

Opinion/Commentary/Letters

# Free tow bandito charges again

Heed this warning illegal parkers of the Northgate area.

On Monday, April 4, all cars that are parked in the vacant lot at the corner of Boyett and Patricia streets will be towed away. So if you have been using this area to park, for any reason, know of someone who has or see someone parking in this lot which is located next to University Cycles near the Campus Theater, please warn them.

Those that do park there will have to travel to the north side of Bryan and pay A-1 Wrecker Service a fee of \$25 to get their cars back.

George Boyett, owner of the lot, says that some construction is to begin of that lot, but that the work crews are a week behind because they have not been able to survey the lot because of the cars that have been in the way.

Boyett says that he has let persons park on his property without permission for quite a few months and that he has not cared, but the time has come for some work to be done so the cars will have to move.

The "Hassle Free" program, which is an off-campus service organization, is working with Boyett in order to let the students know that they are not to park at the corner in the lot any more. Circulars have been printed and will be placed on the windshields of the cars that park there today and during the weekend.

The area around the Circle Drive-in Theater is also under the authority of Boyett and he says that construction crews for the Northgate Condominium will need to start work in that area very soon. He was also going to start towing from that area on Monday, but after talking with a Battalion editor, Boyett said that he would wait until Wednesday of next week so that a warning could be given in Tuesday's as well as today's issue of the Battalion.

Boyett is not trying to make any money, he will not receive a cent from any person who has his car towed. But it is his property, work needs to be done on that property

and those that park there are trespassing and have no justified argument if their cars disappear.

There have been a number of articles and letters to the editor regarding parking on and around the Texas A&M Campus. If the people don't know by now that they risk getting their cars towed away by parking illegally, they will never learn.

Many think of A&M Wrecker Service, which places spotters and tows illegally parked vehicles from Culpepper Plaza and the Skaggs-Albertson's parking lot, as crooks. Maybe, but Sparky Hardee, owner of the wrecker service says that it is good business and that he has no qualms about towing violators.

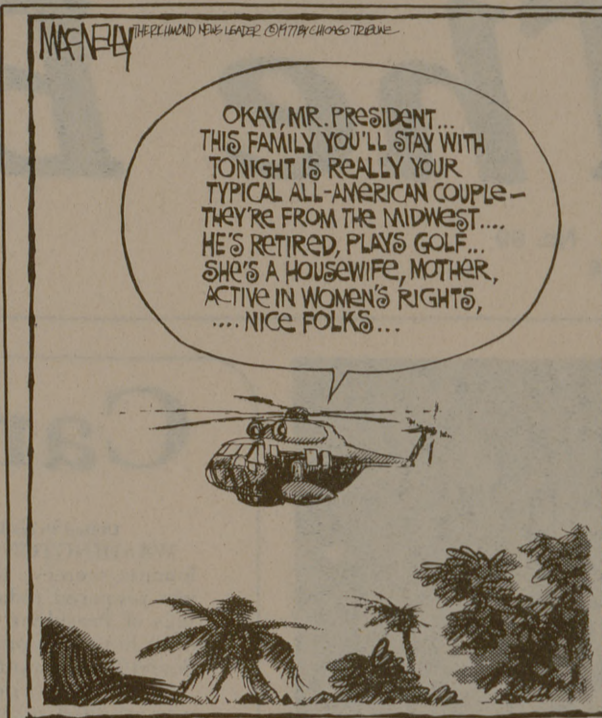
Hardee says that he considers the parking violators as thieves. They are parking on one particular merchant's lot and then walking across the street and doing business with Texas A&M University. "Skaggs's business is still anathema to most male employees. . . . Let A&M provide its customers with the same service," Hardee says.

Well, it is easy to say and University officials have been working on solutions, but they have yet to come up with one that can satisfy all of the students. And it is not just the students who are parking illegally. Many University workers, staff and faculty, infringe on the property rights of others just so they will not have to buy a University hunting permit. A permit that allows them to hunt for the parking spot nearest their work building.

We have heard enough of the complaining. Now let's get some advice and solutions and inform the people who can do something about the parking situation...the Administration.

The rights of others are being infringed upon and too many people are having to pay too much money in towing fees and parking tickets.

Don't you be the next to be found your car towed away, don't park on the corner of Boyett and Patricia streets on Monday.

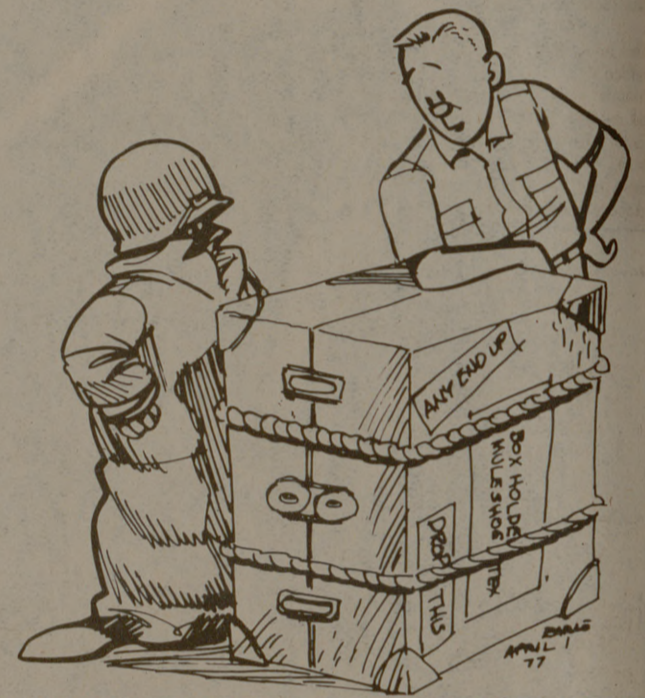


## Special Election Guide

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## Slouch

by Jim Earle



"HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO WHEN HE GETS BACK AND APRIL FOOL'S DAY IS OVER?"

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# No German women's movement

By HANS-ULRICH SPREE  
BONN, WEST GERMANY — There is no German equivalent for "Ms.," the symbol of women's liberation in the United States. That is because, despite a generation of democratic reforms, there is no organized movement championing women's equality here.

Under the constitution, women are supposed to enjoy the same rights as men in employment, salaries, social security payments and other benefits. But if these rights exist more on paper than in reality, it is largely due to attitudes.

Surveys show that the majority of women, even including young girls, believe that their main careers should be as housewives and mothers. Or, as the old slogan has it, a woman's activities ought to be limited to kitchen, church and children.

This view of the role of women is shared by most German men. And since the men are under little pressure to change conditions, progress toward women's equality has been slow.

Exceptions to the rule exist, of course. Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's cabinet contains two women, one the Minister for Economic Cooperation and the other the Minister for Youth, Family and Health. But the latter does not direct the nation's huge health insurance program, which is run by the Minister of Labor, a man.

There is a woman justice on the supreme court, and a woman holds a top position in the federal bank. By and large, though, few women are involved in politics, which

Germans traditionally consider to be a male occupation.

Of the 518 members of the legislature elected last October, for example, only 38 are women. A woman held the post of parliamentary president, but she was recently replaced by a man.

A few women are also prominent in business. There is, in fact, an association of businesswomen comprising more than 1,000 members. For the most part, however, these are women who have inherited family firms. Women managers of large corporations are rare, partly be-

cause stockholders are reluctant to elect them to boards of directors and also because the idea of a female boss is still anathema to most male employees.

Attempts can be observed here and there to emancipate women. In February, for instance a well-known feminist and publisher, Alice Scharzer, launched a new monthly magazine modeled after the American publication "Ms.," which supports women's rights in the United States.

The new magazine is called

"Emma." Its name was chosen to symbolize the typical German spinster, and the purpose of the publication, as its advertising claims, is to be "for women and by women."

It remains to be seen how many women will subscribe to the magazine at \$1.50 per issue. For the real Emmas of West Germany earn, on the average, 30 per cent less than men performing the same work. Since unemployment insurance and pensions are calibrated to income, those who are jobless or retired also receive lower payments.

## The Battalion

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### LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

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