

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 1, 1978

GOP conservatives slice republican vote

By DOROTHY DUBOIS

For those of us living off-campus, utility rates can be a constant source of concern. For this reason, I for one rejoiced when the College Station City Council passed the Structural Standards Code. Section 104.13 of this code requires all dwelling unit windows to have screens. This code was passed on Sept. 14, 1978, complete with a public hearing.

Reader's Forum

Representatives from the Apartment Owners' Association weren't at the public hearing, but they were at the City Council meeting Oct. 26, and were they mad. Chuck Hartly, president of the Apartment Owners' Association, represented the group and presented an assortment of figures he had compiled concerning the installation of screens. He said that as most windows will not readily accept screens, the installation cost per window (not including labor, time and inconvenience costs to the management involved in organizing this installation) would be \$12.50. Assuming that the average apartment has 4.6 windows, this would be \$57.56 per apartment.

What would be the approximate cost to the renter for this? It would depend on the length of time the owner chose for recouping its cost. If it were two years, it would amount to an increase of \$2.40 per month; if it were nine months, it would amount to

an increase of 6.39 per month. He also estimated the life of a screen to be 1.5 years. Mr. Hartly came prepared with a barrage of figures on the cost of screens, but he stated that he had not had time to compile any figures on how much the installation of screens could save renters in utility costs.

First, I would like to take issue with Mr. Hartly on his figure of 1.5 years as the life of a screen. He stated that one reason for this is that students tend to use windows when moving in and out. This seems preposterous to me, especially if screens are on the windows. In addition to this, if screens are destroyed by the occupant, the money for this can be taken out of his deposit.

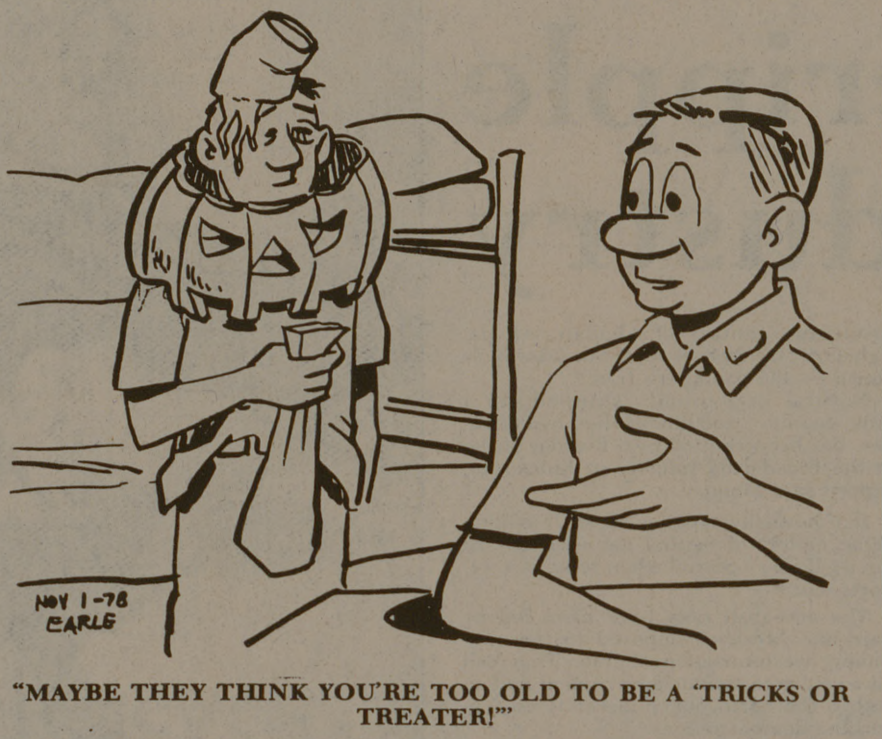
Second, it seems obvious to me that utility rates aren't going to decrease, and screens would certainly be an asset in fighting high utility bills. With screens, renters would not have to be concerned with flies, mosquitoes, etc. when they open their windows.

This would also be a blessing during those (seemingly frequent) times that apartment air conditioning systems break down. I believe that our present energy dilemma lacks an ultimate solution, and that costs will continue to rise. While screens would by no means be a solution, they would certainly help lessen a problem that we will always have with us.

At its next meeting on Nov. 9, the City Council will appoint a committee to study this issue. This committee will be com-

Slouch

by Jim Earle



posed of representatives from three different areas: people in the screen business, apartment owners and primary renters, that is, students. If any students would like to serve on this committee, please contact me through the Student Govern-

ment office in room 216 of the MSC, 845-3051. Student participation is important, so please do get involved!

Dorothy Dubois is a junior political science major and a Student Government City Council liaison.

Don't screen benefits

By DAVID S. BRODER

BOSTON — There was a small incident here the other day which exemplifies a rather important trend — the tendency of conservative-liberal battles to be fought within the Democratic party, rather than between the Republicans and Democrats.

Ronald Reagan canceled a luncheon appearance he had been scheduled to make for the Republican state committee. The Massachusetts GOP ticket this year is headed by two progressives, Sen. Edward W. Brooke and State Rep. Francis W. Hatch, the candidate for governor.

Reagan had no trouble endorsing Brooke, despite their many differences on domestic issues, because Brooke is much more skeptical of arms reductions and détente with the Soviet Union than is his opponent, Rep. Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.).

But there were more problems with Hatch, who is opposed by a conservative Democrat, Edward J. King — the man who beat liberal governor Michael S. Dukakis in the Democratic primary.

Many of the conservatives who would normally back Reagan are supporting Democrat King over Republican Hatch for governor. Indeed, a poll published the other day showed King leading Hatch among both conservatives and self-described middle-of-the-roads. Only the

liberals in the poll gave a plurality to the Republican candidate. Hardly the place for Reagan to weigh in with an endorsement.

That kind of situation is not unique to Massachusetts. In a number of northern states, Democrats are thriving by cutting deeply into the conservative territory normally thought to be the province of the GOP.

That is true in the Pennsylvania gubernatorial battle between Pete Flaherty and Republican Richard Thornburgh. Flaherty was the most conservative candidate in the Democratic gubernatorial primary on the issues of spending and taxes, and has never yielded that position.

It is true in the Minnesota Senate race between Democrat Bob Short and Republican David Durenburger. Short took strong conservative positions on both fiscal and social issues in winning his primary over liberal Rep. Donald M. Fraser (D). While Durenburger has the support of the liberal Americans for Democratic Action, he is not sure of getting the solid rural, conservative backing a Republican is normally guaranteed.

It is true in the Illinois Senate race, where Democratic challenger Alex Seith has taken a run to the right of Sen. Charles H. Percy (R) on some domestic and foreign

policy issues, and is unexpectedly posing a major threat to Percy's third-term bid.

And it is true in Connecticut, where Gov. Ella Grasso (D) was accused by her unsuccessful challenger in the Democratic primary of being too parsimonious with the cities and the needy. She is now using that reputation to good effect against her November opponent Rep. Ronald M. Sarasin, a moderate Republican whose hopes are being blunted by a significant suburban Republican defection to Grasso.

Washington Window

Every one of these Democrats who had a contested primary chose to run on conservative issues. Except for Seith, who lost the AFL-CIO endorsement to Percy, all these Democrats have been able to maintain their conservative positions and still gain endorsements from most unions, from the regular Democratic organizations in their states, and most — if not all — other elected Democrats. None of these Democrats is a cinch for a victory. But several are likely to prevail. And their wins will have two important consequences.

For one thing, they will be very damaging to the dwindling progressive wing of the Republican party, which has its base in the northern industrial states. Republicans have won in these states by adding enough labor, liberal and black support to offset the Democratic registration advantage. But now a new victory formula has been found by Democrats, who sacrifice some liberal and black support by their stands, but make deep inroads into the conservative constituencies.

The second consequence of this trend will be to encourage conservatives to concentrate their efforts at remaking the Democratic party, rather than trying to defeat it. Already, such conservative strategists and writers as Richard Viguerie and Kevin Phillips are preaching their version of the old adage: "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em."

Reagan, the ex-Democrat, is a partisan Republican who will not join such schemes. But his decision to avoid embarrassing conservatives in Massachusetts, who this year are helping the Democrats win the governorship, is another warning to liberals in the Democratic party that they are going to have to fight to protect their franchise.

1978, The Washington Post Company

Letters to the Editor

Parking ticket treatment unfair

Editor: I parked my car in the women's parking lot behind Mosher in one of the parallel parking places. My front tire was on the line in front due to the fact that the car behind me had parked incorrectly. The space was right next to an opening out onto the street but I was in no way obstructing traffic.

I did not use my car for three days and when I did I found three tickets on the windshield. I do not believe I deserved to get any tickets, much less three for the same "violation." I lost one of the three tickets between Thursday and Monday. I took the remaining two to the police office and was extra polite.

I went in to some man's office (I failed to notice his name) and started by explaining

my position. I got as far as "my front wheels were on the line," and he stopped me and said, "You have to be parked legally." He then took the two tickets I had and said he would excuse one and if I could find the other one he would excuse it too.

I was at a loss for words because how in the world was I supposed to find that other ticket. I asked, still halfway calmly if they had a copy at the front desk. He then told me to go ask for it and he would excuse it.

I was getting a little perturbed at this time because I was having to pay \$5 for something I truly believed I didn't do, but like a good citizen I was willing to pay the money and forget it. I asked at the desk and after a few minutes of confusion she produced the missing ticket plus another

violation from Aug. 25 because some sweet person must have kindly relieved me of its burden. The ticket was for parking in a staff lot before school even started. I explained to the lady at the counter that I never got the ticket and she said it didn't matter and that I would have to pay \$10 instead of \$5 because it was late. I wrote my check for \$15 and disgustingly gave it to the cashier.

This is where I made an awful mistake. I still had to get some other card signed by the man I talked to first. After he signed the card I told him I wanted to complain about having to pay the extra \$5. After a moment of hemming and hawing he said triumphantly, "It's too late, you already paid it." I was so upset that I just said thank you and walked out of there as fast as I could, fighting the tears that were trying to roll down my face.

There are several morals to this story. The first is: don't ever let anyone talk you into paying for anything you didn't do. The second is: please, don't think you're doing someone a favor by taking the ticket off its car.

Last of all and most important: Don't ever go to pay a parking ticket or get upset right before a calculus test. Thanks to the campus police, I couldn't enjoy my lunch and I did really crummy on my test.

—Sherri Vinyard, '82

P.S. Maybe by the time I'm a senior I'll be able to deal with the "system."

Lottery — no worry

Editor:

In response to Mike Oswald's letter (Battalion, Oct. 27) concerning his views on the Arkansas ticket lottery bill: Not to worry Mike, for even if the bill passes, it must still be approved by the Athletic Council and this, I have been told, will not happen.

So, Mike, I'll see you Friday, Nov. 10, at 5 p.m. in front of G. Rollie for that is the

earliest Wally Groff will allow people to begin standing in line.

—Willard D. Jones Jr., '80

Looking for help

Editor:

I openly admit that I am not a rich man. But earlier this semester I decided that I must buy a calculator. It almost broke me, but I bought a TI-58.

Well, Tuesday morning as I was going to class the belt strap broke and I lost the calculator.

Someone found it. I can't afford another one. If you found it, please call me at 693-3049. In return I offer both a reward and my friendship for life. If the words "Aggie" and "honesty" are in any way related, I rest assured that I will get my calculator back.

—Randy Stafford, '81

Sorry, refs

Editor:

We as members of Dunn Hall's A's Kickers intramural football team would like to apologize to the intramural office for our unsportsmanlike conduct in our play-off game on Oct. 26, against Davis-Gary.

We especially express our apologies to referees Bruce Klinger, Cathy Schanbelt, and Paul Gardina. We realize you were only trying to perform your duty and that nothing can be done about judgment calls.

We know our conduct reflect on our dorm and on the intramural program as a whole. For this, we are truly sorry. We would also like to praise the Davis-Gary team. They outclassed us during and after the game.

—Paul M. Thompson, '80

Editor's note: this letter was accompanied by 10 other signatures.

TOP OF THE NEWS CAMPUS

University books win award

The Texas A&M University Press has been notified that two of its books have received Awards of Merit in the Rounce and Coffin Club of Los Angeles' 1978 Western Books Exhibition. "Impressions of the Texas Panhandle" and "Fishes of the Gulf of Mexico: Texas, Louisiana and Adjacent Waters" were chosen. The awards are presented yearly to books printed in the western United States and Canada that reflect the best tradition in book design and craftsmanship. The Rounce and Coffin Club was founded in 1934 as an association of those who hold a common interest in printing as a graphic art.

STATE

State employee seeks back pay

The former director of the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs has a state job again, but said Tuesday he plans to file suit for nine months back pay to which the attorney general's office says he is not entitled. Hill's office said it would be unconstitutional to grant retroactive pay to the man. Perez lost his \$32,000-a-year job as head of GOMA when District Judge Darrell Hester of Brownsville charged him with forgery theft at a court of inquiry into misuse of federal Manpower training money by South Texas labor leaders.

Adair called to Eagle Pass fire

Houston wild-well expert, Red Adair, and his crew, were called in Tuesday to extinguish and cap a flaming oil well which blew out seven miles north of the city. Bobby Oliphant, Maverick County deputy sheriff, said no one was injured in the blowout, but that the well's rigging completely burned and collapsed about 5:30 p.m. Monday. "The rig is completely burned up," Oliphant said.

NATION

Newspaper strike prolonged

A new threat emerged Tuesday that could prolong the 83-day newspaper strike despite growing optimism that the pressmen's union and The New York Times and Daily News were near settlement. The threat came from William Kennedy, pressmen's union president, who arrived at a new round of talks Tuesday and said he had made no arrangements for a ratification vote, although a resolution of the dispute was in view. A management spokesman said the two papers and the drivers had "an understanding, but no contract."

Ford recalls faulty 1978 cars

Ford Motor Co. has announced the recall of more than 206,000 1978 model cars, including 188,700 Ford Fairmonts and Mercury Zephyrs with possible defects in their emission control systems. The massive recall announced Monday also involves 18,100 Ford Fiestas for replacement of certain optional steel wheels that may allow tire air leakage. The company said it has received no reports of accidents or injuries resulting from the defect. Owners will be notified to take their cars to their dealers for free inspection and repair. Parts should become available by mid-November, the spokesman said.

WORLD

Pan American sickout ends

Flight attendants at Pan American World Airways began returning to work Tuesday, ending a four-day sickout job action to protest a one-year-old contract impasse. "We are back to normal," said a Pan Am spokesman. "There are no delays due to the flight attendants." The airline's operations have been disrupted since Friday because of the sickout by protesting cabin attendants, who have been working without a contract for a year. They continued to call in sick through Monday, despite a federal temporary restraining order.

Soviet spies freed until trial

Two convicted Russian spies, sentenced to 50 years in jail for espionage, were freed Tuesday in the custody of the Soviet ambassador but restricted to an area around their New York City homes. Valdik Enger, 39, and Rudolf Chernyayev, 43, both former employees of the United Nations, were sentenced Monday and placed under strict travel conditions to ensure their presence in court. U.S. District Judge Frederick B. Lacey sentenced each defendant to 50 years in jail for their conviction on one espionage count and 10-year concurrent terms on two conspiracy counts. The two were convicted Oct. 13 of paying a U.S. Navy officer more than \$20,000 for military defense secrets.

Martial law decreed in Rhodesia

The government Tuesday placed more than half of Rhodesia under martial law in an effort to contain widespread guerrilla activity throughout the country. A Rhodesian communique, however, reported 11 African civilians were gunned down when they were caught in withering crossfire during a firefight between troops and insurgents. The total area now under martial law in Rhodesia, amounts to more than one half the country's land area. The Rhodesians said earlier their troops destroyed a Zambian military outpost in response to three days of steadily escalating military activity along their common border.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and warm with northerly winds 10 mph changing to light and variable tonight. High today 80 and low tonight in the high 50's.

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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Slouch
by Jim Earle

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