

Slouch By Jim Earle



"This is the last year I rent a box. I figure that each letter this year has cost me \$2 when I figure in box rent."

See red ink before firing on the budget

by Dick West

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The two biggest, or anyway the two most persistent, news events this spring have been the budget negotiations between the White House and Congress and the Falkland negotiations in Britain, Argentina and points north, south, east and west.

Both finally outlasted Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in headline durability.

At this writing, there was still faint hope the Falkland talks might coalesce, but the budget discussions appeared dead in the water. Thus prospects for a full-scale budget battle grow daily more thinkable.

Any day now, we may see an armada of administration fiscal advisers steaming up Capitol Hill to spread a safety net over the House Ways and Means Committee.

Then the battle will be joined, although there is some confusion over which side certain forces are joining. Symbolism counts for a lot.

One sore point is the question of whether liberals or conservatives shall have jurisdiction over the federal deficit.

Historians are agreed the deficit has been in liberal hands for most of the past 180 years. But with their seizure of the Office of Budget and Management, conservatives got into a commanding position to assert their own sovereignty.

From the vantage at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, or somewhere in that neighborhood,

they were able to launch successful assaults on the federal tax structure, plus make inroads on social and regulatory programs.

Nevertheless, President Reagan has continued to deny the conservative offensive created the recession, and liberal congressmen have been equally reluctant to claim responsibility.

Unless that deadlock can be broken, there is little chance of heading off an impasse.

Some of the even-handed mediators who participated in shuttle diplomacy between Capitol Hill and the White House proposed two compromise arrangements:

1. Congress would continue to have dominion over the deficit during the current fiscal year, with White House authority gradually being extended until full deficit control was acquired in fiscal 1984.

2. Congress and the White House would share equal custody of the deficit until such time as the economy moved either up or down.

Neither proposal was acceptable to either side.

What everyone wants to know now is which side will win should the dispute degenerate into an open clash in the Gallup Poll.

Political analysts tell me that liberals, with their entrenched fortifications on Capitol Hill, likely will dominate the coming primaries. But conservatives, with their "hit list" of budgetary opponents, are given a good chance of coming out ahead in the general election next fall.

Will kingdom utilize lessons?

Pre-eminent "world university" ... Marvin Tate ... drawn sabers and honor ... Gay Student Service Organization v. Texas A&M University ... resignation attempts ... Wilson and Sherrill ... Hubert and Hansen ... the Hilton ... hazing ... UT memorial statues ... illegal computer access.

At least we never get bored.

During the past year, we've seen people come and go — some by choice, others by force. It's been said that we need revolving doors installed in the administrative offices, and that all University mail should be addressed to "Occupant."

We've seen more activity in the past year than most universities see in a century.

We watched the overthrow of Athletic Director Marvin Tate. Four months later, we witnessed the assassination of Head Coach Tom Wilson and the coronation of Jackie Sherrill.

In August, Dr. Frank E. Vandiver was chosen heir to the Texas A&M throne. In January, he offered to abdicate that throne — twice.

Later that month, System Chancellor Frank W.R. Hubert announced his up-



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coming resignation. The search for his successor ranged far beyond the boundaries of the empire and culminated in the hiring of Purdue President Arthur G. Hansen.

The University battle cry should be changed. No more "Gig 'em, Aggies" — "The king is dead, long live the king" would be more appropriate. Certainly it's more descriptive.

Times have changed, as they do in every kingdom. We're no longer content to be good — "pre-eminence" is our goal and our watchword.

But the road to pre-eminence hasn't been an easy one. The public — at times, the nation — watch as Texas A&M attempts to deal with its problems.

These problems aren't limited to the upper echelons of the University. Power struggles raged, Texas A&M had to deal with a cadet who had the honor of Kyle Field with a

And with a federal case in the University is being sued for denial of recognition to a gay service member.

And with a proposed on-campus Hotel.

And with eight juniors dismissed from the Corps of Cadets for hazing.

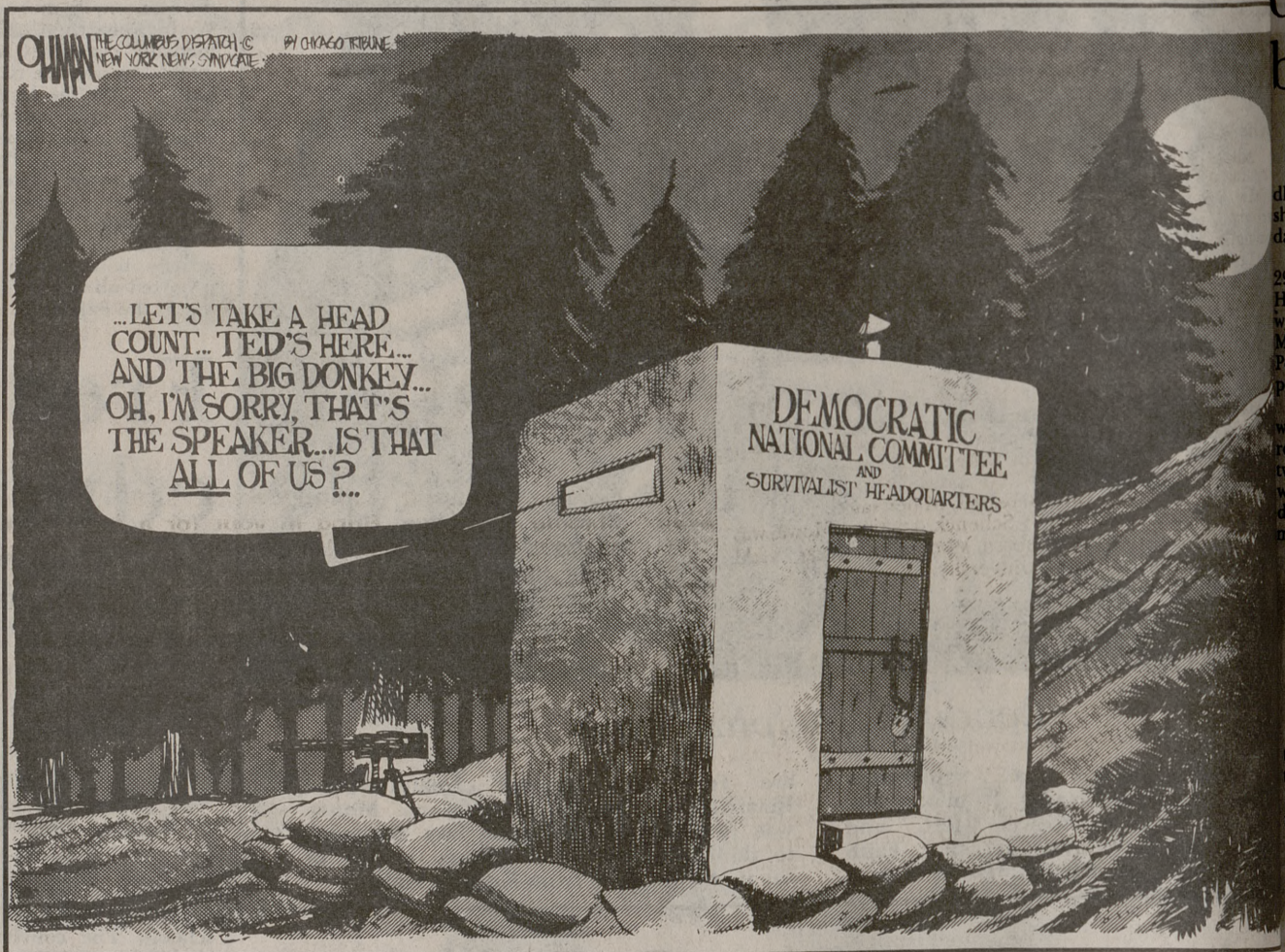
Every kingdom has problems. Texas A&M obviously is no exception. Eventually will be drawn into

problems and the solutions devised for them. Whether these solutions utilized remains to be seen. But a fellow said:

"Look not mournfully into the past, It comes not back again.

Wisely improve the present, It is thine.

Go forth to meet the future, without fear."



Letters: To fail or not to fail

Editor:

Ah — Finals, Finals, Finals!

To sleep, or not to sleep, that is the question:

Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer

The slings and arrows of outrageous professors,

Or to take arms against a sea of finals, And by insomnia end them? To pass, to sleep —

No more; and by a sleep to say we end The headache and the thousand natural shocks

That a student is heir to; 'tis a consummation

Devoutly to be wish'd. To fail, to sleep —

To sleep, perchance to flunk, ay, there's the rub,

For in that sleep of anxiety what dreams may come

When we have shuffled off this mortal campus,

Must give us pause; there's the respect That makes calamity of so long a semester.

For who would bear the whips and scorns of tests,

The professor's wrong, the studious man's contumely,

The pangs of despised love, the woman's delay,

The insolence of office, and the spurns That patient merit of the scho pro takes

When he himself might his quietus make

With a bare saber? Who would fardels bear,

To grunt and sweat under M.E. 212, But that the dread of something after questions,

The undiscovered answers from whose bourne

No GPR returns, puzzles the student, And makes us rather bear those ills we have,

Than study that material we know not of?

Thus finals doth make cowards of us all,

And thus the native hue of resolution Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of midnight oil,

And studies of great places and events With this regard their grades turn away,

And lose the name of passing. Soft you now!

The end of my college career! Aggies, in thy orisons

Be all my grades remember'd.

(A deviation from Shakespeare's "Hamlet," III.i.56-89)

Richard Braastad '83

'Save the grass' campaign defended

Editor:

This is in response to Steve Scannell's letter regarding the "Save the Grass" campaign. First of all, I agree that the signs that were put up should have been taken down when the project was com-

plete. On the other hand though, much disagree with your statement the "Save the Grass" initiators made of themselves and lacked since what they did. I feel you are very taken here.

These people took a sincere interest in a problem they saw on campus and acted (and are continuing to work) to our campus retain its beauty. The way made fools of themselves, but what they have done is to help more people aware of an existing problem on campus. It was anything but failure.

Even if the project only made a person more conscientious of walking on sidewalks instead of making trails, it's successful. I know it made me more conscientious and several other people know. What we have here is a group of Aggies representing the Junior Fraternity Society who care enough about our school that they took action to keep a beautiful campus we can all be proud of.

The sincerity was certainly there.

Darrell Pickens

Brasso talent criticized

Editor:

Just a note to the individual(s) who so artistically enscrubed "BQ 85" on the dome of the Academic Building. With final review, graduation and freshman orientation coming up, I'm sure everyone will appreciate your contribution to any photographs they take. In fact, you did such a terrific job, I think someone should encourage you to use your Brasso talent on the rest of the dome!

Cindy Hollan '83



the small society

by Brickman

WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO DEFENSIVE ABOUT YOUR GENERATION, DAD?

BECAUSE I'M THE ONLY GENERATION I HAVE —



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The Battalion

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The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Communications.

Questions or comments concerning any editorial matter should be directed to the editor.

Letters Policy

Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length, and are subject to being cut if they are longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must also be signed, show the address and phone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and are not 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, or phone (713) 845-2611.

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