

The Battalion

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Involvement Needed, Lawmaker Claims

By George Scott
Battalion Staff Writer

Government is something that too few people participate in and that too many complain about, a Texas state representative told delegates to A&M's Idea Exchange Conference Thursday night.

"If we fail to participate, we'll get the type of government we deserve," James R. Nowlin of San Antonio said in addressing student leaders from Southwest Conference schools and Texas Woman's University.

The conference is designed to give the student leaders a chance to exchange ideas and viewpoints, and to discuss improvements needed in student government.

Nowlin said that students who feel that problems with the sys-

tem cannot be corrected by the system don't have any constructive or well-developed ideas or alternatives.

"It is easy to criticize, but it is very difficult to offer constructive solutions," he said.

Nowlin said he believes the voting age should be lowered and that a bill he presented to lower the voting age to 19 was defeated three times.

Public attitude towards demonstrations has kept the voting age from being lowered, according to Nowlin.

"Governor Preston Smith talks in favor of lowering the voting age, but I don't believe he is really in favor of it," Nowlin said, "but Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes and Speaker of the House Gus Mutscher are supporting lower-

ing the age requirement."

Nowlin said that there are many problems facing the state legislature, and that unfortunately that not enough people are interested in what is taking place.

"I think that Texas ought to have a strong conflict-of-interest law for state legislators," Nowlin commented.

He explained that he could, as a lawyer, be on retainer for any company or special interest group, receiving any pay, and still vote as a legislator on controversial issues affecting every citizen.

"That is not a very healthy atmosphere," he said.

Special interest groups in the state have prevented the passage of an effective pollution control law, one that is needed badly, Nowlin said.

"The government is going to have to work with business actively to solve the pollution problem," Nowlin commented, "but we've been talking about these things for 20 years. It is time for specific safeguards, which are strictly enforceable, to be put into the law."

He said that he did not believe such laws were possible until after 1970, or unless a major catastrophe occurs somewhere like at the Houston ship channel.

"It took the assassination of John Kennedy to get any type of gun-control laws," Nowlin said.

After the 1970 census and redistricting, the urban areas should have much more power in the state legislature, according to Nowlin.

"Maybe then some laws, strong laws, will be passed," he said.

Nowlin also said that he believes special interest groups also cause problems in financing campaigns.

"It is very difficult to get elected to any office without using the mass media, and that is very expensive," Nowlin remarked.

He added that too many legislators have to depend too much on lobbyists to finance a campaign and that this economic dependence affects the quality of legislation.

Nowlin said that he believes assuring every candidate free television time would create many more problems than it would solve.

"My most effective method in raising money is fund-raising dinners," he said.

Nowlin said that getting contributions is very difficult and not too successful.

"The silent majority is particularly silent when asked to donate money to their favorite candidate," Nowlin said.



TALKING IT OVER

LeeRoy Yarbrough, left, discusses strategy with his car builder, former champion driver Junior Johnson during qualifying runs for the Texas 500 to be held Sunday at 1 p. m. at the Texas International Speedway. (Photo by Hans Adam)

New Party Movements Subject of PF Talk

Dr. Harvey Wheeler, member of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, will discuss "New Party Movements" here Tuesday in a Political Forum presentation.

Fellow-in-residence at the famous "talk tank" in Santa Barbara, Calif., Wheeler is a recognized authority on contemporary and future political concerns.

He was the first of seven senior fellows personally selected by Center director Dr. Robert M.

talk will be at 8 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Assembly Room. Hoffman noted admission is free.

Wheeler, co-author with Eugene Burdick of the novel "Fail-Safe," joined the Santa Barbara Center in 1960 from Washington and Lee University where he was professor of political science.

He earned degrees from Indiana University and the Ph.D. from Harvard. The speaker taught at Harvard and Johns Hopkins after serving in military government in the European theater during World War II.

Wheeler has written monographs on political science and

political theory in numerous academic and polemical journals. In 1968, "Democracy in a Revolutionary Era" was published in book form and by "Encyclopedia Britannica" as part of the 200th anniversary "Perspective" series.

Also released in 1968 were his contributions to "Alternative to Violence," an anthology including Dr. Wheeler's "Moral Equivalence to Riots." About the same time, Nigel Calder's "Unless Peace Comes" was published. In it, Wheeler discusses "The Strategic Calculators."

His work at the center is a project on federal control of scientific research.

Pole Position for 500 Occupied by Baker

By Hans Adam
Battalion Staff Writer

The prestigious pole position for the first running of the Texas 500 at Texas International Speedway was nailed down by Buddy Baker, who pushed his 1969 "Daytona" Dodge Charger to an average speed of 176.285 miles per hour.

Qualifying, at which 16 drivers were competing for the top 12 starting positions, lasted all afternoon at the 2-mile banked oval of TIS for Sunday's 1 p.m. running of the first NASCAR grand national stock car race ever to be conducted in the state.

The first car to attempt qualification was David Pearson, driving a Holman & Moody-prepared 1969 Ford Talledega, whose 175.751 mph was good enough for the outside slot in the front row.

LeeRoy Yarbrough, NASCAR's leading money winner for the year with \$187,000, ran into bad luck as he started his qualifying attempt. The right front tire, on his Junior Johnson prepared 1969 Ford Talledega, went flat in the first 1,000 feet, causing Yarbrough to drive at reduced speed back to the pits.

The almost two miles of reduced speed driving caused his engine to overheat badly and it was still hot when he returned to the track within the required five minutes to finish his qualifying attempt. After only one lap the engine "let go" and Yarbrough had to settle for the inside spot on the second row beside his team mate Cale Yarbrough who qualified fourth at 175.546.

Richard Brickhouse, driving for the injured Charlie Clotzbach,

managed to just hold on to fifth qualifying spot ahead of hard charging Donnie Allison. Brickhouse, who was the winner at the inaugural Talledega 500 in September, had a best speed of 174.296.

Conspicuous with his absence from Thursday's qualifying, was Richard Petty. Petty had blown an engine during the morning's practice laps and his crew was unable to effect repairs in time. To add to his troubles the "new" engine that was finally installed late in the afternoon only lasted three practice laps and when last seen the Petty crew was installing a third engine.

Petty is the all-time race and money winner in NASCAR's grand national division. A victory here would push his total to 102 career victories and his total earnings would pass the \$700,000 mark.

The top ten qualifiers yesterday and their speeds, in the order of their position, are: Buddy Baker, 176.285; David Pearson, 175.751; LeeRoy Yarbrough, 175.601; Cale Yarbrough, 175.546; Richard Brickhouse, 174.296; Donnie Allison, 173.900; Bobby Isaac, 173.661; Bobbie Allison, 171.977; Ray Elder, 171.760, and Dave Marcis, 170.342.

Ph.D. Program in History To Be Offered This Spring

Texas A&M University will begin implementing its recently approved doctor of philosophy degree program in history starting with the spring semester, announced Dr. J. M. Nance, History Department head.

A&M's Ph.D. program will have special emphasis on American history, Dr. Nance said. The program was recently approved by the State Coordinating Board for Texas Colleges and Universities.

"Already there has been considerable interest expressed in this new degree program, a program which adds a new dimension to the steadily growing graduate programs in the College of Liberal Arts," Nance remarked.

A&M's program calls for a minimum of 48 semester hours of course work plus completion

of an acceptable dissertation based upon the use of original source material.

"After completion of an acceptable dissertation, the student must pass a comprehensive oral examination covering his dissertation research and the field it is a part of," Nance explained.

Doctoral students also must demonstrate a satisfactory reading knowledge of two foreign languages, normally French and German, unless the student's principal area of concentration and research requires the use of some other foreign language, Nance added.

The department head noted that one language requirement must be completed by the end of the first year as a doctoral student.

Nance also noted that, as he (See Ph.D. Program, page 3)

3 A&M Faculty Members Will Be SCONA Leaders

Texas A&M faculty members known for outstanding student relationships will serve as round-table co-chairmen next week for the 15th Student Conference on National Affairs.

Dr. Allen R. Waters, economics professor with seven years experience in Africa; Dr. J. George H. Thompson, mechanical engineering, and Dr. Charles A. Rodenberger, aerospace engineering will fill the SCONA slots.

The professors will co-chair 25-member student round-tables which will account for the majority of SCONA JV's idea exchange on "Black Africa—The Challenge of Development."

Student participants will include 90 delegates from A&M, 140 from U. S. colleges and universities, 10 from Mexico and from Africa.

A specialist in monetary theory, international finance-trade and economic development, Waters served with the British Administration in Kenya from 1953 to 1956, for which he was awarded the African General Service Medal with clasp. During 1956-60, the two-year A&M faculty member was with Caltex (Africa) Ltd. at Kampala, Uganda.

The University of North Carolina and Rice University graduate speaks four languages, including French, Kiswahili and Spanish.

Thompson received the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award for Outstanding Student-Teacher Relations in 1959, was named Piper Professor of 1968 by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation and was elevated early this year to the rank of Fellow in the

American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The Penn State and A&M graduate has taught 29 of the last 30 years and has seven years engineering experience.

Rodenberger, Halliburton Chair professor in the College of Engineering, received the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching in 1962. The aerospace engineering professor who stresses team concepts and close student-faculty-industry relations in teaching, heads A&M's Hypervelocity Laboratory, where he is developing a new concept in accelerating objects to extremely high speeds.

He has worked for the NASA Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston and General Dynamics Astronautics in San Diego, Calif. His degrees are from Oklahoma State, SMU and the University of Texas at Austin.



WHEELER

Hutchins in setting up the "talk tank's" self-perpetuating rulership.

Political Forum chairman Charles R. Hoffman of Greenbelt, Md., said the former Harvard and Johns Hopkins University political science professor's

Funeral Rites Held Today for J. D. Rudder

J. D. Rudder, 70, brother of A&M President Earl Rudder, died Wednesday afternoon in a Riverside, Calif., hospital.

Funeral services for Rudder were to be held at 11 a.m. PST (1 p.m. CST) today at Simons Mortuary in Riverside.

Survivors of the president's elder brother include his widow, a daughter and two brothers.

President Rudder is in California to attend the funeral services.

WEATHER

Friday — Cloudy, light intermittent rain showers. Easterly winds 5-10 m.p.h. High 74 degrees, low 51 degrees.

Saturday — Cloudy. Southerly winds 10-15 m.p.h. High 76 degrees, low 55 degrees.

Fayetteville — Cloudy, light rain. Southerly winds 10-12 m.p.h. 66 degrees.

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STRATEGY CONFERENCE

Coach Shelby Metcalf, center, talks with the Aggie basketball team during the third quarter of Thursday night's season opener against Northwestern Louisiana State University. The Aggie cagers lost, 73-71. See story, page 4. (Photo by Mike Wright)

69 Student Organizations Receive \$30,000 in Funds

Sixty-nine Texas A&M University student organizations will share in \$30,000 proceeds from Exchange Store profits, according to Dean of Students James P. Hannigan.

The Texas A&M University System Board of Directors approved the distribution of profits Nov. 26, acting on the recommendation of the Exchange Store Advisory Board, headed by Hannigan.

The \$30,000 was divided after consideration of all club requests, Hannigan said.

The club's budget from last year, the funds received from the Exchange Store last year, the amount of money per capita raised by the club and the per capita amount requested are considered in the allocations.

"We're able to handle an amazing number of activities," he said. "Most of the funds are spent on travel to national conventions and some for speakers or films."

The largest allocations went to the reserve fund for national meets, money used to host national conventions on campus and sudden trips to national conventions, \$2,935; Band Awards and Trips, \$2,800; Singing Cadets, \$2,000; Saddle and Sirlin Club, which has the largest budget on campus, \$2,000; Dormitory Athletic Equipment, \$1,620; Bonfire, Reveille, Yell Leaders Committee and All University Calendar, \$1,500;

Also, Freshman Drill Team, \$1,500; Civilian Student Council, \$1,000; Ross Volunteers, \$1,000; and University Women, for orientation teas and the publications of a female students handbook, \$1,000.

The Advisory Board also recommended that participating student organization give the Exchange Store an opportunity to bid on purchases made of items handled by the store, Hannigan said.

He said that the Advisory Board also agreed that the allocations should not normally cover the full costs of a club's trip.

Approval by the Board of Directors of the fund allocations was required because the funds are not staying within the business structure of the Exchange Store but are being distributed elsewhere, Hannigan said.

Other Advisory Board members are: S. S. Cox, R. C. Diebel, A. G. Kemler, T. A. Moyes, G. T. King, Don Stafford, George I. Mason, Joe M. (Mac) Spears, Marcus Hill and Larry Schilhab.

Students having questions regarding Exchange Store operations or policies are invited to contact one of the members, Hannigan said.

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

—Adv.