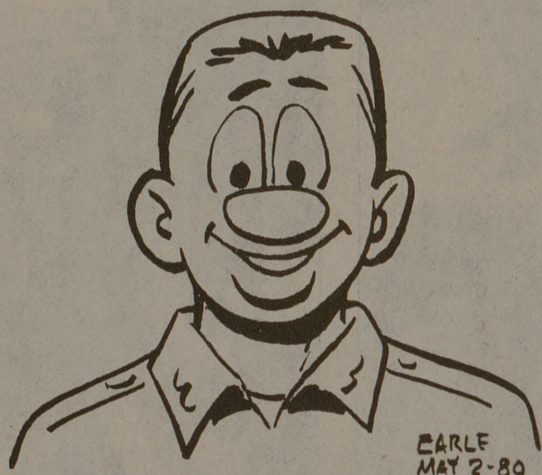


# SLOUCH By Jim Earle

## GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK CLASS OF '80



# OPINION

## Ridiculousness plagues Moore-Caperton race

I don't think anything disgusts me more than seeing grown people act like three-year-olds. I suppose that's why the Bill Moore-Kent Caperton race for the Democratic nomination to a Texas House seat turns my stomach.

The childish name calling, insinuations, distortions and other political pranks used by Caperton are almost, but not quite, equalled in ridiculousness by the split personality toward reporters and chronic foot-in-mouth disease that plague Moore.

The ploy about union affiliation Caperton tried to use to discredit Moore was ludicrous. Simply because the company Moore hired to print his campaign material yesteryear subcontracted the work to a union shop elsewhere means nothing. How many people, even the most anti-union radical, check a dry-cleaner's to see if it's a union shop before they have their underwear cleaned?

Associations like that are known as non sequiturs — *p* does not imply *q*. Simply because the shop that finally printed the bumper stickers and campaign pins was union doesn't mean that Moore favors unionization.

Moore's statement about withdrawing from the race was worse than uncalculated. I thought, perhaps, that for once we could get rid of one politician. But, alas, I was disappointed — but not surprised — to learn that he reneged.

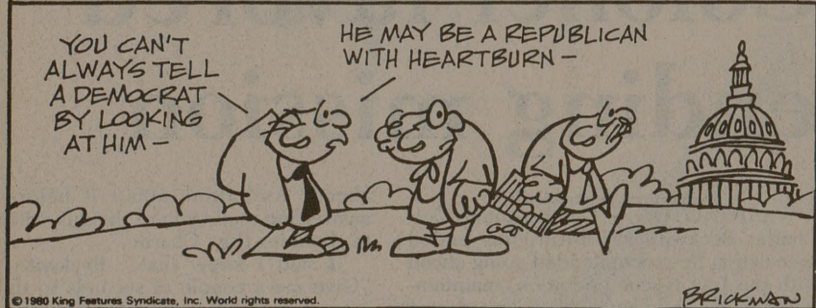
Moore has been less than consistent with the press. When asked about something he doesn't want to talk about, he simply gets snide, nasty or otherwise "down-right unfriendly" about it. On the other hand, when things aren't looking good for him in the press, he's all smiles, handshakes and apologies for not being available for press questions. Shades of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

Luckily, there may be an alternative to this mud slinging and other political ridiculousness. The other day, my public relations class was talking about the campaign, and the professor asked, "Well, who are you going to vote for: Bill Moore or Kent Caperton?"

A voice from the back of the room said, "The other guy."  
— *Becky Swanson*

the small society

by Brickman



# THE BATTALION

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### 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

FRIDAY  
MAY 2, 1980

## Reader's Forum

### Homosexuals treated unfairly, gay group says

We at Alternative would like to express our shock and repulsion at the recent CBS special "Gay Power, Gay Politics," aired April 26. Although the disclaimer at the beginning of a program stated that it was not the intent of CBS to discuss gay lifestyles, they proceeded to imply that violence, kinky sex, public sex, indeed, homicide is synonymous with homosexuality. This is a totally incorrect and damaging generalization, implied though it was.

We have been indebted to The Eagle and to the TAMU Battalion for opportunities not often given to just plain folks like us (see The Eagle, Aug. 2, 1979; see The Battalion, April, 1977). For it is unfortunate that the major news media choose not to cover the activities of such average, uncolorful gay people as those in Bryan-College Station.

A case in point was the Oct. 14, 1979 March on Washington in which over 75,000 gay people from all over the country marched quietly and peacefully past the White House. Media coverage of this expression of gay power, solidarity and concern was nil. The reason: there were no funny costumes, no shouting, violence or inflammatory slogans. Who wants to read about 75,000 average, boring Americans?

But when it comes to people hurting, degrading or even killing one another, the media are there with bells on. It has been said among members of the gay community that if the "sexual obsessives" are the only people willing to become visible enough to gain us our civil rights, we have no right to complain. However, those of us who live more universally acceptable lifestyles cannot become visible for fear of losing (among other things) our jobs, and those of us who dare to risk that are given no media time (as in the March on Washington). It's a no-win situation.

What do the gay people of Bryan-College Station want?  
We want an end to all human degrada-

tion. We want safe parks and playgrounds for our children.

We want to live in mutual friendship and cooperation with our straight friends and relatives. We want an end to all pornography and dehumanizing commercial activities.

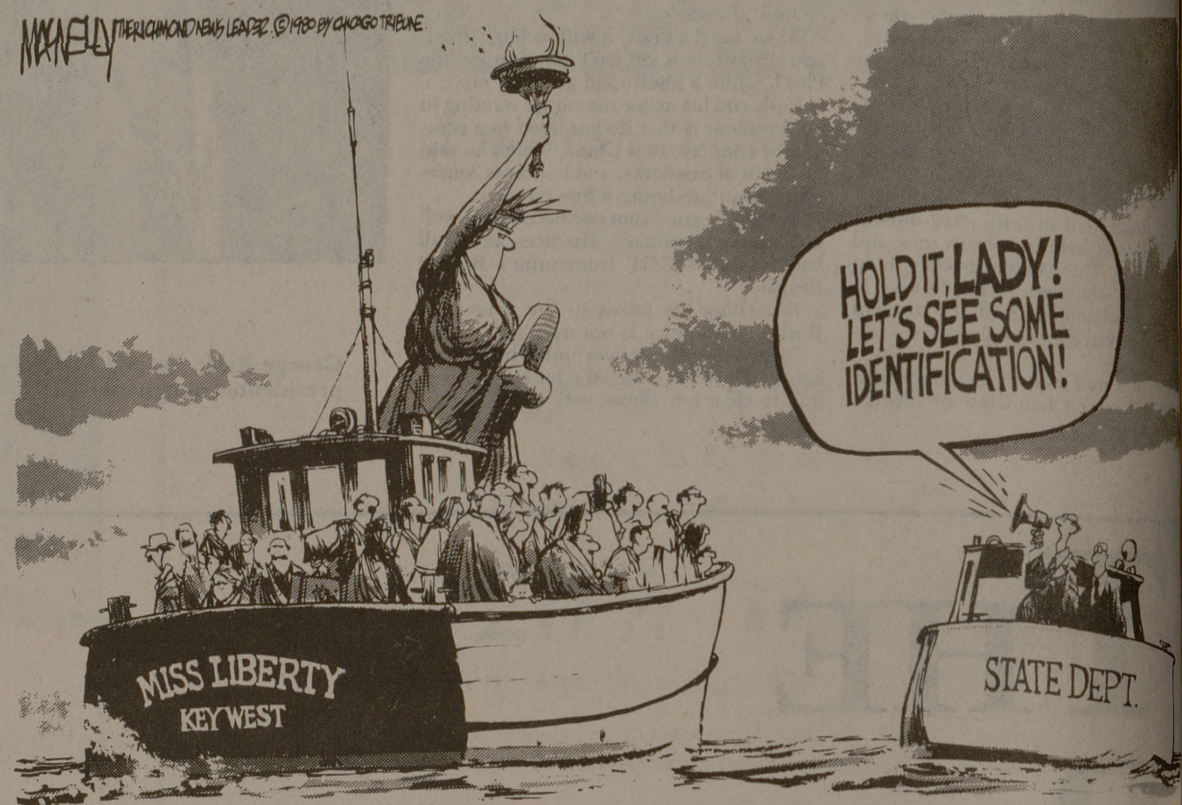
We want the same things you do.

Must we leave our civil rights work in the hands of the "anonymous-sex seekers" — or will the media coverage become equitable enough to allow the rest of us to plead our own case?

The laws will be changed. They must be

changed. But who will make these — and at what cost?

(Editor's note: Alternative is a group representing members of the gay community at Bryan-College Station. This item submitted by Alternative's Board of Directors.)



## Letters

### Northerner: Yanks get cold shoulder from Ags

Editor:

The problem that I am writing to you about will probably rankle my fellow Aggies but I feel it needs to be addressed.

Since your meteoric rise to the editorship, one senses that "regional" partisanship will not be a deciding factor in what gets printed. This has given me the fortitude to broach a topic that I thought or at least, hoped was dormant but much to my consternation is still very much alive. The topic I am making reference to is that of being a "northerner" or a "Yankee." I hope you will forgive my graphic theatrics but this issue has been brooding within me for a long time.

First and foremost I am a denizen of the United States of America. Yes, my accent is different and the words that emanate from my mouth are pronounced with a "strange" inflection. Yes, I was not born in Texas and will probably not stay in Texas after I graduate. But, my feelings and emotions don't understand the term "regionalisms."

In adjudicating graduate schools, I was determined to find a school that would enable me to pursue the following goals: a quality education in academics in addition to a quality education in life, so the net result would be a well-rounded and informed citizen.

The academic education that I am receiving at A&M is superb but because I am a "Yankee," my other goal remains tarnished. I can understand occasional references, even derogatory in nature, to my "brash" style and "foreign" accent but after being the recipient of such "humor" for almost two years, I see no amelioration in sight, which grieves me deeply.

It is a shame that such a great university limits its warmth and vitality to Texans only. We "Yankees" desire to come under your evolving umbrella, if you will only give us a chance.

Marc Rogers

### 55 is Anti-Iran

Editor:

You can't get into any kind of discussion about world politics these days without bringing up the situation in Iran or the latest price hike in oil by OPEC. These discussions usually end up with how each individual thinks the government should handle the situation.

Hey Ags, I'm here to say that we as individuals and as a group can do something about it! The only reason the OPEC nations wield so much power is because they can cut off their flow of oil to us. And why is our economic situation in such a mess right now? Well, one rather substantial cause is our enormous trade deficit, with oil heading the list as its cause. We will eventually develop alternate energy sources to replace oil, but what can we do today? Well, in about a week 30,000 Aggies will ecstatically climb into their cars which are loaded to the hilt and head out of College Station in all directions. Can you imagine how many thousands of gallons of gasoline that could be conserved if we all drive 55? You don't have to be a statistician to figure out that the savings would be enormous, and so what if you get home 30 minutes or even an hour later? What is that compared to the whole summer ahead of you? Come on Ags, won't you join me in helping to tell those oil sheiks where they can put their oil!

David Cardwell '80

### Preacher over-zealous

Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to Mark Mullin's letter in Wednesday's Battalion.

The message I wish most to convey to Mr. Mullin is stated in Matthew 7:1. "Judge not, that ye be not judged." Excuse me, Mark, but who are you to be so knowledgeable about other people's relationships with God? Did the Almighty inform

you of who is and is not a true Christian? I won't go into the details of my own relationship with the Lord, but for the sake of an example, let me say that I do have one, and I find it very fulfilling. But as far as I am concerned it is between me and God. He will judge whether it is worthwhile or not when the time comes. And I would rather you left that to Him instead of stepping in where you're not wanted.

Referring to the point of your letter, I am very happy for you in your joy of Christianity, and for anyone else who has found the Lord. But I am one of those Christians who doesn't like to have someone else's private relationships spouted all over them. I am embarrassed by public displays of emotion, and I would appreciate it if those who feel compelled to speak out on their private feelings would restrict their orations to those who solicit them.

It seems to me that these "street corner preachers" are much like the Pharisee in Luke 18:10-14. Remember, "...everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased, and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." You may not agree, but I think that these people reap their rewards on earth when they receive the praise and publicity they so avidly seek.

Now, I ask you, wouldn't it be better to simply live as a Christian instead of spouting off about it? After all, isn't that what Christ really wanted us to do? Personally, seeing someone who is consistently kind and loving, not eager to judge, but to accept people as they are, would be much more of an inspiration to me than some over-zealous elocutionist who embarrassed me in front of my own student center.

Kelly Kyle

### Sbisa computer

Editor:

It's my turn to sound off about the Department of Food Services, but I am not going to complain about the food. It's their darn computer that irks me. I was charged for eating twice during the same meal

period, but I actually only ate once. I went to Sbisa for lunch around after my 11:00 class, handed my ID to the cashier and was wanded in. The light came on and the cashier wrote my name and the bar code number on the back of my ID card and then let me go. The next day at Sbisa I was presented a bill for \$2.75 because, according to the Department of Food Services records, only wanded in at 12:06 p.m., but at 10:26 a.m. which is what they refer to as "multiple dining."

I was not in Sbisa at 10:26 a.m., but room and my suitemate will attest that I did not loan my ID card to anyone, nor have a duplicate ID card which someone might have borrowed. I can understand Food Services' reason for charging me, but meal someone else had stolen from me illegally using my card, but such is the case. They are charging me for a meal which was not eaten by me nor anyone else. Either the computer invented that entry or, more likely, mistook another student's ID number, who wanded in for me, for mine. Whatever the case, Food Services did not lose any money, but were no physical duplications. Sure, Food Services thinks it lost \$2.75 because records indicate a student ate twice, but their records are wrong and I should have had to pay the money.

I am a computing science major and the four years I have worked with computers I have never experienced greater cutlities with the machines until I came to Texas A&M. I can tolerate having a dropped which I did not request, or being scheduled in a class which contains 432 students instead of the intended size of 42, or having computer jobs spooled to devices which I did not request, but when I lose money because a computer's mistake — that is more I can tolerate. I only hope this school prevent any other computer errors which might cost students their hard-earned money.

Nathan R. Banks

### By Doug Graham

## THOTZ

