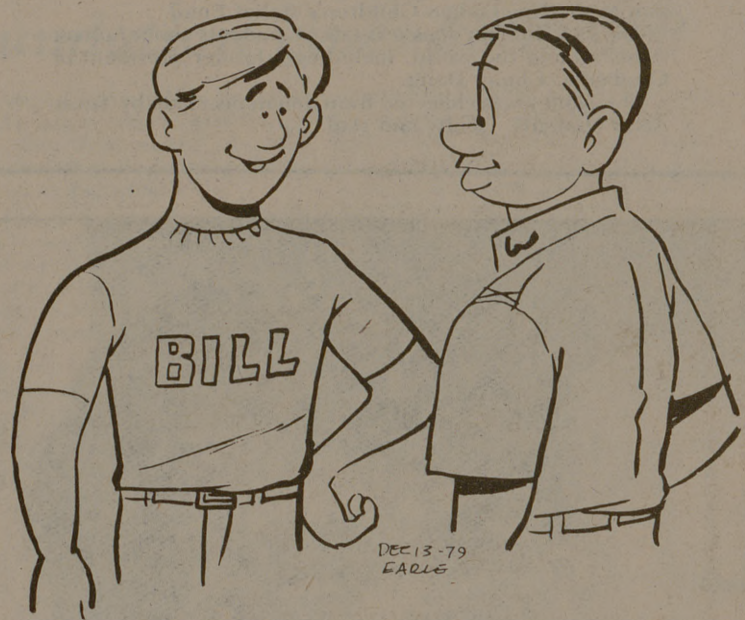


SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"I only met him once about a year ago, and he remembered me and called me by my first name just like that!"

OPINION

No extra point, either

You can't spike a term paper in the end zone. That problem with academics always shows up this time of year, and we have no solution.

After sweating, working, worrying and finally finishing an end-of-year project, the sense of accomplishment is great. There's an urge to throw notecards to the heavens. But they must be picked up, so the effort's not worth it.

Profs aren't much help either. They don't holler for joy when the papers come in; they simply smile to say, "See, you shouldn't have waited till after Thanksgiving to start this."

All in all, we should find a way to spike term papers in the end zone, or on profs' desks.

Winter wonderland?

So far it's been an uneven winter — hot, then cold, with some beautiful weather in between.

Several students — and we suspect many others — were caught Wednesday morning with their windows down. The cold air and rain made for a brisk wake-up, especially after the oppressively humid heat the night before.

Now maybe winter will settle in for a while, and we won't see cut-offs one day and overcoats the next.

Variety may be the spice of life, but it's sure a silly way to conduct a winter.

the small society by Brickman



VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 13, 1979

WASHINGTON Carter campaign changing its tune now, 'it's no time for an outsider'

By LAURENCE MCQUILLAN
United Press International
WASHINGTON — Vice President Walter Mondale is carrying a revised message to the voters: There is nothing like experience when it comes to running the country. This is no time for an outsider.

Like the chameleon that still looks at home after the green leaf turns to brown, political viewpoints can be adjusted.

The campaign strategy followed by the incumbents is a far cry from the claims they adhered to while first en route to the White House.

With President Carter sidelined from the campaign trail by the Iranian crisis, Mondale has been attending the fund raisers, making the speeches and telling why this team at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue should be kept intact for another four years.

"You've got a good president," Mondale

told Democrats at a New York dinner that raised \$1.2 million for the campaign coffers.

"Keep him there. Keep him there. Experience counts. It really does," Mondale said with his voice rising to match the flamed rhetoric of Hubert Humphrey, a previous vice president the current office holder tends to imitate.

A few days later in Atlanta, Mondale hit the same theme.

"This nation needs experience," the vice president declared. "There's only one place that you learn it and that's sitting in the hot seat of the presidency of the United States."

"Keep experience working for you in the White House."

Many of those at the affair in Georgia were veterans of the last campaign. They cheered the message, just as they cheered

the message in 1976, even though the words were modified.

Back in 1976, Carter talked about the strengths he would bring to the White House if elected.

"I come from outside Washington... I'll come in as a fresh person not committed to the status quo, eager to change things for the better and not responsible for what is there," the future president said.

President Ford tried to pick up followers by arguing that the ship of state should be steered with experienced hands.

In a printed debate that appeared in Readers Digest, Ford argued that "the experience" he had in his political career and as president for more than two years should have kept him in the White House.

"This background — a familiarity with domestic economic and social problems

and intimate knowledge of the problems — is invaluable for the future problems," Ford argued.

In announcing his candidacy for a second term, Carter basically admitted that he had learned several things from his first term. "I've made some mistakes and I've learned from them," he said.

Press secretary Jody Powell said that "There is nothing that can prepare for what he experiences in the White House," Powell observed, and added that "believes that while he has not solved 100 percent, he is heading in the right direction."

Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford agree on the importance of the past and attach to the incumbency.



DICK WEST U.S. so far is not getting trampled in rush of countries wanting shah

United Press International
WASHINGTON — One way America can tell who its real friends are is by their willingness to offer Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi a permanent home.

Thus far, we have managed to avoid getting trampled in the rush. Those who have stepped forward at this time of need include Tonga, Iceland and Egypt.

Unless you want to count Iran, which has repeatedly invited the shah to come to that country.

Unfortunately, none of the volunteers to date has made the shah an offer he couldn't refuse.

Although he regards Egypt as a nice place to visit, it is understood that he wouldn't want him to live there.

The prospect of moving to Iceland likewise has aroused little enthusiasm, possibly because the shah is not much into winter sports.

But Tonga would appear to have a lot going for it.

For one thing, it is a monarchy, which is the form of government the shah is accustomed to.

For another, it is composed of 150 islands, therefore offering plenty of opportunity for privacy.

Thirdly, when Capt. James Cook, the British explorer, stopped there in 1773, he named them the "Friendly Islands." Which indicates the shah would be assured of a warm welcome.

And, most persuasive of all, there is a

precedent for someone in the shah's situation going there. For it is recorded that Capt. William Bligh spent some time in Tongan waters after being cast adrift from the Bounty by mutineers.

If, as indicated, the shah is not hot about homesteading in the South Seas, it must be the humidity.

Whatever the case, he has asked the United States to help him get relocated. So it behooves us all to keep our ears open on the chance we might hear of a good place for him to live.

France, for example, would seem a likely candidate. Besides having the sort of ambience the shah enjoys, it once gave refuge to the Ayatollah Khomeini. Now it could strike a balance by taking in the shah.

The French must have had other things

on their mind and just didn't think otherwise, I'm sure they already have come forth with an invitation. Perhaps someone from the State Department should suggest it to them.

"Hey, guys," our diplomat could guess who is looking for a place to the shah of Iran. Maybe he could start with the ayatollah's old place, if that's still available.

"Gosh, yes," the French probably reply. "We would adore having him us a little time to call in a decoration we'll get back to you."

We should assure our allies that really don't need to go to any trouble that the shah has retired and has his tinker around, he might enjoy his place up himself.

LETTERS

Woman on track team says decision to dismiss runner was justifiable

Editor:

As members of the Texas A&M Women's track team and friends of Angeli Copeland, the sprinter dismissed from the team last week, we find ourselves concerned over the controversy of her dismissal. Copeland's article about favoritism in the weight room has been blown entirely out of proportion.

True, Copeland did receive several comments expressing disapproval; and true, Track Coach Bill Nix would have preferred the article not to have appeared in the paper, but Nix did make it clear to Copeland that in his office, journalism and track would be kept separate.

The incident following two days later was separate. Workout has nothing to do with writing for the The Battalion. A large error in your article must be corrected. Copeland was not disciplined for "not running fast enough."

Coach Nix has always made clear what is expected during workout. On the day involved we were doing interval work and Angel repeatedly took an extended break between her runs. She was warned and her argument with Coach Nix caused her dismissal. Coach Nix felt two women on the team were not putting forth the effort he expected, and he sent them home. Copeland was one of those women. Had the other woman argued with him, she also would have been dismissed. Angel left in

anger and returned shortly thereafter, still angry. Tempers on both sides flared and ultimately Nix told Copeland to leave and not come back.

Nix is new to A&M and has had to build up his program both stamina-wise as well as disciplinary-wise. We personally feel he would have taken a step backward from his goal of building a class team to allow Copeland to question his authority as she did in front of the whole team.

It's unfortunate that either event had to happen, but there should be no question concerning the relationship between the two. There was none.

— Paula Williams
Lynn Goldsmith, '81
Iris Tipton, '80
Keress Hawkins, '80
Julie Currey, '81
Julie White, '80
Kathy Currin, '81
Beverly Porter, '82

Susan Hill
Annie Munn
Sande Lambert
Lorie Scott
Linda Walker

Editor's note: While it is still unclear there is a connection between writing story and Copeland's dismissal, the Battalion's position as stated Dec. 6 in its editorial, is still this: Coach Nix's action, to miss an athlete after one argument, is arbitrary.

THOTZ



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.

MEMBER
Texas Press Association
Southwest Journalism Congress

Editor: Liz Newlin
Managing Editor: Andy Williams
Asst. Managing Editor: Dillard Stone
News Editors: Karen Cornelison and Michelle Burrowes
Sports Editor: Sean Petty
City Editor: Roy Bragg
Campus Editor: Keith Taylor
Focus Editor: Beth Calhoun

Staff Writers: Meril Edwards, Nancy Andersen, Louie Arthur, Richard Oliver, Mark Patterson, Carolyn Blosser, Kurt Allen, Debbie Nelson, Rhonda Watters

Photo Editor: Lee Roy Leschper Jr.
Photographers: Lynn Blanco, Sam Stroder, Ken Herrera
Cartoonist: Doug Graham

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.