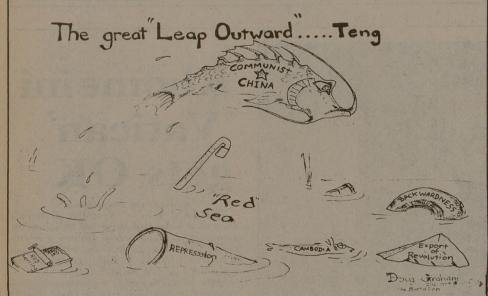


VIEWPOINT



THE BATTALION **TEXAS A&M** UNIVERSITY MONDAY **FEBRUARY 5, 1979**



Reflections Teng a triend

Few Americans knew and fewer cared about Teng Hsiao-ping a year

That was before the establishment of Chinese-American relations Dec. 15. Time magazine had not yet made the readily mispronounced name a household one.

As Teng winds up his week-long American tour today, his prominence can't be overstated.

Hundreds of journalists from the world over tagged along with the Chinese vice premier, scrambled to photograph every facial gesture, and worried that some unforseen event might happen out of their presence.

U.S. government officials who ac-companied Teng's entourage were so numerous and so varied, ranging from secret service agents to State Department personnel, that they wore coded metal pins to help recognize each other

A thousand Houston policemen carrying plexiglass shields and yard-long billy clubs ringed the Hyatt-Regency Hotel Friday and Saturday to discourage protestors. These lavish attentions assure

that Teng will become the symbol of both a more pragmatic and outgoing China and of the new China-U.S. friendship. Already the virtual leader of China, Teng can only in-crease in power and prestige. Whether that will benefit

Whether that will benefit America remains to be seen. America denied diplomatic rec-ognition to the People's Republic of

China for 30 years because that country answered "communism" to the questions of government. Now that they are trying a new answer — the so-called Great Leap Outward sponsored by Teng — that is still communistic, but at least pragmatic,

relations have been established. Ample evidence of the Great Leap Outward isn't wanting. The agreement to exchange scientific information that Teng and President Carter signed last week is only the most recent example. What really interests the West is

how great a leap outward the Chinese people are allowed to make outside of Maoist dogma. Exciting news to foreign observers is the trend toward free self-expression that takes forms such as wall post-ers, dancing and Western-style clothes.

It sounds so democratic. Teng has even said that "in our country, as counterrevolution weakens, dictatorship will have to be pared away and democracy broadened." It is very good news to hear that 900 million people, one-quarter of the earth's population, is moving towards democracy.

But it's just as possible that China reverse itself — have a Great Leap Inward. Teng is 74. If he dies, Premier Hua Kuo-feng, a Mao dog-matist and opponent of Teng in the past, could halt the democratic trends.

Or Teng might do so himself. He survives political purges because he can bend with the wind. The wind is presently out of the West only because China needs technol-ogy and fears Russia. Love of America didn't prompt the Great Leap Outward.

America must always be alert for the change of the wind. Future deal-ings with China and Teng need to be based on actions instead of words, especially where Taiwan is concerned. As Teng says, "Practice is the only norm for verifying truth.

'Public servant' had no better spokesman

He should have been President. To say that of Nelson A. Rockefeller is not to say definitively that he would have been a great President, certainly not that he would not have made mistakes of judgment. It is rather to say that more than most public men of his time he was equipped by experience, character and outlook to hold the office he so energetically went after, but which his own party firmly and at times vindictively denied him the chance for.

He was out of phase with the Republican Party of his day, as indeed by the time of his death his approach to public policy seemed out of tune with the currently fashionable political mood. "Era of limits," "lowered expectations" were phrases without meaning for Nelson Rockefeller; he seemed to have been born with a temperament of boundless optimism (and why shouldn't a Rockefeller be optimistic?); for him there were no problems without solutions, no obstacles that could not be overcome by hard work and good will. His evident belief in the inevitability and rightness of progress was in a way more of his grandfather's century than of his own.

His death will not go unmarked by controversy about this judgment, that decision — but his views were consistent. From the beginning of his service in Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, he was an internationalist. The beneficiary of democratic capitalism himself, he saw both its uses and its limitations, and he believed in employing government both to promote enterprise and assertively to provide for the common good.

From his public posts and his private philanthropies he encouraged improvements in education, medicine and science with the same gusto he applied to government, but it was art that enthralled him. He was one of those collectors who do not follow public taste but lead it; he did more than any person in America to bring primitive art into the public eye.

No stranger to private trouble and great grief, he was cheerful, even jaunty, in the face of public disappointment and when you heard that gravelly New York voice you knew he thought that things — however they looked at the moment — were going to get better. Vastly ambitious for himself, denied the prize he wanted most, Nelson

Rockefeller nevertheless was what the phrase public servant is all about. Los Angeles Times

By Dick West

Disco dancers chic a leg

WASHINGTON — "Legs Are Back," says the February issue of Forum Magazine.

That shows how out of it I am. I didn't

even know legs had gone away. Apparently, I have been living in a dream world. Apparently, legs have been languishing for quite a while.

Anyway, Forum says "the leg has been making a comeback." Which must be welcome news for people who had invested heavily in legs and then found themselves out on a limb, so to speak. We are talking female legs, of course.

The masculine leg has never counted for much. For men, the chin is about the only thing that matters.

Year in, year out, male chins are always highly rated. "Steadfast" is the word that comes to mind when you think of male chins

This is not to say that chin fashions don't vary somewhat. One season it may be the jutting chin that enjoys the greatest vogue. The next season receding chins might be all the rage.

At the moment, the cleft chin is red hot, that being the fad that John Travolta started in the movie "Saturday Night Fever.

Humor

Despite such fluctuations, the male chin, unlike the female leg, never completely falls from favor. Even in times when it is bearded, the chin remains very

much admired and respected. If, as Forum reports, legs are now being rehabilitated, the question arises "At whose expense

This sort of thing seldom strikes an even

TOP OF THE NEWS T CAMPUS

Women report indecent exposure

Three female Texas A&M University students reported two sepa rate incidents of indecent exposure on the north side of the campus Thursday, police said. Two women said they were flashed near Milner Hall at 10:35 p.m. Police said the women could only describe the man as six feet tall and white. Another woman reported that she was patted on the rear and flashed near Legett Hall, across the street from Milner, about five minutes later. Police questioned and released one suspect.

MSC Council to pick president

The new president of the Memorial Student Center Council will be announced Tuesday night. Three people were interviewed for the office Thursday by an 11-member nominating committee, which will recommend one of them to the MSC Council. The three were Teresa Beshara, director of projects for the MSC Council; Brooks W. Her-ring, chairman of Town Hall; and Rebecca Taulman, director of operations of the council. The group will meet to accept or rejet the candidate Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the council's conference room in the MSC.

A&M willed cash, share of ranch

Texas A&M University has received securities valued at \$100,000 and a one-fourth interest in a 4,444-acre ranch in Hood and Erath and a one-tourth interest in a 4,444-acré ranch in Hood and Erab counties under the provisions of the will of the late C. J. "Red" David-son. Davidson, an independent oilman from Fort Worth who died last October at the age of 81, graduated from Texas A&M in 1917. The ranch is equally owned by Texas A&M, Tarleton State Univer-sity, Angelo State University and Mary-Hardin Baylor College. The property will be sold and the proceeds divided among the four schools.

NATION Robert Kennedy's son marries

Joseph P. Kennedy III, 26, eldest son of the late Robert F. Ken nedy, and Sheila Brewster Rauch, whose father is head of the nation largest savings bank, were married Saturday in a simple ceremo attended by members of the Kennedy clan and close friends. About 500 spectators, some wearing fur coats, many wearing bluejeans an some wearing both, gathered outside outside St. John the Baptis Vianney Roman Catholic Church in Gladwyne, a wealthy "Mar Line" suburb of Philadelphia.

Ford may be liable in Pinto crash

Ford Motor Co. executives indicated Friday they would try mon legal maneuvers to escape criminal charges resulting from a fey accident that killed three teen-age girls riding in a Ford Pinto. More appeals appeared likely after an Indiana superior court judge refused to dismiss criminal charges against the automaker. He denied a mo-tion by Ford to dismiss a grand jury indictment for reckless homicide brought last user. The three circle users in a 1072 Feed Pinte the brought last year. The three girls were in a 1973 Ford Pinto that exploded in flames when struck in the rear by a van. The driver of the van was not indicted in the case.

Coin to replace dollar bill?

The U.S. Mint has unveiled a new smaller dollar coin - but it isn't silver. The coin, honoring suffragette Susan B. Anthony, will be put in circulation in July, when enough are produced so they won't be come collectors' items. The cupro-nickel coin is just a little bigge than a quarter and weighs 8.1 grams. Secretary of the Treasury Michael Blumenthal pressed the first new smaller dollar at the Sa Michael Blumenthal pressed the first new smaller dollar at the San Francisco Assay Office and conceded its size symbolized the shrink-ing value of American money. He said the Anthony dollar will fight inflation because it costs only three cents to produce and won't wear out as fast as dollar bills. The government has no intention of signif-cantly reducing the number of dollar bills printed right away. How-ever, it hopes the new coin will become popular enough that produc-tion of the greenback can be cut back.

Quake hits northwest California

An earthquake rumbled through northwest California early Sunday, shattering glass windows and causing items to fall off shelves. "I think it woke up the entire county," said Lynn Turnbull of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department. She said one man reported \$2,000 worth of stereo equipment was crushed against a wall. She said some store windows were broken in Humboldt County, centered the temblor, which also was felt in parts of Siskiyou and Trinity Counties. The University of California at Berkeley said that the temblor registered 4.8 on the Richter Scale and struck at 1:57 a.m Eureka residents reported that it lasted for perhaps 30 seconds.

Letters to the Editor

Swing your partner rock n' rollers

Editor:

The intended message of this letter is one of enlightenment. I am, as are many of you, an unassuming, rock 'n' roll carnivore with muscial tastes that run the spectrum from the slow, melodious sounds of Aerosmith to the go, commodious bounds of Ted Nugent.

For 19 years this basically well-adjusted individual has contented himself with what he realizes now has been a restrictive rut. Yes, it was not until the night of Feb. 2 that this creature of raucous rhythm dis-

covered his first real groove. Folks, I is talking to you about (hold your noses) square dancing. True, I did experience a noticeable drain of my intellectual capabilities, but it was the most fun I've had since dumping pig manure on the Dunn biters.

Officiating this soul-soothing affair was the honorable Mr. Manning Smith, who can only be described as an artist and the best caller north of the border. And all the girls you meet are really sweet, as was evidenced in the meeting of the kinds, which juxtaposed the chic "sophisticaterers" of Mosher (their kind) with the wayward wards of Walton (our kind).

So for all you disco-a-go-go Joes, rock on and roll over to an easier beat - and finally - we'll all get squared away. -Jason Doughty, '81

Real Mastermind

Editor

Having just read the "letter to the editor" stating that the "creationist's theory" should be taught in the classroom, I wondered if some of us are still living in the Dark Ages?

The creationists base their theory on faith, not fact. However, Darwin's theory is based on scientific fact. Every day anthropologists like Louis B. Leakey are finding new evidence showing that Darwin's theory is basically correct.

In 1633 Galileo was forced by the church to retract his statement saying that Copernicus' work (which said that the

have been so unwilling to accept scientific fact. When we look back a hundred years from now, we will wonder how the creationists ARE SO UNWILLING TO ACCEPT SCIENTIFIC FACT.

If we teach the creationist's ideas, then every group on the face of the earth will want their "theories" to be given equal time. Can you imagine reincarnation being taught in the classroom?

Remember that there are many religious scientists who are aware that the book of Genesis was passed along by word of mouth for 2,000 years, and so it's origi-nal version is completely different than today's.

-Michael Confoy, '81

Reincarnation class?

Editor:

When I think of special creation, I think of God and that the creation of the world was just another "little" miracle that God did. Whether it was six days, six months or six thousand years, I feel that God did it all.

Creation versus evolution is as old as man himself. But the answer is still being sought by many people.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look into the heavens and say there is no God.'

I feel that Lincoln knew what he was talking about when he made that statement, for who else but an almighty creator could have made the mountains so magnificent and the birds in the sky so beautiful.

Dr. A. Cressy Morrison, former president of the New York Academy of Sciences, once said, "So many exact conditions are necessary for life that they could not possibly exist in proper relationship by chance." From the air that we breathe to the food we eat, who else but God could be so precise and so careful in completing creation for us?

What about the gaps in the fossil record that many scientists have trouble explaining? How are those explained? It had to be Master mind that developed all the differ-

animals. Napoleon Bonaparte, a French general, once said, "All things proclaim the existence of a God." I couldn't agree more with Napoleon, for I praise God every morning for the world I live in and all the beautiful surroundings the world has to of-

Take a walk around campus and look at the different plants. Each plant is different in its own way. Humans are a lot like plants, for they, too, are different in their own ways. They didn't come out of the same mold and neither did man. I strongly feel that we couldn't have evolved and still had come out so uniquely different.

I feel that God has his hand in every birth of every infant. Whether it be a birth of a child or a mother cat giving birth to her kitten, God is in making sure His work is done.

When spring is here and the birds are singing and the butterflies are flying I think of God and praise Him for his crea-tion and thank him that I can live in His world.

Sure, special creation or evolution is a decision we all have to face, but it is beyond my comprehension to think that any-thing but God could have masterminded the marvelous creation.

-Brenda Novotny, '81

balance. Whenever you find one part of the body on a rising popularity curve, you

find some other section on the wane. If, say, shoulders move to the forefront, hips, backs or some other component will be relegated to the rear.

Forum does not indicate what legs are displacing. From other sources, however, I have ascertained that waists are on the way out.

During the coming months, if I have the right dope, waists will be universally neglected and ignored. You'll go for weeks without hearing the waist mentioned. For all practical purposes, waists will become a wasteland.

Forum attributes the resurgence of legs to a "rebirth of romance and femininity" in clothing. That is a nebulous explanation at best. It's like saying the cleft chin craze was brought on by the revival of three piece suits.

Deeper exploration of the leg renaissance probably will show that disco dancing did it.

Disco is the first dance style in two decades that requires women to move their legs. Previously, they stood in one place and moved other sections of the anatomy. The re-emergence of legs on the dance floor necessarily makes people more leg-conscious generally, thus providing the impetus for their revivification.

As already noted, however, the phenomenon is limited to female legs. Male disco dancers, ala John Travolta, still lead with their chins.



WORLD Teng ends dazzling U.S. visit

Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping flies home to Peking today, leaving behind a dazzling trail of publicity from coast to coast. On his final full day in the United States Sunday, he had lunch with a group of Seattle businessmen and toured a Boeing jumbo jet factory. In addition, he is reported to have offered a more liberal emigration policy for Chinese citizens to win most favored nation trading status with the United States. Teng was scheduled to depart for China this morning after a breakfast meeting with newspaper editors.

WEATHER

Chance of rain with drizzle throughout the day. High Monday in the high 40's and a low in the low 30'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. Address correspondence to Letters to the Editor, The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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