

When Four Overrule 5,000

By Joe Mac Spears

Student government lost still another battle last night. Our Election Commission threw out last Thursday's election by a vote of four to two. In effect four people overruled 5,000. The Election Commission took the final step in becoming the irrational, incompetent, prejudiced body it has strived so hard to be.

Examine for yourself what has happened in this last election alone:

1. One day before the election it was ruled that printed campaign material could not be carried into the polls by voters. This was despite the fact that the same rules allowed this in the past years, and that nearly every state and national election rule allows this.

2. On the morning of the election another ruling was given that no list (handwritten or printed) would be allowed into the polls.

3. For a brief period voters were told to vote for as many people as they could remember, go outside the 50-foot limit, check whatever list they wanted and then go back and finish voting. A somewhat ridiculous situation to say the least.

4. Finally, people were al-

lowed to carry handwritten lists in, but could not carry them back out — a violation of personal property.

5. Candidates and their supporters were allowed to count ballots. This could have been the reason for the 100-vote error discovered in the only two races that have been recounted to date.

6. Ballots (both blank and marked) have been kept in the MSC since Thursday night — accessible to at least one candidate that I am aware of and probably several more. This is despite the fact that these ballots are still subject to recount.

7. Finally, last night the commission threw out the election because there was no secret ballot. This is obviously true. Perhaps they should have considered this in setting up the election in the first place.

The Election Commission was scheduled to meet again this morning to "reconsider" its decision. This is partly due to the fact that the commission failed to discuss section 4, page 34 of University Regulations which states "candidates or election commissioners may protest elections" and makes no provisions for non-candidates or non-election commissioners. The protest

was brought by students who were neither candidates nor election commissioners. Possibly the Election Commission should be familiar enough with the nine pages of election rules that they could fully discuss one protest in one meeting.

It is my thought that regardless of the Election Commission's next decision, they cannot correct the injustices they have done individual candidates and the student body as a whole.

Though I was very active in the last election, I could not in good faith look a student in the eye and tell him that student government can work if this final lunacy is not stopped.

If the Election Commission does not change its mind again, the decision will be protested at Thursday night's senate meeting. I urge you to contact your senate representative and urge him to vote against this latest folly of the Election Commission, and also ask that you attend Thursday night's meeting in the Library Conference Room and give evidence of the student feeling. Finally I request that you demand a total revamping of the Election Commission and election procedures for next year.



"If they made civilian student week a two-week affair, it would kill us!"

Read Classifieds Daily

"PARENTS WEEKEND" SPECIAL

Take her to see and hear

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BRYAN CIVIC AUDITORIUM
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1970

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Any Singing Cadet
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Listen Up the batt forum

Editor:

I do not understand how a University Administration with a maturation of nearly 100 years could be so naive as to interrupt an exercise in free speech. How can I reasonably support an Administration which panics when students choose to openly express opinions? If our Administration were as sophisticated as its long heritage infers, it would not have considered interfering. It certainly would not issue a memorandum so blatantly dictatorial as:

Promotion and/or support of, or participation in or attendance at, any on campus function or activity not specifically authorized by the Dean of Students, is prohibited. Violation of this direct instruction is sufficient cause for immediate suspension from the rolls of the University.

This provides one obvious conclusion, that the Dean of Students intends to straight-jacket attempts for idea exchange on campus, outside the classroom. I

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT

The Host and Fashion Committee will meet at 7 p.m. in the Birch Room, Memorial Student Center for induction of new officers and a general organizational meeting.

THURSDAY

Mid-County Hometown Club will meet at 8 p.m. in the Lobby Memorial Student Center.

San Angelo-West Texas Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 3C, Memorial Student Center to elect new officers.

Irving Hometown Club will meet at 8 p.m. in Social Room, Memorial Student Center.

Dallas Hometown Club will meet at 8 p.m. in the MSC Center to elect officers.

question whether Texas A&M is an Educational Institution or simply an Institution desperately clinging to a cherished history. Texas A&M seems to have grown so old that it has ceased to progress and contribute. And the only facility left is that of recall. Recollection of the good times, war times, when all the student cared about was learning a trade, raising a family and doing the same things as the generation before.

So deeply entrenched is this tradition syndrome, that no semblance of student dissatisfaction has been observed until just recently. This sudden change may be credited to widespread publicity of student issues on other campuses. And this has stimulated the latent curiosity in many students here who before were contented in their academic isolation. But now they want something better than pure academics, they want to carry their classroom theories outside, to test them on real people and real issues. All people demand this basic freedom, all people will have this freedom.

Tom Ellis

Editor:

An Open letter of thanks to Law Enforcement and Company:

Thank you for protecting me from, what certainly would have been the inane and irrelevant utterings of Earl Brown and

Company. What Earl Brown could have said might upset me to an irrational state. An irrational state of mind would detract from my course of study and result in poor performance for the Registrars transcript. I certainly don't want that to happen.

In this academic atmosphere I don't want anything to interfere with my educational experience. It is comforting to know that I can count on you to be ever vigilant to protect me and the rights of free men everywhere.

Doug Goodgame '70

Editor:

I am writing this in protest of this university's inaction on the grievances of black students. None of these grievances are new. We have asked for them before, but instead of receiving attempts at understanding, we only received hostile flack. We have asked for the following:

1. An organization for black students.
2. Program for recruitment of minority students.
3. Courses relevant to the black man integrated into the curriculum.
4. Black counselor to serve as liaison between black students and the administration.
5. Investigation of recruitment policies in major sports.

Elroy Mills
Paul Greer

tonight on the tube

Numbers in () denote channels
nls on the cable.
5:00 3 (5) General Hospital
5:30 3 (5) CBS Evening News
6:00 3 (5) News
6:30 3 (5) Hee Haw

7:30 3 (5) Beverly Hillbillies
8:00 3 (5) Johnny Cash
9:00 3 (5) Hawaii Five-O
10:00 3 (5) News
10:30 3 (5) It Takes a Thief
11:30 3 (5) Richard Diamond

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 as a university and community newspaper.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced, and no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz