

The Battalion

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Students' Interest Must Be Sought, Caperton Says

By David Middlebrooke
Battalion Managing Editor

It is the responsibility of student leaders to take student affairs and student government to the students and formulate plans with them, rather than for them, Kent Caperton told Operation Jericho delegates Wednesday night.

"We simply cannot afford to sit in our ivory towers, our conference rooms," the Student Senate vice president said, "and make glorious plans for this student body and then say 'Well, look what I've done for you.'"

Caperton stressed that student leaders should do everything possible to see that students are provided every opportunity to participate.

Speaking on the topic of campus apathy, Caperton challenged A&M's campus leaders to "get off your rears" and do something about apathy.

Caperton cited two examples of apathy on the A&M campus:

—In last spring's senate elections, "one of the most hotly contested in recent A&M history," only 3,500 out of a student body of over 13,000 voted.

—The many "fine speakers" brought to A&M by Great Issues, Political Forum, and Contemporary Arts are often attended by a "handful of students."

"I cite these situations to illustrate that apathy does indeed exist here at Texas A&M," he said, "and is present in many different ways."

Caperton said that many Aggies say that they are at A&M only to get a degree in order to get a good job. Their attitude toward student affairs, he said, is one of great unconcern.

"Many civilian students have the attitude that 'The Corps will run student affairs anyway... so why bother?'" he noted.

"My friends, it is this type of thinking that needs to be changed," Caperton declared. "It needs to be changed in order to have a better and more effective Memorial Student Center, a representative and meaningful student government. It needs to be changed in order to have elections that truly represent the will of

the Texas A&M student body."

Caperton said that he believed that those attending the Jericho sessions were not among the apathetic, but were "aware of the needs and benefits of becoming involved in student affairs."

"By involvement, I don't necessarily mean holding an office or serving on a committee," he explained. "To intelligently participate in student affairs requires that the individual be informed and aware of issues and activities of the university."

Caperton said students should form their own opinions, and let them be known through individual acquaintances, discussions, and voting.

"But the real purpose of my comments tonight," he said, "is not to dwell on what apathy is, and what the student in that dorm or that apartment ought to do to overcome it. I've come here to ask that each of you, as a student leader, take a long, hard look at yourself, and your organization, and your area of influence."

"I say that it is not enough that you be aware of the needs and benefits of student participation," Caperton continued. "It is not even enough that you acquaint your friends and acquaintances with the needs and benefits of student participation."

"Our overall goal," he said, "must be to make student activities and student affairs impossible for the average student to ignore."

Student organizations, Caperton said, must offer ample opportunity for any student to participate in some form. They must be oriented, Caperton said, to those issues and areas of interest which affect and concern the students.

As an example, he asked the group to consider "those individuals who, perhaps, couldn't be brought out for anything, say, except a rodeo."

"What is to prevent the Student Senate, for example, through, perhaps its Student Life Committee, to plan a rodeo week to be included in intramural activities," he asked, "and pull in these individuals to help with the plans?"

Caperton urged the 90 student

leaders gathered for the conference to let students know that they (the leaders) are interested in the students' ideas, concerns, and opinions.

Caperton commented on a recent senate action combining the usual three spring campus elections into one. He said that the action was designed to increase voter interest and voter participation.

"It is of little significance whether you are a civilian, a coed, or a member of the Corps of Ca-

dets," Caperton asserted. "What matters is that you're an Aggie, and we've got 14,000, and that you cast your ballot."

"It is true at Texas A&M," he continued, "as well as in any other election, that when the majority of voters fail to exercise their privilege and responsibility at the polls, then the highly-organized, bloc-voting pressure group has a heyday."

Caperton said that the senate wisely ignored an argument against the new election proce-

dures which held that losers in the election would not have a second chance to run. An abundance of student leaders exists at A&M, he said, and those now in power must do all they can to encourage these student leaders, and help them overcome the discouragement they have experienced in the past.

"For too long, far too many offices have been filled by 'elitists' who fail to recognize and respond to the wishes of the student body," Caperton said.

Nixon's State of World Talk Praised by Senate

By Walter R. Mears
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Nixon's first State of the World message drew praise from Senate leaders of both parties for its stress on negotiation and shared responsibility in foreign affairs.

"It's almost a 180-degree turn from the 'let's lick them before breakfast' attitude that we've had in the past," said Sen. George D. Aiken of Vermont, the Senate's senior GOP member.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield said he was "pleased that the President emphasized negotiation, participation and shared responsibility" but added that the message seemed filled with generalities. He said specifics will have to be forthcoming.

Sen. J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., said the Senate Foreign Relations Committee he heads may hold hearings later in the year on issues raised by the foreign policy report.

Mansfield praised the President's restatement and worldwide application of the so-called Nixon Doctrine. The President described it this way:

"Its central thesis is that the United States will participate in the defense and development of allies and friends but that America cannot—and will not—conceive all the plans, design all

the programs, execute all the decisions and undertake all the defense of the free nations of the world.

There was disagreement on Nixon's advocacy of an expanded Safeguard antiballistic missile system as the response to Soviet intercontinental missiles.

Aiken said he had misgivings about the ABM plan; Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., said the Safeguard proposal "will face great opposition in the Senate."

But Sen. George Murphy, R-Calif., said Nixon "dealt in facts rather than false hopes or fantasies to explain why we must have the Safeguard antiballistic missile system and why we cannot

permit the Soviet Union to become predominant in the Middle East."

Javits praised Nixon's emphasis on restoration of the Middle East cease-fire and said he believes Americans will welcome the President's pledge "to provide arms to friendly states as the need arises."

Sounding the only immediate criticism of Nixon's report on Vietnam policy, Javits said he sensed "a danger of complacency which I do not believe is justified by the situation. I think there should be a much greater sense of urgency about the need to withdraw from the major combat responsibility there."

Rudder Reported 'Making Progress'

HOUSTON — A&M President Earl Rudder was reported "making good progress" this morning at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

A hospital spokesman said that Rudder, still in serious condition, had been moved from the hospital's operation recovery room to a regular room. The spokesman also said that the retired Army

general was "responding much, much better to treatment."

Rudder had remained in the recovery room since Feb. 6 when he was operated on to stop bleeding from a stomach ulcer. The day before, at Methodist Hospital, he had had a blood clot removed from his brain.

Rudder first became ill at his College Station home Jan. 29.

New Singing Group Organizes Tonight

An organizational meeting for the formation of a new singing group on the A&M campus will be held tonight.

Robert Boone, Singing Cadets director and sponsor of the new group, said Wednesday night the meeting will be at 7:30 in room 119, G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Boone said that the main purpose of the meeting will be to

decide what kind of group the students want to have, what kind of music they want to sing, and, most important, how many turn out.

He also said that a committee will be formed to begin selecting music for the group.

The idea for the new group came about last month when some students decided that A&M needed a group that offered more opportunity for participation than the Singing Cadets.

Membership in the Singing Cadets is limited, and restricted to male students.

The group will meet "once or twice a week" in the evening under Boone's direction.

Any student interested in organized singing can join the group, regardless of previous experience or actual ability. The main requirement will be a desire to sing.

The group has been granted "temporary committee" status by the Memorial Student Center Council, and Bob Jarvis, freshman nuclear engineering major, is temporary chairman of the group.

Spring Enrollment A Record 13,076

A record spring enrollment of 13,076 students at A&M has been reported by Registrar Robert A. Lacey.

Lacey said that A&M registration is up 1,029 students, or approximately 8.5 percent, over the same period last year.

Included are 1,096 women, representing an increase of 10 percent over last spring.

Spring enrollment is traditionally lower than in fall, Lacey noted. Fall registration totaled 14,042, but 902 of those students were graduated last month.

World Attitude Towards War Is Changing, Analyst Says

By Pam Troby
Battalion Staff Writer

War is no longer thought of as an instrument of positive authority, a public policy analyst said Wednesday night in a Great Issues presentation.

Herman Kahn, founder and director of the Hudson Institute at Otton-on-Hudson, N. Y., said that evidence of this attitude could be found throughout the world.

"The threat of deliberate aggression for positive gain has almost disappeared in the western hemisphere and Europe," he said, "there is little seen in the Soviet Union and we expect none from the Chinese."

He said the Chinese left Quezou and Matsu alone, not because they did not want them, but because they would be expensive to take from the crack Formosa forces.

The Russian border problem is only minor, he said. The Chinese only want a conference to adjust a few minor details to save their national pride.

It's actually a pretty calm place, he said, but contrary to popular opinion, the large popula-

tion is not the strength in china.

"It is not really a poor country," he said, "but the huge population has degraded its natural resources. The 800 million population is really a millstone around China's neck. A population of 400-500 million would make it a very strong country."

He said that Japan was another case entirely.

By the end of the century, Japan will be one of the three super powers," he predicted. "Japan now has an economy of \$200 billion. It has been predicted that by 1975 it will have risen to \$400 billion and by 1980 to \$700-800 billion."

"Sometime in the 1990's Japan will pass the United States in per capita income and by 2000 will pass America in gross national product," he continued.

"The U. S. should not try to block the Japanese growth," he said. "We have to maintain a reasonable attitude."

He said that Russia has a modest arms supremacy over the U. S. that was increasing every day, but that it was nothing to lose sleep over.

There is very little concern about the shift in balance of power because it is hard to visualize any result from this change, he said.

"Very few military experts believe the Soviets will try a pre-planned military strike," he said. "The problem will arise however if the powers come to a show down that one power must either attack or back down."

"We don't want to be the world's policemen," he said. "We're more of a riot squad or national guard. The question is, if not us, then who?"

It's a Girl!

Mrs. Ruth Ann Stallings, wife of head coach Gene Stallings, gave birth Wednesday night at 11:25 to their fourth daughter at St. Joseph's Hospital in Bryan.

The Stallings also have a son.

The infant weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces.

The newest addition to the Stallings family has not been named.

Going 'On the Air' a Hectic Experience

For KAMU-TV

By Bob Robinson
Battalion Staff Writer

"Earlier today, KAMU-TV's special reporter Bob Robinson spoke to Shelby Metcalf in regards to the A&M win over TCU Saturday night in Fort Worth..."

The monitors in the various rooms of Bagley Hall blared out a Mel Chastain's voice as I left the

studio and headed to the transmitter room to see the remainder of the "Campus and Community Today" broadcast on the color monitor there.

Robert Wenck, theater arts instructor and director of the Aggie Players' coming production, "Under the Sycamore Tree," was with me. We had just come out of a 60-second live interview on the

play.

As Chastain finished his lead-in for the audio tape, Steve Orthwein, news director, pushed the button that switched the shot to a color slide of Metcalf.

"Roll audio," he said into the mike - headphone combination that's used for communication during a live production.

There was a second of silence

while the monitor showed the smiling image in full color.

"We're off the air! Someone get the transmitter, we're off the air!"

Someone yelled from the VTR (Video Tape Recorder) room, on the other side of the master control booth from the transmitter room—"What happened?"

"I don't know. The transmitter shut down. Where's an engineer?"

Wenck and I were still looking at the monitor. The picture was still there, because it showed the picture after it left master control and before it got to the transmitter.

I glanced at one of the monitors that was supposed to pick up the transmitter signals. The screen was covered with snow.

Wenck and I were still in our seats when Tom Teimpidis, one of the engineers, arrived. Even if we did know where the "start" button was located, we wouldn't have known what to do with it.

Teimpidis hit the button several times, sending flashes of light through several of the monitors that were in the room. In the meantime, Orthwein had switched back to the camera in the studio and to Chastain.

The transmitter was re-started less than a minute after it had shut off and "Campus and Community Today" was again on the air.

"Mike and cue him," the news director ordered the cameraman. Chastain finished the news story with a synopsis of what

Metcalf had said in the taped interview.

The rest of the live news program continued until 7 p. m. and network programming was continued until sign-off at 10 p. m.—with no problems.

Sometime the next morning—between midnight and 4 a. m.—the engineering staff discovered what caused the transmitter to quit. The audio level going into the transmitter had been too high. It had caused an overload in the circuits and the protective circuit breaker was activated. The problem was fixed.

Tuesday, KAMU-TV signed on at 2 p. m. and the production staff for "Campus and Community Today" stayed busy in the news room preparing for the evening program. At 6:23 p. m., the transmitter again decided it no longer wanted to stay on the air.

The studio was lighted and all personnel stood by under over 10,000 watts of lighting, ready to start the newscast as soon as the transmitter was started.

It was almost 45 minutes, however, before the problem could be found and solved.

Wiring within the transmitter had shortcircuited, causing an overload of voltage to go to the "final" tubes, the ones which boost the power to the antenna, and burned one of them out. It was replaced.

The transmitter continued to operate until sign-off at 10 o'clock that night. Lights were on most of the night while the

(See Going, page 3)

Teach-In Meeting Delayed; Slide Show Planned Monday

Tonight's meeting of the committees of the Symposium for Environmental Awareness has been delayed a week, Bill Voigt, student coordinator, said Wednesday.

The meeting has been rescheduled for next Thursday, in room 206 of the Architecture building.

Monday, Dr. Richard J. Balbauf of the Wildlife Sciences Department will give a slide show entitled "Environmental Conscience." The lecture will be held at 5 p. m. in room 113 of the Biological Sciences Building.

Voigt said that the meeting was delayed so the committees will have more time to organize and plan their projects. He added that the meeting will probably consist of committee reports. Each of the 14 committees has a different function he said.

Voigt said the committees are to arrange a TV panel, slide show presentations, a lecture series, a senate committee for assimilation of environmental degradation, displays in the Memorial Student Center and downtown business areas, a committee for action in the Student Senate, programs in local schools, a poster committee, a committee to stimulate letter writing to Congressmen and an ad hoc committee.

There are three other committees in the symposium. One of these is to stimulate interest and cooperation among the clergymen, another will try to obtain a proclamation from the mayor of College Station to name April 22 Environmental Day, and a third

University National Bank
"On the side of Texas A&M."

—Adv.