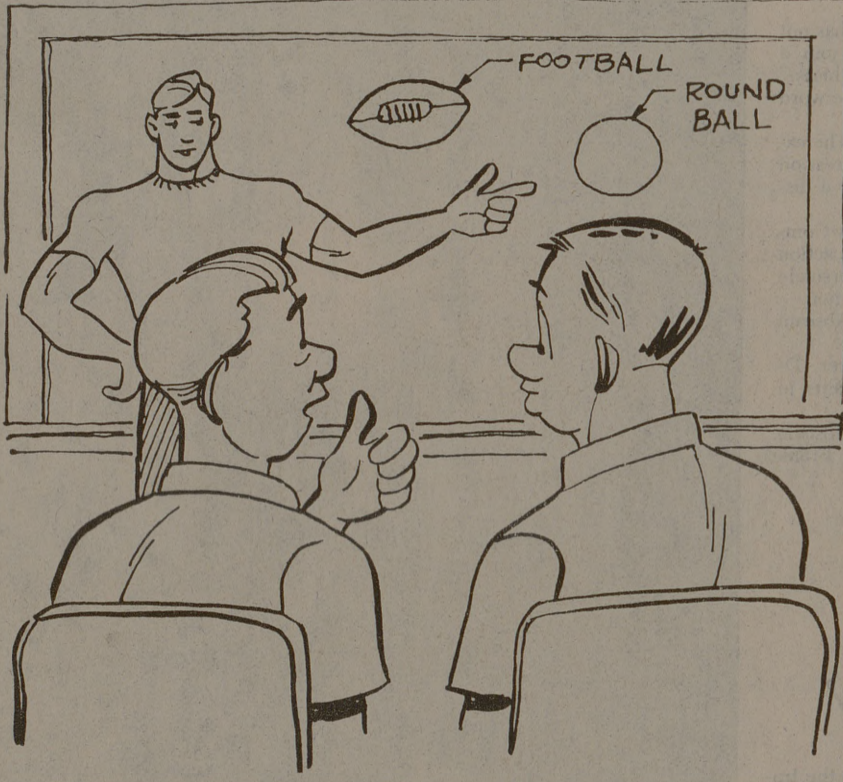


VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 3, 1980

Slouch By Jim Earle



"Did he say this is Physical Education? This is not Physics 201?"

Javits on his way out

By STEVE GERSTEL
United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Senate's ranks of liberal Republicans, always sparse, are getting slimmer and slimmer.

The most recent of this increasingly rare breed of politician to move toward the exit is Sen. Jacob Javits of New York — old, ailing and almost out after nearly a quarter of a century.

Brightest minds in the Senate, nurses a slim hope that he can win reelection as the Liberal Party candidate.

But few give this desperate venture any chance. Without the support of the Republican Party, Javits will have organizational and money problems probably impossible to overcome.

Javits' loss to Alfonse D'Amato, a conservative municipal functionary with no identity quotient, follows a pattern that has now become a fixture on the American political scene.

Conservative Republicans ignore party labels. They care not a whit if the candidate is a Republican or a Democrat. If he is not a true believer, out he goes.

They did it to New Jersey's Clifford Case in a primary two years ago and bloodied Mas-

sachusetts' Edward Brooke enough so he lost in the general election.

Nor do they rue getting in return two of the most liberal Democrats in the Senate — Massachusetts' Paul Tsongas and New Jersey's Bill Bradley.

And they did not mind forfeiting Case's great seniority and rank and the distinction of having the only black senator, an eloquent spokesman for social concerns.

After all, the Republican Party was twice purified.

Yet Javits, a four-term senator and the ranking Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee, was the biggest catch so far. He was a national figure, an eloquent spokesman for Republican liberalism.

Although Republican conservatives undoubtedly rejoice in Javits' defeat and D'Amato's victory, they probably cannot claim all the credit.

Javits is 76 and really starting to show it. He disclosed a progressive nerve ailment that hampers him physically but not mentally.

It's quite possible that New York voters — who like him immensely — just felt enough concern about the prospects of an infirm sena-

tor who would be 82 when the term has happened to healthier incumbent age.

It is somewhat ironic that Javits help out the conservatives — despite long quarrel with them — in the final political career.

Although Javits is given no chance to certainly is going to get votes. And this can come only at the expense of Rep. E. Holtzman, the very liberal Democrat date for the Senate.

The precedent is there: James Buckley Conservative Party candidate, won a seat when incumbent Republican Goodell and Democrat Richard D. Carver up the liberal-moderate vote in York in 1976.

The day after his primary defeat, Javits asked if he won, running as the Liberal candidate, whether he would rejoin the liberals in the Senate. Javits said of would.

It seems that Javits cares more for the liberal Party than the Republican Party him. Despite what the GOP conservative to him.

Pennsylvania appears to be swing state again

By SCOTT MACLEOD
United Press International

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Preaching the gospel of jobs, Republican Ronald Reagan has chiseled into President Carter's support among blue collar Democrats in a strong bid to capture industrial Pennsylvania, party and labor officials say.

But the GOP is concerned that many liberal Republicans, especially those on Philadelphia's fashionable Main Line, may desert to independent John Anderson and give the race to the Democrats.

The latest polls indicate the race is dead even, although registered Democratic voters outnumber Republicans by 700,000.

"Pennsylvania is a classic swing state," said Republican Gov. Dick Thornburgh.

If there was a bellwether in 1976, it was Pennsylvania, a state of 11 million people, where the results perfectly reflected the two point margin of Carter's victory nationwide.

Daniel Horgan, Carter's campaign manager in Pennsylvania, said he's running a street-wise operation to secure the state's 27 electoral votes, the third largest total among the 50 states.

"We should be able to win a squeaker, because we've got a good get-out-the-vote operation," said Horgan.

"We'll have sound trucks on the streets on election day and Carter greeters at the polls, little old-fashioned things. If Mrs. Jones is in the hospital, we're getting her an absentee ballot," said Horgan.

Horgan and Reagan's Pennsylvania campaign chairman, Richard Fox, agree Reagan has cut into Carter's support in northeast coal and textile region of the state anchored by Scranton, a largely ethnic Catholic city. Polls have shown Reagan as far as 15 percentage points ahead there.

"We can't win without Democratic votes, and we believe Reagan has strong appeal in the ethnic communities that are fundamentally Democratic," said Fox, who noted Reagan is campaigning vigorously in the state with visits so far to Philadelphia's Cardinal Krol and city shipyard workers.

James Mahoney, vice president of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, said the federation's political committee is holding a series of meetings around the state with AFL-CIO leaders to stress the need for a Carter victory.

Mahoney noted that most blue-collar sections of the state, such as Philadelphia and Pittsburgh's steel valleys, have remained more solidly behind Carter than the Northeast.

"When you go to the Northeast, because of the difficulty people have had with the coal and needle industries, it's jobs. It's the issue that always has people down in the mouth," he said.

Mahoney said if Pennsylvania, with its large electoral vote, is decisive in the presidential race nationwide, then it may well be Scranton that throws the race to Carter or Reagan within the Keystone State.

The hitch for Reagan in a close race is the attitude of independent-minded liberal Republicans in the Philadelphia suburbs who have never shown enthusiasm for Reagan and voted for his opponent in the state primary April 22.

"Reagan is a product of the conservative movement, and he's not a product of the Eastern Establishment. Well, the Main Line is the Eastern Establishment," said Faith Ryan Whitteley, a political leader from suburban Haverford.

In Pennsylvania, polls show Anderson taking away as many votes from Reagan as Carter in the GOP-rich Philadelphia suburbs.

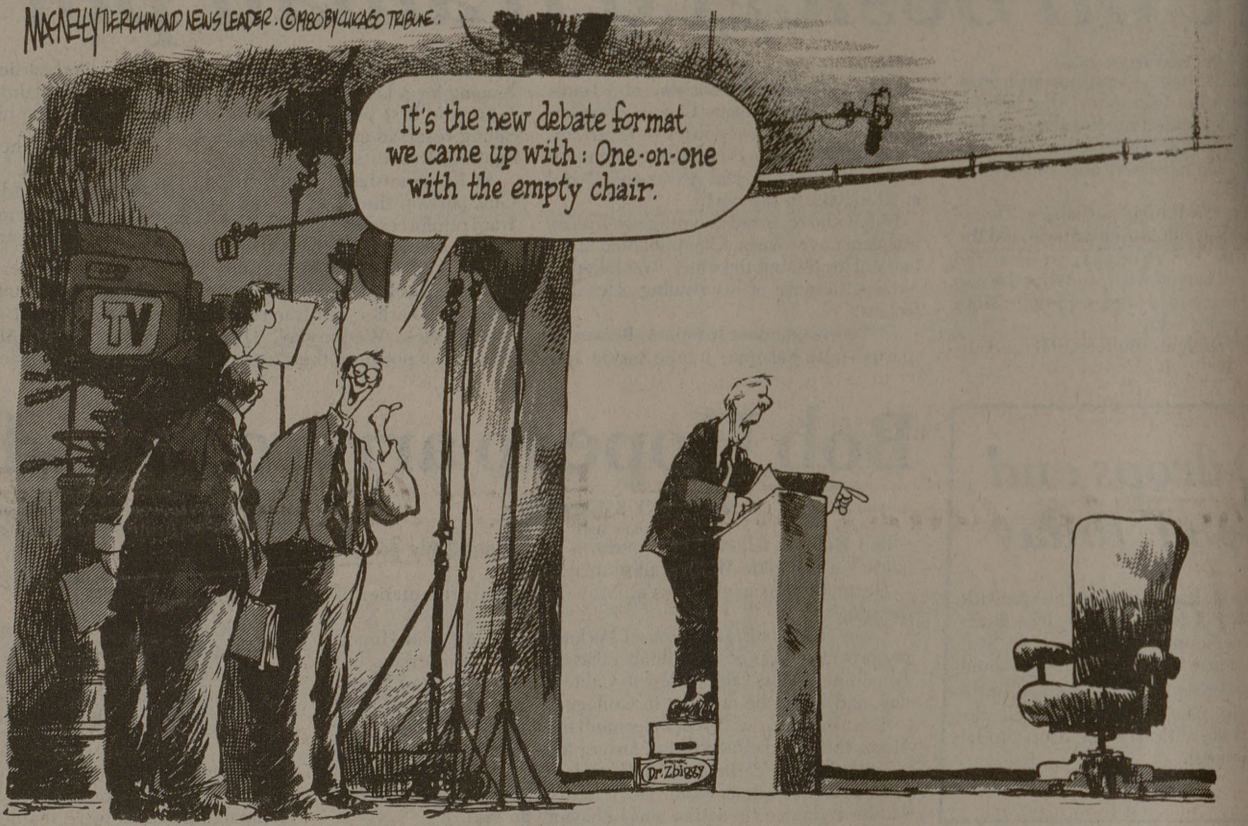
And annoying to both parties is the high number of undecided voters in the state — ranging from 20 percent upward depending on the poll.

Jane Fowler, Anderson's campaign manager here, said the large undecided vote, combined with the fact neither Carter nor Reagan won the state's primary, give the Illinois congressman a chance in Pennsylvania.

However, Mayor William Green Jr. of Philadelphia, the state's leading Kennedy supporter, is leading the dissidents into line behind the president.

And Reagan has picked up the enthusiastic support of the relatively liberal Thornburgh, a very popular political figure in the state, in hopes of keeping the liberal Republicans in the party.

In another major election, Democrats have a good chance of recapturing a Democratic seat in the United States Senate. Former Pittsburgh Mayor Pete Flaherty is leading the GOP's Arlen Specter, ex-district attorney in Philadelphia, in the race to succeed retiring Sen. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa.



It's your turn

Letter writer lacks understanding

Editor:

This is in response to Russell C. Halvorsen's letter, published in the Oct. 2 Battalion.

For lack of a more subtle approach, Mr. Halvorsen, your letter clearly exhibits your decisive lack of an understanding of Aggie traditions, and an even more warped perception of what it means to be an Aggie and go to Texas A&M. I found your letter an affront to Texas A&M, the Corps of Cadets and all Aggies.

In case you are unaware, Mr. Halvorsen, two of the characteristics which separate the average Aggie from students at other schools are friendliness and patience. You demonstrate neither characteristic in your letter. The abrasive tone your letter assumes when you refer to one of the older traditions at A&M (that of wearing no hat in Kyle Field) is both unnecessary and unAggielike. Evidently somebody has heard of removing his hat at football games, Mr. Halvorsen. Peruse the pages of any old Aggie and you will find no photographs depicting Aggies with their hats on at Kyle Field games.

Your lame attempt to exhortate the Corps by referring to C. T. S. as persons out "to prove their special supremacy" underscored your lack of understanding as to the Corps' role at A&M.

Our motto says we are "The guardians of tradition and the keepers of the spirit." In no way does this imply that we alone keep "the spirit," or that we alone are the "good Aggs." If you want substantiation, ask the men of Davis-Gary who shined Sully recently; ask the literally thousands of non-regs who pour out to help in the building of bonfire; go to another football game, Mr. Halvorsen, and count how many people aren't in uniform! Your approach is short-sighted at best.

The segment of your letter that is most infuriating, Mr. Halvorsen, is your asinine question "How can you yell your heart out for a team that loses?" If you would be so benevolent as to research some A&M history, you will see that our Twelfth Man tradition finds its roots back in 1922, when an Aggie demonstrated the lengths to which he would go to support the Aggie team

by coming down from the stands and shouting. That lone Aggie's readiness remains a symbol of the wholesale devotion of the A&M student body to the football team. Win or lose, Halvorsen, that is our football team and if you haven't the pride to stay an Aggie for twenty minutes and yell your heart out for your problem. If you don't value Texas A&M enough to make the trite sacrifice of removing your hat, then why even bother to go to games? You're right in one respect, Mr. Halvorsen, we're no longer a military school, dammit, Mr. Halvorsen, the people who Texas A&M aren't "ordinary people" — we're Aggies, and damned proud of it. Mr. Halvorsen, you'd do well to remember that.

Buzz Steiner
Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 105 other names.

Warped



By Scott McCullar

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Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and are subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

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