

# Political Forum: A Step In The Right Direction

The Executive Committee is expected to announce early next week a compromise solution to the political clubs situation.

President Earl Rudder told student leaders Wednesday night the committee will reaffirm its stand banning partisan political organizations from campus, but will offer students a political forum for discussion, debate and study of politics and party lines.

The Department of History and Government has agreed to sponsor such an organization to provide students with an intense study of political science, and Rudder assured student leaders he would assist such a group in locating, sponsoring and financially backing outstanding speakers.

Rudder also said the Executive Committee is not opposed to political clubs and activities by students but believes such action should not be conducted on campus. He encouraged students to join off-campus, local political clubs if they are interested in active participation.

We do not agree with President Rudder nor the Executive Committee that on-campus political activity is undesirable, but we are in full support of the suggested forum. The study organization is a significant step in the right direction, and we urge the Student Senate to organize and encourage the establishment of such a club by next fall.

The study of partisan politics, political issues and other facets of political science is significant to a complete education today. The forum will satisfy this need. But we would also welcome the opportunity for practical experience in political affairs that only an active, partisan organization can offer. If a university is to be the training ground that it should be, practical participation should go hand in hand with theoretical study whenever possible. Such a combination in the area of political science is quite feasible on the university campus, and is already in effect on most campuses in the state and nation.

Adoption of the study forum is an achievement, but not a final solution. As long as there are students concerned about partisan politics and determined to actively pursue their interests, the Executive Committee will be requested to reverse the prevailing ban on political clubs. Someday, perhaps it will.

Until then, however, the proposed study forum must serve the needs and desires of aspiring student politicians and laymen interested in political affairs. It will be a welcome addition to our campus and has the potential to give students and faculty members a stimulating, educational and rewarding insight into a field which nearly all of us will encounter in life.



"I don't know what's wrong with th' underclassmen—It's either just the time of year or they've been watching too much 'F Troop' on TV!"

# Comfort Defeats Unity In Corps Housing Plans

Despite an overwhelming preference for single-area housing, the Corps of Cadets will live in both the Duncan and Sbis Dining Hall areas next year.

A poll taken last week by outfit first sergeants showed that 1,184 cadets desired to live as a unit in the Duncan area, while 257 Corps member — primarily underclassmen — preferred the Sbis area with its air-conditioned comforts.

However, the administration has chosen to disregard the 80 per cent majority and the ardent pleas of cadet leaders and divide the Corps between air-conditioned and non air-conditioned housing again next year.

Primary reason given for the decision was that the university cannot discriminate against a student because he selects cadet attire instead of civilian dress while attending Texas A&M. The administration rejected a proposal by a junior cadet that non air-conditioned housing be part of a package deal with the non-compulsory Corps.

The university believes, apparently, that complete Duncan area housing for the Corps would relegate the organization to some sort of "second-class citizenry." Eighty per cent of the students involved, however,

are willing to accept poorer living conditions to achieve the unity they feel would accompany single-area housing.

If the Corps wants to live as a unit and its members are willing to sacrifice air-conditioning and more pleasing surroundings to accomplish this goal, we do not understand why they cannot be allowed to do so.

More than 2,500 beds are available in the Duncan area, with about 300 more in Hart Hall to accommodate any overflow. Presently, the Corps has about 2,200 cadets. An enormous influx of freshmen could push the Corps beyond Duncan area capacity, and only in that case should split-area housing be necessary.

The administration has bent over backwards to please a 20 per cent minority — and their parents. In so doing, it has displeased 80 per cent. Minority rights, in this case, do not require administrative protection. A student has the choice of either cadet or civilian life when he enters this university. If air-conditioned housing to an aspiring cadet is more important than a unified Corps, he is not the kind of member Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets needs.

# 'But I Was Misquoted'

Newspapers have gained the reputation they now enjoy because of their ability to relay printed information rapidly and, with some exception, accurately.

The printed word is not beyond reproach; there is much room for improvement. But survey after survey has revealed that newspapers are more dependable for printing the truth than other news media. This reputation is largely a result of the responsibility newsmen have been taught they owe their readers.

Some people, usually in high positions, would like to destroy this image of dependability and accuracy because newspapers do not always show them in the most favorable light.

The favorite defense against newspaper-aroused hostility, confusion or disregard toward these persons is, "But I was misquoted." It has become a pet peeve of the newspaper industry for public officials or other quotable sources to deny their statements, laying the blame on "irresponsible journalism."

Newspapers do misquote people, but not as often as many persons like to think. More often than not, the newsman writes down a statement exactly as he hears it, no matter how ridiculous or outrageous it sounds. The reporter is not expected to be a mind-reader; his job is to report what he sees and hears.

"But I was misquoted" too many times means "but that is not the way I meant to say it." Quite often newspapers are blamed for "misquoting" when a source reveals some information he later realizes should not have been mentioned, or when his statements make him appear foolish, cowardly, boastful, mean or in some other unfavorable light.

As student reporters we have had more than our share of blame for not correctly quoting our sources. Some of it is well-founded; much is not. We are in training and will make mistakes, but not as often as it is convenient for our campus contacts to say, "But I was misquoted."

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**THE BATTALION**

Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the student writers only. *The Battalion* is a non-tax-supported non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students at a university and community newspaper.

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**Political Announcements**

Subject to action of the Democratic Primary May 7, 1966.

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Official notices must arrive in the Office of Student Publications before deadline of 1 p. m. of the day preceding publication.

**THE GRADUATE COLLEGE**  
Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree  
Name: Smith, Ronald Edward  
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Physics  
Dissertation: Translational, Rotational, and Spin-Lattice Relaxation in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and 1, 3, 5-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>D<sub>3</sub>.  
Time: May 3, 1966 at 3:30 p. m.  
Place: Room 309 in Agriculture Bldg.  
Wayne C. Hall  
Dean of Graduate Studies 3065f

**THE GRADUATE COLLEGE**  
Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree  
Name: Shipley, John Lanfair  
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Economics  
Dissertation: Factors Influencing Participation in Federal Crop Insurance in the High Plains of Texas  
Time: May 2, 1966 at 3:00 p. m.  
Place: Room 309 in Agriculture Bldg.  
Wayne C. Hall  
Dean of Graduate Studies 3065f

**CORRECTIONS IN SUMMER BULLETIN**  
Astronomy and Applications of Modern Physics, Summer 1966. Contrary to the Bulletin of Summer Session 1966 recently released, Physics 310, Modern Physics and Physics 314, Astronomy, are open in the first summer term to all students with the prerequisites, Physics 202 and Mathematics 103, respectively. Only in the second summer term is there a restriction, that Physics 314 is reserved for students in the NSF Eastern Science Institute. 3045f

**THE GRADUATE COLLEGE**  
Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree  
Name: Wheeler, Orville Eugene  
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering  
Dissertation: Transverse Shear Deformation in Thin Shells of Revolution  
Time: April 29, 1966 at 3:00 p. m.  
Place: Room 113-A in Engineering Bldg.  
Wayne C. Hall  
Dean of Graduate Studies 3043f

**THE GRADUATE COLLEGE**  
Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree  
Name: Allen, William Wayne  
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Agronomy  
Dissertation: The Potential of Irradiation and Induced Polytoidy for Improving St. Augustinegrass, *Stenotaphrum secundatum* (Walt.) Kuntze.  
Time: April 29, 1966 at 3:30 a. m.  
Place: Room 303 in Plant Science Bldg.  
Wayne C. Hall  
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A limited number of NATIONAL DEFENSE STUDENT LOANS will be made for Summer Session '66. Funds available are limited, only those students who are qualifying to teach at elementary, secondary or college level will be considered. Application forms may be obtained from Student Financial Aid, 303 YMCA, April 25 - June 15. 3025f

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