

Bush responsible for death of liberalism

The inauguration of President George Herbert Walker Bush last Friday signalled the end of the Reagan era. A vicious and protracted two year campaign gave the first hint of the attitude of G.H.W. Bush. The first casualty: liberalism.

There was a time in this country when it was o.k. to be a liberal. Franklin Roosevelt, whom many consider the quintessential liberal, helped lift the nation from economic disaster by increasing federal spending for social programs. And before the campaign it seemed as if everyone who was old enough to have a social conscience in the sixties was a liberal.

Somehow the spin doctors of the Bush campaign managed to convince the majority of America that it is wrong to care about others more than personal prosperity. The word **liberal** now has a bad connotation. Being a **liberal** in the America of George Bush is tantamount to being a treasonous, unpatriotic criminal.

Unfortunately this tactic served primarily to divert public attention away from the issues that face us, such as a \$2 trillion plus deficit and the fact we are being outproduced in the Far East. Apparently elections aren't won on issues in the television

age; issues are too complicated to make good sound bites.

The method of defeating an opponent by labeling him a liberal seemed to filter down through the Republican ranks. There was a brochure sent to voters from the Denny Smith campaign several weeks before the election. The outside proclaimed, "There is only one word to describe Mike Kopetski..." Inside was the word **LIBERAL** in huge red letters, and a small caption asking for a vote for Denny Smith. There was no mention of either Smith's or Kopetski's stand on any particular issue, just that huge, red, **LIBERAL** staring out like some remnant of the McCarthy era.

It would be nice if someone would explain what is wrong with being a liberal, or anything else a person wants to be in a free society.

A lot of importance is placed on the historical significance of a president. Reagan wasn't even out of office before the network news organizations were trying to put him in a historical perspective. When Bush leaves office and heads to Maine, or Texas, or whatever state he is claiming as his home at that time, we'll remember him as the man who killed liberalism.

Beginning of new term brings responsibilities

A new term is here again and like always I am not ready. But, unlike other terms, this time there is no way I can get ready. You see, all I have left to take is math. Now I made it through Math 70 with only a minor concussion and a few bouts of nausea. But now I face the odious task of taking all those x's and y's and twisting them into new forms and even trying to cube the stupid things.

Domestic Issues

Tammy Swartzendruber

And then there's the story problems in which I am supposed to apply these funny things called trinomials and quadratics to everyday life. Now that has got to be the most ridiculous thing I ever heard of. I have made it through almost thirty years without knowing a thing about trinomials and quadratics. I happen to feel that there are more practical ways to solve a problem than the dubious use of x's and y's.

Take this problem for an example: if it takes one boy five hours to mow the lawn and his brother can mow it in three hours, how long will it take both boys to mow the lawn if they mowed it together? Now why do I have to know math to figure that out? If the problem ever happened to crop up in

my life I would send my two sons out to the backyard and have them mow it together. Then I would know exactly how long it took them. I guess math teachers' minds are too complicated to think of such an easy solution. Now you say, "Yes, but that doesn't help you figure it out if you're sitting in school and have no access to a lawn mower or to your sons." You're exactly right. But why do I have to figure it out in my class? There's no grass to mow in that room so as I see it that should be the end of the problem.

Well, as I said earlier I actually did make it through Math 70 and I am determined to make it through Math 100 even though my list of casualties is already much greater than those things that I endured in Math 70.

Here I am about done with this column and in a few minutes I will be facing far greater problems than anything I ever will face in math class. I will somehow have to get totally new concepts across to my first grader when I help her with her homework. I will also have to try to juggle my time so that I will have time to sew a few dresses tonight, clean the house, do the laundry, go visit a discouraged girl friend, make dinner, and try to soothe my boy friends injured feelings when I tell him that I do not have the time to go skiing with him. Thank God that lifes problems don't come in x's and y's or I would still be doing tonights work next year this time.

Editorial Policy

The Print welcomes Letters to the Editor. Such letters must be signed or will not be printed. Letters must not exceed 250 words and should be typewritten or neatly printed. Letters can be turned into **The Print** offices in Trailer B north of Randall Hall. **The Print** reserves the right to edit Letters to the Editor for grammar, obscenities and libelous and truthful material. Letters to the Editor must be turned in Friday in order to be printed in the following Wednesday's edition.

Student Opinions

by Julie Church and Tara Powers

Should convicted murderers be eligible for parole?



No because they might go out and kill again.

- Theresa Mitchell



Almost every time someone is let out, they end up killing someone else and are thrown right back in (jail). I think it is a crime to let a murderer on parole into the public.

- Tim Arendell



Heck no, dont let them go. They should have to pay for what theyve done and not get away with it.

- Rochelle Boenisch

I think that the more the murderers are let out on parole, the more it shows how ignorant the government can be.

- Janet Nelson

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