



"Two guys are advertising for dates in the want ads. I wonder if they have lovely personalities?"

OPINION

Agency resembles mothers-in-law

Suppose a family is going along smoothly; then an enterprising mother-in-law sees a way to improve it. Problems are sure to develop.

We may have a federal mother-in-law on our hands. In a recent speech President Carter said he is forming a new "Office for Families" to be run out of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

As the president put it, "Many families have been strained to the breaking point by social and economic forces beyond their control."

Most will agree with that.

But is more bureaucracy the answer? Will the addition of hundreds of new jobs, research papers and charts at HEW do anything to improve things? We doubt it.

Frankly, Jimmy Carter could do more to help the family by reducing government and taxes than a hundred new Offices for Families could do.

Much of the economic pressure on the average household comes from a bigger and bigger bite of the weekly paycheck being taken to support the government.

Yes, the president has addressed an important problem. But as usual he comes up with the old Washington answer: spend more money, create a new department. For all his talks with "average Americans" he still hasn't gotten the message: The people want less government in their lives, not more.

Worcester, Mass., Telegram

the small society by Brickman



THE BATTALION

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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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WINDOW

Kennedy's 'headless horse' campaign gets him into embarrassing situations

By **ARNOLD SAWISLAK**
 United Press International

WASHINGTON — Back when it was still a mystery whether Sen. Edward Kennedy was going to run for president, the speaker of the House said he didn't think so because he saw no sign of a Kennedy campaign organization.

Tip O'Neill has seen a lot of Kennedy political operations and he obviously found it hard to believe that Teddy was going to make the leap without the kind of careful planning and tight organization that has characterized the family's campaigns for 30 years.

O'Neill quickly changed his mind after talking to the senator. But the point the speaker made back then was well taken, and nobody knows it better now than Kennedy.

The draft Kennedy "organization" O'Neill saw in September consisted of a

diverse collection of liberal ideologues, Camelot romantics, courthouse hustlers and professional politicians. But there was no head on this horse and O'Neill knew that kind of critter was going to back into some situations that could do nothing but embarrass Kennedy.

Which is what it did in Florida. While the independent draft Kennedy organization in the state included some savvy political operatives the senator would be happy to have on his team anywhere, it had some others who appeared to be all thunder and no rain.

This group decided to try to catch President Carter on the blind side by capturing the county delegates to the Florida Democratic convention, where a non-binding straw ballot on presidential preference was scheduled.

The Florida straw vote gambit was not original: Carter did it first in 1975 to begin

the process of demonstrating George Wallace's vulnerability. But clever as the idea may have been, the execution was terrible.

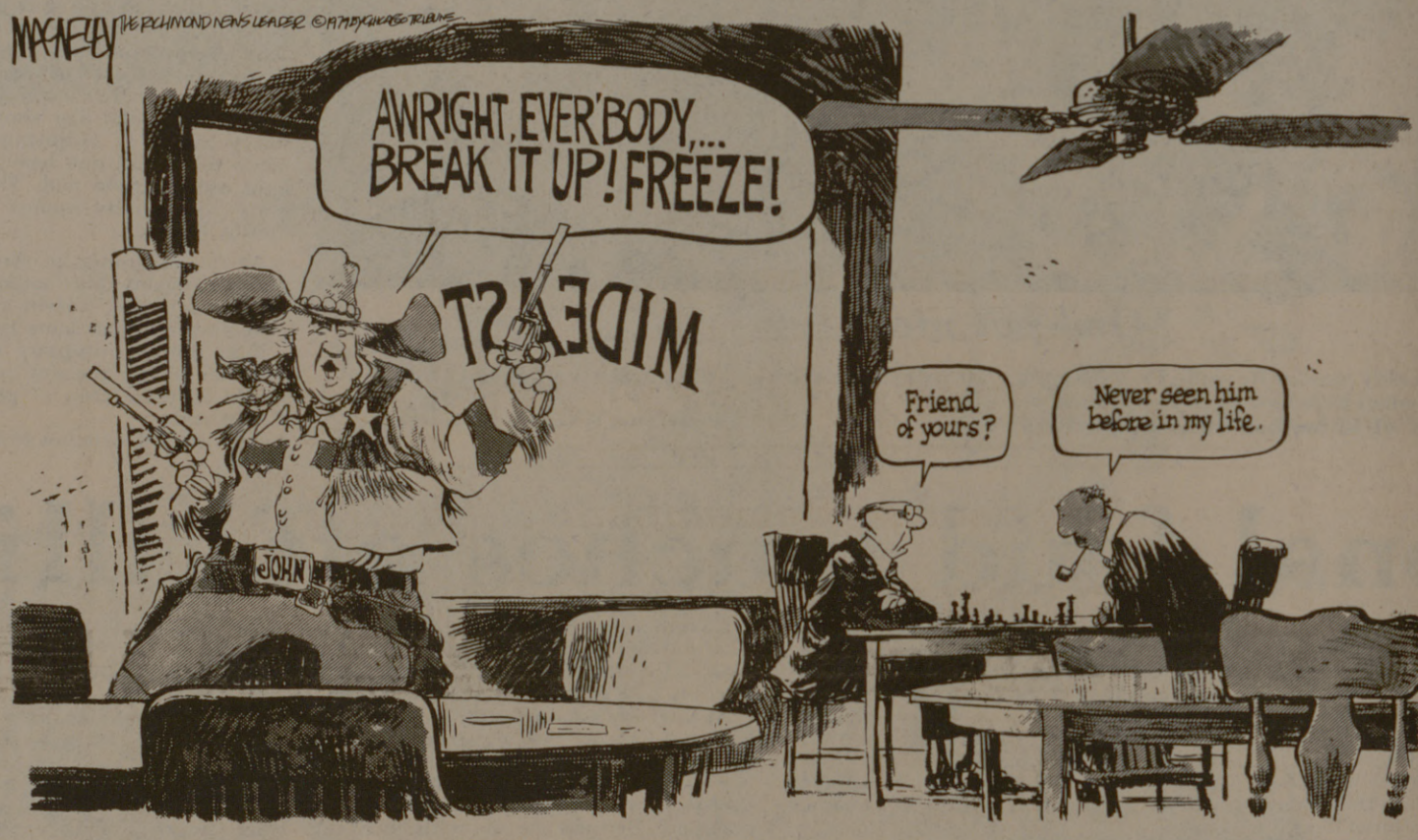
To start, the pro-Kennedy people blew the element of surprise, not only trumpeting their plans to organize the county caucuses, but claiming they were going to win most of the delegates.

That warned the Carter camp in Washington and it laid on a campaign of major league proportions. It also set the stakes for the contest, so that even if Kennedy won a respectable share of the delegates he would have failed to meet the originally proclaimed goal.

Secondly, the pro-Kennedy people got into a situation in which they had to denounce the very process they were trying to exploit. When they "discovered" that there was going to be only one polling place in each county and that transporta-

tion of voters was going to be the real first test would come in January, not Florida in October. Kennedy wasn't badly hurt when his Florida served up a flop, which was ped by one of his backers claim senator had achieved "a fantastic

Nor was it particularly surprising Kennedy let it be known a few days up his own "exploratory committee" the kind of outfit Tip O'Neill would name as a real campaign organization



ANALYSIS

Assassination of South Korea's Park leaves U.S. ally in political vacuum

By **JOHN NEEDHAM**
 United Press International

SEOUL, South Korea — The slaying of Park Chunghee leaves South Korea, America's principal ally on the Asian continent, with serious new problems. It must maintain unity against the communist threat from the north and deal with increasing domestic discontent over Park's 18-year legacy of repression.

Park's death left a vacuum in the country's strongman presidential system of government, with no new leader ready to fill it right away.

"There was no No. 2 in South Korea," a Seoul journalist said after Park was shot to death by the chief of the powerful Korean Central Intelligence Agency. "There was only Park, No. 1 — no one in second or third place."

Analysts say Prime Minister Choi Kyu-hah, who under the constitution becomes acting President for a maximum of three months, would have to fight hard for the top job if he had ambitions.

Park ruled South Korea for more than 18 years, first as a general who led an army coup and then — since 1963 — as president. He was re-elected in 1972 and 1978 as the only candidate under the new constitution he pushed through.

He surrounded himself with top-notch economic planners and gave them the leeway to produce the "economic miracle" that produced astronomical growth in South Korea's exports.

Politically he fought off an occasional challenge — though none really posed serious threat after the 1972 constitution

took effect — and ruled with sweeping powers.

As a general, Park had extensive contacts in the military when he came to power. He kept the army's leadership content over the years, making sure it was well-financed and well-equipped.

He was further helped by the presence of U.S. troops in South Korea — 39,000 still remain — and by the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" set up as a deterrent to any attack by communist North Korea.

The military, in turn, supported Park. And when his loyal prime minister, Choi, was named acting president Saturday, the soldiers and airmen quickly closed ranks behind him.

The greatest unifying force in South Korea has always been the communist threat from North Korea. The peninsula

has been divided in two since the World War II, when the Japanese occupiers withdrew, letting South Korea occupy the northern part and U.S. the South.

Both North Korea and South Korea have often said they want reunification but sporadic meetings have been held.

Even Park's opponents, including Young-sam, whose expulsion from the National Assembly sparked widespread test and student-led riots, say they support the U.S. troops to stay.

As a result, it was hoped the jockeying to replace Park would be behind a united front, with the various factions exercising enough restraint to North Korea the opportunity to exploit political instability in the south.

LETTERS

Police know how to collect money, but not how to refund it — student

Editor:

My letter concerns our "efficient and trustworthy" campus police department.

At the beginning of this school year I was given an "annual" parking sticker instead of a two-semester one as I had requested last year. Upon noticing it, I called it to the attention of a girl in the office who said I could exchange it after Sept. 17 and get a refund of \$9, the difference in price.

Upon returning to the police department I was told that I couldn't receive a refund until May 1980. The torn sticker I was given was taken away and a new one was given to me. It too was an annual one.

I don't think they quite understood that all I wanted was my \$9 back! Morris A. Maddox, assistant University Police Chief, seems to be the final judge of all this. It would seem that I should be able to get my money refunded.

They were so eager to take my money \$5 for my rear tire being over the white line in Lot 56.

Mr. Maddox sure knows how to rake in the money, but he doesn't know when to give some up when it's not his! Congratulations to Mr. Maddox and the entire TAMU police force for demonstrating once again that no matter where you are, you still get the shaft! Yes — even in Aglieland.

— Jimmy Orr, '82

Library hint

Editor:

As an employee in the circulation department of S.C. Evans Library I realize that the library system still has some bugs to iron out, but I would like to comment on one particular problem that affects all who use the library.

The problem is I.D. cards. There is a large number of students that have unpunched I.D. cards, and all of our

machines that punch the I.D. cards are broken; therefore, we must write these materials by hand instead of running them through the computer.

This process is slow and tedious and sometimes irritates the patrons and the person behind the counter. However, this problem, for the most part, could be solved very easily by the users of the library themselves. All that is needed is an old TAMU I.D. card that has been punched and the current I.D. card to ver-

ify the user is a currently enrolled student. This way we can run the materials on the computer in seconds where it would take 10 to 15 minutes to do by hand.

As a freshman I realize that I have old I.D. cards, but their numbers are small next to those of upperclassmen who have old I.D. cards. So on your next visit to the library, I and the entire circulation staff would greatly appreciate you bringing your new and old I.D. cards. It will help you and us a lot of time and paper.

— James M. Hough

THOTZ

by Doug Graham

