

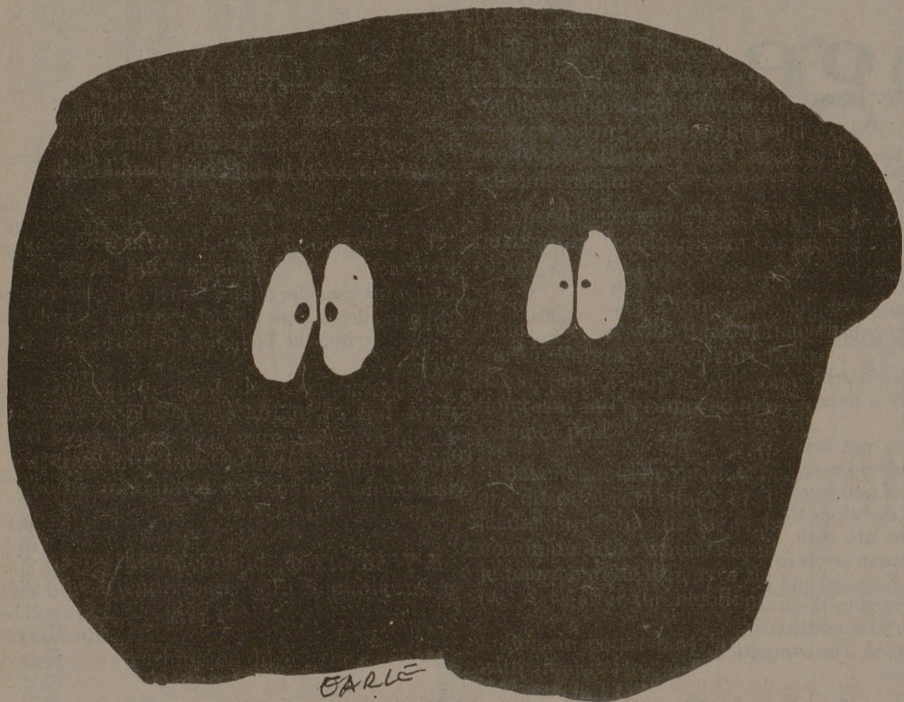
VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 14, 1980

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"I've heard of flour bombs and soap bombs, but this is my first encounter with a soot bomb."

Don't believe magazine, fairy tale view of romance

I've taken a wrong turn along the yellow-brick road of romance. I'm leading a life of disillusion.

The problem is I always believed all that garbage in the fairy tales. I was sure that all I had to do to find my life's beloved is to slip into something more comfortable, flutter my mascaraed eyelashes and take a nice, peaceful nap until some reasonably good-looking, All-American hunk walked up and gave me a kiss. That always worked for the princesses I read about.

As fairy-tale fantasies go, this one is false. I'm not the princess type and it probably wouldn't work if I was, so I might as well step into modern times.

But, modern times seem to have the same kind of garbage. A princess of fantasy days must now be a fox to get any action. Although it was hard for me in the old days, being a fox seems to be just as difficult.

Times have changed again. As I was thumb-

Offhand

By Venita McCellon

ing through my roommate's November issue of Mademoiselle, I found the new identity for women. Right behind the article entitled "Were You Born To Be Fat?" I found that to win a man in life, I have to be a Sex Kitten.

Mind you, I'm not talking about your normal, everyday kitty cat that chows down on Tender Vittles. Today's sex kittens have to be softly adorable, touchable, luscious and innocent. A sex kitten. It sounds just a touch ridiculous to me.

The sex kittens in the magazine were sitting demurely on a sofa, with seductive sweaters

that would never stand up to a freeze. The women looked as if they wouldn't even be able to stand up to a nice breeze. But, there they are on that couch, waiting for the man of my dream, to walk into their lives.

I'll never be a sex kitten. By the time I make it through the day, I always return home looking a little more like a plow horse than a sex kitten.

Not that I blame the men. When anything is packaged in such a delectable way and handed to them on a platter, I really don't expect them to refuse. That would be stupid.

So where does that leave me? In the plow horse category, which is never splashed on the pages of magazines or in the minds of men.

But, there's some consolation. I'm confident that some day, somewhere, men are going to get smart. Then they'll figure out what I've known for years. A good plow horse who knows her stuff is worth a lot of money. You can hardly give a lousy cat away.

Reagan to improve congressional relations

By JERELYN EDDINGS
United Press International

WASHINGTON — Ronald Reagan, who stood in front of the nation's Capitol a few months ago in a grand show of GOP unity, can expect a better working relationship with leaders of the new Republican Senate than Jimmy Carter ever had with the Democrats.

Reagan, who worked closely with congressional Republicans in the months before Tuesday's victories and whose campaign was headed by Sen. Paul Laxalt, can't possibly expect much worse.

Senate Democratic Leader Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., spoke out frequently against Carter's foreign policy decisions and was often known to be miffed at Carter's lack of consultation with him on important national affairs.

The Democratic-controlled Congress also rejected several of Carter's initiatives and overturned by embarrassing margins two of his 24 vetoes, including the 10-cent-a-gallon oil import fee he announced with much fanfare last March.

Reagan, on the other hand, goes to the White House on a friendly basis with Republicans in Congress.

He came to Washington during the campaign for a special GOP "unity day" and stood outside the Capitol, flanked by Republican congressional candidates and others who were not running. Many worked as advisers to his campaign, unlike with Carter, who came to Washington as an outsider.

Leading Republicans, such as Sens. Robert Dole of Kansas and Rep. Barber Conable of New York, also had news conferences in Washington simultaneously with Reagan's Los Angeles news conferences to announce Republican programs such as the Reagan-Kemp-Roth tax cut proposal (named for the GOP nominee and the bill's House and Senate sponsors.)

Some of the new Senate Republicans, who ousted such prominent liberals as Birch Bayh of Indiana, George McGovern of South Dakota and Warren Magnuson of Washington, rode Reagan's coattails to Washington.

"All of us owe Ronald Reagan and George Bush a great debt of gratitude," Senate GOP leader Howard Baker said after the election.

Baker, who ran against Reagan for the Republican nomination for president, says a much closer working relationship will exist between the White House and Congress in the new administration.

"I used to get along better with the Democratic majority than President Carter did," he told reporters recently.

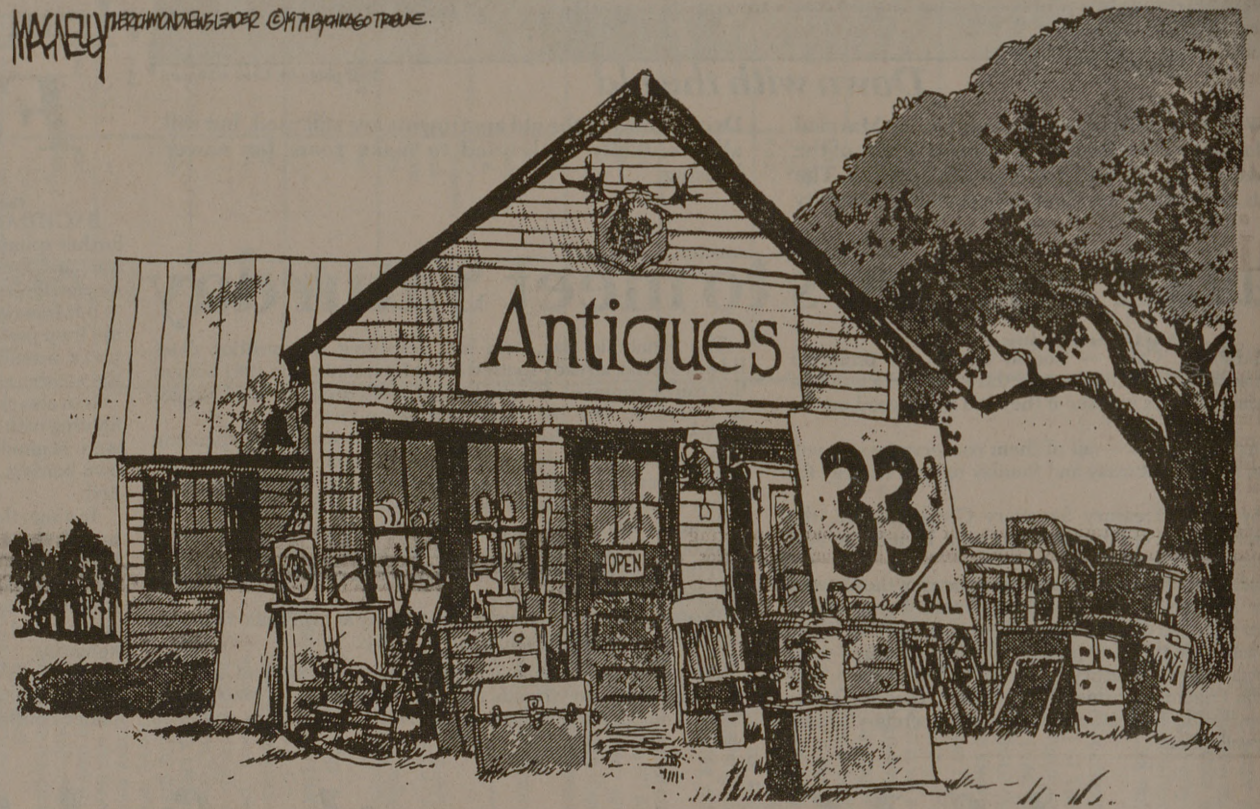
Some leading Democrats will even find it easier to work with Reagan than they did with Carter. Veteran Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., has agreed already to work on a Reagan transition team and is rumored to be considered for a Cabinet post.

Baker should be the new majority party leader, despite rumblings of a challenge to his leadership from the far right. Laxalt plans to nominate him when Republicans caucus in January, and Reagan gave Baker his full support two days after the elections.

Reagan could have a tougher time dealing with liberal House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, D-Mass., but O'Neill will actually have his own troubles with only a 50-vote majority and many conservative Democrats who already side with Republicans on key issues.

Next year will be the first time since 1930 that a president has worked with split leadership in Congress. The GOP won control of both houses in 1929, when Herbert Hoover was elected, but the death of a few Republicans gave Democrats control of the House the next year.

The last time voters put different parties in charge of the two chambers was in 1916.



It's your turn

Misinformed senators defeated beer bill

Editor:

This is in response to your article "Senate votes MSC Basement suds-less" that appeared on the front page of The Battalion last week. In the article, we read of the nice arguments against beer and wine in the Basement. That's all they arguments were; just nice, nice and wrong. We fail to see any logical reasoning behind certain senators' statements against the bill. "Liquor will lower the quality of entertainment in the Basement." As you know, the cost of entertainment is skyrocketing. So far, the MSC Basement Committee has done a superb job in finding quality, low-cost entertainers to bring to the basement. But with budget cuts and the ever-increasing competition from other clubs, the Basement finds it increasingly difficult to bring the type quality of entertainment Texas A&M needs and deserves. Of course, beer and wine is added income. Since the MSC Basement Committee is a non-profit organization, this added income would be channelled directly back into programming. This would result in better, higher-priced acts, at a low cost to the student. Are acts such as B.W. Stevenson, Michael Murphey, Gallagher, etc. a step down in quality?

"Something must be wrong with the Base-

ment Committee if it needs alcohol to survive," another senator added. First of all, if this senator had ever been to a Basement production, he would have known better. The MSC Basement Committee has been very successful in the past few years in bringing a wide variety of music and comedy to the A&M campus. The recent, sold-out Shake Russell/Dana Cooper Band show in the 750-seat Rudder Theater was our largest show ever. On Nov. 21 and 22 we are hosting the first new wave invasion of Bryan-College Station. The Skunks will be performing two shows, and we expect a full house each night. No, there is definitely nothing wrong with the MSC Basement Committee, at the moment.

But, as we've already pointed out, increasing production costs, non-increasing funds and

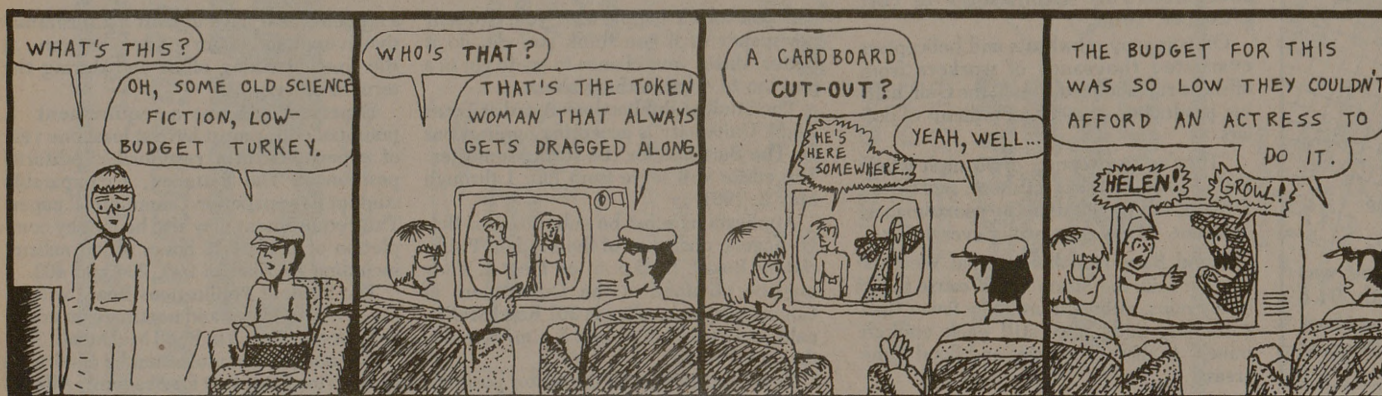
growing outside competition could mean trouble in the future. Beer and wine could boost the Basement over the competition's head. Imagine, outside clubs competing with the Basement.

Our point is, there are many outstanding arguments for and against beer and wine in the Basement. Why weren't these brought up in the discussion? Obviously the points brought up were products of misinformed senators. The bill has already been shot down, so there is not much we can do now. We just hope this incident is not typical of all senate decisions.

Steve Schulte, Chairman
Nicki Wolpmann, Vice Chairman
MSC Basement Committee

Warped

By Scott McCullar



THE BATTALION

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Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and are subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address all inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

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