

Listen Up

Candidate loses, students win

Editor:
Many people have said I would have won vice-president of student services if I had used signs and posters. This may or may not be the case but I feel an explanation is necessary to clear up why I did not use them.

First, I did not feel that polluting the campus any further than necessary was warranted. Also, signs talk to you and don't get your views. Last and most important, I was out to prove you could run for an executive office without spending money.

I ran with the idea of listening to students and serving them in any way I could. I campaigned by talking with students so that I could bring out their views. I feel it was not I who lost, but the students who won.

did not see the proposition on the ballot. It was after I voted on the school board and bond issue when I wondered where the referendum was. I went back to an empty city voting booth to flip the page and find that I had overlooked the referendum. I was too embarrassed to say anything to the election judges. My ballot was already in the box, thus, the damage beyond repair so I quietly walked out thinking, "You're sure stupid to do something like that but maybe the issue will fail and it won't really matter anyway."

error that my thinking is somewhat blurred. Any wording that could be misinterpreted probably will be under such conditions.

If a ward system is deemed necessary, I would prefer a 3-3 system or some other combination and would have voted against the proposition if I had seen it on the ballot.

David C. Ruesink

Review bores

Editor:
I am extremely disappointed with John Vanore's article "Good Kottke Bore" (Battalion, Apr. 7). I personally feel Kottke's performance was tremendous and anything but "repetition ad nauseum."

Of course Kottke's flowing rhythms sound different than rock n' rollers Hendrix, Clapton and Gallagher, who are masters of their own particular style. About the only similarity to their form and Kottke's own distinct sound is that they all require quick fingers and a thorough blend of artist and instrument.

And tell your moron reporter, Vanore, that Kottke doesn't need a back-up — because he is a band in himself.

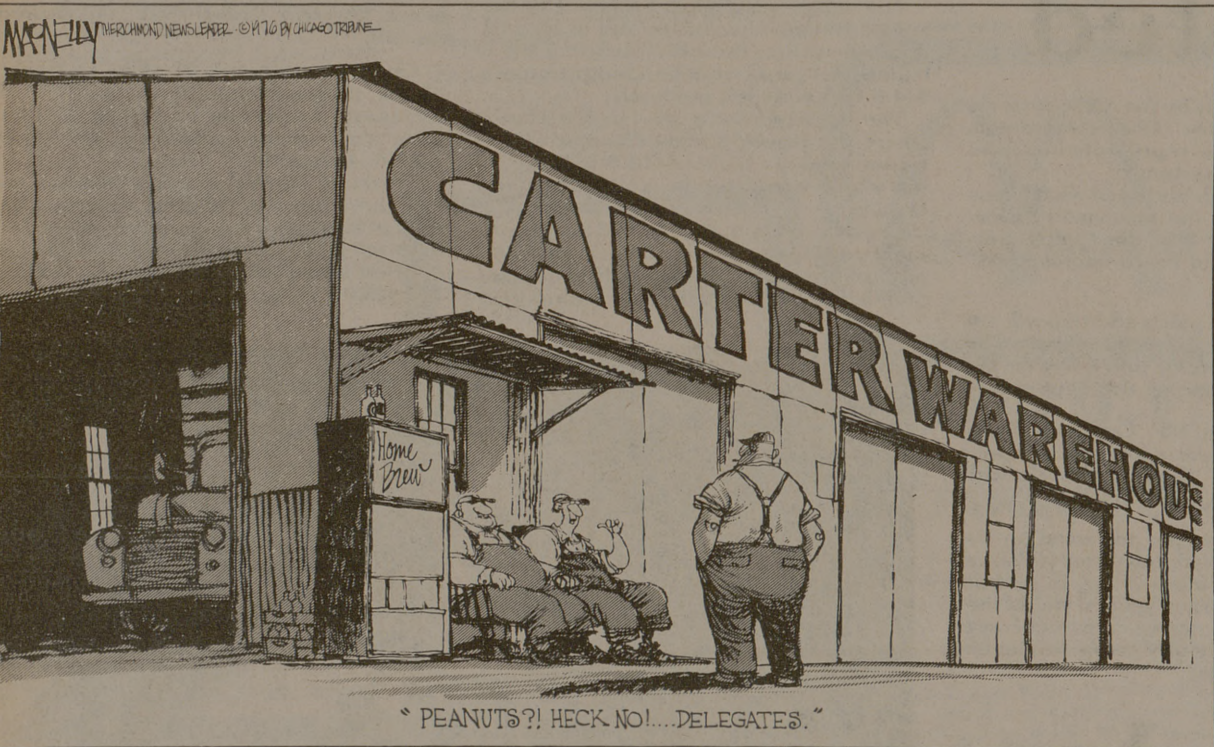
Brian J. Baum

Ball received 2,096 votes in last week's Student Government elections. Incumbent Troie Pruitt won with 2,598 votes.

Editor:

Did majority want revision?

Your editorial in the Battalion, April 6, 1976, with the accompanying ballot really struck home. My experience on Saturday morning was one that I hate to admit but I simply



The Battalion

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David S. Broder

April cruel for candidates

On the day after the Wisconsin and New York primaries, the press contingents covering the three surviving Democratic presidential candidates limped, bedraggled and weary as the contenders themselves, into Philadelphia. The evening bill of fare offered nothing more reviving than the spectacle of Daniel Patrick Moynihan introducing Henry M. Jackson to the kickoff dinner of the Pennsylvania primary campaign.

Moynihan is a man whose imagination knows no bounds. Early on, he surveyed an audience dotted with Mayor Frank Rizzo's pals and the girl friends of certain powerful labor leaders and said, "Some of you may have read the recent issue of the New Republic and noticed the article by my colleague, Adam Ulam . . ."

The same second sight that discerned a set of New Republic readers in that roomful of beer distributors and broads allowed Moynihan to describe his candidate as "the one man standing alive, strong and winning" after the ordeals of New York and Wisconsin.

When Jackson stood up, however, it was clear that he was as battered as everyone else by the ravages of the first week in April, which lost no time in proving its claim to being the cruelest month. His face was as wan as those of the watching reporters, most of whom had been up all night the night before, trying to correct

their stories on the Wisconsin results.

Poor Morris Udall had been the main victim of the voters caprice and the network computers, suffering the agony of losing a race he had confidently claimed to have won on what seemed to be good evidence. But if Udall was the most obvious target of April cruelty, his fate was only marginally worse than that of the supposed victors — Jackson and Jimmy Carter. The real lesson of New York and Wisconsin, for winners and losers alike, is that there will be no easy path to the nomination, and any prize that may await them will be hard-won.

For Carter, the narrow, near-miraculous victory over Udall in Wisconsin had to be balanced against the third-place finish in New York and the disappointing results of the Virginia caucuses, which were held three days earlier. Carter held three days earlier. Carter has now finished last among the remaining active candidates in two of the three industrial states in which he has competed. He was fourth in Massachusetts and third in New York, achieving his only victory in Illinois, where George Wallace was the only campaigning opponent.

The pressure now grows for him to demonstrate his vote-getting ability in those states like Pennsylvania, Michigan and California where Democrats must win a presidential election. And at the same time, ri-

vals Jackson and Udall have shown an increasing ability to focus voters' attention on the ambiguities in Carter's positions and his deviations from accepted Democratic economic doctrine.

But Jackson can hardly gloat — not when he failed to win a majority of the New York delegates, let alone the landslide he had incautiously predicted at one time.

Even President Ford, while sweeping all 45 delegates in Wisconsin and seeing a friendly delegation win in New York, had little reason for exultation. The fact is that challenger Ronald Reagan won 45 percent of the vote without setting foot in Wisconsin in the two weeks before the election.

This indicates that nearly half the basic Republican constituency — even in a state with a moderate tradition — really is looking for an alternative to the incumbent. Mr. Ford, too, must know by now that he will have to fight Reagan further before the victory is his.

But what is hard on the candidates may be good for the voters. We are learning more each week about the ideas and the abilities of those who seek to lead the nation. Issues are important, and the issues the challengers are throwing at Carter and Mr. Ford are ones they ought to be able to handle, if they are to provide the alternatives in the general election.

The Republican Party has represented a position of national defense and staunch communism, and Reagan is offering a service by testing his commitment to those causes.

The Democratic Party in more decades has been preoccupied with working men, the minorities and the Udall and Jackson, in their ways, are providing a service to those traditions.

By the end of April — and we will know a lot more about men.

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Aggie Forum

Guest viewpoints, in addition to Listen Up letters, are welcome. All pieces submitted to Aggie Forum should be:

- Typed triple space
- Limited to 600 characters per line
- Limited to 100 lines

Submit articles to: McDonald 217, College Station, Texas, 77843. A phone number must accompany all submissions.

RON GODBEY

WILL BE ON CAMPUS

April 15, 1976
7:30 P.M.
Room 137 MSC

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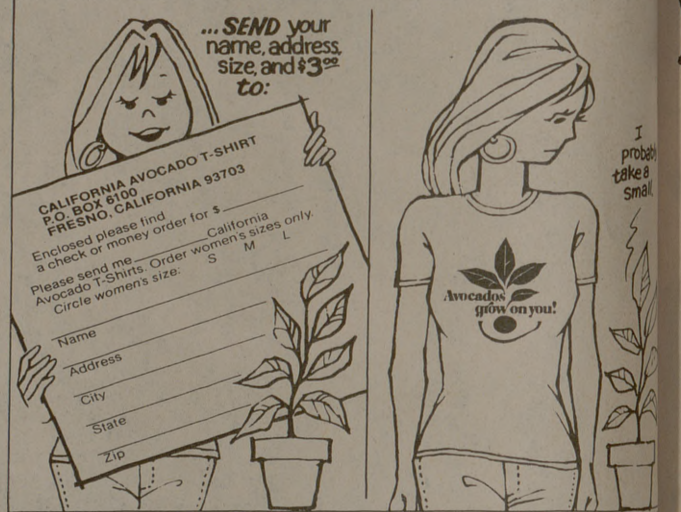
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