already. External affairs was one of the more active committees this year, but in view of how inactive the others were, that's not saying much.

STAN STANFIELD, unopposed for the position of vice-president of academic affairs, is straight-forward and knowledgeable. He appears well-qualified for the office.

Voter inertia

The student turnout in Saturday's city elections was deplorable.

What does the future hold for our country when even students from Texas A&M, that bastion of patriotism and conservatism, abandon their rights in the democratic process?

Less than eight per cent of those registered on campus voted. The two student-dominated precincts, 10 and 21, averaged only a 21 per cent turnout.

One suspects that A&M students have a very immature political consciousness, tending toward apathy.

On May 1, there will be presidential, state and county primary elections. A statewide turnout similar to Saturday's A&M student turnout would not be an example of representative government.

Overcoming voter inertia is not an easy task. It takes a conscious effort by each individual to become aware of the candidates and issues, and to understand the implications of non-participation.

The Battalion

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Editorial assistant: Will Anderson

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Requirements:

- Class of '76
- Interview: Sunday Night, April 11



David S. Broder

Jackson exhausted by Carter

MILWAUKEE — It was the tag end of a miserable day of campaigning, and Scoop Jackson was beat. His throat was sore, his head clogged, his eyes red and tired. As he slumped back in his airplane seat on the last leg of the journey, his raincoat pulled around him for warmth, the senator from Washington looked on the verge of exhaustion.

Presidential primaries are tough on a man of 63, even one as fit as Henry Jackson. This day had been worse than most: an early-morning flight from New York to Milwaukee, then a switch to a chartered DC-3

and a six-stop swing from airport to airport, with a press conference and a quick pep talk to local union leaders at each.

It was a cheap way to establish a presence in a state where Jackson has neither the time nor money for much of an effort — a sideshow to the main event for him on Tuesday in New York.

But jumping around Wisconsin skies in a DC-3 on a day of spring thunderstorms is no fun for anyone. At Madison, the next to last stop, the same charming youths who had heckled George Wallace in wheel-

chairs and Arthur Bremer masks were at the airport to chant obscenities at Jackson. One of them managed to spit on the senator as he passed.

To add insult to injury, when Jackson boarded his plane for the last leg, he found it boxed in by a 727 jet chartered by his rival, Jimmy Carter. Not until a dozen staff members, Secret Service agents and reporters rolled the DC-3 backward, clear of the chartered jet, was Jackson able to leave.

There was strong symbolism in Jackson's plane being pushed by hand to get around the sleek Carter jet. But Jackson is not much one to worry about symbolism.

And now, as his plane lumbered toward Milwaukee, he looked ahead to what it might be like — the showdown battle with Carter which he, like many others, expects to begin Wednesday, after starting the voting in Wisconsin and New York.

Jackson admits to being puzzled by Carter, saying he's "never had an opponent like him, never known anyone quite like him in politics." As Jackson tells it, the process of discovering began during the 1972 Democratic convention in Miami Beach, when the governor of Georgia volunteered to make the presidential nominating speech for the senator from Washington state.

The two men did not know each other well, but they shared a strong distaste for George McGovern, his followers and his policies. Jackson liked the idea of having "an attractive spokesman for the New South"

nominate him.

It was the morning after McGovern's victory, as Jackson tells it, that he got his first surprise from Carter. The Georgian called him to inquire what Jackson thought Carter's chances of being elected as McGovern's running mate might be.

Jackson and Carter and their wives lunched that day, and the Jacksons felt by the end of the meal that the nomination and ambition of the governor were much more complex and encompassing than they had previously calculated.

As his ambitions have unfolded, Jackson finds himself the main remaining roadblock to the nomination of the man who nominated him for President four years ago. If a novelist had written this plot, he could not have provided a sharper contrast in the personalities.

Jackson is the ultimate Washington insider: 35 years in the corridors of the Capitol, unrivaled in the manipulation of the bureaucratic-interest group-legislative game. Carter is the essential outsider, his main virtue in the eyes of his supporters his innocence of any involvement in that Washington power struggle.

Jackson is perhaps the most literal-minded man in American politics, a lawyer who inserts every clause in every answer — to the point of excruciating boredom. He is blunt and often tactless, not content to call a spade a spade when he can raise someone's hackles by calling it a blankety-blank shovel. He wants you to know where he stands, whether you like it or not.

Carter, by contrast, is a magician with words, weaving a spell with his language and rhythm of speech, building a mood-web that gathers people to him without their ever knowing they are being gathered. It is as elusive as Jackson is defined.

Listen Up

Waggie's car vandalized

Editor:

This letter is directed to that person or those people who vandalized my car Sunday, March 28th. My tire valves were slashed, and my antenna and side view mirror were removed. Why did it happen? Because I am female, and I am in the Corps.

I find this turn of events disgusting. The vandals were of college age, attending a university where students are required to be of above-average intelligence to even be admitted. Those people were probably in the Corps, an institution based on the goal of producing soldiers, statesmen, and knightly gentlemen. Yet here, on this campus, there exists a group of people who can conceive of no other way to express themselves than to destroy a person's private property.

I ask those vandals: What was your purpose? If it was to make me change my license plates, which read "WAGGIE," it didn't work. If it was to make me leave the Corps, it didn't work. If it was to tell me that there are people who object to the presence of women in a formerly all-male institution, I was already aware of them. If it was simply to be destructive, you would be well advised to direct yourself to the nearest psychiatrist. You are badly in need of psychotherapy.

Juanita A. Stubblefield

Twisted meaning

Editor:

In an article appearing in yesterday's Battalion concerning candidates for yell leader I was quoted as saying that people wanted me to run because they wanted a civilian yell leader. It's true that people told me that last year, but in writing the article the reporter left out the rest of my statement, and in doing so completely twisted the meaning of what I was saying.

Last year I told the people who encouraged me that if I ran for Junior Yell Leader I would run not as a civilian but as an Aggie. This year I am running for Senior Yell Leader as an Aggie who would represent a unified student body, and not any separate group within the whole.

I find it most unfortunate that this omission should appear in the Battalion on the eve of the election.

Mark Pool

Shuttle bus

Editor:

It seems that every day lately I have seen or heard complaints about the parking situation on and near campus. I believe the time has come to improve the shuttle bus system.

Adding buses to the existing routes as well as including some new

routes would be helpful. The two routes that I am most interested in seeing implemented are one that would pick up people from the back side of married student housing and one that would go around the perimeter of campus. Perhaps it would also be possible to establish a large parking lot somewhere away from campus and run a bus over here.

It would be nice if these improvements could be funded through a mandatory fee. If it is not possible, then I would be willing to pay a large fee (after all, parking permits are \$36, besides gasoline and car maintenance) but only if the service was DEPENDABLE!

Lois Reibach

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BETTER JUSTIFICATION FOR THE UNIVERSITY'S SPENDING OF STUDENTS' FEES AND CHARGES ASSESSED STUDENTS.

EVALUATION OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING FINES AND COSTS OF TRAFFIC PERMITS.

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