

SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"We probably ought to put the kerosene in something besides a coffee pot, but I guess it doesn't matter now."

OPINION

U.S. should be 'mad as hell'

In the movie "Network," the TV anchorman urges his viewers to stand up and tell authorities they were "mad as hell" and "not going to take it anymore."

It's time for the American people — and the American president — to stand up and tell the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini they are mad as hell and not going to take it anymore.

Iranian students are presently holding 60 to 65 hostages in the American embassy in Tehran. The Iranians have threatened to murder the hostages and cut off oil to the United States if their demands for extradition of the shah are not met.

The ayatollah has given the students his blessing and his support.

The United States should not be blackmailed in this fashion.

True, the Iranians can cut off their oil exports to the U.S. Let them. We'll walk.

We'd rather walk than put up with being used as a patsy by a religious radical.

We'd rather walk than live under the threat of having Americans used as hostages and poker chips in some sick game of blackmail and intimidation.

We'd rather walk than bow to a third-rate dictatorship afraid to show itself to its own people.

The United States should not settle merely for the safe release of the hostages nor for a diplomatic apology.

The United States, most notably James Earl Carter Jr., should inform the ayatollah and his followers further episodes of this nature will not be tolerated.

Period.

In other words, "We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore."

the small society by Brickman



THE BATTALION

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LETTERS POLICY

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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 8, 1979

BRODER

Spokane's prosperous population views presidential candidates dimly

By DAVID S. BRODER
BELLINGHAM, Wash. — In Spokane, they are expanding the airport and reveling in a record wheat crop. In Seattle, they brag about Boeing's \$16 billion backlog of civilian airplane orders. And here, a visitor is taken to a hilltop to see the tanker from Alaska making one of its regular deliveries of crude oil to the new Arco refinery.

If the country is in a recession, it is hard to find evidence in the Northwest. The economy is booming, population is growing, and most of the people here enjoy the good life. The weather has been warm enough to encourage weekend use of the cottages on the San Juan Islands, and the start of the skiing season in the Olympics is only a few weeks away.

This distant corner of the United States ("as far from Washington, D.C., as you can get inside the continental boundaries," Dean James Davis of Western Washington University points out) gives a view of the nation through the opposite end of the telescope.

But with the national election now exactly a year away, the panorama provided by

the clear air of the Puget Sound may not be the worst perspective from which to view what lies ahead.

Up here, where local television stations serve a larger audience of Canadians than of Americans, there is a sense of impending political change. Those who live on the American side of the border watched their neighbors in British Columbia last spring turn out first the provincial government of David Barrett and then federal government of Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

The prospect of losing Jimmy Carter as their President does not trouble their spirits any more than one of the brief rain showers that move down from the Cascades. What does concern them are the options available to replace him.

They have seen a good many of the candidates come jetting through, collecting cash for their coffers and names for their campaign committees. They are braced for an assault from Ted Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, the clear favorites today to win the Democratic and Republican precinct caucuses that will be held next March.

But they wonder if these panting, striv-

ing, revved-up would-be Carter replacements really understand what the country is seeking.

Former three-term Gov. Dan Evans (R), now president of Evergreen College in Olympia, says that Kennedy and his high-powered staff members strike him as extreme examples of Rep. Joel Pritchard's (R-Wash.) description of the eager-beaver habitués of Capitol Hill: people who "have bigger propellers than rudders."

"I think the country's looking for a rudder," says Evans, who suggests that the latent leadership hunger may not so much be a yearning for a rebirth of the New Frontier as a desire to return to the calm and confidence of Dwight D. Eisenhower's years.

The candidate who is closest to Eisenhower, at least in vintage, is Reagan. But the doubts expressed about him as a potential President are at least as deep as those troubling people about Kennedy.

It is not "the age issue," in its simple form. Washington state does not discriminate against senior citizen-politicians. Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D) is 67, and Sen. War-

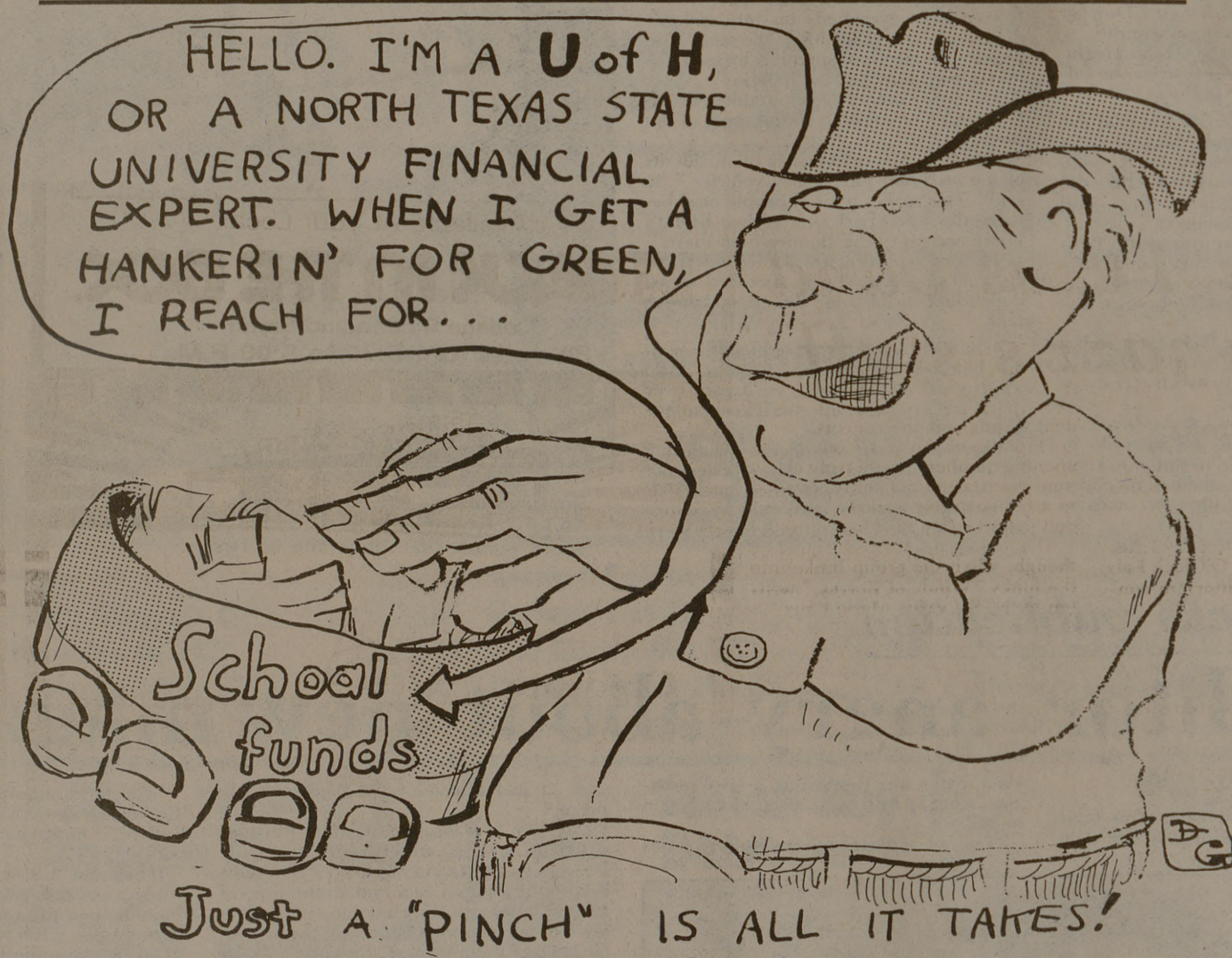
ren G. Magnuson (D), 74. Magnuson for re-election in 1980, and designation of an estimable Republican moderate, Slade Gorton, is a struggle for another term.

But Jackson and Magnuson are continually engaged in the issues and challenges of government, while Reagan content to go for years at a time more substantive involvement in the of the country than as a provider of one-liners about the follies of Washington.

Thoughtful people here — on campus in newspaper offices and corporate quarters — ask if Reagan has been for President so long now that it is rather than the responsibility, that he craves.

Carter's hold on this burgeoning beautiful corner of the country is than shaky. Often, his presidency is discussed in the past tense.

But the doubts about his two available replacements run deep as well that is what clouds the picture, clear day. (c) 1979, The Washington Post Company



LETTERS

Rice band members say 2 Aggies went too far with school rivalry

Editor:

Colonel Woodall, ROTC Commandant: It is most definitely not our desire to cause any enmity between the students of Rice University and the students of Texas A&M University. However, an unfortunate incident has occurred concerning the conduct of some of the Corps members under your direction, and we feel it must deserve your attention.

After the Texas A&M football game with Rice, in the late afternoon of Oct. 27, two members of the Marching Owl Band were walking to dinner down a side-street in the Village, an area of shops adjacent to Rice University. As the game had ended only an hour before, we were still in our uniforms.

At this point, several Corps members in a pick-up truck began following us down the partially-deserted street. After perhaps a minute of this, two members suddenly approach us, running from behind; and upon reaching us, they forcibly removed our band hats. In the process, Miss Pearson received a blow to the head and Mr. Wicks was shoved hard to the side by a blow to the shoulder. Our assailants then jumped into the back of the pick-up.

We realize that, school rivalries being what they are, occasional pranks will occur. However, the theft of these items, which was totally unprovoked, and the rough manner in which it was carried out, to us seems going too far with that rivalry.

As Corps and ROTC members, surely these students are required to conduct themselves like officers, "as honorable and chivalrous gentlemen." The members involved in the theft removed their Khaki shirts and trousers while still in the pick-up truck and so were in nothing but their underwear at the time of the assault. Surely this act of simply removing their outer clothing did not nullify, legally or in spirit, the high code of honor by which cadets live.

Once more, we want to emphasize the fact that we do not wish to cause any trouble between Rice and Texas A&M; nor do we have any desire for punishment of the Corps members involved. All we request is the return of our hats, or if this proves

impossible, reimbursement of the same.

Due to great efforts, not only on the part of ourselves but of every MOB member, to conduct ourselves in a friendly and accommodating manner, we feel we must express our personal disappointment in the way these efforts were apparently received, and hope that the conduct demonstrated by these few members of the Corps is not representative of the conduct and sentiments of the later majority.

Thank you for your consideration and prompt action on this matter.

— Pamela Pearson
— David Wicks, Jr.

Editor's note: This letter was sent originally to Colonel Woodall. Copies were sent to President Miller; Dr. Norman Hackerman, president of Rice University; Dr. Samuel M. Carrington, proctor of Rice; The Rice Thresher and the Houston Post.

Strong stand needed

Editor: After the current developments in Iran, I feel it is time that someone condemns the Iranian students that have ruthlessly taken our American Embassy in Tehran. America has been called "Evil" and "The Satanic America" by Iranian students.

When the Ayatollah Khomeini came into power in Iran, he was called a "great religious leader." Now this pseudo-saint has come out with statements such as "In the name of God the merciful, America — death to your plot ... The U.S. is Enemy no. 1 of Humanity and the Iranian People."

I fail to see the correlation between humanity and a nation whose government fails to protect American citizens living in the land. Khomeini has condoned the holding of American hostages in Tehran. There is no excuse for this action. The Iranian government has an undeniable duty to protect all people in their country from ruthless barbaric actions. If the Iranian government refuses to take action in the American's behalf, drastic action of some sort should be called for.

If American is indeed a "satanic" place, I fail to see how any Iranians in their right mind could stand to live here. If we are lawless, our only line of action to follow is simply to force every Iranian living in the U.S. to leave — immediately. We could of course hold every Iranian in the U.S. hostage until the Americans in Tehran are released. This will not happen because the U.S. government would never condone this action. And they shouldn't. The U.S. has a responsibility, and we fulfill it.

This action by the Iranians simply the world that Iran wants vengeance against the Shah — and they will innocent people if they must to get their goal.

I'm sorry, but the Iranians have ways to go before they can call themselves "Humanitarians." I seriously hope hear no more accusations against the by Iranians living in America for a After all, at least we do not go arounding Iranian Embassies.

— Mike Miller

Ring lost, found

Editor: I would like to thank Kim Hamann found and returned my A&M senior when I lost it in the library. She responded to my ad in last week's Battalion, she would not accept the reward offered would like to publicly express my appreciation of her honesty.

Not only is it great to have my ring; it is nice to know that one can count on fellow Aggies!

— Mary Dodd

THOTZ



by Doug Graham