

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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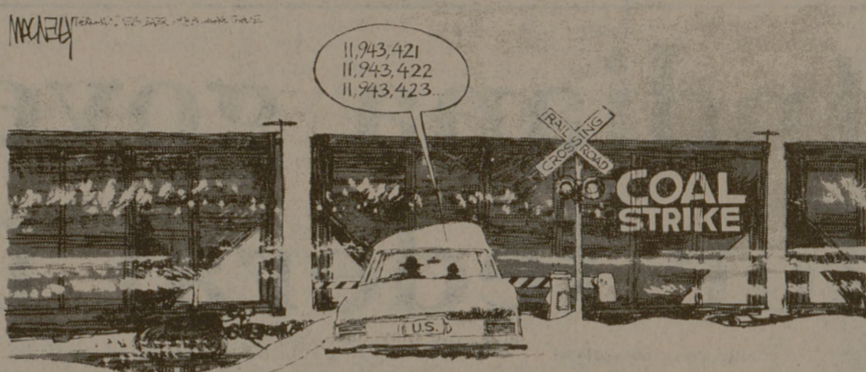
## Some work for fun

Moonlighting is on the increase. That's the verdict of a Labor Department survey that reports the number of Americans holding two jobs increased by 600,000 in 1977, bringing the number of moonlighters to 5 percent of all workers. That's a record number 4.6 million moonlighters.

The survey pointed out, among other things, that about half of the women moonlighters hold two part-time jobs, while most men who moonlight hold down one full-time job.

Not surprisingly, a third of moonlighters surveyed said they need the extra income the second job provides. But another 20 percent said they took the second job because they like the work the second job provides.

It's encouraging to see, in a world where most of us have to work all the time, there are still people who like to work. L.R.L.



## Money does not a winner make

By JIM CRAWLEY

Don McNeil's campaign literature features the phrase "A Fresh New Face for Congress." Above this slogan and his name is a picture of a smiling McNeil.

Will McNeil, if he wins in May and November, be a "fresh face for Congress?" So far it's too early to make a definite decision, but there are some keys to the solution of the question.

The main thrust of the McNeil candidacy has been to show the populace that the candidate is the only one of the six candidates who has "real-world" experience. In other words, McNeil is putting the emphasis of his campaign on his experience as a businessman-rancher-farmer.

So far, McNeil, the first candidate to announce his run for the nomination, has kept a low-key profile. This is especially true in the southern portion of the district. Within the last month, McNeil has made plans to visit Bryan-College Station but snow in the northern half of the district has made it impractical for him to drive down for the day.

His support, speaking in geographical terms, is consolidated in the northern

counties of the district and even that declaration is fuzzy. Alvarado is McNeil's base of operations. His campaign office is his ranchhouse, which has been staffed by the usual campaign workers and volunteers that gather around any candidate like

### Politics

groupies around a rock star.

His ability to get voters is also questionable. McNeil is just what one of his press releases stated, a political novice. The trio of Edwards, Godbey and Gramm aren't political novices, each has been a candidate or coordinated a political campaign. Each knows the details and rules of the American game of politics.

McNeil doesn't know all the rules. But he has that political cure-all — the panacea of the campaign — money. Everyone has to agree that money can make or break a candidate.

If a candidate has a lot of money in his treasury he won't have to spend a lot of time winning and dining the major campaign supporters and fundraisers who contribute much, but only vote once. The monied candidate can then go out and

climb the soapboxes and get the average man's vote.

The monied politician, especially a novice, might misconstrue his wealth. More than one candidate has spent large sums on media blitzes, flashy stationery and shiny bumper stickers; only to wake up the morning after the election a loser. They failed to realize that a candidate has to go out and meet the citizenry of the district.

In this half of the district, McNeil's campaign is sparse; in fact, almost nonexistent. No signs, no press releases concerning this portion of the district and none of the omnipresent lists of political supporters and fundraisers.

McNeil must think that this end of the district is unimportant. This assumption could have grave consequences for him. If he plans to win the Sixth primary, without a reasonable showing in the southern half, he will have to carry the northern counties of Dallas and Tarrant. Unfortunately, this is a forlorn hope for any candidate in this race. With five of the six candidates residing in the northern half of the district, the prospects of a single candidate coming away with a clear majority in the north is slim.

In an unusual turn of events within the last week of filing for the Sixth Congressional Democratic primary, a sixth candidate filed to get his name on the ballot. Will Power, a Dallas mortgage broker, paid the \$1,500 fee to the state Democratic party headquarters.

In his press release at the time of filing, Powers connected himself with retiring Congressman Teague with the statement that he was Teague's first appointment to a service academy back in the forties.

One of the political science professors at Texas A&M related the story of a person that filed for a political office that he couldn't possibly have won. The candidate, a lawyer, made a few perfunctory announcements and didn't actually campaign. When election night came around, the lawyer lost, as was expected. When asked why he ran against an opponent that he couldn't beat, he replied that it wasn't the office he was running for, but the publicity. People would see his name in the paper and on the ballot, and they might remember his name when they needed an attorney.

Although this may not be the case with Powers, his candidacy is worth watching.

## Radio: a new political watchdog

By STEVE GERSTEL

WASHINGTON — On Nov. 2, 1920, station KDKA in Pittsburgh broadcast the returns of the presidential election between Warren Harding and James M. Cox. It was the first non-experimental radio news report.

### Washington Window

More than 57 years later, the U.S. Senate discovered that this technological marvel — the radio — actually exists. Not only that, the Senate decided it works.

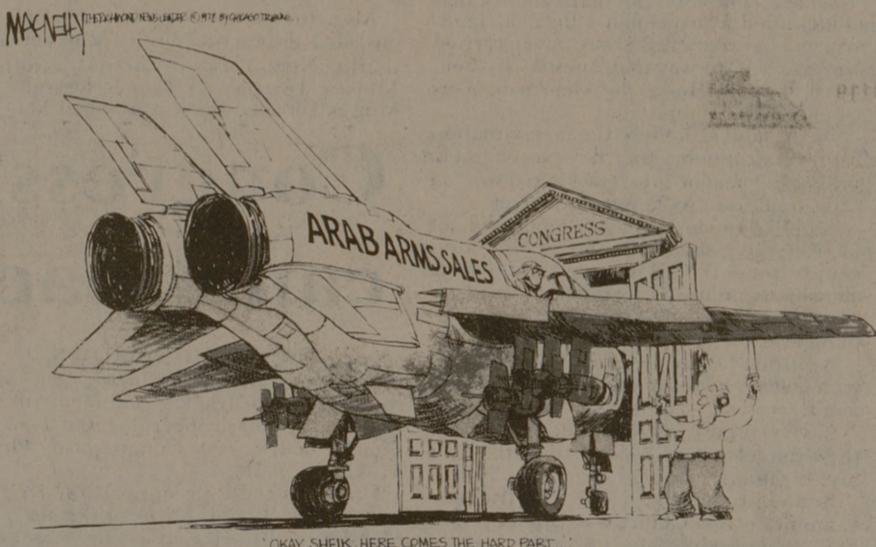
After more than half a century pondering the gadget, the Senate has now emulated KDKA and is permitting the broadcast of the debate on the Panama Canal treaties.

That it should take so long for the Senate to break with the past is not surprising. The Senate is very much taken with tradition and trappings.

The chamber may be the only place where quill pens, snuff boxes, inkwells and spittoons are still available and where those big, old leather couches favored by men's clubs are considered modern furniture.

It was only a few years ago that microphones and a sound system were installed so that senators could hear each other talk.

The broadcast of the Panama debate is a two-way arrangement: It is an in-house production that pipes the sound into



senators' offices and other places and it also is made available to commercial and non-commercial outlets.

National Public Radio, with Linda Wertheimer as anchor, is broadcasting the debate gavel-to-gavel. The networks are taking bits and pieces to put into their programs, although it is possible they might go "live" for some of the major votes.

There is no question that many senators on both sides of the fence on this sharply

divisive issue are acutely aware that the proceedings are broadcast, and that, in itself, has already changed the Senate.

Normally, the opening statements by senators on both sides of an issue are staid and dull speeches and, out of courtesy, not subject to interruption.

In the Panama Canal debate, however, almost no statement of fact goes without challenge, providing sharp back-and-forths instead of lengthy monologues. With much depending on public reaction,

neither side can afford to have the other dominate.

Senate Democratic Leader Robert Byrd, who was instrumental in providing radio as well as killing television coverage, held the floor for an hour and a half and managed to get through only nine pages of his 47 page speech because he was continuously interrupted.

In fact, Byrd got so wound up and gave such a fine performance that he would have been a sure-fire "Emmy" if he had only allowed television on the premises.

Another indication of the awareness that the debate is being broadcast was the pains Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., chairman of the Intelligence Committee, took to explain why the Senate would have to meet in secret session on some matters.

Fellow senators know that the secret session would deal with highly sensitive intelligence information, but Bayh went out of his way to make sure no one in the listening audience would feel that the Senate was conducting a cover-up.

The resolution allowing the broadcast is very limited. It does not extend beyond the Panama Canal debate.

But on the basis of the current experiment, it appears certain that broadcast of Senate sessions will be allowed in the future.

And not too far down the road, the "technical problems" will be resolved, and the Senate may acknowledge that television exists and allow the all-seeing eye into the chamber.

### Letters to the editor

## A lasting impression

Editor: Silver Taps is that final tribute paid to an Aggie, who at the time of his death, was enrolled in undergraduate or graduate classes at Texas A&M.

My feelings toward this tradition is so overwhelming that it is hard for me to express them. The turn out for last night's Silver Taps really impressed me. Although I'm sure it wasn't a record-breaking crowd, it surely was for how cold it was. I feel that this tradition is one of the most important ones, because it gets all Aggies together to express their feelings about these certain people who have passed on.

What really amazes me is that many people don't even know who the person is, all we need to know is that he's an Aggie. This is one tradition that sets Texas A&M apart from any other university, no other schools express their deepest feelings about their fellow classmates as we do.

I hope this tradition never ceases, because I'd like to think back after I graduate and remember these special times that we gathered together to commemorate our fellow Aggies.

— Galen Chandler, '80

world is really going on. I don't see how SCONA could have picked Udall as a speaker on energy when he is so ignorant about nuclear energy costs.

He actually said that nuclear power is uneconomical and more expensive than coal (Battalion, 2-17-78). In 1975, the average national power cost for coal was 1.75 cents per kilowatt-hour, compared to 1.23 cents per kilowatt-hour for nuclear power. Oil costs 3.36 cents per kilowatt-hour. "Nuclear 43.6 percent Below Fossil Generating Costs 3.36 in First Half," INFO, Atomic Industrial Forum, Sept. 1975) and we burn oil in the on-campus powerplant when natural gas is in short supply.

Did you wonder why your building use fee keeps going up? Now you know, and people like Morris Udall and his friend President Carter only aggravate our energy problems.

— Robert Patlovan, '77

### Right on

Editor: Right on, Chris Lewis.

— Mark Die, '79

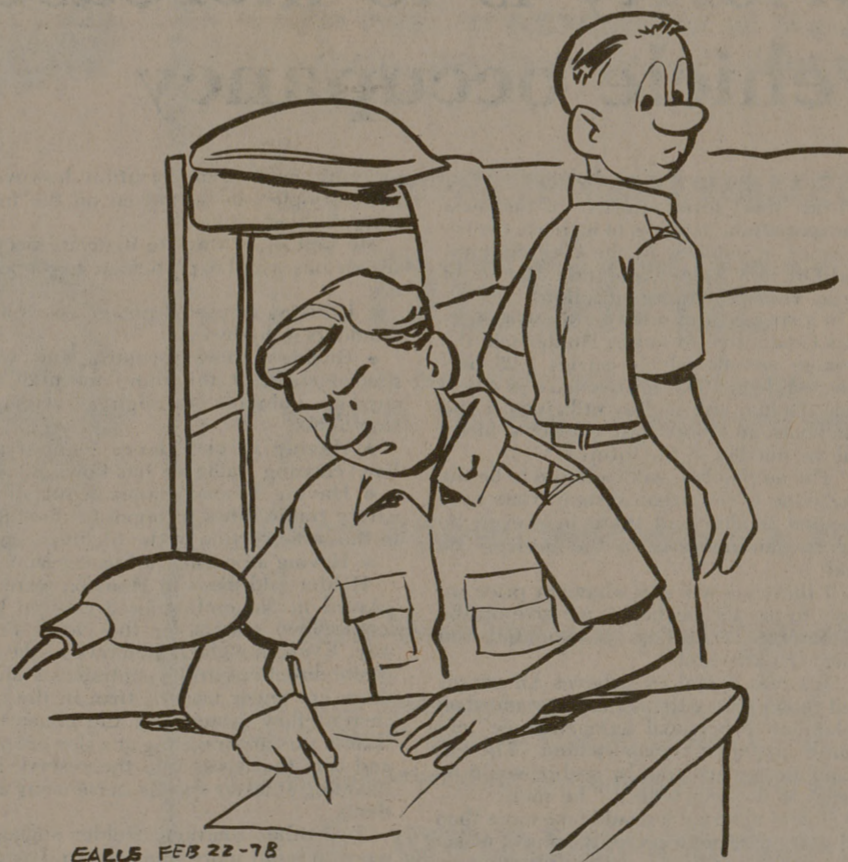
### Nuclear okay

Editor: The politicians like Morris Udall with their abundance of misinformation are causing our real problems with the energy crisis. He just does not know what in the

Editor's note: This letter refers to a letter in the Feb. 20 Battalion in which senior Chris Lewis thanked writers to The Battalion for the entertainment he derives from this section.

### Slouch

by Jim Earle



"IT'S NOT REALLY A LETTER TO THE EDITOR: IT'S A LETTER OF REBUTTAL ADDRESSED TO THE SECOND GUY WHO SENT A LETTER OF REBUTTAL TO THE FIRST WHO REBUTTED!"

# TOP OF THE NEWS

## CAMPUS

### Library friends plan book sale

Friends of the Texas A&M University Library are planning a April 3 book sale at the south entrance of the Sterling C. Egan Library. Those wishing to donate books, posters, maps, records and other materials may place them in boxes in campus dorms and library. After March 20, additional deposit points will be area supermarkets and both McDonald's. At the latter, a coupon for a free drink will be given for every two books donated.

## STATE

### Insurance rate hike requested

The insurance industry will ask the State Insurance Board in Texas today to increase by \$105.8 million the rates Texans pay annually for property insurance. Former board chairman Joe Christie, who resigned from the board in September to begin campaigning for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate, said the board's proposal for a 13.1 percent increase in homeowner insurance is outrageous. The industry is seeking a 14.1 percent increase in homeowner insurance rates.

### Lubbock youth making recovery

Six weeks after the accident in Lubbock which rendered Kyle Compton a "living vegetable," the 16-year-old's family decided to pull the plug on their son's life support systems. His parents, Bruce and Aurie Compton, said they wanted to "leave it up to Kyle and God." Kyle, who doctors once gave no future other than a life in a coma, is now speaking, eating solid foods and relearning to use a wheelchair. Although doctors are unsure how far his recovery will go, a neurologist said the teenager is "definitely making progress and expect him to continue to improve." Kyle was critically injured Sept. 4 in a five-car accident in which seven other persons were injured, and his friend and passenger, Dirk Wesley Murphy, 16, was killed.

### Texas Ranger killed in Argyle

A 27-year-old narcotics suspect in Argyle, Texas, was charged Tuesday with capital murder in the shooting death of a Texas Ranger, the first member of the legendary law enforcement agency to be killed in the past 60 years. Ranger Bobby Paul Doherty, 41, who joined the agency a year and a half ago, was shot once in the head Monday night as he attempted to enter a back door of a house during a drug raid. Doherty was taken to a Fort Worth hospital, but died early Tuesday. Gregory Arthur Ott was arrested at his home in Argyle late Monday and charged with the slaying of Doherty. No bond was set in the case.

## NATION

### Hughes' residence contested

The Supreme Court Tuesday scheduled arguments to determine whether California may contest directly in the high court the legal residence of millionaire Howard Hughes at the time of his death in 1976. California wants the court to decide whether Texas was Hughes' legal domicile. Both states want to collect millions in estate taxes, but it turns out the estate is not large enough for each to do so under its own law after the federal tax has been paid. Meanwhile a probate court jury in Houston held on Feb. 15 that Hughes was a Texan.

### Saccharin warning a must

As of last Tuesday, all food products containing saccharin must carry a label warning people the artificial sweetener may cause cancer. Congress voted to delay a proposed ban on saccharin for 18 months because of the outcry from industry and consumers to hold off until more studies are conducted. The Food and Drug Administration first raised concerns about saccharin last March after animal tests showed it could cause bladder cancer.

## WORLD

### Egypt blamed for airport battle

Cyprus blamed Egypt Tuesday for a bloody airport battle between Cypriot and Egyptian troops and rejected Cairo demands that it give up two Palestinian-born gunmen charged with assassination of a top Egyptian editor. But Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou told a news conference he was willing to meet with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in an effort to improve relations between the two countries that seemed on the verge of a formal rupture.

## WEATHER

Fair and cool today, tonight and Thursday. High today upper 50s, low tonight mid-30s. High tomorrow mid-60s. Winds from the southwest at 10 mph. Continued fair with seasonable temperatures later in the week. Highs near 70, lows in the upper 40s - low 50s.

## THE BATTALION

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