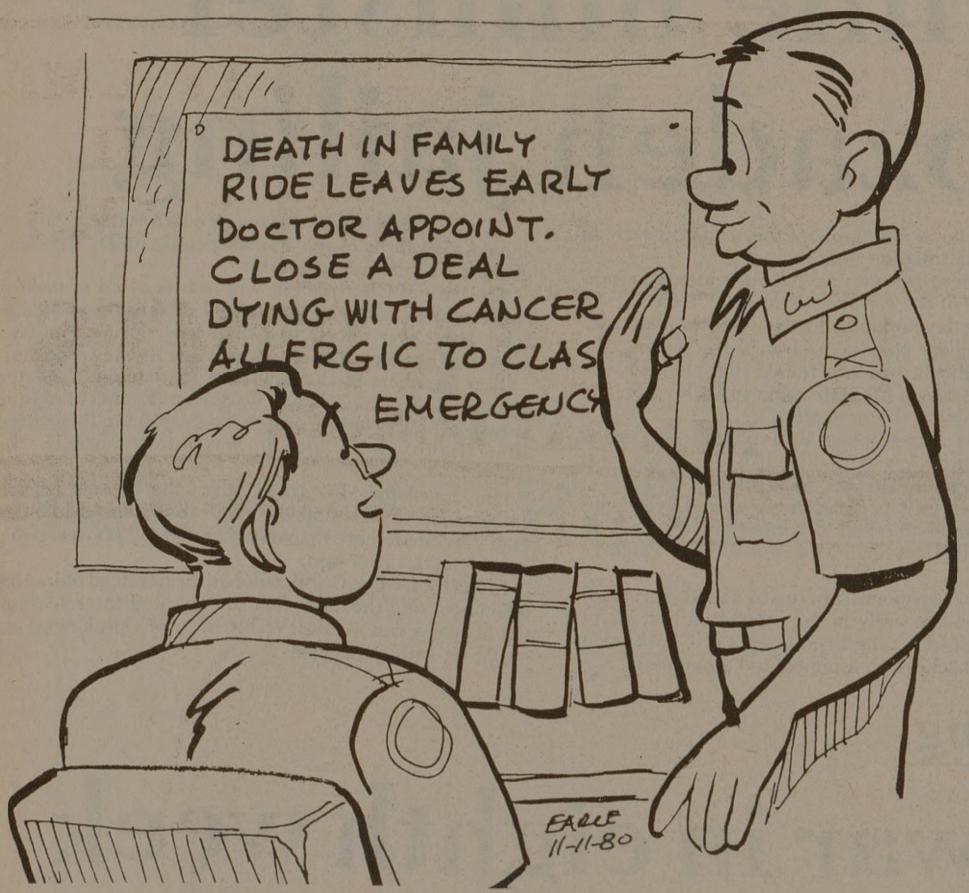


# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY  
NOVEMBER 10, 1980

By Jim Earle Slouch



## 1980 election could signal major political realignment

By CLAY F. RICHARDS

WASHINGTON — The 1980 elections could well signal a major political realignment in the nation that could strengthen a two-party system that has been in decline since John Kennedy's election two decades ago.

For a variety of reasons the voters rejected a Democratic president who acted like a Republican in favor of a conservative who was clearly a Republican.

Ronald Reagan's coattails were broad enough to bring in several Republican senators and governors. Major candidates of late — and Carter was a good example in 1976 — haven't displayed the kind of coattail power that builds party loyalty.

The new Senate will be more sharply divided along party lines with the departure of liberal Republican Jacob Javits and the arrival of a new crop of very conservative GOP freshmen.

Republicans, who held just 12 governorships after the Watergate debacle, now hold at

least 21 and could pick up more as close races are decided.

Conservatives put an end for the most part to the political contradiction of having liberal senators from conservative states with the defeat of Democratic Sens. George McGovern of South Dakota, Birch Bayh of Indiana and John Culver of Iowa.

There wasn't much good news for Democrats in Tuesday's results — but they still hold control of Congress and the governorships. The large number of Republican victories just brought the whole system a little more in balance.

An important part of the new balance is the South, which will clearly now never be "solidly" Democratic again after turning its back on a native son from Georgia.

Alabama and Florida have new Republican senators, and former Gov. Christopher "Kit" Bond recaptured Missouri for the GOP.

Typical of the Republican surge in the south is Arkansas. Frank White, a Little Rock banker

and a Democrat, changed to the Republican Party to run for governor and won because the race was too close to call with Democratic Bill Clinton.

But the Reagan victory went beyond establishing the traditional Republican. He cut deeply into blue-collar and labor that have been the exclusive possession of the Democratic Party, at least since Franklin Roosevelt beat Herbert Hoover in 1928.

The major job a more liberal Democrat would have to do is to bring home this traditional constituency and recapture the White House.

Ronald Reagan captured union and collar votes by pledging to put America to work again. To keep those votes he would do what Carter did not and lower unemployment and inflation.

Just as Reagan won on the pocketbook, it will be the pocketbook issues that define the Republican resurgence continuing in 1984.

## In remembrance of 'incredible Ataturk'

By MEHMET SAHINDGLU

*Author's Note: On Nov. 10 each year since 1938, millions of Turks bow their heads in silence to mourn for Ataturk — father of Turks — without whose existence Turkey would be but another communist satellite, like today's ethnically Turkic states in Central Asia. 1981, though, will be a year of celebration and reevaluation of his spectacular deeds — as Ataturk was born a century ago. Is it not time that today's generation learn a little about a man who was neither west nor east but a harmonious combination against fanaticism and foreign domination, and whose model is the Modern Turkey itself, with his simple yet famous "Peace in the nation, peace in the world"?*

military and oratorical skill made him the supreme leader of an aroused Turkey.

Phayre had more to say: "Kemal was 46 when he began his miracle of regenerating Turkey. Under the furious pace he began to show signs of strain, his fair hair thinning, the strong face tense and full of lines. But the eyes were still a master's, full of strange light; variable and stern unto menace. His prodigious vitality called for ceaseless reports; he checked all government bureaus, constantly infusing new life into ministers ..."

Tax gatherers were stoned and beaten. A "false prophet" roused the peasants to revolt, Kemal met the plots against him with an iron hand. He signed death warrants for friends and foes alike as fast as his hanging judge put them before him.

Phayre also wrote, "Once he gave a dance to foreign envoys and the loveliest ladies of the capital. Four miles away in the main square, 11 triangles of timber stood high and under each swung a man in a long white gown with a coarse rope around his neck. Dawn broke just as a messenger came from the chief of police that the last traitor's body had ceased to twitch ... Only the hand that can wield the sword should grasp the scepter of power. So mused the sardonic Gazi (Ataturk) adding, 'I shall make Turkey a civilized country in every sense of the term.'"

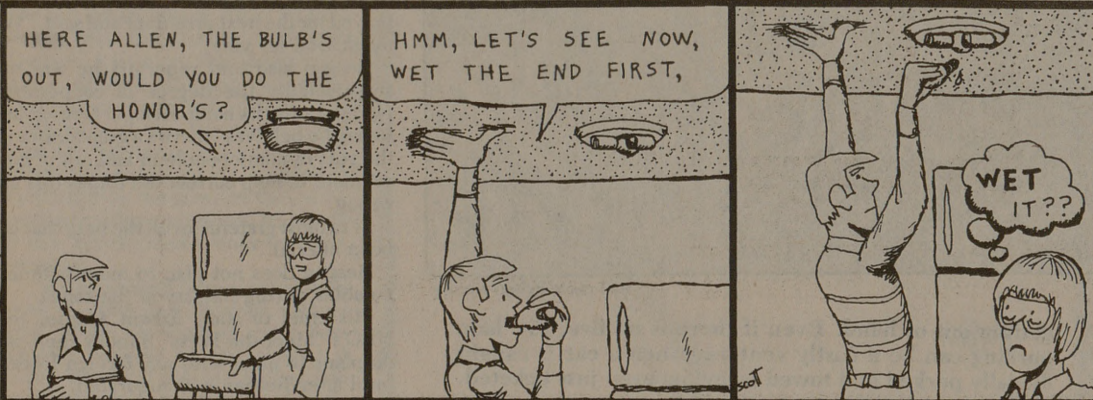
In the May 3, 1939, issue of The New Republic magazine, M. Arnold wrote the following lines upon visiting the new capital of a new republic:

"Any foreigner who has been in Turkey and visited Ankara, who has talked with government officials and possesses the slightest inkling of the changes instituted by the late Gazi, must feel the loss of this man and mourn with the Turkish people. The horseman in Ankara looks out over the desert, still summoning the Anatolian peasant to new life, literacy, work and hope. His own words might be his epitaph: 'Those inclined to compromise cannot accomplish a revolution.'"

May our Ataturk sleep in peace. Our gratitude to you for teaching us to be proud to be a Turk (a famous motto by Ataturk; previously "Turk" had connotations of being a peasant during the theocratic Ottoman Empire) and to worship through only one's own conscience and responsibility in freedom (secularism defined).

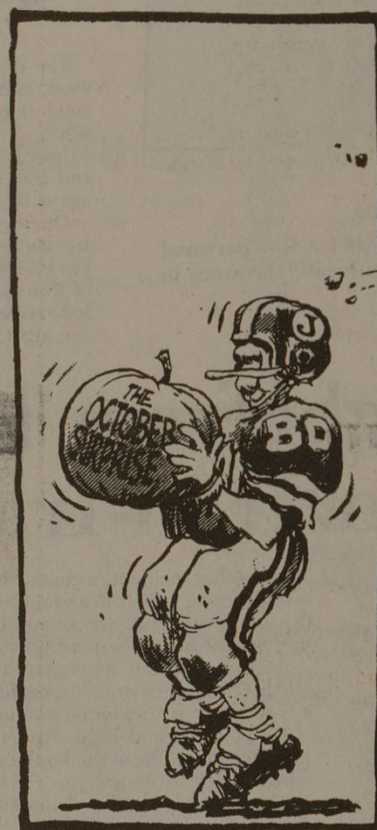
Mehmet Sahindglu is a doctoral student in the Institute of Statistics.

## Warped



By Scott McCullar

## Political Football



It's your turn

## Soccer good, but it could be better

Editor:

Recently Richard Oliver had an enlightening soccer article in The Batt. Enlightening because The Battalion is finally recognizing the world's most popular sport. Yes, soccer is growing in this area and Texas A&M now can be proud of their women's soccer team.

The men's soccer team, however, leaves a lot to be desired. Before I am criticized and catalogued as a two-percenter, I would like to say that the men's team has come a long way over the past few years. There is no doubt that the addition of Head Coach Telmo Franco and Assistant Coach David Flentge has added a new dimension to the team; but I fail to understand the reason for the poor recruiting and the relatively large number of unskilled players on the team. These players are in great physical shape as well as being enthusiastic, but Franco should know very well that this is not enough.

Texas A&M could easily have the best team in the state and be ranked in the Top Ten of the nation. There are plenty of players who are university students who are not on the TAMU soccer team and who should be. Most of these players play on teams in the Brazos Valley Amateur Soccer League (BVASL) in College

Station. A visit to some of the weekend games played on the Krenek Tap fields in College Station by the better teams in Division I will easily prove my point. There are at least 15 players from three or four teams who could be on TAMU's starting team. Unfortunately, this is not the case.

What is even more frustrating is that these players would like to play for TAMU but have been either ignored, replaced by some player who was more fit but less skillful (in soccer fitness can be attained in a very short time, skillfulness takes years), had class conflicts which the coaches refused to accept, or simply were disliked by these coaches. I have even heard that recently one BVASL team scrim-

maged the TAMU team and won 3-0. I was even more surprised to hear that they had won several times before in previous years. And there are other teams consisting of skilled players from all over our country as well as from many foreign nations (soccer is the number one sport) who contribute invaluable to the men's team.

Yes, Richard Oliver, eureka! When you seemed lost in the up and down world of sports, you discovered the TAMU men's soccer team. I only wish you had discovered soccer team which more accurately reflected the quality of soccer that exists on this campus.

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

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