

Local

Defeated senator, right-wing activist debate

By BELINDA McCOY
Battalion Staff

Letting political views get in the way of one's personal interpretation of the Bible have no place in the political process, said former Senator Birch Bayh, D-Indiana, in a debate against conservative Terry Dolan Tuesday night. The debate was sponsored by MSC Political Forum.

"We need more God-fearing Christians, Jews, people maybe who don't believe in the Almighty, but do have a good sense of right and wrong, I think we need more conscientious people in the political process. Whenever people let their political views distort their interpretation of the Bible, then I think we have a problem," said Bayh.

About 350 people heard Dolan express a different view concerning the moral majority — the proponents of the mixing of politics and religion.

"I find it very difficult to get upset about Jerry Falwell (a leader of the moral majority) using his pulpit to preach what some people call politically inspired. The fact remains that ten years ago and fifteen years ago, Martin Luther King was using his pulpit to do the same thing. It was okay for him to

do it, and as far as I'm concerned, it's okay for Jerry Falwell to do it," Dolan said.

Dolan is co-founder and chairman of the National Conservative Political Action Committee (

CPAC). Last fall NCPAC created a political "hit list" which targeted five liberal senators for defeat, us-

ing extensive media advertisements to weaken their reputations. Four of those senators were defeated in re-election.

However, Bayh said, he does not believe NCPAC played a major role in his defeat.

"I was defeated," Bayh said. "And in my judgment, Mr. Dolan's organization, the moral majority, and the SOB's — Ship Out Bayh — and the gun owners of America and all those right-wing people didn't really have much to do with it."

Dolan attacked Bayh's position on national defense. He used Bayh's voting record on the use of the B-1 bomber and the cruise missile as examples.

"It seems to me, Senator Bayh, that you are less concerned about increasing defense expenditures than the rest of the Senate. I think you're playing a game with the question of the B-1 bomber and the cruise missile, you didn't like either one of them, and that's why you voted the way you did."

Bayh earlier had defended his voting record on the issue.

"I'm against the B-1 bomber because I think the cruise missile can bring more warheads over the targets, with less loss of life, and less cost to the taxpayer," said Bayh. "We need more money in

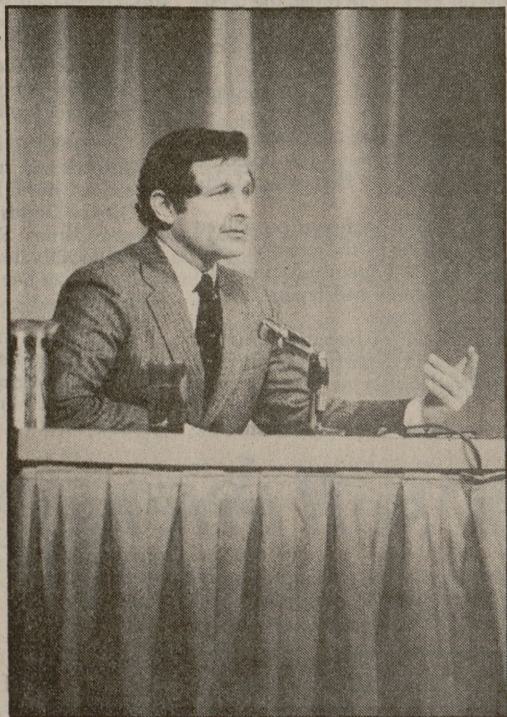
conventional armaments."

In a press conference earlier, Bayh said that he has no immediate plans to get back into politics.

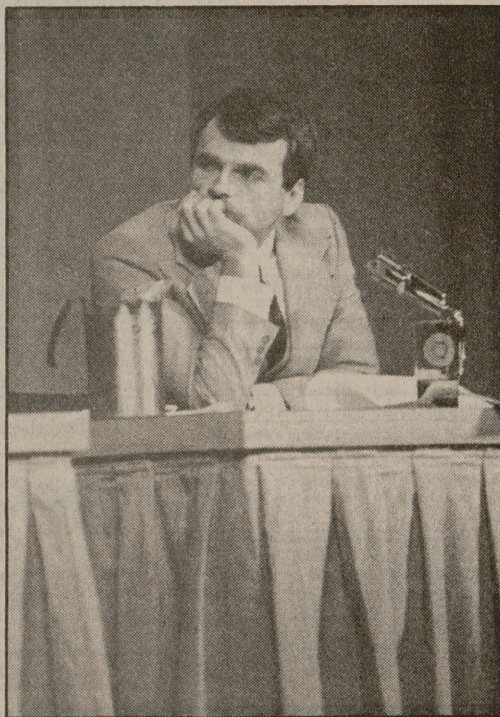
"I have to make a living, and I can find a few things to do out

there without as much excitement or heat in them," Bayh said.

Also in the press conference, Dolan said that NCPAC may put 26 senators on its hit list for the next election.



Birch Bayh



Terry Dolan

Home cooking is minutes away

Mom's food gets Aggie repeats

By CATHERINE J. THOMAS
Battalion Reporter

The secret of Bryan home cookin' is out.

For 40 years, Mom has been cooking the best little vittles in Texas. A July magazine issue called Mom's the best mystery restaurant. No signs or ads distinguish it. Just good food.

The owner of the self-run diner is Vera Carleton — Mom. "The Aggies named me that and I've been known as that for 40 years," she said.

Carleton, rounded with age and some of her own cooking, helps with the cooking in her home at 1207 E. 25th.

Carleton's small kitchen keeps with the homey theme.

There's nothing unusual about it except her stove has six burners instead of the usual four and her sink has three basins.

The dining room has six tables, each set with a different china pattern.

Hanging on the wall is a sign: "Jesus of Nazareth requests the honor of your presence at a dinner to be given in His honor."

Carleton, 80, said she started Mom's almost 50 years ago when her late husband was teaching at Texas A&M University.

"His students would come out and beg me to cook for them," she said.

Once, she said, "We were remodeling and a bunch of boys came and wanted me to cook for them."

"There wasn't room in the house, so they got some paper plates, a big pot of beans and a bucket of tea and ate under the chinaberry tree."

When they left, Carleton said the boys said, "Mom, can we come back tomorrow?"

Since then Mom's has grown to serve 60 to 100 people a day.

She said, "Colored people, Spanish, students and families all come."

"It used to be all students, but now it's more of everybody."

Carleton serves twice a day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., except on Sundays.

For the \$3.15 price, Mom's diners eat a variety of homemade red beans, creamed potatoes, corn, steak, meatloaf, chicken, banana nutbread and lemon, vanilla or devil's food cake.

Carleton said she has three women to cook most of the food, but she makes the rolls and the sweets.

"You've got to make something that will go around," she said.

During her 50 years of com-

mercial cooking many of her diners have become regulars.

"Boys I served when they were in school bring their boys," she said.

Also, Carleton said, there are always new people coming in.

"That's nice because I never know who's coming."

"I hope that I've made a lot of friends over the years," she said.

"If not, they're awfully big liars when they say they love me."

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