

The Battalion

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University Women Denied Senate Seat

By Dave Mayes
Battalion Editor

The Student Senate, after Thursday struggling through its longest and most emotional debate of the year, refused to budge from the stand it took last week in denying an ex-officio seat to

a representative of University Women.

Senators actually approved the constitutional amendment proposed by senate secretary Kirby Brown by a margin of 41-20, but this was 13 votes short of the number needed to pass the meas-

ure required by the three-fourths majority.

The debate evoked mixed emotions among the participants: There were shouts of rage from Kent Caperton when he sensed the senate verging on hypocrisy. There was the voice of UW vice

president Mary Hanak that seemed to tremble as she defended the effectiveness of her organization.

There was the forceful delivery of UW adviser Mrs. Patricia Self who fielded questions with conviction.

And there came from the audience the hesitant titters and loud guffaws that moved senate president Gerry Geistweidt to admonish some senators to stop acting like "gibbering idiots."

The controversy centered on the nebulous term: "representation."

Proponents of a UW senate seat, which would allow members of University Women (theoretically, every woman on campus) to choose their own delegate to the senate, argued that for the senate to be truly "representative" it must be able to hear the voice of the coed.

Dennis Flannigan (vp-MSC) said that the senate's other eight ex-officio members, which include him as well as representatives from the Civilian Student Council, Graduate Student Council, YMCA, The Battalion, Head Yell Leader and others, actually represent special interest groups.

For the senate to be representative, he said, the senate must also provide a seat for UW, an organization that represents more than 1,000 women.

Oponents of the UW seat argued that because the women's organization is such a fledgling group, and because its officers are appointed and not elected, it cannot truly speak for the women on campus.

Allen Janacek (sr-Engr) wanted some assurance that UW would elect its officers in some campus-wide elections, rather than have them appointed as they are now.

"This is also setting a dangerous precedent," Charles Hoffman (jr-LA) said. "What is to keep other interest groups from asking to be admitted to the senate?"

Lynn Odom (sr-BA) agreed, suggesting that if University Women could have an ex-officio seat, so could football players.

Jim Stephenson (sr-LA) reminded senators that if they deny a new interest group the chance to have a voice in the senate, they will be guilty of "pointing the finger at the administration, and not looking in the mirror at ourselves."

"But we just allowed the college of Education to have six representatives," John Harris (grad) replied, "and more than half the student population there is coed. If there aren't women on the senate next year, it'll be because they flat don't want it!" he maintained.

Senators did track on an amendment to Brown's proposal, that the UW representative be the vice president of the organization until this spring's elections, at which time the representative would be elected at large.

(See University Women, page 2)



COED DEBATE—Kent Caperton (second from right), senate vice president, advocates adding an ex-officio University Women representative to the senate during Thursday night's Student Senate meeting. Gerry Geistweidt (right), Senate president, Kirby Brown (center), senate recording secretary and (from left) senators Collier (Doc) Watson, Dave Mayes, Rick Reese, Ronnie Adams and John Grumbles listen. (Photo by David Gawthorpe)

18-Year-Old Voting Age Approved by Senators

By John Chadwick
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The senate, after overwhelmingly approving a proposal to lower the voting age for all elections to 18, moved today toward final action on extending the Voting Rights Act another five years.

guaranteeing Negro voting rights in seven Southern states, has been bitterly opposed by Dixie senators and differs sharply with a House-passed version supported by President Nixon.

In approving lowering the voting age 64 to 17 Thursday, the Senate also set up another likely battle with the House, where New York Rep. Emanuel Celler, chair-

man of that body's Judiciary Committee, has vowed to fight it relentlessly.

Celler will be chairman of House conferees when the time comes to reconcile the House and Senate voting rights bills.

If enacted, the 18-year-old proposal will make an estimated 11 million young people eligible to vote as of Jan. 1, 1971. Georgia, Kentucky, Alaska and Hawaii now permit persons under 21 to vote.

The Senate rejected protests that the Supreme Court might rule the amendment unconstitutional after 18-year-olds voted in the 1972 elections, thus throwing the next presidential balloting into confusion. Sen. James B. Allen, D-Ala., lost 72-15 on an amendment to defer the effective date until after 1972.

The vote for the voting age amendment, proposed by Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield, was more lopsided in the Senate than had been anticipated, winning the votes of some senators who had spoken against it.

Republican Leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, for example, voted for it although he had told the Senate it was unwise and unsafe and might imperil the chances of extending the Voting Rights Act.

The chief argument against it, however, was that a constitutional amendment is required to lower the voting age; that Congress had no power to act by simple legislation.

The fight over the voting rights legislation deals with a House-passed bill recommended by President Nixon. It applies nationwide in seeking to prevent Negroes and other groups from being denied their voting rights. Civil rights forces feel it is weaker than the 1965 law and could blunt the enforcement drive in the South.

Scott and Sen. Philip Hart, D-Mich., countered with their measure extending the 1965 act.

The 1965 act permits suspension of literacy tests and use of federal registrars upon a court finding of discriminatory denial of voting rights and also provides for advance federal approval of voting law changes.

YDs Ask Censure Of A&M System

By Billy Buchanan
Battalion Staff Writer

A resolution calling for the immediate censure of the Texas A&M University System was submitted by the Texas A&M Young Democrats at a state meeting in San Antonio this past weekend.

as "another public relations term to lull the American people into thinking all's right with the world," Worth said.

Worth, who was elected second vice president of the state organization, said that there were three reasons why the delegation presented the platforms to the convention.

"I have seen good legislation presented and passed before the Student Senate and then turned down by the administration," he said.

Another reason was that "the censure was from an organization not recognized on campus," he said.

"This way we felt the administration would be unable to, so to speak, squash us," he continued.

"With action like this, there might be action taken by the administration and some of these things disproved or changed," he added.

These resolutions were presented to the platform committee of the state YD's. They were accepted by the platform committee and will be voted on by the state executive committee of the YD's in Austin on either March 24 or April 4, Worth said.

Chairman of the 25-member A&M delegation was William M. Maskal.

A Sunday edition of the San Antonio Light stated "Maskal charged A&M currently has only 150 Negroes enrolled, out of a population on campus of 14,000. (See YDs Ask, page 3)

Soviet Official Tells Great Issues Audience

SALT Talks High on U.S.-Soviet List



By Pam Troby

Strategic Arms Limitation Talks are "very high on the agenda" of Soviet-United States relations, a Soviet diplomat said Thursday night during a Great Issues presentation.

Yuli Vorontsov, deputy ambassador of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, and Dr. Wilbourn E. Benton, political science professor at A&M, shared the stage for the second of a series of U.S.-East European Relations Seminars before a packed audience.

Benton confined his comments to the Vietnam issue while Vorontsov touched on Soviet policy throughout the world.

Vorontsov said that the SALT conference scheduled for next month in Vienna would be very difficult, because it "touches the heart of defense of both countries, but we hope to achieve concrete success."

He said that the aim of Soviet policy is to have better relations with the U.S., because "we have to deal with each other whether or not we like each other."

Vorontsov said that the Soviet Union is the third closest neighbor to the U.S. and each has enough military capability to destroy the other in 30 minutes.

The two have no issues to dispute as far as the countries as nations are concerned, he said. Ideology and international problems divide them, he explained.

"We want negotiations not confrontations," Vorontsov said. "We don't think we have already done everything possible. Our countries must work harder each year for friendly relations."

He said this might be done by working out bilateral trade agreements, scientific cooperation and the exchange of citizens.

"We must cooperate more fully

and positively to settle international disputes," he said. "At the present time, the Soviet Union and the U.S. are in active negotiations to settle the Middle East Crisis.

"We can help these nations to come to terms on a peaceful basis," Vorontsov said. "We hope to have a situation where all can live in peace. The Soviet Union is not against the Israelis, we're against Israeli aggression and methods of achieving peace. We hope to report success in due time."

Vorontsov said that Europe was a source of great concern to his country, because half of the Soviet territory lies in Europe and that is "where we've experienced aggression."

"We cannot condone any change in the European balance of power," he said. "The Czechoslovakian crisis was very serious to the

Soviet Union. It could have taken the country from the Warsaw Pact to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. That's why we took such drastic, surgical action.

"If anything happens in Europe that is serious," Vorontsov said, "we will react seriously. When it concerns NATO, it is your business and when it concerns the Warsaw Pact, it is ours."

He said that the Soviet Union is working with the United States for a European Conference that "could clear the air."

"We are ready to be patient in Asia," he said. "You have very serious problems there. In 1968 we were successful in bringing the parties to the negotiating table. We hope you'll be able to work the problems out."

"Vietnam overshadows all other U.S.-Soviet problems," Benton said. "This is not a mere civil (See Salt Talks, page 4)

Pianist to Perform Tuesday in Bryan

Misha Dichter, widely-hailed young pianist, will play Tuesday in Bryan-College Station through the Rotary Community Series.

The Bryan Civic Auditorium performance will begin at 8 p.m.

Dichter was originally scheduled to perform at G. R. White Coliseum.

In his exploitation of the piano, Dichter has been credited by a Los Angeles reviewer with "flexibility and meaningful beauty" not encountered since Rachmaninoff.

In 1966, the young virtuoso brought a Moscow audience to its feet shouting "Bravo Dichter! Bravo Dichter!" at the Third International Tchaikovsky Competition. As he was announced

second-prize winner, women wept and pressed flowers into his hands.

Dichter was immediately signed by S. Hurok and RCA Victor and consolidated a formidable reputation through subsequent appearances in North America and Europe. After his debut with the New York Philharmonic, the New York Times reported "a bear hug from Leonard Bernstein and an ovation from the capacity audience were Misha Dichter's rewards for a brilliant debut."

Late last spring, he returned to the Soviet Union for a major tour by special invitation of the Ministry of Culture. He played to sold out audiences which would

not let him leave the stage.

Dichter came to the U. S. at the age of two when his parents settled in Los Angeles. His first piano lessons came at the age of six.

The master of Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini," Stravinsky's "Three Movements from 'Petrouchka,'" Brahms, Schubert, Scarlatti and Shostakovich, and many others, Dichter has been described as capable of "anything he wants pianistically."

Aggie Mother Of Year Forms Now Available

Nominations are now being taken for Aggie Mother of the Year.

Applications are available in the Student Program Office in the Memorial Student Center, from Student Life Committee Chairman Collier (Doc) Watson or from Selection Committee chairman David Moore.

A standard application form has been developed by Watson and Moore to insure a fair selection.

Watson stressed that information in addition to that required by the application may be submitted.

FDT Seeks Third In a Row Saturday

Eight drill teams will attempt Saturday to relieve the Freshman Drill Team of the Texas A&M Invitational Drill Meet master trophy, won by the Aggies two years in a row.

The sixth annual meet sponsored by the commandant's office and Association of Former Freshman Drill Team members, will begin at 8 a.m. on the Memorial Student Center parade ground.

Dr. Horace R. Byers, academic vice president, will make awards at about 5 p.m. after each team has gone through inspection, basic and fancy phases of the competition.

Competing for trophies in each phase and the 48-inch high master trophy will be teams from Arkansas State, Prairie View A&M, Rice, Tarleton State, Texas A&I, the University of Houston and University of Texas at Austin Army and Navy units.

Tarleton State's Wayne-Wright Debutantes, a coed unit extended a rousing welcome in previous appearance here, will give an exhibition drill at 1 p.m. The Tar-

leton coeds' performance will lead off the final phase of the competition, according to Steve Nichols, Fish Drill Team Association president of Crystal Lake, Ill.

He said the Prairie View A&M sponsored corps may perform at the conclusion of the fancy phase.

The association president noted that some teams will be staying on campus for the first time. They will be quartered in Gainer Hall.

Judges for the day-long competition will be personnel of the U.S. Marine Corps Officers Selection Program in Austin.

A&M's Freshman Drill Team, seeking an unprecedented third straight A&M meet championship, is commanded by Beverly S. Kennedy of Austin. The team has appeared in several Cadet Corps march-ins to football games, Veterans Day and Military Day reviews and in exhibition at the annual Dallas Military Ball.

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