

Some classes may be held on Monday

Editor:
A centennial celebration is an occasion that only comes along every 100 years. On Monday, Oct. 4, Texas A&M will celebrate their 100 years. In honor of the occasion, the administration has suspended class from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm to enable students to attend a special program.
Although many Ags. will use this day to replace the foregone day Labor-day weekend, others will attend the celebration. However, some of us get the main point.
Another day one of my professors informed the class that he would be lecturing Monday (with his approval). He added that attendance for this lecture would not be mandatory, we would be responsible for the material covered. This is not just a single instruction of other professors doing the same thing. When utterances of this nature are raised by students, the professor quickly says that we can skip the lecture. Easy for him to say. He won't be totally lost when he goes to lecture on Wednesday, but we will be. This centennial celebration may not be of any importance to some professors, but why do they take it upon themselves to give us an extra incentive not to attend.

Listen Up

The profs ought to re-evaluate the importance of their classes. What's more important — a foregone hour's lecture or a once every hundred years celebration?
If the consenting deans think a lecture should take over the Centennial, I think they must be the ones with their priorities in the wrong order.
Don't feel bad though; maybe if we miss this celebration, we can go the next time around.
Jeff Elliot

Editor's note: A check with some professors revealed that some classes are meeting, but attendance is voluntary. The students will not be held responsible for the content of the lectures held.

Flora fertilized

Editor:
A letter appeared in this column on September 28 that I feel was unjustified. It concerned an attempted analogy between the flowers at Texas

A&M and Dr. O'Connor's Chemistry 101 classes.

I am a regular "visitor" to Dr. O'Connor's p.m. class, and I sit on the floor every day. There are always many empty chairs down near the front, and only if a student came in very late, would there be the possibility that he might not find a seat. And whose fault would that be? Even so, a simple gesture towards Dr. O'Connor would promptly find this student a seat.

I have the highest regard for Dr. O'Connor as a person and as a professor and I feel he should be commended on the control of his classes. I also think that a survey of his students would result in a similar overall attitude.

Obviously, from the attendance in his classes, Dr. O'Connor grows a crowded "bed of flowers." But I can guarantee that he fertilizes his "flora" well enough to compensate for this abundance!
Mark Sippel

Editor's note: This is the 20th letter received on this topic, all of them complimentary of Dr. O'Connor's chemistry 101 program.

Intelligence insulted

Editor:
All students attending A&M have recently had their intelligence attacked in your recent "Editorial." Any student with any ability to think for himself can easily see the error in your logic.
First of all, when does less than 1 per cent of the student body determine what more than 99 per cent

really want? It has been proven that only scientific polls can determine effectively and accurately what a large group of people think. A random poll, such as the one performed by the student government, can not effectively tell what people want. Taking another group of 229 students, the results would probably be the opposite.

Second, when does any negative feeling help any situation advance positively? My belief is never! Advancement in a positive direction is what the student government and student body need.

Third, I personally feel that the student body should vote for candidates who cared enough about the student body and the student government to campaign for the first election, than to create an opening for opportunist to walk in and take advantage of the situation when they didn't care enough to run the first time.

Furthermore, your attack of Scott Gregson served no purpose at all. Taking phrases from his speech out of context, such as, he wants to "keep A&M unique" and implying that he meant to keep the Student Government unique does nothing but confuse the issue. It is obvious that Gregson meant that the University as a whole, is unique.

I'm proud of A&M and the cursed uniqueness you talked about. If you don't like going to a unique university, maybe you should try t.u., at

least you won't have to worry about the uniqueness of pride and love for a University that Aggies portray.
Mark Whitt

Editor's note: The answer to your first question (when does less than one per cent of the student body determine what more than 99 per cent really want?) is: every time the Student Government meets.

Regarding the poll which you say should be disregarded: Why is a Senate committee established to take such polls if the Senate puts no credence in the results?

In answer to your second question, you wrongly label a difference of opinion as negative. Just because someone disagreed that the world was flat, one wouldn't call his a negative opinion. All progress is a result of conflict of opinion.

Your third point is your opinion which it is your right to hold.

Regarding your fourth point: The political-minded individual who holds himself and his opinions up for public approval must also be willing to have himself and his opinions held up for public criticism.

Gregson, who voluntarily accepted the high-profile political position of spokesman for the opposition, must take responsibility for his words and actions.

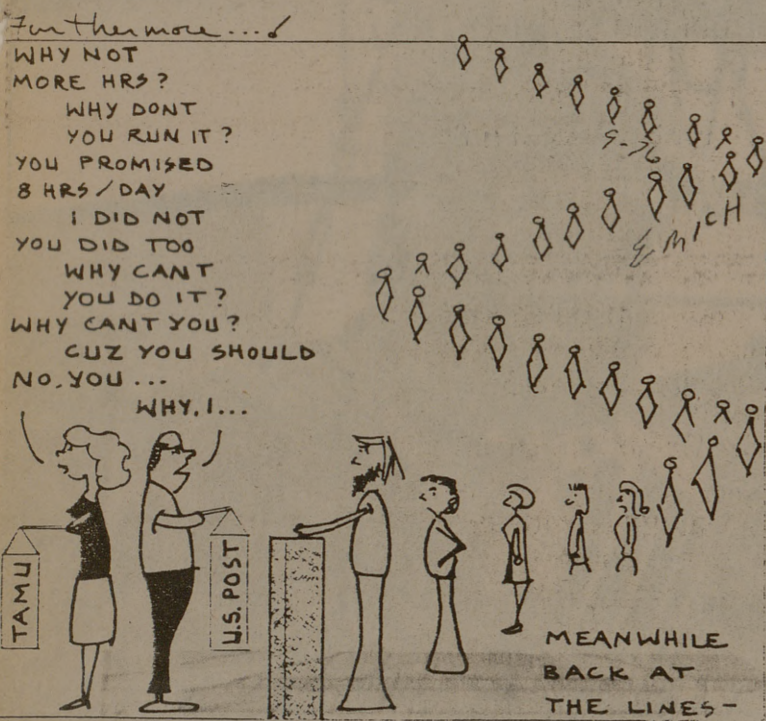
Regarding uniqueness, A&M's student body should be known for its responsibility and logical thought rather than its emotional irrationality.

Slouch

by Jim Earle



"Since everybody I know will be in Illinois for the game nobody will see this cartoon; so I think I'll spend today just talking to you!"



Readers' Forum

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



David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — In the flood of assessments of the Ford-Carter race in the days following the great debate, this reporter has heard three comments that seemed eminently sensible. They all came from people who were somewhat removed from the fray, and two of the three were women.

Rose Elizabeth Bird is a Democratic lawyer serving in the cabinet of Gov. Jerry Brown's administration in Sacramento. Rita Emmett is a housewife in the Chicago suburb of Franklin Park, who gave up watching television news five years ago. And Ody Fish is a businessman who's been running the Republican Party in Wisconsin as long as anyone can remember.

Rose Bird, like many others close to Jerry Brown, has not been a Jimmy Carter fan, but she said the debate "aroused my partisan instincts," and had her rooting for the Democrat to do well.

She said she thought Carter did "better as he went along, particularly in his summation, but they were both rather boring." "The big thing that struck me," she said, "was the symbolism of the breakdown of technology, when they were both

she said, "Don't get hooked on the images," but when they lost the sound, I was so dependent on it, I just started shaking my set. I couldn't believe how involved I was."
She gave the edge to Ford, she said, "and that's the first pro-Republican thing I can remember saying in my whole life. I didn't expect him to think fast on his feet, but he did."

What about Carter? "I'm so confused about Carter," she said. "My thoughts have changed so much. When he first appeared during the primaries, I thought, 'No, this can't be happening. A man I've never heard of.' But then I thought, 'What if this guy is for real? Wouldn't it be something to have someone you could trust?'"

"But now," she continued, "I can't understand what's happening. All this about abortion and Playboy. What is all this about? What's really important is what happens to people: their jobs and their taxes, those are the things that make a difference."
"A month ago," she said, "I knew I was going to vote for Carter. . . . But everything's getting cloudy. After the primaries, when he talked about having an intimate, personal relationship with the people, I thought everything would be crystal-clear. Like anytime I wanted to know something, I could just sort of call him up and get an answer. . . . But it's not working out that way."

Fish, the Wisconsin Republican, gave Ford "a pretty good" rating on

the debate but said, "I didn't like his closing statement, it was overwhelming."
Then he said: "The debate between us (Republicans) more than the Carter had to give them an emotional reason to be for him, not numbers and statistics, and he did do that."

"If you've got two guys that are wildly popular," he said, "the one you get to an election, the one people will decide to stay with is the one they know. Carter needs a breakthrough to overcome that line and he hasn't found one yet. . . . longer it takes, the better the chance he'll never find the opening."

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