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### Register to vote

Friday at 5 p.m. is the deadline for registering to vote in the Nov. 2 general elections. The importance of register-

ing cannot be stressed too If you presently do not have a blue voter's registration card, you are not registered. You can register by simply

clipping and filling out the form at left and mailing it to: Raymond Buchanan Tax Assessor-Collector Brazos County Courthouse

Bryan 77801 The letter must be postmarked no later than 5 p.m. to

# Mondale looks happy carrying the car

MADISON, Wisc. — On the day before the great debate, and the day after the Playboy-interview flap, Jimmy Carter was home in Plains and Fritz Mondale was "carrying the can" through Illinois and

Carrying the can is what vice-presidential candidates are hired for — the dirty, disagreeable work that the presidential nominees don't want to soil themselves

performing.

Mondale had seen his mentor, Hubert
Humphrey, perform the chore for Lyndon
Johnson, so the task was no surprise to him. And on this fall day, he was shouldering the load with a cheerfulness that would have

made Humphrey proud of his protege.

He was asked how he liked the task of explaining Carter's controversial comments on love and lust. Mondale replied, with a smile, "It's a challenge." Then, turning to an aide, he asked: "Did I remember to say that it showed his candor? I thought

Among some of Mondale's friends, the Playboy interview was further proof that the searching scrutiny Carter applied to his potential running mates might better have been used to test Carter's own temperament and judgment.

But the only regret Mondale himself would voice, even privately, was that the Playboy caper — like the earlier Carter-provoked imbroglios over Clarence Kelley and the income tax reforms - was an unnecessary diversion from the Democrats'



David S. Broder

main line of attack.

As the Democratic ticket's designated hitter for traditional allies — organized labor, the Jews, the blacks, the elderly — Mondale has a stump speech that whacks the daylight out of Republicans as par-simonious, cold-blooded enemies of the working folks.

Like Humphrey, he's not above rather grandiose exaggerations in order to make a point. At the Illinois AFL-CIO convention, Mondale inveighed against the "insensitivity and heartlessness" of the Ford administration. He said that whenever there's "a news report that somebody got a job, they meet in emergency session at the White House and all those great, warm-hearted persons, Alan Greenspan and Bill Simon and those folks who love human beings so much, get together and try to figure out how to prevent that trend before it gets out

When a reporter asked Mondale if that didn't border on demagoguery, he said, cheerfully, "Well, I made that remark pri-

vately the other night, and I thought I'd try it in a speech and see how it went over." Then, turning serious, he added, "I've been with those guys like Simon and Greenspan and unemployment is not a

very important factor in their lives." An argument that Republicans love unemployment is not going to persuade many undecided voters in this election. But that's not Mondale's job. His job is to steam up the troops in the Democratic heartland from Minnesota to Massachusetts - the liberal, labor crowd that finds it hard to regard Jimmy Carter as one of their own.

That is not easy work. Here in Madison, where independent candidate Eugene J. McCarthy retains a strong residue of sup-port and many McGovern-Udall liberals are shunning the Carter campaign, Mondale received little encouragement. His audiences were small and tepid, and he failed to win an endorsement of Carter from the city's popular young mayor, Paul Souglin, who still harbors doubts about Carter's commitment to liberal causes.

Mondale's task seemed like a secondary assignment of no great significance when the campaign began with Carter 25 points ahead. It looks a lot more vital now, as the embattled Georgian — very much on the defensive — seeks some kind of solid footing for his race.

In the hour of adversity, it has become obvious that Carter needs the Democratic

Party — its officeholders, its leaders allies in traditional interest groups-

than it needs him. And among those groups, M credentials are in better order the ter's. Mondale has fought their but

Congress for 12 years and has Hum protective cloak to wear as well. Thus, the success Mondale ha up the faithful in these friendl

becomes an important factor in What Mondale's reward will! forms this mission is something clined to discuss in any detail. Hi that a President Carter — with his ous agenda for reorganization of ment and reform of programs – need a savvy Senate hand to build

on Capitol Hill. Previous vice-presidents, with good credentials, have enterta same hopes. But Lyndon John shunted to the outer ring of the administration, and Humphrey w excluded in the Johnson years

Mondale prefers not to dwell He finds hopeful auguries is willingness to listen and learns of subjects — from the CIA to bishops. And he assumes that he excluded from real influence, have been, by a White House pa

His enthusiasm for his w genuine and touching. He look

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### 'No confidence' resolution stops short;

No confidence. Instead of just being a title for a resolution of student governmental debate, it may express student opinion of student government in general.

There is much discussion among student senators and other student government officials about the pros and cons of a no-confidence bill. Proponents of the resolution say it will pressure candidates into campaigning harder for their positions.

Opponents of the resolution say it will not. And besides adding no pressure, they say it will act only to delay filling some governmental offices.

Disagreement about the resolution ranges from calm disapproval all the way to references to the Student Senate raping the Student Body.

It has not been pointed out clearly that the no-confidence resolution would affect only the president and vice-presidents. It would, in no way, affect senators.

It seems there is a double-standard pre-

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Whether the resolution is accepted or not will be up to the individual but one point is clear; if passed it should include all student government positions. It should also be present on all referendums presented to the students. It would act as an

indicator of student concern. When asked why the senators should not be included, general opinion holds that senators are of minor importance. Others feel that since it is more of a popularity contest, some would vote no-confidence just because it's there. This is an abuse that Student Body President Fred McClure deems likely.

But are these suppositions true? Are senators unimportant? If Student Government is important or useful in any way, the senator is the foundation on which it is built. They are supposed to be the voice of the students. They are supposed to in an and apathy is running through the malls

represent their constituency's desires.
Isn't this true? Don't they? If not, then why are they still in office?

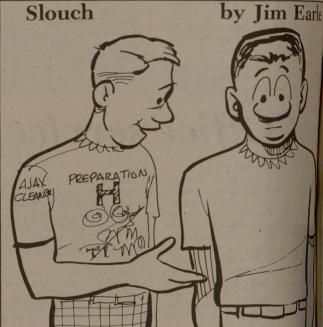
As for abuse — wouldn't it be just as likely abused on the presidential ballot as the senatorial? Why would someone abuse "no-confidence" one time but not another?

An argument against no-confidence on the senatorial ballot is a valid argument against it on the presidential ballot. But some of the senators do not see the logic in that statement. Perhaps some of them are afraid to impose the same rules on themselves as the president and vice-presidents. Selfish interests?

But the entire argument about the "noconfidence" resolution is valid only if the students care about student government.

The concern or lack of concern is evidenced by the fact that some senators were elected to their positions by receiving only a handful of votes. The fact that only thirteen of the fifteen off campus senatorial positions were filed for last year when more than 50 per cent of the students live offcampus is a matter of concern.

If a "no-confidence" resolution must pass, it should include not only the executive positions, but be present on all ballots. The first time the students vote, it would be evident whether or not the students do have "no-confidence" in student govern-



'What a terrific idea! An all-white T-shirt!"

## Campus sidewalks need bicycle lanes

Editor:
Allow an avid bicyclist to react to Steve Reis' war stories (Battalion, Sept. 24). I think he did an excellent job and put his finger on a very sore spot indeed: campus traffic

I spent twenty-five years in Holland, bicycle territory par excel-lence. The hair of our administrators, traffic cops, and undertakers has turned grey over the issue. One of our conclusions - even the Queen tours the palace gardens on her two-wheeler — has been that bicyclists should be provided with their own lanes, where they can reach a safe minimum speed. It is easier to keep cyclists in a lane than pedestrians, who can lift their legs and cross curbs easily.

A cyclist hates to dismount and we will have to take advantage of that. I have never observed a situation as dangerous as here on campus, and am convinced that handlebars are going to be bent - but not intentionally. Can you imagine spokes penetrating senior boots or umbrella's hooking into 10-speed mechanisms? I can.

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Listen Up

Considering the psychologies of both cyclist and pedestrian, I doubt if more consideration is the key we are looking for. Rather, we need physical barriers that can sort out the traffic. We cannot impose walking regulations on pedestrians. They are liberals. Cyclists will not dismount for infantry: such is the nature of the

An example of a missed chance on campus seems to be the recently completed pavement that runs around Bizell Hall towards the MSC. The concrete was intended for bicycles, the pebbles for pedestrians. But somebody has forgotten the little curb in the middle and the result is chaos.

Either give us those three-inch

curbs or make the cycling lanes that much lower than the rest; enough to keep the users from climbing out on their wheels. Survival of the slowest

Jeff Stuyt

### Ag Elementary

High," then this must be "Aggie Elementary." Correct me if I am wrong, but I believe that the series, which dates back at least twenty

years, is in fact now tied.

The truth of the matter is that both schools are first rate universities, academically and athletically. It does us no honor to degrade such a worthy

Robert Stout

#### Proud of band

Editor:
A loud "Whoop!" goes up from the crowd as the Aggie band marches onto the field at half-time playing the 'Aggie War Hymn." Everyone marvels at the precision accomplished by the band members.

I haven't met an Aggie yet who Isn't it about time for Aggies to doesn't feel extreme pride and restop calling the University of Hous-spect for his school at these ton "Cougar High"? After Saturday moments. The band seems to emnight's results, if U of H is "Cougar body the spirit of Texas A&M Uni-

> I would therefore like to thank all the corpsmen who work so hard to make the band what it is today. I hope that it will always be an important part of Texas A&M so that future Aggies can experience that same feeling of pride. Thanks again to the "Fightin' Texas Aggie Band."

> > Susan Riff, '79

## Che Battalion

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