One more replay... and a prognosis

By Peter Pedacksky

What can one say of a most honorable man who worked a valiant fight, dreamed as a scientist and went down to an ignominious defeat?

Nice guys finish last.

The two considerations last July when Senator Thomas F. Eagleton (D-Mo.) dropped out of the 1972 race were his lack of political understanding of the issues and his inability to relate to political leadership. The former, as a result of trying to equate with the people, opened a rift between the Senator and the staff. The latter, as a result of popping off to the press, caused a public relations disaster.

From the outset, Eagleton was politically naive. He expected to attract vote, yet his comments only caused a loss of support. Quite simply, he could not understand the political game, and as a result, failed to take a stand on any issue. He was not the type to differentiate his beliefs, and his campaign was characterized by a lack of leadership. He was not able to set a tone or direction for his campaign, and was often forced to follow the lead of others.

In contrast to his political inexperience, Eagleton had an extensive knowledge of the people, and was able to relate to them on a personal level. His concern for others was evident in his campaign speeches, which were characterized by a sense of compassion and humanity.

The decision to withdraw from the campaign was made on November 30, 1972, after a meeting with his family and advisors. The decision was based on the fact that Eagleton's campaign was not making progress, and that he did not feel that he could continue to compete in the race.

In conclusion, the campaign of Senator Thomas F. Eagleton (D-Mo.) was characterized by a lack of political acumen and a lack of direction. His comments and actions only served to alienate voters, and his withdrawal from the race was a necessary move to preserve his political career.