

Perspective

by Jay Ashley



As this particular column is being read, the hoopla of campaigning will be over. As Skipper Bowles said here a few weeks ago, "The monkey will be dead."

Most of us will agree that any event involving mass communications or mass participation usually ends as abruptly as possible. A simple decoding of the preceding sentence by example would be the holiday Christmas. For five to six months before the actual day the consumer is pushed, cajoled and lured into buying, buying, buying. Everyone works themselves up to a crescendo then suddenly December 26 rolls around and the whole shibang is over for another year.

Elections are similar, the only exception being they come every two or four years instead of annually. The signs of Christmas usually disappear by early January and do not start again until November. Signs of elections however have the ability to live for as long as the display or the weather permits. Case in point being bumper stickers.

Cars traverse the highways and by-ways throughout the campaign displaying the car owner's preference politically. Since we can assume the cars themselves are not partisan, the logical hypothesis would be that the creature men put the stickers there.

The politician as well as his constituency may fancy themselves the most intellectual set to come down the pike. Pasting the sticky paper to a piece of dirty metal makes man feel as though he has made a vast contribution to the welfare

of THE PEOPLE. If he is so smart, then why does he do something he will later regret?

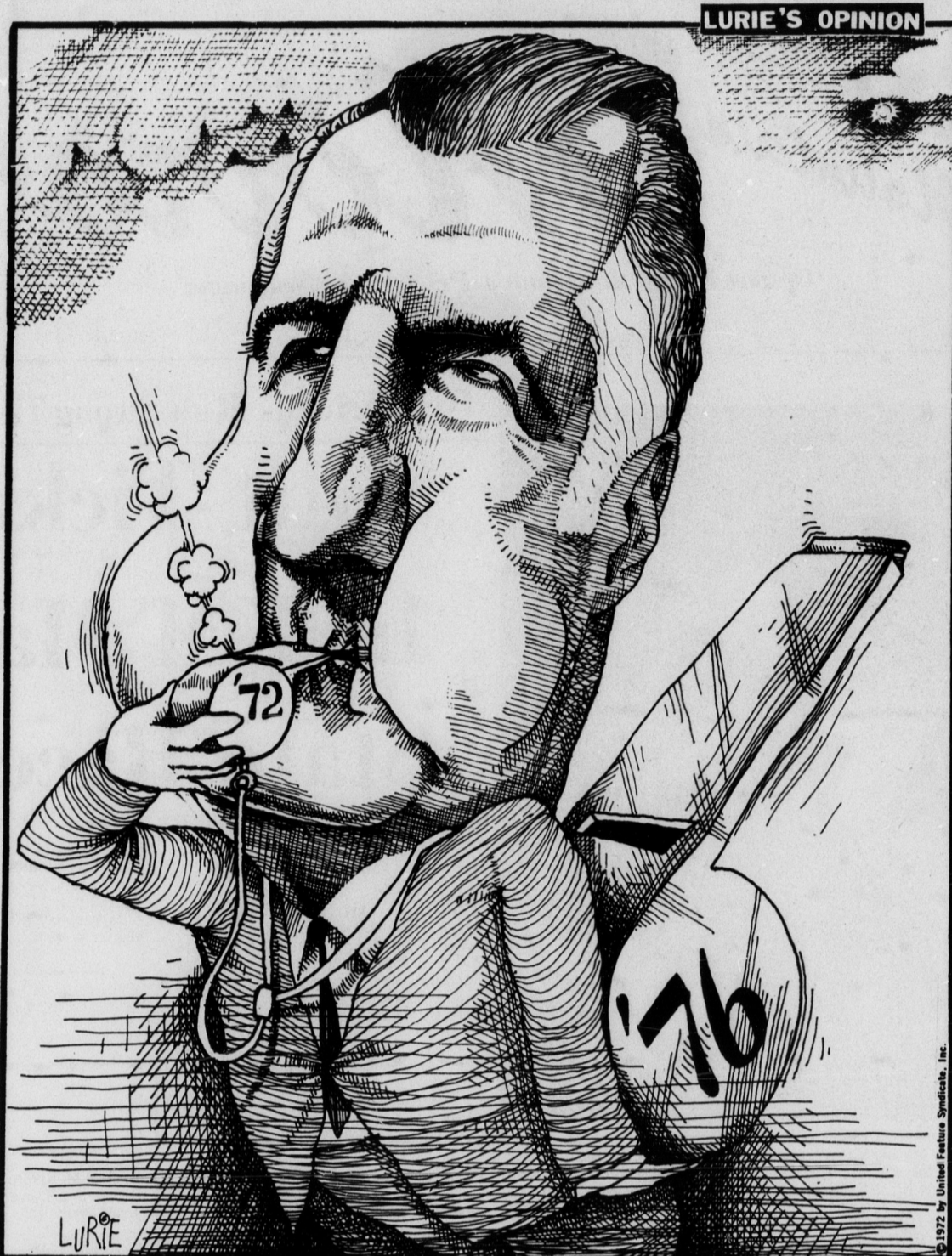
A typical scene on November 8 of an election year is a voter, whose candidate has suffered defeat, sitting behind his car armed with a razor blade and a bucket of soap. Wash, scratch. Wash, scratch. Ask him why and he replies, why should the world know he supported a loser? So it's work, work for about five hours trying to rid his vehicle of the worthless sticker.

On the other hand we have the next door neighbor who supported a winner. His November 8 is spent touring town in his shiny car, adorned with the winning sticker attached thereon. With his best see-I-told-you-so grin he flashes smiles to the folks who are, like the winner's next door neighbor, trying to extricate a permanently embossed political bumper sticker.

The loser will swear that he will never again put a sticker on his car and the winner will swear that he is so politically aware that he will always have a candidate's name tattooed on his bumper.

But the equality of America will soon smile on the loser. Watch what happens when the incumbent is charged with tampering with the coffers or any other such offense. The loser of the past will run out to buy an "I told you!" sticker and the winner of before will be the man on the ground with the razor and bucket of soapy water.

American politics...what could be greater?



LURIE'S OPINION

Reflections

by Rodney Dodson



If its one thing the American electorate can be counted on for doing it's forgetting. Maybe our memories are short or maybe our tolerance is high, or maybe the candidates just change.

I've also come to the conclusion that political party labels are about as significant as sports teams calling themselves as they do by such names as "Lions," "Bears," and "Cubs." Even the Democrats and Republicans use animals as symbols.

To illustrate both points, isn't it strange how a once liberal democrat like Hubert Humphrey now represents the "moderate" wing of the democratic party, acceptable to most party regulars, and how George McGovern became branded as a radical. Or how Republican Barry Goldwater in 1968 was defeated because people thought he was too "radical" to be president and instead chose his opponent who pledged not to send American "boys" off to fight.

In this campaign we have found Democrats for Nixon,

and we've even heard of some Republicans who are not supporting certain candidates on their party's ticket.

Candidates are now making big pitches to "sensible" members of the opposition party to come on over to their side. Ticket splitting is fine, and I believe in voting for candidates-not parties, but the point is, there's such a variety of candidates expressing different political philosophies under the same party banner, they just don't seem to have much in common. Candidates are even forced to sign pledges of loyalty saying they'll support the straight ticket.

I was talking to someone just yesterday who also expressed their disenchantment with party labels, and brought up the question of why can't a man just run and be judged on his own merits, without being a party member.

Why, after all can't a person, with great personal wealth or the backing of a party machine be a serious candidate for public office? Why indeed!

Bombing Finale

Now that a ceasefire in Vietnam is at hand, one should review claims and counter-claims concerning President Nixon's decision to get tough with Hanoi earlier in the year.

The President blockaded North Vietnam's harbors and resumed the bombing of North Vietnam, of course, in retaliation to the blatant North Vietnamese offensive against South Vietnam.

Many at that time lambasted the President's move as certain to prolong the war, and hinder peace negotiations, etc. It was claimed the North Vietnamese would never negotiate under military pressure, etc. It was said the U.S. military retaliation would not appreciably hurt Hanoi.

Now it turns out to be clear the President's tough action helped bring Hanoi to its senses and to the peace table. One cannot yet say how any agreement will turn out, in the long run, nor indeed whether it will be kept. But the goal of ending the killing was brought closer by firm, forceful action. The Communists, as always, respect determination and military power more than anything else in dealing with the West. And while the resumed bombing campaign claimed lives, ending the war by doing so will have saved many lives in the long run.

Cannibalism

The vicious personal attacks within the black community in the Nixon-McGovern campaign are regretted by all thinking Americans. William Scott, Atlanta newspaper owner, was quoted recently in the Daily Mail of London as saying he has never before witnessed such vicious personal attacks in a political campaign.

Scott presumably referred to charges by blacks for McGovern that those who favored Nixon, such as Jim Brown, Sammy Davis, etc., had sold out, or betrayed their true convictions. This, of course, could not be true of all blacks who support the President.

What is distressing about this political cannibalism, as President Nixon called it when it was splitting the Republican Party in 1964, is that it is, essentially, extreme intolerance. In effect, what those who favor McGovern have been saying about those who favor the President is that these blacks are hypocrites, bought or insincere. They are not allowed to enjoy the traditional, democratic right to have their own view, to be respected even though they don't conform.

Questioning the motives of those who disagree with one is poor business at best; when carried to an extreme which means condemnation of millions of black Americans, this is fascist mentality and method, and dangerous for both the Democratic Party's future and the country's.

KINGS MOUNTAIN

Hospital Report

Prior to October 30	October 31
Mrs. Paul D. Blanton, B.C. Mrs. Essie L. Brooks, K.M. Mrs. Charles F. Carpenter Mrs. Charles F. Carpenter, K.M. Mack Lee Conner, K.M. Frank W. Dunbar, B.C. James H. Fields, Clover Mrs. John Marvin Galley, K.M. Mrs. Frank J. Greene, K.M. Ross Gregory, K.M. Mrs. Bessie G. Hannah, B.C. Mrs. Verdine Kale, K.M. Mrs. Gallie R. Lanier, K.M. Jesse Guy Ledford, K.M. Haywood W. Mackey, Cherryville Mrs. Madge E. Melton, K.M. Walter M. Moorhead, K.M. Conan F. Pursley, Clover Mrs. Lillie E. Reynolds, K.M.	Mrs. Donald E. Hawkins, Gastonia Tommy Bob Yarbrough, K.M. November 1 Michael Eric Broome, B.C. November 2 Brown M. Adams, B.C. George Rhea Barber, K.M. Mrs. Brenda S. Morrison, K.M. Mrs. Milas E. Wilson, K.M. November 3 Mrs. Howard L. Conrad, B.C. November 4 William K. Carroll, K.M. Mrs. Nellie Jean Childers, smyrna William Dean Fuller, Dallas Newell E. Hardin, Gastonia Jimmy Wray Huskins, K.M. Mrs. Paul P. Pressley, K.M. Joseph William Sellers, K.M. November 5 Mrs. Hubert G. Clemmons, K.M. November 6 Mrs. Roy M. Jones, Clover Mrs. Manda R. Barber, K.M. Mrs. Edward W. Bibbs, B.C.

NEWS REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

The McGovern Lesson - The Democratic Party - Jackson - Kennedy

Washington, D. C.--The paramount feature of the presidential election campaign was that George McGovern never had a chance. The 1972 race will go down in history as another hopeless, 1964 campaign-boring, unexciting and lacking in the unknown.

But it might be a turning point in the history of the Democratic Party, at least for the years immediately ahead. Senator McGovern was the symbol of the youth wave of the sixties--of the so-called peaceniks, draft-dodgers, card burners, drug users, super-tolerant individuals, campus radicals, revolutionaries, militants, etc.

This youthful segment of the population made so much noise in the sixties, especially on television, some politicians (and college professors) were convinced incorrectly they represented the wave of the future. In reality, all they represented --and all they represent at the moment--is a more noisy and ill-mannered than usual youth movement, of which there is always one.

This radical youth wave frightened off too many moderate and middle road Democrats, and older voters, whose experience enabled them to know better. The youth wave actually began to go into a decline after Lyndon Johnson and the 1968 campaign, and is still receding, and will likely continue to do so because of the end of the fighting in Vietnam.

By 1972 it was largely discredited among older Americans and with President Nixon's capture of widespread support throughout the once-Democratic South, plus the sharp reduction in American deaths in Vietnam, McGovern's base-radical youth and super liberals--was not broad enough.

Veteran middle road Democrats like Senator Henry Jackson warned of exactly what would happen if the party nominated McGovern. He warned a year ago that to shift the party so far left in image would alienate the South and millions of moderate Democrats and guarantee a Republican victory. They were prophetic words; he was squarely on target, and also perhaps the best nomination choice the Democrats had. But Jackson didn't offer to surrender nor to give draft dodgers and deserters amnesty and he didn't play down to the impossible idealism and pipe dreams of radical youth leaders.

The McGovern nomination produced a shambles for a Democratic Party already in debt. Perhaps that makes the nomination of Senator Edward Kennedy in 1976 likely. He is considered a candidate with certain potential. But he is also controversial and there will be those who seek a non-controversial moderate liberal in 1976. Like Goldwater in 1964, McGovern's rout was so lopsided, he isn't likely to get another chance.

Holshouser Wasn't Given A Chance A Year Ago - Now He's First N.C. Republican Governor In This Century

By JOHN KILGO

Republican Party leaders across North Carolina looked at Jim Holshouser a year ago and remarked: "He's an excellent man but he can't beat Jim Gardner." There were other raps against Holshouser. Some said he looked too young to be elected Governor. Others said he would never be able to raise the money needed to campaign.

But while people were busy themselves with reasons why Holshouser could not win, he was out in the mountains, in the Piedmont, and in the flat country of the East, drumming up support for his candidacy.

While chairman of the North Carolina GOP, Holshouser had collected his share of IOU's. He was calling them in.

To the surprise of many people, Holshouser had wide backing in his run against Jim Gardner in the primary. And that victory, more than anything else, made Holshouser strong enough to win election to the Governor's Mansion.

No longer did people say he looked too young. He had taken on the toughest candidate his party could offer

and beaten him in a bitter battle.

Against Bowles, Holshouser had another kind of problem. It was money. Bowles had plenty. Holshouser had very little.

The Boone attorney tried to turn this into an advantage, by saying at every stop that the Governor's office couldn't be bought and that people were sick and tired of seeing Bowles on television.

Holshouser had his own polls. He kept telling people that he was gaining and two weeks ago, he said he was even and had the momentum.

President Nixon also gave Holshouser a push. He came here to embrace Holshouser and sent out the word that he would like to have him in the mansion.

Charles Jonas, Jr., Nixon's North Carolina campaign manager, has always been big on Holshouser, and he gave him all the help he could muster.

Holshouser hit hard at the present Democratic administration. He knew voters wanted a new face and he promised changes and a good job of reorganizing state government if he was elected.

The voters felt him out, were slow to warm to his candidacy, but at the end you could feel Holshouser coming with a rush.

He will now be the first Republican governor in this century in North Carolina. He'll be working with a Democratic legislature and his work will be cut for him.

Final Football Contest

Talk about a squeaky finale! You folks who entered the MIRROR'S final last football contest (at least for this season) sure put the pressure on us didn't you? The entries came thick and fast and were within a hair of being first place all around. Although no one got a perfect score, the three winners did get nine correct and came within one point of guessing the correct score. The three who finally made it to the top were Kenneth Roark, Helen Roark and Mickey Moss. These three scored as follows: Kenneth Roark- 9 correct (38 points), Helen Roark- 9 correct (36 points), Mickey Moss- 9 correct (36 points).

Since these were our three top winners and there was only one point separating them, the prize money will be divided equally, as in past contests. Each will receive \$6 for this last contest.

The MIRROR wishes to extend its congratulations to the winners and also its appreciation to the many who entered each week and made the contest such a success. We hope to have more contests in the future so keep up with us. Thank a million!



RANAN LURIE IN LIFE MAGAZINE

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