

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 27, 1978

## TOP OF THE NEWS CAMPUS

### Board installments due Friday

The second installment board payment for the 1978 fall semester is due on or before Friday. The amount due is \$162.25 for the 7-Day Board Plan or \$145.45 for the 5-Day Board Plan. Pay now either at the Fiscal Office, Richard Coke Building, or the Cashier's Office in the main lobby of the Rudder Center to avoid penalty.

### Woodall to speak at A&M Club

Col. James R. Woodall is scheduled to speak at the Brazos County A&M Club meeting today. Woodall, commandant of cadets and professor military science at Texas A&M, will report on Corps of Cadets program. The dinner meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Wyatt Cafeteria in Bryan. Reservations must be made by telephoning 845-7514. Ed Davis, club president, said the club's nine scholarship recipients will also be guests.

### Clubs must renew recognition

All Student organizations have until Saturday to renew their recognition for the 1978-79 school year. Signature cards for this purpose may be picked up in the Student Finance Center, room 217 MSC, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Organizations may not transact business until recognition is renewed. Information obtained from the cards is used for mailout of recognized student organizations to area merchants, to refer prospective members to the organization and to send out invitations to student presidents for the annual student leader coffee, Oct. 7.

## STATE

### Solons can't hold other paid jobs

A state legislator may not hold a position at a state university even if he takes unpaid leave of absence during his service in the Legislature, Attorney General John Hill ruled Tuesday. E.D. Walker, president of the University of Texas System said the director of minority affairs at a state university had won the Democratic nomination for a seat in the Texas House and is unopposed in the general election. Walker asked if the man could be given an unpaid leave of absence that would assure he could return to the job at the same salary when his service in the Legislature ended. Hill said a person's occupation which assures him of a salaried status at a definite future date constitutes a position of profit. A provision of state constitution prohibits legislators from holding any other office or state or federal position of profit.

### S.W. Bell loses anti-trust

Mitchell Energy & Development Corp. and Central Telephone & Utility Inc. have been granted \$55 million in anti-trust damages from Southwest Bell Telephone Co. by a federal jury. A Bell spokesman said Monday the utility will ask U.S. District Judge John V. Singleton to set aside Friday's jury award. Mitchell and Central charged in a lawsuit filed in 1973 that Bell unlawfully interfered with competition by refusing Bell system tie-ins for their system in The Woodlands, a planned community developed by Mitchell 25 miles north of Houston. Ken Brasel, a Bell spokesman, said that under federal law, Bell was not obligated to interconnect a competing system within Bell's service area unless so ordered by the Federal Communications Commission. He said no such order had been issued.

## NATION

### NTSB probes Monday jet crash

A 58-member team from the National Transportation and Safety Board began the task of trying to find the cause of the in-flight collision Monday between a Pacific Southwest Airlines jetliner loaded with passengers and a crew of seven and a single engine Cessna 172 with flight instructor and student pilot aboard. The pilots of both aircraft had been alerted their planes were flying in the same air space and acknowledged they had each other in sight minutes before the crash, federal authorities said. The jetliner making its final approach to Lindbergh Field, San Diego, Calif., collided with the small plane over the quiet residential district of North Park, raining bodies and debris to the ground and setting more than a dozen homes ablaze. The death toll stands at 151, including 13 people on the ground.

## WORLD

### 'Kit' causes floods in S.E. Asia

Tropical storm Kit Monday swept toward Southeast Asia already battered by floods that have killed more than 100 persons and damaged millions of acres of crops. Kit churned west over the Gulf of Tonkin at 12 mph dumping heavy rains in its movement over the South China sea toward the coast of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand have already reported heavy new flooding from the storm, the third in a series of floods this year in Southeast Asia.

## WEATHER

Mostly cloudy with mild temperature and chances of showers and thundershowers throughout tomorrow. High today and tomorrow near 80s and low today in the low 60s. Light variable wind. Probability of rain 50% today, 30% tonight and 30% tomorrow.

## THE BATTALION

### 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. Address correspondence to Letters to the Editor, The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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# Minds, prop 13 over matter for liberals

By DAVID S. BRODER

WASHINGTON - There are, Ben Wattenberg has been reminding friends recently, two basic techniques for bringing about political change. You can change the people in power. Or you can change those people's minds. The first requires an election where many of the "ins" are ousted. The second can come about without such a wholesale housecleaning.

This year looks very much like the second sort of year. There's little to suggest a massive repudiation of the Democratic majorities in congress. But those Democrats are beginning to talk in very different ways than they have in the past.

Wattenberg, the author-editor-television personality-Democratic party activist, is right when he says that in politics, "rhetoric does affect reality." And he is correct also in noting that the last several months since the passage of Proposition 13 in California have seen significant shift in the rhetoric of the reigning Democrats.

The most striking instance of what Wattenberg is talking about involves his old intra-party antagonist, Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), a man Wattenberg labored mightily to deny the 1972 presidential nomination.

When Proposition 13 was fresh and new a few months ago, McGovern went before the ADA convention and assailed it as a body-blow to the struggle for social justice. He said it was a kind of disguised racism, a rejection of government responsibility for the needy.

The other day, I called him again, after the defeat of fellow-liberals Donald M. Fraser and Michael S. Dukakis by Proposition 13-style opponents in Democratic senatorial and gubernatorial primaries in traditionally liberal Minnesota and Massachusetts.

"When two liberals go down in states like that," he said, "it cannot be ignored. You have to say the danger to liberalism

When I asked him why he thought this was happening, McGovern said: "Inflation is really beginning to pinch, and since the only part of it the voters can control is the government, they lash out at the liberals they associate with deficit spending.

"Personally," he said, "I think that's misplaced blame, but it does put a special burden on us. We are going to have to be more cautious about federal outlays - not abandon our commitment to full employment and health insurance and the rest - but both military and domestic spending have to be scrutinized more closely.

"And we have to get out front on government corruption, like this GSA (General Services Administration) mess," McGovern said. "Maybe Congress is going to have to spend more time on its oversight (of the executive branch) and less time unleashing new legislation."

The 1972 nominee said he was putting his new principle into practice in an area of social policy he cherishes - nutrition programs. "We're not going to do much in

child nutrition next year," he said. "We're going to spend our time monitoring the existing programs and see if we can make them work better. We're just going to have a moratorium on new legislation. The activist groups in the field support that decision, as a pragmatic matter.

"I think we could do that in housing, as well," McGovern said, "just spend the year looking at what we've been funding, rather than adding to it."

And then, most surprisingly, he said: "I'm not sure in my own mind we ought to move quickly on comprehensive health insurance until we've looked more critically at the health structure and see if we want to fund it as it is.

"I was a little impatient with (President) Carter for not moving more strenuously, but I'm beginning to think he is right.

"I frankly am an out-and-out liberal," he said, "and I don't back away from that label. But I think liberals have a special obligation to get the most from the programs we've passed, and we haven't done that."

As it happens, McGovern's reading of the implications of Proposition 13's passage and defeat of men like Fraser and Dukakis is not much different from that of Carter's own political strategists.

But in the White House, the recent trend is viewed as a vindication - not a repudiation - of the main themes of Carter's 1976 campaign. "Anti-government, anti-Washington, anti-big programs," said a senior Carter staffer the other day, "those were the themes Carter was talking two years ago. Those are the feelings he's trying to address by pushing down the budget deficit and shaking up the bureaucracy."

If that was the essence of Carter's message and appeal during the 1976 primaries, it was blurred in the general election and in his first 18 months as President, by his espousal of many of the domestic welfare programs that have been part of the traditional liberal agenda. The Democratic Congress, for its part, has kept pressure on Carter to do more - not less - for domestic constituents.

But now, as Wattenberg suggests, a new consensus appears to be emerging within the Democratic party on a slowdown in social legislation. McGovern's "moratorium" concept is the perfect complement of the next Carter budget. It will provide little or no room for growth in current programs during fiscal 1980. A Congress concentrating on oversight of existing programs should have few problems working harmoniously with a President interested primarily in reorganizing and reducing the bureaucracy.

Such a government might well be exactly what most of the voters want. But whether it can satisfy the interest groups that have important influence in the Democratic party is another - and far tougher - question.

1978, The Washington Post Company



# Cancer risk alarming

Scientists have been speculating for some years that between 60 percent and 90 percent of all human cancers are environmentally related. Excessive exposure to sunlight, for example, can be a cause of skin cancer. Cigarette smoking can be a cause of lung cancer. Certain occupations are also known to involve a high cancer risk. Until last week it was generally believed that between 1 percent and 5 percent of all cancer cases in the United States are job-related. Those numbers have now undergone a startling escalation.

A study prepared by the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences has found statistical evidence of an extraordinarily high incidence of cancer among workers exposed in the course of their jobs to nine different substances. The incidences of cancer among such workers ranged from 21 percent to 38 percent above normal rates. The researchers now believe that, conservatively, at least 20 percent of all cancers may be related to the work place.

The study has now been turned over to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which anticipates proposing a comprehensive policy on controlling carcinogens in the work place by the end of the year. Such a policy can be expected to be complex, undoubtedly controversial and certainly costly. But doing nothing or doing too little to protect workers from job related cancers is infinitely more costly, as the latest federal study has alarmingly indicated.

Los Angeles Times

# Palestinian action is misunderstood

Editor:

It is regrettable that many people (including Robert Oler, author of "Some Seek Peace and Some Destroy It", Monday, Sept. 25) have made little attempt to understand the Middle East situation.

It is not my intention to condone the actions of the PLO, but to present the other side of the coin.

The Palestinians have some very valid grievances - unfortunately, for a large part of the past 30 years (since the creation of Israel) the only way to get public attention for their cause was to commit an act of violence. In countries all over the world, many oppressed people have been forced to take up armed struggle where innocents may be involved (i.e. Nicaragua, Africa and the early American revolution).

However much you and I detest violence, it is a sad testimony to civilized mankind that this is the means they must sometimes take to achieve justice as they conceive it. "Terrorism," as you call it, is oftentimes the only weapon the weak have against the strong.

I assure you, Mr. Oler, that had the Palestinians not been displaced, they would not be out committing crimes as you suggested. Their violence was born out of frustration and suffering - something most Americans will never know.

Most of us have never had our homes, belongings, rights, privileges and all the protections afforded us by government stripped away. Most of us have never been homeless or hungry. Most of us have never had to live in a refugee camp or have that camp bombed in an Israeli air raid in retaliation for the acts of two or three people. None of us have lived 30 years under such conditions, but it we had - son can honestly say he would not turn to hating?

To understand the Palestinian reaction to Camp David let us use this analogy: For

the Palestinians, every inch of what is now Israel is also their homeland (their houses still stand as testimony throughout Israel). It is as if someone had occupied your house leaving you out in the cold for thirty years and now offers you the garage (the West Bank) to stay in - if you'll share it with the watch dog (the Israeli troops and settlers to be stationed there for 5 years)! Certainly you can see - this is the ultimate insult! No wonder they reacted against it.

Something must be done to recognize and alleviate the Palestinian situation before there can ever be lasting peace. The situation in the Middle East is not a cut and dry issue. America is trying to be the mediator between two extremes where compromise is seen as a sell out by factions on both sides. It is a very sticky situation that will not be solved overnight or perhaps in many years to come.

## Readers Forum

I wish I could be hopeful and praise the Camp David agreements - but unfortunately the crux of the matter has not yet been touched. There is no simple answer. Egypt may find peace on her end but no one can ignore the growing numbers of those in the Middle East who are dissatisfied with the peace accords. It would prove a very serious error not to, at least, attempt to understand their positions.

The major problem to be overcome is the intense hatreds built up all around the area in a complicated situation where, as in any war, all sides are stained with blood. Mr. Oler, the solution definitely does not lie in the name calling and trying to place the blame - especially by the party who wishes to bring peace - but through understanding.

-Rosie Hassoun  
Graduate Student

Wendt's narrow mind.

I would like to suggest that Mr. Wendt might want to sit in on a few freshman sociology classes before he leaves and learn the true meaning of majority and minority. According to my old sociology prof (not an Ol' Ag either), a majority is given that distinction when it is in power or control of a population, government, or institution. Considering the impact of the Corps in campus elections and other activities, the Corps and its supporters are certainly the majority.

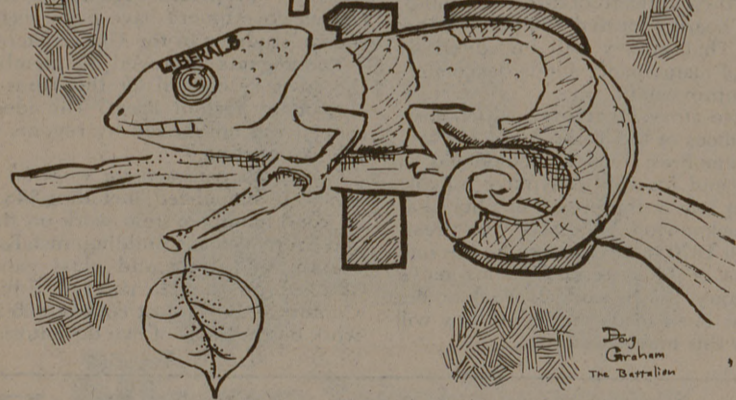
-Mark Kelley, '77

## Correction

A caption on the front page of Tuesday's Battalion incorrectly stated that students may pick up only six football tickets at one time. For home games, each student may still get 10 tickets. However, the six-ticket limit does apply for out-of-town games.

The Battalion regrets the error.

# Proposition



## Letters to the editor

# MSC Video isn't 'boob tube rude'

Editor:

I am writing in response to Monday's (Sept. 18) article entitled "boob tube rude." Randy Hohalus, like many writers to the editor, has written in about something he knows nothing about.

First of all, there are many areas all around the MSC and Rudder Tower to relax, but if the lounge is where you want to sit, please do. If the video monitor was "loud and noxious" it may also be too loud for its maximum sound capacity. We would appreciate you adjusting the volume.

Second, moving the monitor out of the lounge would be devastating to our viewing population. The MSC lounge enjoys the largest popularity out of four monitors being used. Your suggestion of putting a monitor in the snack bar area was acted on two years ago. It has been there ever since.

Third, polls are taken every day as to the number of viewers watching MSC video. Today at one particular hour there were 25 people watching, all of who were within the central part of the lounge. The back and front sides did not seem to be

bothered. There were approximately 40 people in those areas.

To your happiness though, our committee has been discussing locations of monitors. Consideration of the main lounge monitor in the MSC has been extensive. The only suggestion so far though has been moving the monitor to the back corner by the windows of the lounge. This idea has its drawbacks though. Also, we have been thinking about putting a monitor in the Health Center for people to kill time by. If you Randy, or anyone else has suggestions worth listening to, please come forward, we would appreciate it.

I feel our programming is excellent and full of variety for everyone. The programs extend from week to week so that all viewers can see them at their convenience. Also, informative programming about what the MSC Committees have coming up is presented on MSC video. This ranges from Aggie Cinema advertisements to Political Forum's upcoming debates and speeches.

We are accepting membership for those interested in getting involved with MSC Video. Also, if anyone is interested in

helping with producing weekly program based on events around the campus we need people to interview, people to work cameras, and people to help with scheduling. We will be glad to teach you.

-Carl Nielson, '78  
Director of Public Relations  
Videotape Committee

## 'Non-regs' regular

Editor:

In response to J. Spencer Wendt's letter in the Tuesday (Sept. 26) Batt, I suggest that Mr. Wendt look past the end of his wet nose for the final and correct definition of "non-reg." Simply enough, non-reg means "out-of-uniform or in civilian clothes." And before Mr. Wendt tries to dress me in khaki, let me explain that I am a non-reg. And so, while I may not have Mr. Wendt's wisdom of age that comes with taking five plus years to get a four year degree, I think it is safe to conclude that the great fog of confusion surrounding the term "non-reg" exists primarily in Mr.