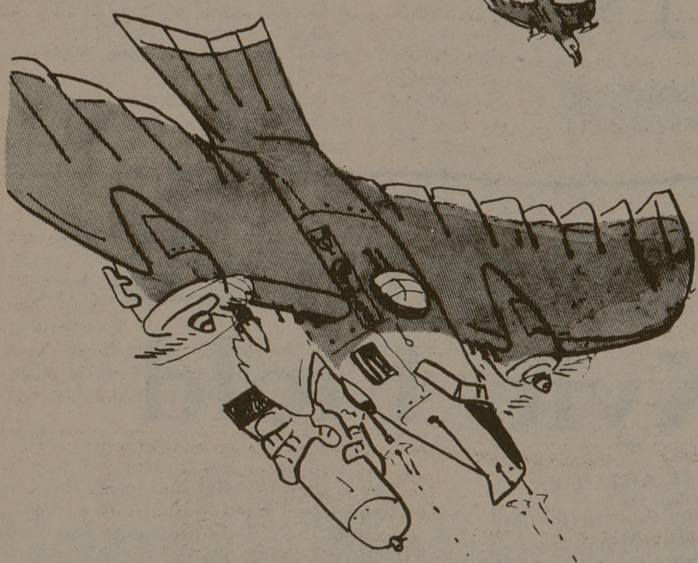


FLASH!



IN REACTION TO RECENT EVENTS IN IRAN, AMERICANS HAVE CLAMORED FOR INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING....

OF IRANIAN STUDENTS' RIGHTS

OPINION

'Unforgivable' tag applies equally

"An unforgivable series of actions" is how University of Houston student body president Ed Watt terms several events that occurred during and after the UH-Texas A&M football game.

Stealing items from visiting schools is considered "good bull" by some — but when they ask for their return, we should comply.

Some Corps of Cadets leaders did that with what they thought was part of the UH mascot's costume.

But while A&M students were at fault, University of Houston students were not blameless. To call A&M's actions "unforgivable," without viewing the other side of the coin, is like the pot calling the kettle black.

— A crowd of more than 1,000 UH students was on Kyle Field, even after requests both before and during the game from University officials to leave.

— The same group shouted obscenities at University Police and students who asked them to leave.

— Cheerleaders repeatedly ignored the same request to stay off of Kyle Field.

— An entire crowd of victorious students rubbed in a victory with a taunting "Poor Aggies" chant.

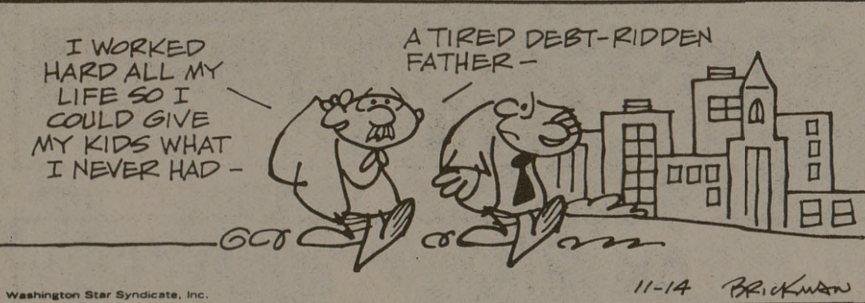
— Football players made obscene gestures and yells to the crowd.

— And, to top it all off, UH student officials refused to accept the possibility that their counterparts at Texas A&M tried to locate and return any items that were stolen.

All in all, it appears everyone concerned is guilty of poor sportsmanship — it's a matter of degree.

the small society

by Brickman



THE BATTALION

USPS 045 360

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.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Battalion is published Monday through Friday from September through May except during exam and holiday periods and the summer, when it is published on Tuesday through Thursday.

Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester, \$33.25 per school year, \$35.00 per full year. Advertising rates furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843. United Press International is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it. Rights of reproduction of all other matter herein reserved. Second-Class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the University administration or the Board of Regents.

Regents. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a university and community newspaper. Editorial policy is determined by the editor.

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 1979

WASHINGTON Kennedy using 'repentance strategy' to explain Chappaquiddick incident

By ARNOLD SAWISLAK

United Press International

WASHINGTON — One of the first questions that arose when it became clear that Sen. Edward Kennedy was going to run for president was: "How is he going to handle Chappaquiddick?"

The answer appears to be "head on," The reason may be "to get it over with."

In recent interviews, Kennedy has been confronted bluntly with questions about the 1969 accident in which a young woman campaign worker drowned when Kennedy's car went off a bridge on Chappaquiddick island.

Kennedy (1) did not change his account of how the accident happened, (2) described his own behavior in failing to report it until the next day as "irresponsible," and (3) said "I am a very different person than

prior to that tragedy."

Kennedy said in some ways the accident was more traumatic to him than the assassination of his brothers John and Robert because those were things that happened beyond his control and Chappaquiddick "was a circumstance (for) which I did have a responsibility."

To those who claim there is more to the Chappaquiddick story (the theories are as varied and extreme as any that have attached themselves to the JFK assassination), Kennedy replies that his version "happens to be the way it was."

There really is nothing new in any of this. It is essentially the same response Kennedy has been making to questions about the accident for some years.

There appears to be in the Kennedy answers what political consultant Hank

Parkinson calls the "a calculated repentance strategy."

In the newsletter "Campaigning Reports," Parkinson quotes former political operative Victor Gold as saying when a candidate's opponent "confesses the errors of his ways and throws himself on the mercy of the court of public opinion, anything can happen, regardless of what the polls say."

Gold said both Mayor John Lindsay of New York, Gov. Brendan Byrne of New Jersey and Sen. Charles Percy of Illinois used the mea culpa approach successfully in seeking second terms.

After 10 years, Kennedy almost surely wishes the questions about Chappaquiddick would end. But he knows better. If he is going to run for president, he is going to hear them and give answers. If he tries to

cut off the questions, they will become more frequent and hostile.

But in the absence of new information about the episode, both the questions eventually will cease. Some people will continue to hope to catch Kennedy in an error or make him angry, but that is not in Kennedy's interest.

That may not happen in the campaign. But while Kennedy is trying to win the Democratic nomination this time, his presidential ambitions would be far from ended to Carter.

So getting Chappaquiddick away could be an early investment in presidential campaign.

Iranians break rules, despite vulnerability

In the zealous eyes of Ayatollah Khomeini, America is the "great satan" and Great Britain its "evil" ally. But it is the Ayatollah himself who is doing the devil's work by inciting and condoning the student invasion of the American and British embassies in Tehran. This is not just a diplomatic affront; it is a declaration of war on diplomacy itself.

The first step, plainly, must be to secure the safe departure of the captives.

Iran has its own diplomatic missions abroad, which are vulnerable to reprisal. Iran has also been getting badly needed spare parts for its American-made weapons — whose goodwill value should now be plain to the Carter administration.

Iran can still gravely injure the West by further reducing oil exports, but the injury to its own economy would be even greater. In any case, a regime bent on irrational conduct cannot be appeased. The avowed purpose of the embassy takeovers is to force the United States to return the ailing Shah to face a revolutionary tribunal. The idea is unconscionable. The right of political asylum is another valued tradition that the Ayatollah seems to consider "diabolic" now that he no longer needs his own revolutionary platforms of asylum in Iraq and France.

While pressing for release of its own citizens, the United States should feel no shame in resisting outrageous demands.

The New York Times

MACKEY THE IRONWOOD NEWS LEADER. © 1979 BY CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

And don't forget... If we start shooting hostages... some innocent oil drums could get hurt.



DICK WEST Can we make synthetic fuel tips out of reserves of raw hindsight?

WASHINGTON — The Senate last week approved a vast, or at least a half-vast, program to spur the development of synthetic fuels, otherwise known as "synfuels."

If past form means anything, the advent of synthetic fuel production will lead to synthetic fuel shortages. Which will spur a policy of synthetic fuel conservation. Which will give rise to a new class of energy-saving suggestions known as "syn-tips."

Not long ago, I addressed the question of whether America was in danger of running short of helpful hints on energy conservation. The answer was reassuringly negative.

An example of the type of resources we

can draw on is the recent publication of something called "The Energy Crunch Cookbook."

Its recipes were devised not so much from a nutritional, caloric or epicurean standpoint as from the amount of energy required to prepare them.

Consideration was given to such matters as the number of electric appliances needed to chop, mix or otherwise transform the ingredients, and how long and at what temperature the stove would be one.

"The United States has huge reserves of tips such as these which have been tapped," one energy expert told me.

But what, you may ask, is being done to ensure an adequate supply of synthetic

fuel-saving tips during the coming synthetic fuel crunch?

Insofar as I could determine, the most promising research centers around some experiments in making synthetic tips out of unrefined hindsight.

We have in this country virtually unlimited reserves of hindsight, most of which goes to waste. But analysts have found that raw, unprocessed hindsight usually contains a high proportion of afterthought. And when afterthought is extracted and distilled, it leaves a residue of second guesses.

The trick will be to synthesize the second guesses into artificially created helpful hints.

Once perfected, however, the process is certain to be expensive compared to energy-saving tips that occur naturally. At present, for example, you can buy a book of conventional helpful hints for \$3.99. A volume of syn-tips likely will cost \$10 or more.

The price rise surely will set off folks who grew up at a time when advice could be had for the asking. I have seen times when one could even ask for advice that one wanted even asking. Excess advice was vented in the way oil fields "flared off" natural gas. But if the age of synthetic hints is about to dawn, the day of cheap advice may be about over.

LETTERS Galveston Ags angry over actions leading to exclusion from march-in

Editor:

An Aggie is an Aggie is an Aggie — until you're Galveston Ag — then you're a "no count" Aggie. You get used to it, though, after you've been at Moody College (Texas A&M University at Galveston?) for a while.

In my opinion, coming up least is characteristic of Moody College. We're probably last on the A&M appropriations list; we're the last college to walk the stage at graduation; and finally, our corps is the last unit to march in with the Corps of Cadets at the football games. Now, I've heard our corps is not going to be allowed to march in, not even last anymore. The apparent reason for this is that we've not wanted there.

What do you say to the people who have been up at six in the morning for the past month-and-a-half with the object of going to "march in," "Thanks, but we don't want you!" Well, all I can say is "GIG 'EM AGGIES!" You know where we got the gig. — Andy Tirpak

Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 94 other signatures.

or not the cartoonist, Doug Graham, thought it was amusing, but we would like to voice our opinion.

In that "cartoon" Mr. Graham alluded that President Carter was being indecisive on the Iranian issue. We would like to know what Mr. Graham thinks President Carter should do. Perhaps send in the military and get all the hostages killed?

We personally think that President Carter has acted admirably in a very delicate situation. We are happy that we have a President who is man enough to put the hostages' lives above all else. President Carter deserves a round of applause for his performance in this crisis.

A newspaper that conducts itself in this manner should not have the privilege of being connected to a fine institution such as Texas A&M. The Battalion would better

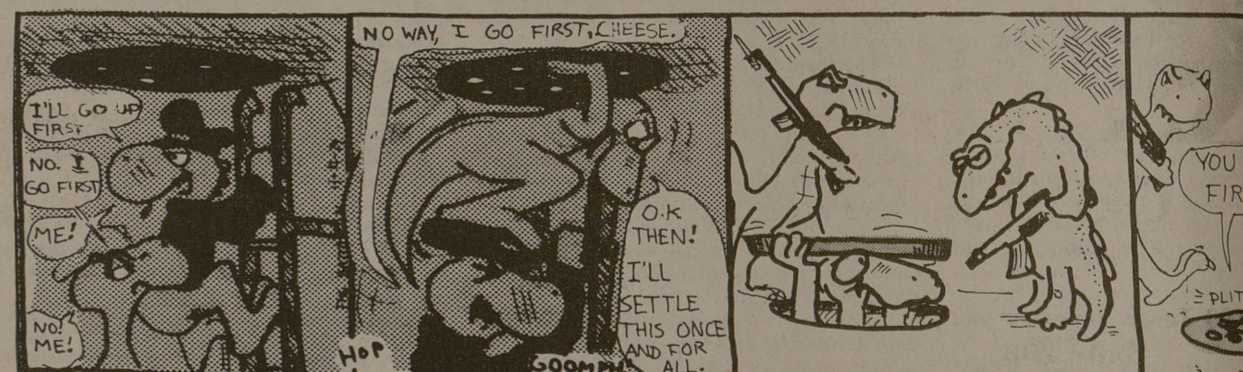
serve by supporting the President than making uncouth jokes about his

tions. Mr. Graham, we would welcome butal. Please tell us what you, a "political" cartoonist, would do if you in President Carter's shoes!

— Julian Thomas Shaker — Douglas L. ...

THOTZ

by Doug Graham



Cartoon not amusing

Editor:

We are writing this letter concerning the "cartoon" that appeared on page two of the Nov. 9 Battalion. We do not know whether