

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY  
NOVEMBER 6, 1978

# TOP OF THE NEWS CAMPUS

Human Relations Lab Tuesday

The Texas A&M University American Humanities organization will sponsor a "Human Relations Lab" at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday. Dr. Candida Dunkley of the Texas A&M Psychology Department will conduct the free, public session in Room 231 of the Memorial Student Center.

Applications due for Cotton Bowl

The deadline for applications for the 1979 Cotton Bowl representative from Texas A&M University is 5 p.m. Friday. Any female student who has completed one semester at Texas A&M and has at least a 2.25 GPR is invited to apply. Forms are available in Room 221 of the Memorial Student Center and should be returned to the Student Activities Office. The selected applicant will represent the University at the Cotton Bowl parade and post-season football game in Dallas on New Year's Day.

## STATE

Jury for Davis' trial picked

Testimony in Fort Worth millionaire T. Cullen Davis' murder solicitation trial was scheduled to begin Monday at 9 a.m. A jury of seven men and five women will hear testimony on charges Davis plotted the murder for hire of Fort Worth Judge Joe Eidsen, who was presiding over Davis' still incomplete divorce from his wife. The all-white, middle class jury — eight of whom are in their 50s — was chosen Friday after five days of careful questioning. Panelists include four executives in technical fields, three clerical workers, two housewives, two laborers and one who is self-employed. None is a native of Houston, and only four were born in Texas. Both the prosecution and defense agreed the people selected to sit in the jury box were crucial to the outcome of the case. "We wanted people who can conceptualize, who are not locked in, the kind of thinkers who once they get input can entertain other possibilities," said defense lawyer Richard "Racehorse" Haynes. State District Judge Wallace "Pete" Moore has denied Davis' request to be allowed to speak with reporters. In Houston, Davis has been screened from reporters.

## NATION

NY papers back on streets

The New York Times printed all the news it could fit into 96 pages today and the Daily News had 176 pages packed behind a banner headline: "Hello There, Remember Us?" The Times included nine pages of "catch-up" information. News-starved New Yorkers welcomed the fat editions — the first since the newspapers were shut down in a strike that lasted three months. It cost 10,000 employees their wages for 85 days; cost the publishers more than \$100 million in lost circulation and advertising revenue; and cost up to an estimated \$1 million a day to the city's economy. The strike began Aug. 9 when pressmen walked off the job at the Times, News and the afternoon New York Post over a manning dispute.

The last stumbling block to the resumption of publication was removed Sunday when The Newspaper Guild agreed to return to work, even though it had no contract agreement at that time with the Times. The Guild today ratified management's final proposal for a three-year contract by a vote of 226-121 after a three-hour membership meeting. Newspaper workers returned to the Times and News Sunday afternoon and evening. "There were people not due in who came in anyway. They just wanted to come home," said Daily News City Editor Sam Roberts. The News presses began rolling at 12:22 a.m. The Times editions rolled off at 1:32 a.m. "We're finally back to newspapering," said Times Assistant Managing Editor Peter Milones.

## WORLD

More GSA fraud indictments

Eight more General Services Administration employees have been indicted on charges of defrauding the federal government, and another employee has been re-indicted on revised charges, bringing to 31 the number of people charged in the investigation of the scandal-ridden agency. The indictments were brought Friday by a federal grand jury. Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Clements said more indictments are expected within four to six weeks in the investigation of the agency that delivers supplies to federal departments. More indictments also are expected in Washington, D.C., as result of cooperation by contractors who admitted passing more than \$300,000 in payoffs to GSA employees. Prosecutors are investigating GSA employees for accepting gifts in exchange for padding invoices of supplies — sometimes signing for goods never delivered — and contractors for offering the gifts in return for profits from the padded invoices. Twenty have pleaded guilty and one, a GSA store manager, has pleaded innocent. Six of those indicted Friday were charged with defrauding the government, bribery and filing false claims.

## WEATHER

It will be mostly cloudy, clear and cooler tonight. High today 70 and low tonight in the upper 40s. Winds will be North Easterly at 10 mph. The cold front which moved into College Station last night will cause cooler temperatures this week.

## 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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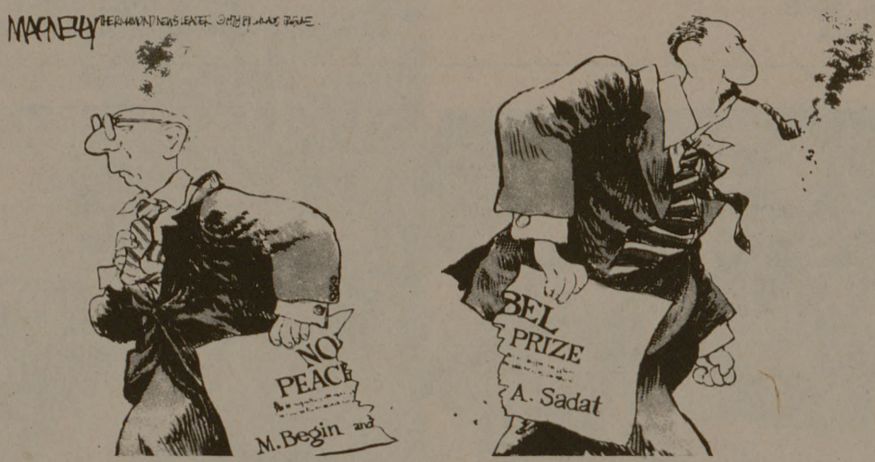
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## Prized incentive

No two persons so richly deserve the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize as President Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Begin of Israel. Together, with great courage and against odds that only a short time ago would have seemed overwhelming, they have made peace a strong probability in the Middle East.

If they succeed in patching over the few remaining difficulties, the entire world will have every reason to be grateful for their achievement. Parenthetically, too, we would add that the prize could scarcely come at a more opportune time, for it should give both leaders an extra incentive for overcoming the latest problem that stands between their countries and a peace treaty.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch



## Don't be deceived by mid-term scores

By DAVID S. BRODER

WASHINGTON — A word of caution to the reader: There may be less going on here than meets the eye.

When I say here, I refer to the mid-term election coming up this week. No matter how it comes out, you are guaranteed a rush of interpretations. Pundits and politicians will rush to be the first to tell you what the election means to Jimmy Carter, the economy, the Republicans and even to Russian-American relations. I will be among them, dishing the dirt as fast as my fingers can type.

But, now, before the deluge strikes, remember please to take it with a grain of salt. That warning was spurred by reading a little paperback by Thomas E. Mann, the assistant director of the American Political Science Association.

It is called "Unsafe at Any Margin: Interpreting Congressional Elections," and it was published by the American Enterprise Institute. Its cover is bright red, and it means you ought to stop for a moment and listen to Mann's report before you swallow any very grandiose interpretation of the mid-term election.

What he says is that congressional elections are basically local contests, reflecting the relative strengths and perceptions of

the particular candidates, more than they do any big national trends.

Yes, he says, external forces — a recession or a Watergate — can have broad impact. But, he asserts, "the forces for change in congressional elections, which always had a strong local component, now originate even more at the district than the national level."

That may sound like common sense to you, but it has not been the conventional wisdom. Most interpretations of mid-term

elections as a polling consultant to the Democratic Study Group, a caucus of liberals in the House of Representatives. Surveys done in closely contested districts in 1974 and 1976, he says, show that while most voters may not be able to name their congressmen when asked, more than 9 out of 10 recognize the name when shown it, and most of them have a definable positive or negative reaction to the person.

Recognition levels for their challengers varied widely, depending on the intensity of the campaign, but, again, were well above the stereotype of invisibility.

True, these surveys were focused in relatively close districts. But it is mainly in those districts that the shifts in an election occur. Moreover, Mann found that candidate preference — the rating and reputation of the particular contenders — was the best predictor of voting choice.

What this really means is that congressional voting is becoming more individualized. In those races in which there are enough resources of money and organization to make it a race, House contests are more and more being decided in the same way that senatorial and presidential elections are decided — on the strength and appeal of the rival candidates.

My own subjective feeling, from the travels this year, is that Mann is right, and that national trends will be very hard to identify in this year's voting.

Keep that in mind when you hear all of us punditing in the next few days.

There may have been an unintended and unfair implication left with some readers in this column's recent discussion of the problems faced by women candidates for Congress (Battalion, Oct. 20). An example I used concerned a woman legislator in Wisconsin, whose male opponent in the primary for a desirable House nomination received funds from both state and national Republican campaign committees.

The incident was accurate as reported. But some readers apparently thought it implied that Republicans have systematically discriminated against or discouraged candidacies by women. Quite the contrary. In a number of cases, the national GOP congressional campaign committee has given early and strong support to such candidates, and its policy is to recruit and assist qualified women for these races.

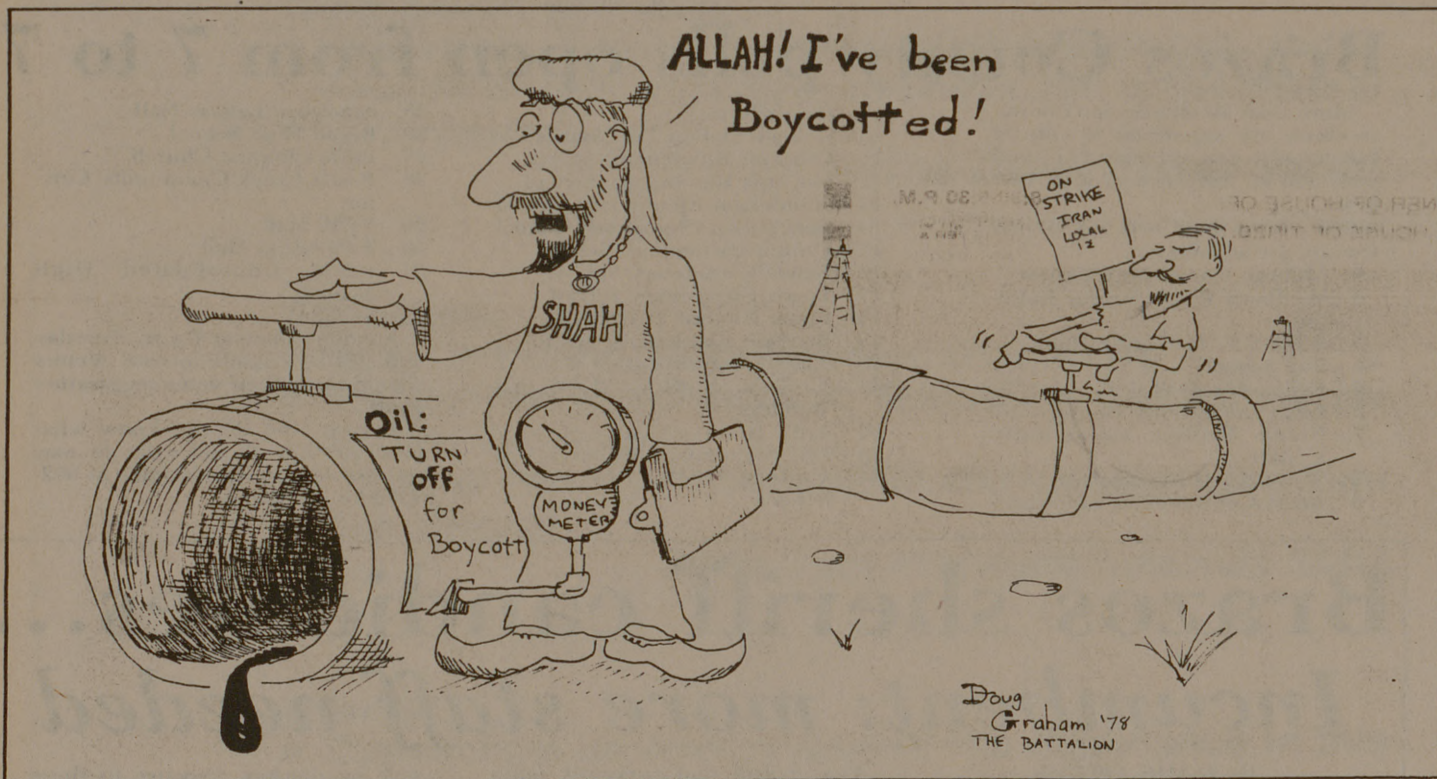
The Republicans have enough problems without being tagged with this charge. 1978, The Washington Post Company

### Commentary

voting have assumed that it reflected differences in the popularity of the party in power or the nation's economy or both.

One reason for this assumption was the data indicating that voters knew very little about the candidates for Congress — not even their names. If they didn't know who they were voting for, the argument said, then they must be voting on some other basis.

Mann has a different view. He



### Letters to the Editor

## Corps 'fish' shouldn't get ticket priority

**Editor:**  
This year, the second Corps trip will be to Austin. All of the C.T.s will be required to go, even if they cannot get a ticket. Since the tickets are in high demand, the sophomores and the fish won't likely be attending the game.

I have heard several rumors that the Corps commander is going to ask the student senate to recommend a special ticket allocation for the Corps, especially for the fish, to the Athletic Council.

I am not anti-Corps or a two-percenter, but I feel it would be grossly unfair to the majority of the student body if the Corps received those tickets. Only the Fighting Texas Aggie Band should get special tickets since they perform a service as an important part of the Twelfth Man.

For every Corps fish who receives a ticket, one less senior or junior will not go to Austin. Every non-reg's chance to go is decreased. Fish are not supposed to get priority over upperclassmen. The Corps is not supposed to get priority over the non-regs.

Since the Corps already have a large number of representatives in the Senate, everyone must tell his senator to not support a Corps ticket allocation.

Traditionally, the Corps makes two trips to away conference football games. This year they decided to attend the SMU and t.u. games. I do not know who is responsible for the decision, but whoever it is, they are not facing their responsibility.

One of the purposes of the Corps is to train leaders. One of the qualities of leadership is accepting the responsibility for the consequences of a decision. In this case, the "leaders" of the Corps are negotiating that responsibility by putting the consequences on the rest of the student body instead of those under their command. The Corps knew when it decided to go to t.u. it would be impossible for all of the C.T.s to get tickets. If they receive ticket

allocation, it will be impossible for some upperclassmen, after camping out for nights, to get tickets.

The Corps is well-known for its unity and fraternity. An internal solution to their ticket problem, if they truly wish to stick together, would be for the seniors and juniors to pair their coupon books with a fish's for their "date." Then, they could have the fish spend two or three nights in line for tickets, the same as everyone else. Beat the hell outa t.u.!

—Carol Giles, '80

**Editor's note:** This letter was accompanied by five other signatures.

### A&M flips

**Editor:**

We realize that the campus of Texas A&M University is constantly changing, but we never thought it would completely flip over. We are referring to your inverted picture of the campus on page 12 of Thursday's Nov. 2 issue. We feel that before the Battalion prints any more photographs of campus, they should learn the difference between left and right — no wonder some freshmen get lost on campus.

Not only has the negative of this picture been put in backwards, but the highly distracting advertisement on page five seems to be a bit out of line too. Is this expected of an Aggie newspaper? Come on Battalion, clean up your act — this is Aggieland.

—Bruce F. Carroll, '82  
Kenneth Washington, '82  
Michael Holmans, '82

**Editor's note:** Oops, we goofed. Sorry about the inverted photo.

### Hit and run

**Editor:**

I would like to take this opportunity to beg any information leading to the person who hit my Celica in Lot 24 between 6 p.m. and midnight on Halloween night.

My car was parked on the next to last row of 24 at the far east end. I will be more than glad to offer a reward to anyone who can give me any information regarding this incident.

—Larry Hopkins, '80

### Writing the editor

The Battalion welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. However, to be acceptable for publication these letters must meet certain criteria. They should:

- ✓ Not exceed 300 words or 1800 characters in length.
- ✓ Be neatly typed whenever possible. Hand-written letters are acceptable.
- ✓ Include the author's name, address and telephone number for verification. Names will be withheld on request.

Letters to the editor are printed as a service to our readers. Publication of a letter is never guaranteed. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters to remove grammatical errors and to avoid litigation.

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