

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 28, 1978

## Good clean fun?

It was supposedly an effort to stand up for their dorms and exercise some "good bull."

However, last night's raid on Dunn Hall somehow left me wondering. The impetus for the raid was a letter to the editor in Monday's Battalion by some Dunn Hall residents, challenging all dorms on campus to join them "in regaining the spirited image that this University has always been known for."

The demonstration of good bull, according to observers, started with a round of water fights ... but then came the manure.

Cars parked on the street were sprayed with bits of manure (of some animal species); bikes parked in their own lots faced the same fate. The inside of the dorm also had the stuff tracked inside.

Many "letters to the editor" have reflected on topics like "what's a good AND 'Aggies should say howdy."

Now I'm wondering myself.

Is a good Ag someone who helps trash the campus with manure and rotten fruit (also used)?

A water fight's one thing, "manuring" the campus, dorm or no dorm rivalry, is another.

Yep, the area seemed permeated with the distinct air of dung.

Is this good bull?

They'll get to smell it anyway.



— K.T.

## Northern Democrats hear footsteps

By ARNOLD SAWISLAK  
United Press International

WASHINGTON — Professional football players say a pass receiver is nearing the end of his career when he begins "hearing footsteps" — flinching at the sound of tacklers approaching as he is about to catch the football.

If Democratic Party leaders in Minnesota and Maryland do not hear footsteps these days, they have been playing the game too long without their helmets.

There is strong evidence that the primary victories of Harry Hughes in Maryland and of Robert Short in Minnesota, both over candidacies with the backing of the regular Democratic organizations, were more than isolated upsets.

Almost surely they were signs that the Democratic Party factions which have controlled the governments of those two states in recent years are losing their grip. It does not necessarily follow that the Re-

publicans will profit from these Democratic disruptions, but it certainly suggests some marked changes in the distribution of power are in process.

The two Democratic parties are vastly different.

In Minnesota, the Democrat Farmer-Labor Party, a fusion of a strong populist third party and the traditional Democratic Party, has been a strongly issue-oriented force on the left of the national Democratic coalition. It produced one of the most influential American political figures of the midcentury — Hubert Humphrey. For the most part, it was as squeaky clean as it was ideologically pure.

The Maryland Democratic Party combined tight ward and precinct organization typical of the urban East with the good-old-boy courthouse politics of the small town South. It seemed less interested in issues and ideology than in office holding and power brokering. It produced men

like Daniel Brewster and Marvin Mandel. It did not have a reputation for probity.

Both parties were successful, losing a few but mostly holding the offices they wanted. Many came to think of their dominance as permanent.

Humphrey died and left no one behind him with the respect and impact to lead the Minnesota party. In 1977, DFL Gov. Wendell Anderson alienated many of his

Maryland power structure with the reputation for integrity and ability to clean up the Maryland party image. Blair Lee, Mandel's amiable lieutenant governor, took over, but many of the disgraced governor's people were heavily involved in the Lee campaign for election in his own right.

Short attacked Fraser as the symbol of liberal profligacy. Hughes hit hard on Maryland's reputation for sleazy politics. As the September primaries approached, both parties knew they were under attack, but expected to prevail, if only because they had for so long.

The organization men lost in both Maryland and Wisconsin. Party officials were quick to blame the defeats on the candidates' shortcomings. That probably was at least partially justified, but it neither case does it answer all the questions. No matter: if the parties don't, the voters will.

### Commentary

own partisans by having himself appointed to Walter Mondale's Senate seat, this year a nasty squabble broke out between Short and Rep. Donald Fraser over nomination to seek the Humphrey seat.

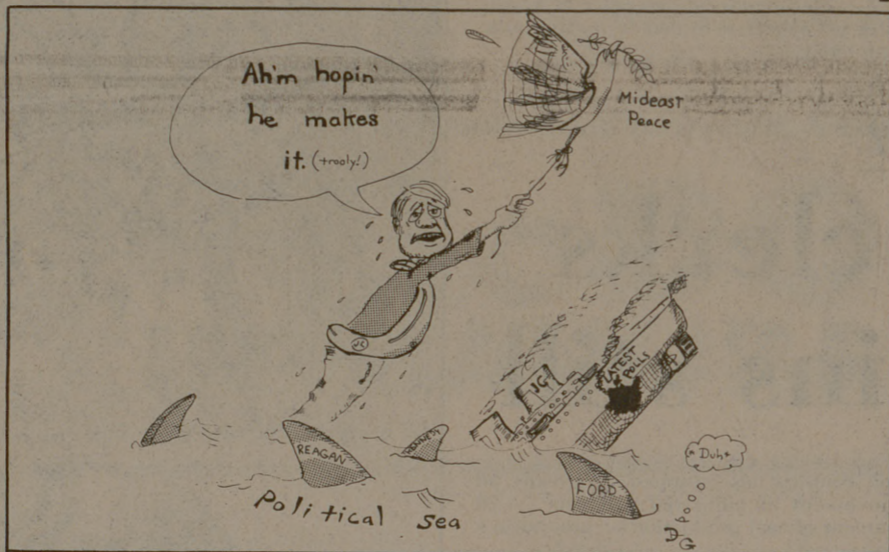
Mandel was accused and convicted of corruption and there was no one in the

## Hill sizes up Carter's Texas policies

By ROLAND LINDSEY  
UPI Capitol Reporter

AUSTIN, Texas — President Carter's energy and agricultural policies have caused many Texas Democrats to turn against him and Democratic gubernatorial candidate John Hill says he may be joining those withdrawing their support.

Hill, the state attorney general who is opposing Republican Bill Clements in the November election, Tuesday said the president must change his positions because they are detrimental to Texas. During the campaign, Clements frequently has criticized Hill for his support of Carter.



posed to his position on these important issues.

Hill said he met with Carter shortly after the May 6 Democratic primary in which he defeated Gov. Dolph Briscoe and suggested Carter change his positions on energy and agricultural policies.

"I told him those two stands were the basis for his unpopularity in the state, and urged him to reconsider his stands on those two very important issues," Hill said.

Hill was asked at the news conference if he expected Carter to campaign in his be-

half prior to the Nov. 7 election. There have been reports Carter would be in Texas to campaign for Democratic candidates.

"I have no plans to ask him to campaign on my behalf, and I tend to discount that report (that Carter will campaign on behalf of Texas candidates)," Hill replied.

"Congressman (Bob) Krueger may invite him or he may come on his own, but I have no plans to invite him. I intend to continue campaigning on my own two feet."

Hill had called the news conference to announce Speaker Bill Clayton and Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby supported his proposal to treat school finance legislation as an emergency item when the Legislature convenes in January, and use the school finance bill as the method of reimbursing local school districts for about \$450 million in potential revenue losses if voters adopt a so-called tax relief constitutional amendment.

He also discounted Clements' contentions that the GOP nominee has overtaken Hill with six weeks remaining in the campaign. Hill counted polls taken for his campaign by Alex Lewis showed him with 52 percent of the vote, Clements with 30 percent, and 18 percent undecided.

### Politics

"I've been disappointed in the president as far as his support of the energy bill is concerned and as far as his support of certain agricultural policies that have been detrimental to this state," Hill said.

"He has been wrong on issues that are extremely important to Texas, and were he not to change his position on some of these issues I would find it extremely difficult to support him."

"I'm trying to state here as I have stated to him personally that I'm very much op-

### Letters to the Editor

## No one wants trash, so pick it up

Editor:

With all its trees, grass, and well-designed buildings, Texas A&M is truly one of the most beautiful universities in the country. This seems hard to believe when everywhere I look I see trash scattered about the campus.

Trash is one of the ugliest eyesores I can think of. There should be no excuse for so

much litter, especially when there are almost as many trash cans as students! It is certainly no hard task, for me anyway, to pick up a piece of trash that someone else has thoughtlessly left on the ground or on a bench. I would hate to believe that this "I-don't-care" attitude, that is prevalent among society today, should occur here at

Texas A&M. Let us all help make the aesthetic values of this university comparable to its institutional and educational values.

—Craig Keyzer, '81

### Learn to cope

Editor:

It's Tuesday night at 11:15. The College Station police just left.

Why were they here? One of our sweet neighbors complained to them about our wild party.

All seven of us were out on the patio talking, then wham out of the blue came two police cars with the expressed intent of restoring law and order to our neighborhood. It seems that some of our neighbors decided we made too much noise. Being bed-ridden people they were unable to walk outside to ask us to quiet down, instead they just called the police.

So our dear neighbors, we sincerely hope you learn to tolerate, cope and understand normal Aggies or you will never make it through four years at A&M.

The College Station police were very polite and were only doing their duty. But we feel that there was no reason for them to have been called. It would have been much easier for our neighbors to ask us "will you please keep it down?"

—Ted Arnold, '78  
Pattie Merrill, '81  
Tom Brents, '78  
Rae Ann Brown, '81  
Roxanne Smith, '81

### Notify us

Editor:

To the women of Dunn Hall,  
We the residents of Moore Hall would

### Slouch

by Jim Earle



"THE WHOLE CAMPUS? YOU GUYS ARE CHALLENGING THE WHOLE CAMPUS TO A WATER FIGHT?"

## TOP OF THE NEWS CAMPUS

### Corps march-in at Saturday

Texas A&M's 1978-79 Corps of Cadets will appear in their first formal march-in at 12:20 p.m. Saturday before the kick-off of the Aggies and the Memphis State Tigers football game at 1:30 p.m. Col. Bob Kamensky of San Angelo will lead the 38 units and Parsons Mounted Cavalry past the reviewing stand with music from the Texas Aggie Band.

### Career Day to be Saturday

Texas A&M University's annual high school and community college student Career Day, scheduled from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, will feature exhibits and career ideas from colleges at A&M. Displays will be in Zachry Engineering Center, the Architecture Center, Oceanography and Meteorology Building and Heldenfels Hall. Curtis Lard, assistant dean of agriculture, said a special feature will be a guided tour of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

## STATE

### Cop-killer found guilty

David Lee Powell, 27, who claimed insanity in his shooting of a police officer with a Russian-made AK-47 machinegun, Wednesday was found guilty of capital murder by an Austin jury. After three hours of deliberation, the jury decided Powell was sane when he shot officer Ralph Ablanedo on May 18. The jury will begin hearing arguments in the punishment phase of the trial today.

### Won't free Davis, says judge

The district judge who will preside over the murder-for-hire trial of T. Cullen Davis said Wednesday in Houston he has "no intention" of granting an expected defense request to release the oilman from the Harris County jail. Judge Wallace Moore said he would let the state criminal appeals court rule on the matter. Davis has been held without bond since he was arrested in August for allegedly trying to arrange the murder of the judge presiding in his 4-year-old divorce case.

## NATION

### Reporter freed temporarily

New York Times reporter Myron Farber avoided returning to jail in New Jersey Tuesday when he won an order from U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart temporarily allowing him to remain free "until further order of this court." Farber, who has already spent 27 days in jail, faces an indefinite sentence for refusing to let a judge inspect his files on a murder case. A Times spokesman said Farber was "gratified" by the decision and the paper, which has already paid \$130,000 in fines, was happy he "did not have to go into the slammer."

### Senate OKs gas deregulation bill

The Senate Wednesday approved the natural gas price deregulation compromise by a 57-42 vote. The action sends the plan to the House for final congressional approval that could in 10 days. The Senate adopted the version — to lift federal price controls from newly produced gas by 1985 — that a House-Senate committee worked out in nearly a year's effort. House leaders planned to wait until all four remaining parts of the president's energy policy are through the Senate and vote on them all at once.

### 'Boots' and 'Coots' cap well

Oilfield firefighters Asger "Boots" Hansen and Eugene "Coots" Matthews plunged an expanding rubber plug down the wellhead of a flery oil shaft at a federal underground petroleum storage depot in Hackberry, La., Tuesday, stopping the flow of oil and extinguishing a blaze that lasted six days and burned off \$1 million of imported Arab oil. Energy department spokesman Gene Campbell said a new wellhead will be set after the area, now filled with hot metal and earth, cools off.

## WORLD

### Heavy rains devastate Mexico

Torrential rains over the past five days have left at least six people dead, 20,000 injured and thousands of homes destroyed throughout Mexico, the Red Cross and other officials said Tuesday. The rains have ruined large expanses of farmland in the states of Chiapas, Oaxaca, Chihuahua, Veracruz, San Luis Potosi and Tamaulipas. The areas worst hit were Oaxaca and Chihuahua.

## WEATHER

We will have overcast skies today with a slight chance of rain. The high will be in the mid-70s and the low will be in the mid-60s. Winds will be westerly 10 miles per hour.

## 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.

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### Correction

The Battalion incorrectly identified the man pictured on page 3 of Wednesday's paper calling a square dance for the Altemanders. He is Manning Smith, not Glen Green. The Battalion regrets the mistake.

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