

# The Battalion

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## Geistweidt Calls for 'Moral Guts' at A&M

Student Senate President Ger- Geistweidt Thursday challeng- corps and civilian leaders to are the "moral guts" to tear down the walls of misunderstanding that divide the two segments of the A&M student body.

Speaking to the delegates to Operation Jericho, Geistweidt charged them to make the April elections contests in which each candidate is judged by his qualifications, and not by his clothing.

"Don't be the hypocrite student politician we've known so long," he pleaded, "the one who only gives lip service to unity and in- individualism before the election."

He said that this devious con- test, this use of ploys for the sole purpose of gaining votes, would destroy in a week any good relationships between corps and civilian students that have taken a year to build.

He characterized the civilian and corps factions as tribes set apart by high walls. Atop the

walls are the tribal leaders, in a position to both see their own tribe below and the leaders of the other tribe across the way.

In everyday relationships, the student body president says, lead- ers from both tribes interact, see each other as they really are and achieve a mutual respect for each other.

Tribe members however, do not interact, with those of the other tribe and the walls of fear and suspicion remain. Members of one tribe, Geistweidt said, tend to think of those in the other as stereotypes, not as people.

He said that it is the task of the leaders of both tribes to dare to start tearing down the walls that divide the two. Yet, he said, this is difficult for the leader for he is afraid that if he dares to take the other side in any mat- ter, he'll lose the support of his tribal followers.

Too often, he said, the attitude of leaders of the two tribes is

this: "I'm your friend. But you'll play hell if I'll respect your peo- ple or any who wear the same clothes as you do."

"You leaders aren't guided by mass opinion; you guide it," he maintained. "But you're going to have to take hold of the reigns."

Geistweidt, a member of the Cadet Corps himself, said that the corps is failing to understand emerging civilian attitudes.

"The civilian more and more is being considered a second-rate citizen," he said.

Geistweidt noted that though the civilians number 81 per cent of the student body, they have only 50 per cent representation in the senate and "zero per cent of the yell leaders."

"They also receive no credit for their efforts in The Batt, The Review, or in radio announce- ments," he said.

He admonished civilian students to not blame the corps for "in- tentinally" trying to limit the

powers of the civilian student body.

"Blame the civilian students," he said, "for not getting out and voting."

Most important, Geistweidt said, is that no one should blame a whole tribe for the actions of one member of it.

Geistweidt summed the current status of intra-student relations in this and three other areas, discussing social fraternities, political minority groups, the role of the female at A&M.

Noting that the "one great Ag- gie fraternity" concept no longer seems to satisfy social elements of A&M's varied student body make-up, he said other measures are being taken.

"The civilian residence hall program seems to be filling the civilian student's social need," he said, noting that pushes for the establishment of social fraterni- ties have died down in the last two years.

Minority groups have been em- braced within the system as in- dividuals, making ethnic identi- fication unnecessary, the Mason senior added.

He said the A&M environment must adjust to the presence of coeds and provide recognition for the increasing part they are tak- ing in student activities.

Some male students fear coeds will destroy the heritage of rug- gedness that has been built at A&M, Geistweidt commented, and some, without malicious intent, forget she is here."

## Quality of Students, Faculty Upgraded in Recent Years

A&M, in recent years, has expe- rienced a constant upgrading of the quality of its students and faculty, the president-elect of the Association of Former Students said Thursday night.

Leslie L. Appelt said that re- sults of achievement tests show that the quality of graduate stu- dents at A&M has risen steadily in recent years, as has the quality of students entering the institu- tion.

Appelt said he felt that the quality has gone up in quality in recent years, demonstrated by the number and amount of re- search grants directed at A&M.

"I was taken aback to find that

the research grants that are made available to A&M are equal to the amount of money," Appelt said, "that the Texas Legislature funds the operations of the uni- versity with."

It was a pleasant surprise for him, Appelt said, to discover that faculty members were good teachers as well as good research- ers. This is shown, he said, by the fact that those with research grants are often selected by stu- dents to receive outstanding fac- ulty awards presented by the for- mer students.

Appelt noted that the upgrad- ing in quality experienced by A&M was shown also in the new library. It is one of 70 in the

nation, he said, which has mem- bership in the Association of Re- search Libraries.

Speaking about A&M's image, Appelt said that the former stu- dents hired a professional con- sulting firm in the latter part of the '60s to determine the image A&M had in the state.

What they found, he said, was that many high school counselors and students, along with students' parents, had a concept of A&M that was about 10 years out of date. An intensified high school recruiting program, along with new information brochures, is now being used in an attempt to ac- quaint people with A&M as it is today, he said.

## Florida Senator to Speak On Republican Strategy

"Republican Southern Strategy" will be discussed Monday in a Political Forum presentation by Florida legislator who won the largest number of votes in the state's history.

U. S. Senator Edward J. Gurney will make the 8 p. m. talk in the Memorial Student Center Ball- room, announced forum chairman Charles Hoffman.

Admission is free. The Florida Republican was University National Bank "On the side of Texas A&M." —Adv.

elected to the 88th Congress in 1962 by 52 per cent of the vote, a 3,466 vote margin. Gurney was returned to the 89th Congress by a 31,985 vote margin and in May, 1966, running for the 90th, re- ceived 97.4 per cent of the vote. His Democratic opponent with- drew.

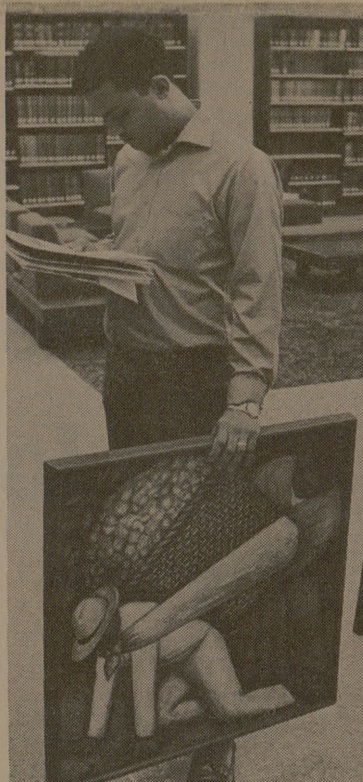
Senator Gurney, 66, had an 80 per cent mandate from the people in the statewide Republican pri- mary in 1968. He won the largest number of votes in Florida's history in the general election when he became the first to go over one million votes.

The solon's name was marked on 1,131,499 ballots, nearly 250,000 times more than his opponent.

Senator Gurney is on the Sen- ate Committee on Government Operations, Public Works Com- mittee, Special Committee on the Aging and Republican Campaign Committee.

A native of Maine, Gurney re- ceived a degree at Colby College in Waterville and graduated from Harvard and Duke Law Schools.

He holds honorary doctor of law degrees from Colby and Rol- lins College in Winter Park.



SEMESTER LOAN—Angel Pina catches up on studies while waiting to check out a painting from the library Thursday. Prints are due back in May. (Photo by Bob Stump)



OFFERING SOLUTIONS—Operation Jericho delegates talk things over Thursday during one of the discussion sessions held following a morning panel presentation on academic excellence. (Photo by Jim Berry)

## Excellence Main Goal Of A&M, Byers Says

Texas A&M's main goal is the development of excellence in stu- dents, faculty and facilities, Dr. Horace Byers told a Jericho audi- ence Thursday morning.

Byers, vice president for acad- emic affairs, headed a panel dis- cussion on academic excellence. On the panel with him were Dan C. Lowe, associate dean of busi- ness administration, Barbara Da- vis, marketing professor, Dr. Charles McCandless, associate dean of liberal arts and Dr. Frank Hubert, dean of liberal arts and education.

Byers said that the quality of students at A&M has been im- proved recently because of high- er entrance requirements.

He noted there are 57 acad- emic committees serving the university and many others serv- ing the colleges. Dr. Byers told the students 11 of the academic committees have a total of 46 students assisting in the decision making process.

Lowe cited arguments for and against a pass-fail grading sys- tem. He said that a pass-fail sys- tem may encourage student cre- ativity. But he also said that it makes difficult student evaluation by graduate schools and prospec- tive employers.

Lowe said that removal of a strict grading system eliminates much of the pressure of compe- tition, but he questioned whether this is really the best way to pre-

pare a student for life after col- lege.

Hubert supported the tradition- al grading system and called it "the pulse of the learning sys- tem."

Deed week is really folklore, Hubert said.

"The week before finals is a time when most students try to learn what they should have learned during the four previous months," he said.

Miss Davis said that quality of instructors "is not the result of chance."

"The key to quality teaching is the understanding of responsi- bility-responsibility to those you teach, to those you work with and to your university," she said.

McCandless said that before anyone talks about relevance of college courses, he should first ask, relevant to what and to whom?

An institution should undergo continual reevaluation of the con- tribution of each course to the curriculum, the program and the institution's objectives, McCan- dless said.

## Rudder's Condition Now 'Satisfactory'

HOUSTON — A&M President Earl Rudder's condition was changed to satisfactory Thursday, and St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital officials said this morning that he was continuing to improve.

Wednesday, Rudder was trans- ferred from the hospital's oper- ation recovery room to a private room.

Thursday was the first time since Rudder suffered a cerebral hemorrhage the first part of the month that his condition has been anything other than serious.

The hospital official said that Rudder sat up several times

Thursday and was more alert.

Rudder also began physical therapy treatment Thursday, the official said. He said the therapy consisted of body movements to keep or improve muscle tone.

No visitors, other than family, are allowed yet, the official said. Any decision on visitors, he said, will have to be made by Mrs. Rudder and attending doctors.

Rudder's family Thursday ex- pressed gratitude for the many cards, flowers and messages re- ceived during his current illness.

"We sincerely appreciate all the prayers and other expressions of hope and concern which we have received during this most diffi- cult period," Mrs. Rudder said. "I wish I could thank each per- son individually, but sheer num- bers make it impossible."

### WEATHER

Saturday — Cloudy to partly cloudy, light drizzle early morn- ing. Wind Easterly 10-15 m.p.h. High 63, low 42.  
Sunday — Partly cloudy. Wind Easterly, 10-15 m.p.h. High 71, low 39.

## Band to Hold Dance, Select Sweetheart Saturday



Laura Swinbank



Linda Davis



Karan Litzmann



Gayle Lanier



Pat Lucey

Texas Aggie Bandmen turn music making over to another group Saturday for the annual band dance.

About 300 band members, their dates and guests are expected for the 8 to 12 p.m. event in the Memorial Student Center Ball- room, according to Edwin Lamm- III, band commander from San Antonio.

Maynard's Gimble's nine-piece orchestra will furnish music for the formal-dress occasion. The ballroom will be decorated in "The Old South" theme.

Highlight of the evening will be introduction of five sweet- heart finalists and secret-ballot- selection of the honoree by those attending.

The finalists: Laura Swinbank of Houston is a Stephen F. Austin College sophomore majoring in pre-nurs- ing. She will be escorted by Jim Connally.

A freshman marketing major at A&M, Patricia Ann Lucey,

will be escorted by Gregg Weav- er. Miss Lucey attended S. F. Austin High in Bryan.

Karen Litzman is drum major of the Columbus High School band. She is an honor student, a sophomore and will be escorted by Russell Braden.

Gayle LaNier of Waxahachie attends Baylor, where she is a freshman elementary education major. Her date will be Steve Sullivan.

An Odessa High senior, Linda Davis will be escorted by Joe Anderson.

Finalists were selected by a committee composed of chairman John Small, band operations of- ficer; John Otto, combined band drum major; Richard Garrett, Maroon Band drum major; Rich- ard Sweeney, Maroon Band ex- ecutive officer; Larry Barfield, band supply officer; Warren Jamieson, Johnny Potts, Jim Lamm, Larry George, Gilbert Rodriguez and Van Knight.