

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 20, 1978

Conservation starts here

Texas A&M has no organized recycling program — although a few individuals and clubs have made their own efforts.

But it is fairly evident that refuse exists and exists in a quantity that small efforts don't even touch.

The school is a haven for newsprint, beer bottles, and cans.

Take newspapers for example: The Eagle has a circulation of 18,000 in the Bryan-College Station area with The Battalion's circulation about 23,000.

But we don't just have local newspapers here. The Houston Chronicle's circulation in the area is 6,000, The Houston Post's is 4,000 and the Dallas Morning News has a circulation of 900.

This makes possible daily circulation about 52,000 newspapers — paper that routinely just ends up in the city dump, never to be used again.

And with Texas A&M beer busts there's bound to be an overabundance of beer cans and bottles that could be recycled.

As evidenced by a Reader's Forum letter in the Tuesday Battalion, some students are concerned about conserving our resources and energy. The writer, Joseph Beaudette, issued his own challenge to students to come up with alternative solutions and promised his ticket to home football games for the best suggestion.

Although College Station and the Twin City Mission have both given up their newsprint recycling efforts, a combined effort with the University may be the key.

The effort may not be monetarily profitable, but Texas A&M as a leader in many environmental disciplines would be an excellent example for other recycling efforts.

Student Government tried at the end of last spring to study the problem for a possible recycling effort.

Maybe it's time Student Government or some other group looked at it again. — K.T.

Women hit wall in bids for Congress

By DAVID S. BRODER

MILWAUKEE — There was great irony in the juxtaposition of two news reports last week. In Maryland, both parties endorsed Mrs. Beverly Byron as their choice to succeed her husband, Rep. Goodloe E. Byron (D-Md.), a member of the House of Representatives who had died of a heart attack a few days earlier.

Here in Milwaukee, State Rep. Susan Engleiter (R) announced that she was giving up her request for a recount of a September primary for a U.S. House seat which she lost by 580 votes out of 71,000, after a 16-month, \$90,000 campaign effort.

The message to women candidates from the two stories is that the most accessible route to Congress is still through the pain of widowhood. In an era when corporate suites and other decision centers are increasingly open to women, Congress remains a bastion of male supremacy.

There are two female senators out of 100 — both of whom got there by the route of widowhood. Both are leaving this year — one retiring and one defeated in a primary — and neither will have female replacement. Women candidates have won Senate nominations in Kansas and Tennessee, but both are in uphill fights.

There are 18 women members in the

Commentary

While women are making significant gains in state legislatures and lower offices, their scarcity in high elective office is both conspicuous and worrisome.

Women candidates suffer a number of disadvantages. Polls show that about 10 percent of the voters say they will not vote for a woman "under any circumstances," and many women politicians suspect that unacknowledged prejudice against their sex is much higher.

Women have a hard time raising funds, because they are not part of the "old boys' network" of business-connected givers. A survey by Audrey Sheppard and Jill Buckley of 55 women candidates for major offices in 1976 found only half of them had

campaign managers and even fewer had the funds for polling and other professional campaign services.

Alice Reed, former chairman of the Wisconsin Republican Party, surveyed women candidates in this state and found they had many other problems. Small women felt their lack of physical stature worked against them. Shy women felt inhibited about campaigning in taverns and other "male" hangouts. Rural women complained about fears and depression on long, night auto trips.

Many women, Reed said, commented that they really needed "a wife" to help them keep prepped for their public appearances — and care for the home and family while they were out campaigning.

But the Engleiter race shows that even without those problems, the road to Congress can be difficult for a woman. At 26, pretty, personable and outgoing, she was a veteran of four years in the legislature, having won her first election while she was still in college. With no children at home and a politically savvy and supportive husband, she put on an energetic door-to-door campaign and built a strong precinct organization. She gained the support of teachers, doctors and other interest groups. She raised \$90,000 — including a

\$5,000 gift from the Women's Campaign Fund, a bipartisan organization that helps finance female candidates.

Still, she came up a few hundred votes short against her opponent, State Sen. James Sensenbrenner Jr. (R), who is nine years older, more politically conservative, and part of a well-known family that contributed \$30,000 to his race.

He is now favored for the open House seat in a normally Republican district — as she would have been if she had won the primary. Engleiter personally is unembittered by the results and undeterred in her political ambition. Now planning to finish her last year of law school, she says, "I'm certainly not finished at 26."

But she is unhappy about one thing. Even though Sensenbrenner beat her by only a handful of votes at the pre-primary GOP district endorsing convention, state and national Republican party organizations gave him \$10,000 to help defeat her in the primary.

The gross imbalance in the makeup of Congress will not change until both parties start helping women candidates get nominated in races that are winnable — instead of putting obstacles in their way or forcing them to wait until they are widows.

1978, *The Washington Post Company*

Thoughtless cyclists the real gamblers

By PATRICIA A. FIERRO

Hundreds of A&M students are gambling this fall, but they are not playing with cards or dice. The gamblers are the bicyclists. Too many of those who ride bicycles are playing a deadly game. They seem to be trying all the thoughtless and dangerous stunts they can before someone is killed.

These bicyclists are not intentionally malicious, or trying to cause trouble. They are not alone in the dangerous actions committed daily by cars, trucks, and pedestrians. However, they are a special problem, and one that is getting larger each year.

Reader's Forum

I suggest that interested persons make a casual survey of their office, classroom or the group with which they have coffee. Whether those surveyed are pedestrians, motorists or bicyclists, most can sight at least three dangerous situations they have personally encountered in the last few days which were caused by thoughtless bicyclists. A few examples you will probably record are listed below:

Running stop signs.

Turning right at the same time a car is turning right on a narrow road.

Speeding on crowded sidewalks.

Riding the wrong way on one-way streets.

Pulling into traffic ways without stopping.

The University Police and Campus Traffic Panel are already working to solve the traffic problems on campus. I am not well enough acquainted with the situation to make suggestions for sweeping reforms.

Letters to the Editor

Aggies will prove they're great

team, little does he realize that they're human too!

— Fred Galvan, '82

P.S. If Mr. Patterson was a true Aggie, he'd back them up instead of cut them down! "Highway Six Runs Both Ways" or should I say 21 West.

True gentlemen

Editor:

It is a rare occasion when we are forced to stand on a shuttle bus on the Holloman route. The reason, of course, can be attributed to the politeness of the gentlemen who give up their seats to females.

We hope these gentlemen aren't discouraged by those girls who refuse to accept their offers or who merely don't thank them.

Editor:

This letter is in appreciation to Mr. Tom Wilson, manager of Engineering and Office Supply, for his much needed assistance in retrieving a "valuable document" — EE 403 report — from his Northgate counterpart, The Drafting Board. On Wednesday, Oct. 11, I accidentally left my untyped report, which was due on Thursday, at The Drafting Board.

After realizing my great mistake about 9 p.m. Wednesday, I called the College Station police who gave me Tom Wilson's

Believe me, it is genuinely appreciated! Thanks, guys!!

— DeAnne Bridges, '79
Lisa Davis, '80
Carolyn Johnson, '79

Thanks for helping

Editor:

The Thursday, Oct. 19, Battalion incorrectly reported that the Southern Methodist University and University of Arkansas football games will be televised. There is a possibility that the games will be televised, however no definite decision has been made on televising the games yet.

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