

SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"I'm highly concerned about our situation in Iran, we have a crucial football game, over the weekend, inflation is spiraling upward, and now he wants to give us an examination on top of all of this!"

OPINION

Some things are important. Others are merely necessary. The Board of Regents generally meets on the last Tuesday of odd-numbered months. For this 11th month, however, the meeting is changed to Friday.

The reason is obvious. The regents don't want to waste a trip, since they'll be here anyway — with the rest of Texas' important political figures.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Friday, November 30, 1979

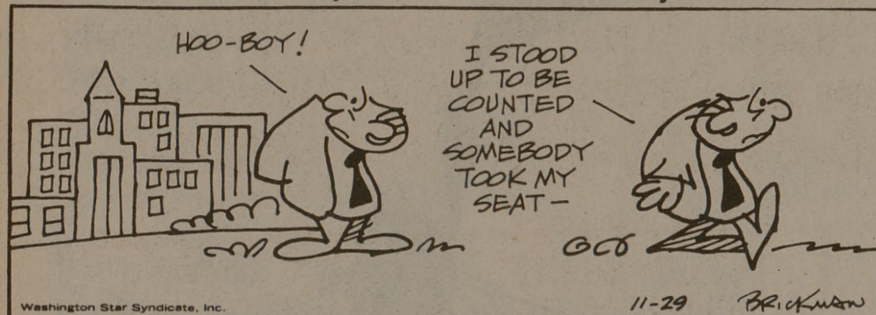
- 8:30 a.m. Meeting of the Executive Committee
- 9:30 a.m. Meeting of the Committee for Service Units
- 12:00 noon Lunch, Board of Regents Dining Room. Guests will be student leaders from Tarleton State University
- 1:30 p.m. Meeting of the Board of Regents
- 4:00 p.m. Estimated time of adjournment
- 7:00 p.m. Bonfire
Dinner, Board of Regents Dining Room

Saturday, December 1, 1979

- 10:00 a.m. Unveiling of Sculpture, Robert Justus Kleberg, Jr. and Plaque Presentation to Mrs. Electra Waggoner Biggs
- 11:30 a.m. Board of Regents' Buffet, Room 212, Memorial Student Center (Regents form receiving line for legislators, etc., in two shifts)
- 12:20 p.m. Corps of Cadets March In
- 1:30 p.m. Kickoff, University of Texas vs. Texas A&M

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.

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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 29, 1979

DICK WEST 'Anti-Congress,' like antimatter, possible, not necessarily desirable

WASHINGTON — The theory of "anti-matter" — nature's counterpart of the ordinary matter you and I know and love — has been kicking around for a long time now.

Even us poor ignorant laymen have become aware of the premise that for every particle floating around in the universe there is an antiparticle with equal and opposite characteristics.

So familiar have we become with the idea of reverse forms of matter that nobody was terribly surprised this fall when scientists claimed to have actually caught some of the stuff with a high altitude balloon.

But don't be misled. Our calm acceptance of the hypothetical existence of anti-

protons, anti-neutrons and the like does not necessarily prepare us to embrace the concept of an anti-session of Congress.

Although we can see that congressional anti-sessions are theoretically possible, that doesn't mean they would be desirable.

The idea of congressional anti-sessions first came to my attention in a recent issue of Johns Hopkins magazine, published by the university of the same name.

The periodical pictured one of the university's alumni, U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti, as being concerned about the "never-ending proliferation" of legislation in this country.

"Every time an issue comes up, you cannot pass a law," he was quoted as saying.

"I'd recommend alternate sessions of Congress — one to pass laws, the other to

repeal them."

Civiletti is not the original deep thinker in this field, of course. Several years ago, I recall, some of the more fertile minds in Congress were toying with the concept of anti-bills.

Their idea was that each time Congress enacted a new law it would be required to repeal some federal statute already on the books.

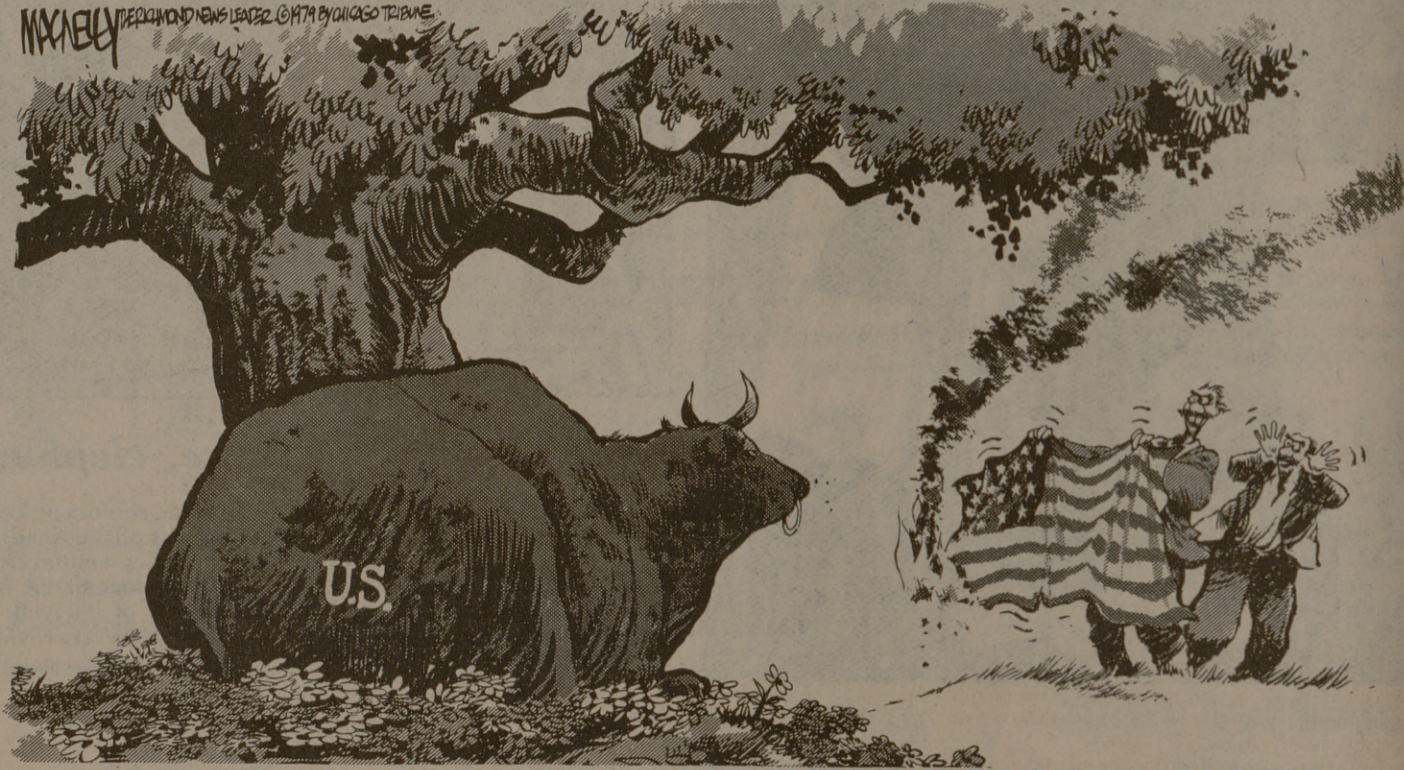
The anti-session envisioned by Civiletti appears to be a logical extension of the anti-bill concept. But many questions remain unanswered. Let us return briefly to the antimatter analogy.

Scientists tell us the reason we don't have reverse forms of matter here on Earth is because the collision of a particle with its antiparticle would destroy both.

Therefore, it seems fair to assume that would happen if anti-bills encountered members equal to the number of bills each year.

Would there be a benign end to useless laws now cluttering up the books, as Civiletti apparently would have the session and the anti-session cancel each other out, creating a void?

I can only tell you it is difficult to imagine what would happen in Congress if this happens in the rest of the universe, everything is either matter or antimatter. But much of what Congress does isn't matter at all.



READER'S FORUM 'Spirit can ne'er be told because it is long gone'

By HANK WAHRMUND
Having witnessed all but three of Texas A&M's last 85 football games, I feel I am a reliable source of information relating to those games. I have a major complaint, and it's not about winning or losing.

I am ashamed of the so-called "Twelfth Man" of A&M. Ashamed because less than 5,000 students showed up at TCU Nov. 24. Ashamed because the only yell the student body can really shout is "Beat the hell outa—," a very negative, poor-sport type of yell. Ashamed because so many Aggies, students and alumni alike, streamed out of the stands at different games when A&M was behind in the fourth quarter. Ashamed because so many students and alumni bitched and cursed the coach and team after the Baylor loss, then chortled with glee the next week when we upset Penn State at their home field. Talk about two-faced.

Bear Bryant used to say the worst places to play football were at Baton Rouge, South Bend and College Station because of the incredible noise encountered from the fans. He can cut A&M from that list forever. Each year the fans have gotten quieter and quieter, the yell leaders less effective and less willing to whip a crowd into a frenzy and the famed "Spirit" of Aggieland has died a slow, demeaning death.

Aggies have always knocked other schools for being poor sports, two-

percenters and fast with the disappearance act once their team got behind. What hypocrisy!!! The student body and alumni set records each week in clearing the stands while the team had to stay on the field to the bitter end. (And by the way, this former Corps member includes CTs in referring to the student body.)

The week before games the students and alumni discuss the last outing with damnations for everyone involved on the team, regardless of whether we won or lost. If we won, it was never by a big enough score. If we lost, it was because "we blew it," never because the other teams were that much better or because they worked up a hatred for us that was ten times as strong as what we falsely believe we felt toward them.

Aggies have absolutely no confidence in their athletic teams, preferring to talk about "the choke syndrome" or some other asinine, meaningless prattle.

Don't believe me? Then ask yourself when was the last time you so vociferously psyched yourself and your friends up the week before (not the day of, that's too late) a football game or any other athletic event? I mean to the point of actually foaming at the mouth for a hard-fought, no-holds-barred take-no-quarter contest? When was the last time any one of you actually cried — yell, cried, like the greatest warriors of Sparta did — when your Aggie teams went down

in defeat? I'll bet there aren't ten of you out of 100,000 graduates and students.

The Aggie teams don't lose that many games. Their backers do. They criticize, moan and complain all week, day after day, then expect the players, who have heard that crap all week, to go out on a set date and annihilate their opponents. What an Aggie joke!!! Tell them (the team) all week long that you know they'll crush those bleeps, and they'll believe it, too, despite the odds against them. Upsets and great

Hank Wahrmund is a 1974 graduate from Texas A&M with a journalism degree. He now works for an airline in Houston.

winning steaks are built on psychologically gearing up to show everyone you really, truly deep down believe your team will kick hell out of anyone, anywhere.

Sing the War Hymn all you want, build the Bonfire 200 feet high and 90 feet around, but face facts — t.u. hates us much more than we hate them. It's true. They're jealous of our traditions and loyalty as former students, so they hate and ridicule us repeatedly.

Wait till Saturday. They'll invade Kyle Field with their big flag (that stands for t.u. to them, not as a symbol of the state of Texas), fat steer and cannon, and run all

three across the turf. No one will finger to stop them, from the president on down. Treat them with respect. Don't upset the "Twelfth Man" from Austin. The Legislature get mad, since they're mostly Texas.

What will the fans from A&M do week and Saturday, in particular? Will hiss when t.u. comes out, then cheer and applaud when the Aggies cheer up. They'll yell once or twice. They'll privately tell their friends they've got a prayer, and everyone on the team will hear all those wonderful, sensitive (?) statements and they'll feel just great for chopped beef served up on Horns. Can you blame them? Can you blame them?

The A&M alma mater says it believes it or not: "There's a spirit that's told ... and that's right — it can be because it's long gone."

The "Twelfth Man" should prove worthy of the title once again. Aggies include the millionaire alumni and poorest student in reference to the year-old phrase. Psyche up team and scream for them till it hurts them after the game.

But who am I trying to kid? "Twelfth Man" and "renowned sports" two more Aggie jokes. May they live in peace.

LETTERS

Editor:
It is understandable that the students at Texas A&M are fed up with the shortage of recreational-sports facilities on campus. The indoor and outdoor facilities are full to overflowing, as interest in sports continues to grow on the A&M campus.

During the course of the year, no less than 75 separate University organizations, sports clubs, athletic teams and other University-related groups use the recreational-sports facilities. The facilities must serve multiple purposes to accommodate the varied needs of these groups. One of the best examples of this is the main floor of G. Rollie White, which has been used for archery tournaments, volleyball, gymnastics, baseball practice, badminton, basketball, team handball, wrestling and frisbee, not to mention graduation and concerts.

The Texas A&M administration has been aware of the problem for several years. They have acted by providing the Penberthy Intramural Center, across Wellborn and the uncompleted physical education and recreation building beneath the student side of Kyle Field.

The Intramural Office has the responsibility of coordinating the reservation requests and supervising the facilities on weekday evenings and weekends. Only University-recognized organizations sports facilities (gymnasiums, soccer fields, etc.). When these groups are served, there are few times left that are available for drop-in recreation. In an effort to help the Intramural

only with the patience and cooperation of everyone at A&M.

— Pat Fierro
Assistant director of Intramurals

Reward for watch

Editor:
I need some help from my fellow Ags.

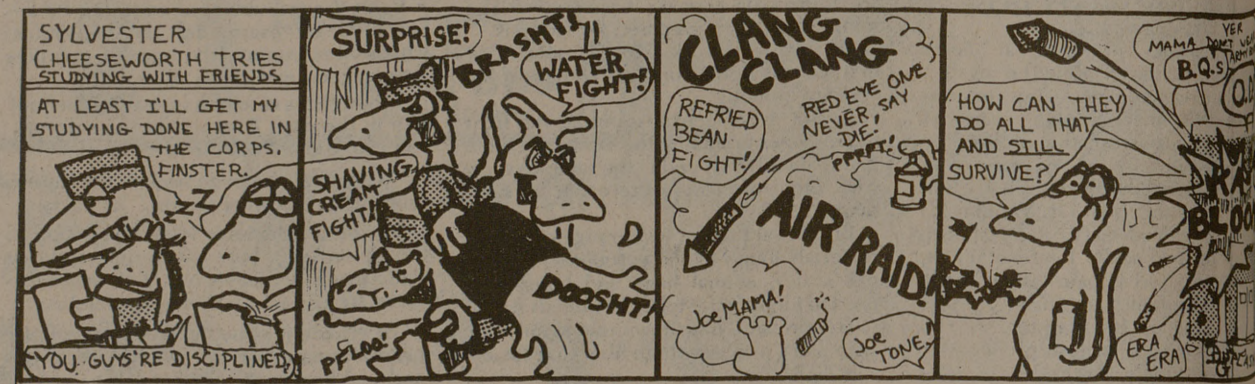
Lack of available sports facilities a great concern of intramural staff

On Friday the 16th, I lost my watch when between the Corps dorms and Kyle Field, while I was walking behind the Band. It is a Citizens Divers watch with black band. It was given to me as a gift. It has high sentimental value to me.

I would greatly appreciate the return of my watch. I am offering a reward. Contact: Gerald Smith, Dorm 8, Room 845-1476.

— Gerald L. Smith

THOTZ



By Doug Graham