

'Kooks' campaign for president

United Press International
ATLANTA — They are the flashy candidates — some sporting long white beards, some campaigning in red, white and blue outfits — often seeking voter support on the basis of simple themes they hope will appeal to the public. To most people, they are kooks.

Accepting that more easily than the more entrenched hopefuls might, about 50 turned up in Atlanta for the first Presidential Kookie Candidate Convention. But that does not mean they are joking. All are listed

with the Federal Election Commission and seem to be sincere in thinking their chances for victory are good — citing Jimmy Carter's recent rise from near obscurity.

Former truck driver Earl "Blackjack" Stevens of Missouri, claiming campaign contributions of \$18 million, said he expects to win on a platform that includes restoration of the 70 mph speed limit and what he calls "100 percent parity for truckers."

Stevens said he also would return to the schools, "Prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the singing of Christ-

mas carols."

John Hagg, who said he had only raised \$5 "to help me with my bus fare," admitted his chances of living in the White House for the first four years of the 1980s are "very poor." Nevertheless, he rode a bus from California for almost three days to reach the convention.

The gathering was organized by Nick Belluso, who waged an unorthodox and unsuccessful campaign for governor of Georgia in 1978 — trying to use a hypnotist in his television advertising.

"I realize there are probably 100 candidates who are put into the 'kookie' classification," said Belluso. "The convention is trying to offset this negative image of being a kook because you want to run for president."

Convention chairman Rex Taylor opened with a typical political convention speech as he stood beneath a red, white and blue banner that read: "Be a kook. Clowns have run the country long enough."

Donald Badgley, his grey beard reaching to the chest of his prophet's outfit, said he is "not happy with the direction the country is going."

"I believe the older generation should be a servant to the younger generation and not a master," said the 61-year-old, staff-carrying candi-

date.

Frank Ahern of Louisiana, dressed in a Marine Corps flak jacket and a military cap brimming with medals, proposed using dirigibles for hauling freight and cultivating oyster beds for food. He said only a tiny portion of the eggs oysters lay are ever hatched.

Candidate Bobbie Shofner said he has learned that communists will be gathered on the Rio Grande within 10 years.

Texan Leon Pickett, sporting a "re-elect no one" label on his necktie, brought a vial of gold and a copy of the Magna Carta with him to the convention. He spoke for abolition of the income tax and promised to dismantle nuclear energy facilities and wipe out organized crime.

Neutral ground — a birthday party

Carter, Kennedy swap quips

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter and Sen. Edward Kennedy met for the first time Sunday night since both became official presidential candidates and used the occasion to poke fun at each other.

The two men were brought together by a 67th birthday party for House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, who is neutral in the presidential race.

had seen Carter's mother, Lillian, while campaigning in Alabama last week.

"Miss Lillian said her son had worked very hard for three years and that he needed a little rest. I assured her I was in complete agreement," he quipped.

The Massachusetts senator said he and Carter were "in very close agreement" on one of Carter's proposals. "He favors a single term of six years for president of the United States. We are only two years apart."

In an unmistakable reference to Kennedy, Carter said O'Neill once told him the "key to his own success in politics, and I've made the same

point recently, is to wait your turn."

Carter also said the voters in O'Neill's congressional district "know the value, which I cherish along with you, of re-electing the incumbent."

Both men grew serious, however, to pay tribute to O'Neill.

"Tip has never been afraid to stand up for what he believed and to work for what he knows is right," Carter said. "At a time when people are hungry for leaders, he tells the truth — the unvarnished truth."

Kennedy said O'Neill, "has stood against the harshest winds in the worst of times. In our day and generation, Tip O'Neill is Mr. Democrat."

More than 1,000 people attended the \$1,000-a-plate steak dinner. The \$1.2 million raised will endow a political science chair at Boston College, O'Neill's alma mater.

Carter and Kennedy walked into the hotel ballroom like prizefighters entering the ring. Both came out jabbing with light banter.

The last time the two men appeared together publicly was at the October dedication of the John F. Kennedy presidential library in Boston. Kennedy had then not yet made his presidential campaign official.

In his speech, Kennedy said he

Church burns 'satanic' rock music

United Press International
ST. PAUL, Minn. — A fundamentalist minister who says he believes rock music is satanic is leading his flock in the destruction of thousands of dollars worth of records, singles and tapes.

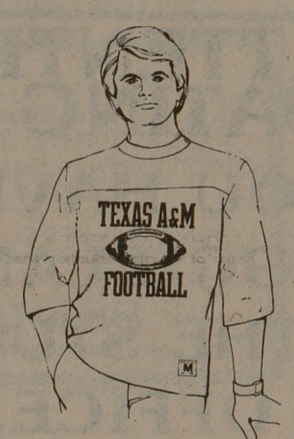
The Rev. Steve Peters, 26, said \$27,000 worth of recorded music was burned Sunday in two bonfires, and requests for more such burnings are growing throughout Minnesota.

"We are getting requests to appear in Minneapolis and in other places in the state," he said. "A lot of people who have nothing to do with God are concerned about this."

He said 700 persons attended a seminar Friday and about 150 watched a second record-burning session behind the Zion Christian Life Center Saturday night.

Peters said he opposes most rock music because of its satanic influence and because of the life styles of rock performers.

"We tell young people to throw out records which keep them from getting close to God," he said. "We tell them to make their own judgments."



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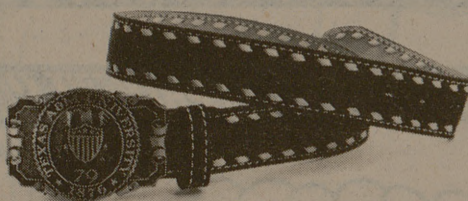
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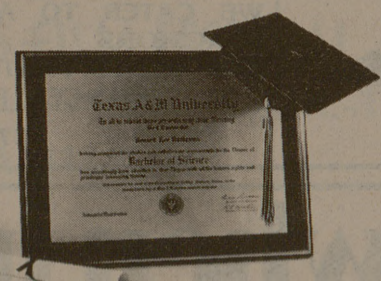


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<p>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p>		
<p>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL BREADED FISH FILET w/TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL Yankee Pot Roast (Texas Style) Tossed Salad Mashed Potato w/ gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Gibleat Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable</p>


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