

opinion

Whatabout us?

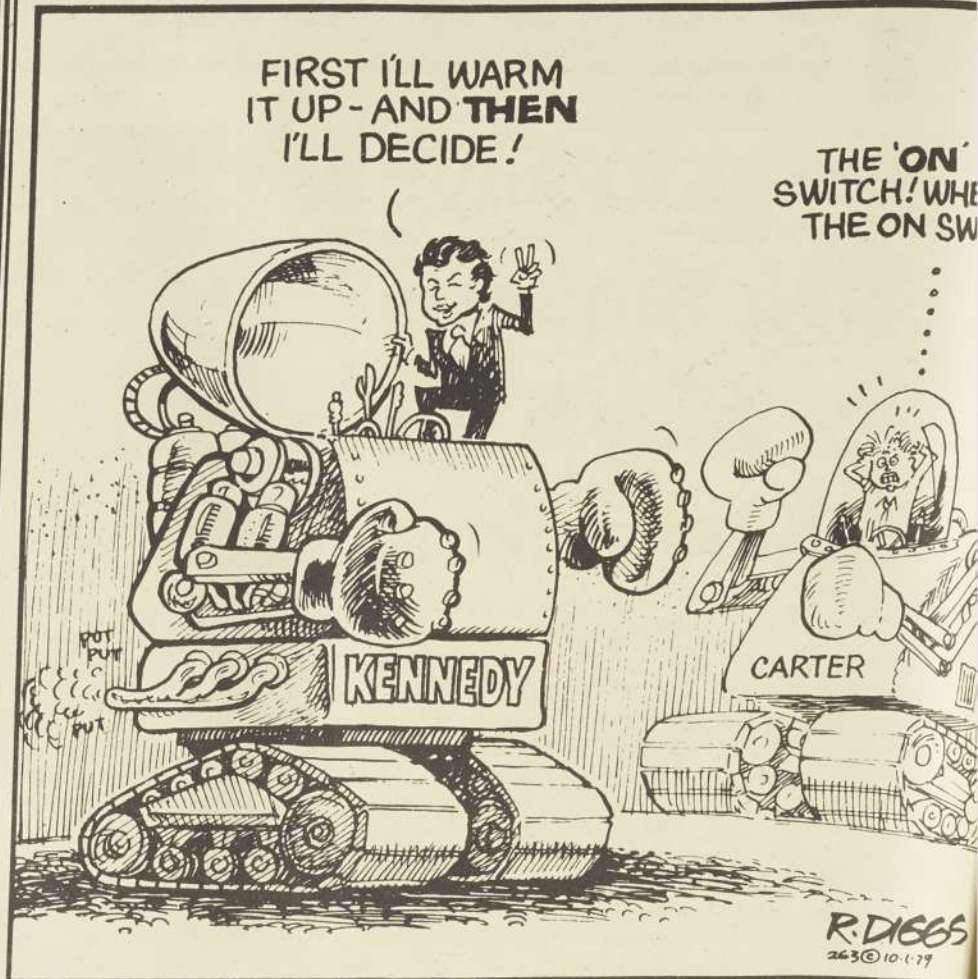
Times may be tough for students of this College if the teachers decide to strike. That is becoming more and more evident.

The students need to be aware that there is a problem between the teachers and the school board and the result may be a strike. How can the students help? Well, they really can't unless they want to walk on picket lines with the teachers, or take the board's side. It's frustrating to know that when something includes us, the students, we really do not have a say over the outcome.

So, we wait, and go to classes that someday might not be taught, or will be taught by a substitute.

While there is nothing we can do, there is one group of people who can help. The board. They can come out and make public their views just as the teachers have done. Don't leave the students of this college in a cloud over their future.

And both parties, while you're running around screaming about what you both want, take into consideration what you're here for: to teach the students. So think about us.



Champie says...

Kennedy favorite for president

By Dan Champie
For The Print

Recently, when discussing with some friends who I wanted as our next U.S. president, I was trying to get them to realize that we, the nation, need Ted Kennedy as our next president. My reasons for this are other than his being Jack's and Bobby's brother.

Now, we have two, well make that three candidates who have a reasonable chance of winning: Kennedy, Carter and Reagan.

The main reason we need Kennedy as our president is because of the activities of a group called the New Right, a group of extreme conser-

vatives. This group has amassed \$50 million, with which they will back many extreme right or extreme conservative candidates. They have targeted \$700,000 of this against six U.S. senators (Frank Church is one), but they are trying to win 10 separate seats, which would give them the majority, provided they don't lose any seats.

The reason this is so important is that, if the Republicans get the majority, they will also gain control of all the senate committees. For instance, Strom Thurman would be chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which screens appointments of

Supreme Court Judges. Orris Hatch would be chairman of the Committee on Labor and Education. With Hatch, and ultra conservative, in charge, places like Clackamas Community College would suffer because the nation's educational budget would be cut back.

The only way to prevent the take over by the New Right is to elect Kennedy president. Carter is a weak, ineffective and ill-advised president who has the minorities and labor (to name a few) mad at him. Hence, if we were to have him as our next Democratic presidential nominee, a good majority of Democrats would either stay at home or vote for Reagan (who is a pretty sure winner of the Republican nomination).

Reagan is just the person we don't need for our next president. He is an ultra conservative and would sit back and not initiate any sort of governmental intervention to get us out of this extremely poor economic situation. Carter, if elected, would be somewhat better than Reagan, but with a senate where the Republicans are the majority, it might as well be Reagan in charge.

Kennedy, on the other hand, if nominated and elected, would bring out the Democrats and the majority would still be Democratic. Kennedy, with this strength

and leadership, could and would initiate some governmental intervention, when and where needed, to get us out of this recession.

The leadership of Kennedy is one of his strongest points. He is the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which makes him one of the most powerful senators, if not the most. Reagan is only one claim of any significance: being ex-governor of California (and some times actor).

As I said earlier, Carter and Reagan wouldn't and don't know when to initiate governmental intervention. Evidence of this is Carter decontrolling oil prices (you remember when gas went from 70 cents to \$1 gallon?). All these price rises are due to the oil controls being taken off. The gas stations didn't get a raise until recently, and that was only 2 to 3 cents a gallon. Carter thought that was a wise move, because he had his windfall profits tax to get back 40 percent of that 30-cent raise. He was going to use that to initiate programs to help us become less dependent on foreign oil, and for alternative sources of energy. But the tax doesn't say what the oil companies have to do with that 60 percent that isn't taxed, that they wouldn't be making in the first place, if it hadn't been for Carter taking the controls off.

Here is where Kennedy would have done things dif-

ferently. He would have left the controls intact.

Kennedy is also trying to get his national health plan passed but right now a cheap imitation is blocking his plan. It was conceived by Carter. Kennedy's plan gives a much more complete coverage and includes cost controls, and would hold down the cost of health care. Carter's plan has none of these items. Another detail that Kennedy helped us with is the deregulation of airline prices, which resulted in lower fares. As you can see, Kennedy believes in governmental intervention, only when it will benefit the public (leaving controls on and taking airline controls off).

I know you've been saying to yourself while reading this commentary, Kennedy has not yet come out and said he will run. Well, in the near future, Kennedy is going to announce he is running for president. This is supported by an announcement that he made to the AFL-CIO chapter in Massachusetts recently, saying in the near future he would make a statement about his candidacy and that they would not be disappointed.

We all have a choice to make. We can either go extreme right or moderate left. The choice is ours and is important.

the print

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