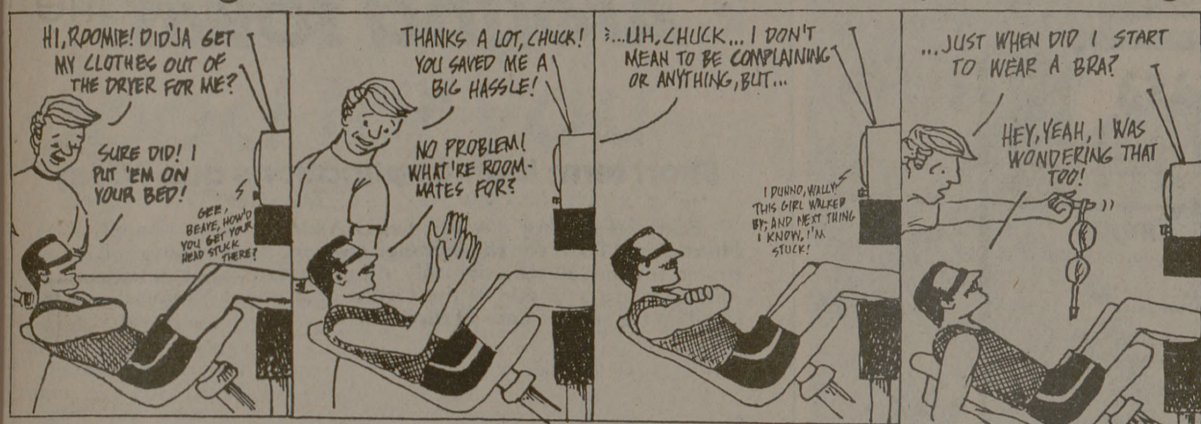


On the Fringe

by Fred Leong



Ferraro hailed by House

United Press International
 WASHINGTON — Geraldine Ferraro, given a triumphant welcome in her first return to the House as the Democratic vice presidential nominee, Tuesday dismissed Republican attacks on her liberal voting record as pointless.
 Colleagues lined up to embrace Rep. Ferraro as she walked onto the House floor for the first time in almost a month. The ornate chamber resounded with cheers and a thundering ovation. Forty-two House members made speeches in a tribute lasting more than an hour.
 With her mentor — Speaker Thomas O'Neill — presiding, Ferraro took the floor to make remarks that House rules say must last no more than one minute. No one objected to her talking for two minutes.
 "How do I explain in one minute what my six years in this House, the people's house, have meant to me?" she said, all smiles. "Thank you all from the bottom of my heart."

Rep. W.G. Hefner, D-N.C., drawled, "We got an old saying. You done good."

She recalled how she burst out laughing the first time she rose to address the House six years ago. No longer so nervous, she lamented the loss of her seat representing a working-class district in New York City.
 Despite the conservative views of many in her Queens district, Ferraro has a liberal voting record that got a 90 percent rating from the liberal Americans for Democratic Action group last year. Her lifetime voting rating from the ADA is a 79.
 "Ninety-nine percent of the members of Congress are to the right of her on social issues," Edward Rollins, the Reagan campaign director, charged Tuesday. He said she could

"become the biggest bust politically in history."
 Ferraro brushed off the accusations, saying Rollins based his remarks on a rating that included her vote to ensure the safety of the Social Security system.
 "If they're going to call me a liberal for saving Social Security for the elderly of this country, I'm delighted," she said upon arriving from New York.
 O'Neill said, "The Republicans are going to be calling her everything they can."
 "I'm a liberal myself and I've never looked at Geraldine as a liberal," he said. "She's more of a progressive."
 During House tributes, Rep. Charles Addabbo, D-N.Y., called Ferraro the "queen of Queens" and Rep. Lindy Boggs, D-La., sighed: "this was a long time in the making."
 Rep. W.G. Hefner, D-N.C., drawled, "We got an old saying. You done good."

Party requests injunction

United Press International
 HOUSTON — The Libertarian Party of Texas has asked a federal judge to issue an injunction blocking the state's November general election unless the party's candidates are included on the ballot, court records showed Tuesday.
 U.S. District Judge Robert O'Connor had not yet scheduled a hearing on the injunction request.
 The Libertarian Party filed the lawsuit Monday on behalf of the party's presidential candidate, David Bergland of California, and three Harris County School Board Trustees, whose claim their re-election changes have been threatened by the party's failure to qualify for listings on the state ballot.
 The lawsuit seeks an injunction to halt the November elections unless Texas includes the party members on the ballot.
 The lawsuit claimed the state discriminates against third parties by requiring a party's gubernatorial nominee to get 2 percent of the vote before the party is placed on the ballot.
 However, the Libertarians claim the use of the governor's race as a measure of the party's support is discriminatory and unfair.
 The Libertarian Party was on the ballot in 1980 and again in 1982 and two candidates for state office polled slightly more than 2 percent of the votes in the last statewide elections, the lawsuit said.
 Texas Secretary of State John Fainter said he had no option under state law but to remove the party from the ballot.

Official says collision 'not an act of God'

Human error suspected in Amtrak wreck

United Press International
 NEW YORK — Federal investigators said Tuesday human error probably caused the head-on collision of two Amtrak trains that killed one person and injured 137 others in the fourth fatal accident on the rail line this month.
 They said two Amtrak employees — the engineer of one of the trains and an operator in a control tower — were the focus of an investigation into the crash.
 "This was clearly an operating error," said John Riley, head of Federal Railroad Administration. "A head-on collision is not an act of God."

Riley said initial tests ruled out mechanical failure as a cause for the crash Monday of the northbound New England Zip and the southbound Shoreliner on a trestle 85 feet above a New York City street in Queens.
 A Spanish diplomat who was going to Boston on vacation was killed in the crash and 137 other people were injured, eight seriously.
 "A very preliminary test showed no malfunction in the signal system," Riley said.
 Vernon Grose, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board, said an operator in a control tower either failed to signal the

northbound train to halt or the engineer of the northbound train failed to see the signal.
 He said the southbound train had the right of way and was given written orders to use the northbound track during renovation of the track signal system.
 Riley said blood tests were conducted to determine if either employee had used drugs or alcohol. Additional tests also were planned on the signal and switch system to verify the preliminary findings, he said.
 Investigators said they have been unable to talk to the engineer of the northbound train. He remained

unconscious at Elmhurst Hospital. The southbound engineer said he saw the other train and slammed on his brakes.
 "In other accidents they are not as responsible as they are here," Grose said of Amtrak. "Here they control the track. They control the equipment and the people."
 When asked if Amtrak was responsible for the accident, Grose replied, "They have to be, particularly in this accident."
 Grose said the full investigation is expected to take six months.

Regents

(continued from page 1)
 of Colorado at Denver, will assume the position of dean of liberal arts on Sept. 1.
 The library report to the board was prompted by concerns that Sterling C. Evans — after whom the Texas A&M library is named — expressed to Vandiver.
 A study ranking 104 members of the Association of Research Libraries raised Evans' concern. According to the study, commissioned by Vandiver, the Texas A&M library is tied for 42nd place with the University of Arizona for percentage of educational and general expenditures on libraries. Texas A&M ranks 60th in total library expenditures.
 The library ranks seventh in total number of items loaned. Phillips said the library also borrows heavily

from other university libraries.
 "It reflects the fact that we have a very inquisitive, knowledge-seeking, research-oriented student body, faculty and staff," he said.
 Among state-supported institutions in Texas, Texas A&M ranks fourth in total number of volumes. Texas A&M's one-and-half-million volumes is far below the five million volumes owned by the UT library.
 After the board meeting, Vandiver said creating new graduate programs — which Texas A&M has been doing — forces the University to develop library facilities.
 "I think that's a haphazard way (to build up the library)," Vandiver said, "but I'm willing to do it."
 He calls the library "barely adequate" and said efforts must be made to shore up the collections.
 Faculty Senate Speaker Milford

also made a presentation to the board. He told the regents that the Senate isn't looking for power. It simply wants to have a voice.
 "I think we believe that the Faculty Senate can serve as a focus for an important constituency," Milford said.
 Milford defended the Senate's recommendation — which has been signed by Vandiver and will take effect in 1988 — to eliminate the graduating senior exemptions from finals. He said the issue was an unfortunate choice for the Senate's first project, but said the faculty believed some modification of the system was in order.
 "I hope you will give us time to prove ourselves," Milford said. He also said the Senate wants to be of service to the board and would be

willing to present reports on faculty views.
 While Regent Joe H. Reynolds said Milford's suggestion is a good idea, he said the first thing the board heard about the Faculty Senate involved criticisms of the System's organizational structure.
 "That's none of your business," Reynolds said.
 The board named Texas A&M's new animal science pavilion in honor of Louis Pearce, an officer of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and established the Wayne and Ruby Crisman Institute for Petroleum Reservoir Management at Texas A&M. Pearce has been instrumental in providing scholarships to Aggies on behalf of the show and rodeo, and the Crismans set up a \$1 million endowment to create the institute.

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