

The Battalion

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Perot will keynote sixteenth SCONA

H. Ross Perot, progressive philanthropist whose goal is more involvement by Americans in America's problems, has accepted the keynote speakership of Texas A&M's 16th Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA).

SCONA XVI will convene students from throughout the U.S. and Mexico Feb. 14-18 for detailed study and idea exchange on "Student Responsibilities in the 1970s."

A&M students headed by Dave Mayfield of Waco are organizing the conference for idea exchange on student input into national and international issues through the educational, political, economic and social systems.

Perot, Mayfield says, is uniquely qualified to speak at the 1970-71 conference.

"He is genuinely concerned about the problems facing students today, but he is more interested in the attitudes and thinking of those students and has done much to try to help solve these problems," Mayfield commented.

"Mr. Perot is fantastically sharp," the SCONA XVI chairman added. "He is an entertaining speaker. And he cares. These

alone are impressive credentials." Called a "modest, if highly motivated man" by "Time" magazine, Perot heads Electronic Data Systems Corp. of Dallas. He is chairman of the U.S. Naval Academy's Board of Visitors and in the top echelons of numerous civic organizations.

He has given millions of dollars "for programs for young people so they can lead the country in the next generation."

Perot contributed \$2.4 million to form an experimental elementary school for poor Dallas black and Mexican American children. He gave \$1 million to fund ways of taking Scouting into the ghetto.

He donated a ranch to the Girl Scouts as a part-time boarding school for the underprivileged.

Deeply concerned that many Americans do not become involved with vital problems, the Dallas billionaire, who was an IBM salesman eight years ago, is negotiating for hour-long TV discussions of national issues in an electronic town-meeting format.

From ballots appearing in newspapers, viewers would be able to give responses to the debates.

"I don't care where they stand," Perot said. "The man I worry about is the one who hasn't taken any position."

The United We Stand organizer, best known for his extensive spending and efforts to obtain

American prisoner of war release, was born and raised in Texarkana, the son of a cotton broker. He attended Texarkana Junior College, received appointment to the Naval Academy and served as an officer in the Navy for four years.

3 committees may feel budget slash

By FRAN HAUGEN
Battalion Managing Editor

The Memorial Student Center Council decided Monday night to give Great Issues, Political Forum and Contemporary Arts two more weeks to collect patronage subscriptions and then take action to cut their budgets if their goals were not reached.

Bill Webster, vice president for issues, said he has talked to the chairman of these committees "every week, a couple of times a week," since the drive began, but the necessary funds have not been collected.

The original deadline for the drive was Nov. 5.

Patronage subscriptions are offered to faculty and community members in lieu of season tickets. Admission to committees' programs are free.

Webster said: Political Forum has collected \$70; their goal is \$400.

Great Issues has collected a little over \$400; their goal is \$700.

Contemporary Arts has collected from \$30-\$40; their goal is \$400.

J. Wayne Stark, council secretary-treasurer, suggested that he could cut the committees' budgets by the amount not collected.

Council President Tom Fitzhugh announced that A&M President Jack K. Williams told him Friday that he wants an advisory committee of students formed in regard to MSC expansion.

"He placed the MSC second on his list of priorities for building," Fitzhugh said. "The (university) hospital was first."

Lawrence E. Brown, sophomore geology major, was named Aggie Cinema chairman by the council. He replaces Eddie Hargett who was excused for academic reasons.

Stark said \$2,051 has been collected for the Kenny Rogers and The First Edition performance Friday, with \$8,000 needed to break even.

He said \$1,061 has been collected for "George M," Broadway musical scheduled for Nov. 19, which needs to take in \$7,000-\$8,000.

He added that \$1,802 has been collected for the 5th Dimension performance Nov. 24 which needs \$12,500 to break even.

"It," he said, "is our biggest gamble."

He said The Supremes concert broke even and that Paul Mauriat and his orchestra brought in \$300-\$400 over what was planned.

Breakaway signs lifesavers: lecturer

By SUE DAVIS

Battalion Staff Writer

Of the five hundred accidents that have occurred on the 80,000 breakaway signs developed by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at A&M, only one resulted in a fatality, Dr. Teddy J. Hirsch, professor and research engineer, said Monday night at the University Lecture Series.

Dr. Hirsch said that objects along the sides of roads and highways, such as concrete and steel signs, lamps, bridge supports, and guard rails, caused many of the 82,000 deaths by auto last year.

In 1962, when TTI began its program, Hirsch explained, while showing slides and a movie, they developed breakaway signs and lamp-posts which caused only slight damage to test cars. When a vehicle hit the post, it would break loose from its support, allowing the car to pass relatively unharmed.

TTI found that when a test car struck a breakaway lamp-post, the post rotated 180 degrees be-

fore it hit the ground. Therefore, it did not fall across the road and endanger other motorists, Hirsch said.

The posts are made of a lightweight steel with a hinge near the base. When struck, the bolts move out of place allowing the post to move.

Both the breakaway signs and lamp-posts are being used all over the country, Hirsch stated.

To reduce the number of fatalities from cars hitting immovable bridge posts, TTI developed the Texas Modulator Crash Cushion, he continued. This consists of 42 55-gallon steel oil drums arranged in rows extending in front of the post. The barrels crush row by row, and continue crushing until the total moving energy of the vehicle is absorbed.

Fifteen crash cushions have been installed in Texas. These have been hit 50 times with two injuries and no fatalities. They have worked especially well on Houston freeways.

"Many of our roadside hazards are not necessary," Hirsch said. TTI continues its research to make the highways safer than ever before, he added.

Ags, UT warned not to vandalize

Texas A&M and University of Texas students were reminded Monday that acts of vandalism on rival campuses can result in suspension for at least one semester.

The joint announcement was made by UT President Ad Interim Bryce Jordan and A&M President Jack K. Williams.

They noted Texas A&M's board of directors and UT's board of regents have a long-standing agreement to suspend students who go to the other campus with intent to paint or otherwise deface statues, buildings or other property.

Both presidents pointed out such misconceived enthusiasm has been infrequent in recent years.

Texas A&M and Texas meet in the annual Thanksgiving Day football classic Nov. 26 in Austin.



Kenny Rogers, right, and the First Edition will appear Friday night at 8 in a Town Hall TAMU special attraction. They open the A&M-Rice football weekend in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

At Town Hall Friday First Edition show set

Kenny Rogers and the First Edition, a well-received group here last March, returns to Texas A&M for a TAMU Special Attraction performance Friday.

Set for 8 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum, The First Edition show sets the stage for the Texas A&M-Rice football weekend.

Tickets for the "Heed The Call" hit makers are on sale at the Student Program Office of the Memorial Student Center. Prices range from \$3 for patron reserved seats to \$1.50 for A&M student and date general admission.

Town Hall chairman Bill Leftwich said that season tickets and activity cards are not accepted for admission to TAMU Special Attractions.

Born out of a pickin'-singin' session of the New Christy Minstrels, The First Edition blends the individual talents of Kenny

Rogers, one of the original two minstrels in the group; Terry Williams, Mary Arnold, Kin Vassy and Mickey Jones.

Their first big record was a single from their first album, "Just Dropped In to See What Condition My Condition Was In."

Other major hits with the recent "Heed The Call" have been "But You Know I Love You," "Ruby, Don't Take Your Love to Town" and "Something's Burning."

The First Editions have appeared on television's Tom Jones, Johnny Cash, Tonight, Ed Sullivan, Jonathan Winters, Red Skel-

ton, Mike Douglas and Today Shows and the Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour.

The Reprise Records artists feature Rogers on bass, Williams and Vassy on guitar, Miss Arnold singing and Jones on drums.

"The regimentation of a large group is valuable experience," Rogers says, referring to the New Christy Minstrels background. "But eventually you have to gather your courage and go on your own."

"Now we want it our way, with our own music," he adds, "and that means whatever we believe in."

Heatly will talk on state finance

The first man to serve five terms as chairman of the powerful Texas House Appropriations Committee, Rep. W. S. (Bill) Heatly Jr. of Paducah, will address the Political Forum at Texas A&M Wednesday.

Heatly's noon series talk on "Financing A State Project" will be in the Memorial Student Center Assembly Room, announced Political Forum Chairman Charles Hoffman.

The public-free noon presentation will have nominally priced lunches available. Hoffman said admission is free through the Political Forum patronage-subscription system.

Heatly packed the meeting room in a previous Political Forum appearance.

The eight-term representative has been cited by the Texas House of Representatives for dedicated

service to Texas as appropriations chairman.

Heatly was elected to the House in 1954 and has been a member of the Budget Board and Appropriations Committee for all but the 1961-62 term.

The Paducah attorney also has been recognized by the State Bar Association, Texas Alcoholic Commission, Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association and state Easter Seal Society.

He received an honorary doctor of law degree in 1968 from Howard Payne College.

A native of Mart in Limestone County, Heatly attended Decatur Baptist College and received B.A. and LL.B. degrees at Baylor. He practiced law in Dallas, Beaumont and Wichita Falls before moving to Paducah in 1948. Heatly was city attorney there and active in civil and church affairs.

The inquiring Battman

Do you think university policemen should be armed?



JAMES FALSONE JR.
senior

"I imagine since they are law enforcement officers, they should be armed in order to obtain some authority at least."



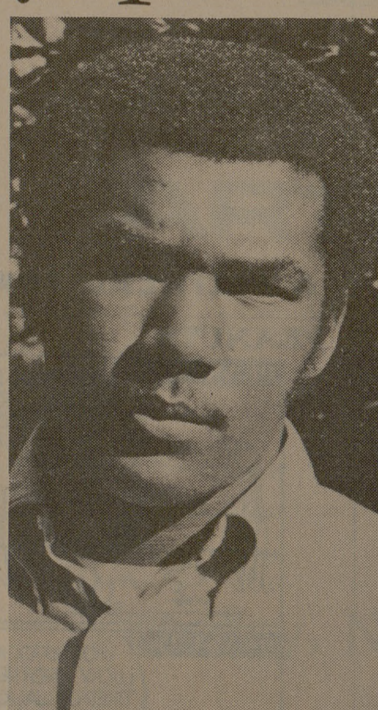
LARRY HURST
fifth year

"No. I think in a case where guns are needed, they ought to call in the real police. After all, last spring they had to call in a Texas Ranger to stop a guy from talking."



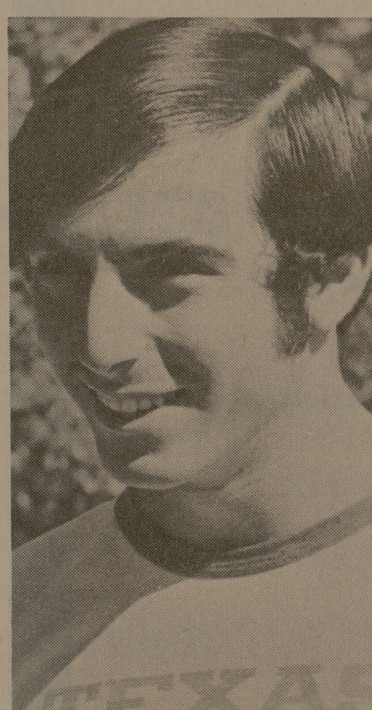
JOHN DAY
junior

"I don't believe the campus cops should be armed because it doesn't seem necessary to wear a gun to give out parking tickets."



RONNIE HOLLOWAY
senior

"No, I don't think they should be armed—we may have another Kent State incident."



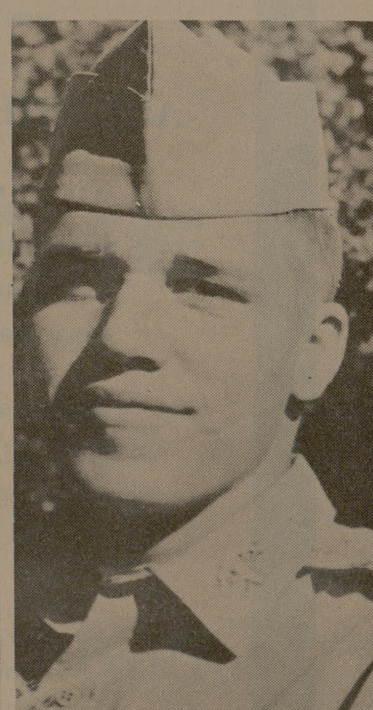
NICK NACCARATO
fifth year

"No! Somebody could get hurt."



CAROLE BETTON
graduate

"I feel the campus cops should be armed. They are a vital part of the police force and should be prepared as such."



JOHN WALKER
freshman

"I don't believe KK's should be armed. They don't have any reason. They do on other campuses but not at A&M. (Photos by Patrick Fontana)."