

The Battalion

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Cloudy
and
mild

Friday — Cloudy to partly cloudy. Afternoon thundershowers. Winds southerly 15-25 mph. 66°-78°.

Saturday — Cloudy. Winds westerly 10-20 mph. 58°-74°.

845-2226

Nation never perfect, Perot tells SCONA

By JOHN CURYLO
Battalion Staff Writer

"I can't create the pearl, but I can irritate the oyster."

This is what the keynote speaker, H. Ross Perot, said yesterday at the opening session of the Sixteenth Student Council on National Affairs when asked what one person could do to change things in the world today.

He told delegates and visitors that the generation of today had many accomplishments, but that some shortcomings could cause them to be classified poorly by historians.

Perot, who flew gifts and supplies to Vietnam in 1969, told a Memorial Student Center ballroom audience that there was something about going to war that affected people.

"If the men who created war had to carry out war, we wouldn't have any war," Perot added. "If the North Vietnamese people had a vote, do you think they'd want to keep this thing up?"

It was the first day of SCONA, and the topic is "Student Responsibility in the '70's." Chairman Davis Mayfield spoke briefly on the preparations for the event.

A&M President Jack Williams hailed Mayfield for his work in planning the annual activity this year. He extended a welcome to all the visitors and expressed hope that their time spent at Aggieland would be fruitful.

Perot began his speech by noting that the building he was in was dedicated to Aggies who died for the country in wars. He said that he loved the country and could find no better time to be alive in this nation. He pledged his readiness to put his effort in-

to making the United States even greater.

"This country is like a child," he explained. "Children are never perfect, just like our country, but since you love them so much, you do everything you can to help them fulfill their potential."

In speaking of past generations, Perot said that we should all be grateful, since we would never have to endure the hardships of our forefathers. He said that if people today were deprived of all modern conveniences, chances are that we could not accomplish near as much as our ancestors did.

Perot then went on to list some unfavorable aspects of this generation.

The first of these, he said, was the danger of being classified as a soft generation. Too many people do not have the hardships of early days, so they do not have the toughness, either.

The second problem was that so many are expert at recognizing problems, but not in doing anything about them. He added that the world needs people who are willing to roll up their sleeves and sweat.

"On my grading scale, somebody who just talks about what is wrong only gets 5 points," he said. "I give 95 to somebody who goes out and does something."

Perot's third analysis was related to arsonists. His remark about posterity's recollection of these individuals earned spontaneous applause from the audience.

"I think that history will record the people who burn down ROTC buildings and the Bank of America branches as arsonists:

nothing more and nothing less."

An uneducated generation was his next topic of discussion. He expressed his dislike of idle protesters and lack of action among those who talk the loudest.

He said that he hopes that in every audience he speaks to, he likes to think that there is a young person there who will make some contribution to benefit all of mankind.

He added that it is very important for everyone to want to leave a better world for the generation to follow.

"To leave a better world for your children, you must remember one thing," he said. "It's 99% hard work. There are no lesser mortals around to do it. It's my job and it's your job."

Drugs was the next area which received Perot's attention. He described a user of drugs as hurting all those people around him who could benefit from that in-

dividual's help.

"We can't be selfish," he said. "We need people with the capability to take care of those who can't produce. We must not be afraid to face a challenge. We have to be a nation of producers."

Heroes are definitely a shortcoming of what Perot described as possibly being a "duped generation."

The fact that such a large number of yesterday's heroes have turned out to be so undesirable proves that we were "conned" by phony leadership, he said.

"If it's something that has to be done, then you and I have to do it," he said. "If we do this, then we are the leaders."

Perot pointed out that the United States used to be a nation of dreamers, in the optimistic and confident sense. He added that they built reality and made it happen. In summary, he set three goals for the success of the pres-

ent generation.

"We've got to love this country," he said. "We need to develop leadership capabilities. Also, we must recapture the dreamings of before."

In the question and answer period, Perot, talking about his expedition to Vietnam a little over a year ago, noted three purposes in his trip, of which he was successful in the first two. First was to create a situation where the North Vietnamese would have to talk to him. Next was to attract the attention of the world. The final goal was to get the goods to the prisoners.

Perot pointed out several measures of success and some tangible results to his trip. He announced that 80% of all the mail that has come from prisoners in seven years came since his journey.

Another victory was better treatment of prisoners. Guards no (See Nation never, page 5)



H. Ross Perot arrives at A&M Wednesday prior to addressing the SCONA conference here. (Photo by Bob Barker)

Change requires rationality: Thomas

By FRAN ZUPAN
Battalion Managing Editor

The tactics of violent confrontation and non-negotiable demands used by reactionaries of the 1960's to bring about social change will not work in the 1970's, Assistant Secretary of Youth and Student Affairs Stanley Thomas told Student Conference on National Affairs delegates Wednesday night.

"For now, it will take much more than slogans of 'Right On' and 'Do Your Own Thing,'" the Department of Health, Education and Welfare official told a crowded Memorial Student Center Ballroom in SCONA XVI's second keynote address.

"It will take more than marches of 100,000 to Washington one or two days a year, it will take more than calling cops 'pigs,' throwing bombs or holding a placard and feeling righteous."

Solutions to deep-rooted, stolidly unyielding problems demand a sophisticated and rational approach, he said.

A large part of the student role in this sophisticated analysis and action should be played by student governments, he went on.

"Regrettably, on many campuses, the only thing more obsolete than an ROTC building is the student government," Thomas said.

"The question became in the 1960's—is student government designed to perpetuate the existing relationship between the student body and other elements of the university community? Or, will it serve as the mechanism which can effectively challenge the status quo?"

"In the end the questions were answered because more often than not student governments worked tirelessly on such 'priorities' as dress codes and homecoming queen contests.

"Student government was, and in many instances still is perceived as a tool of the college or university administration or a popularity contest—or as an anachronism.

This should no longer be the case, he said, since today in most states in national elections the voting age has been lowered to 18. Now when a presidential candidate or a congressman or senator begins to speak on a campus, he is talking to potential voters and this reality will affect not only the outcome of his candidacy, but also the entire political environment of the university, he explained.

"Assuming that many states also revise voting laws to include 18-year-olds as members of the electorate, what impact will this have on the many legislators so anxious to cut off funds to an institution after one form of a demonstration or another?" he continued.

It is in this context of the educational institution as an important participant in the community's problems that student gov-

ernment's new definition and direction must evolve, Thomas said.

In order for these new tactics to be successful, students must realize their inadequacies and that they are victims of their backgrounds, Thomas said.

"Effectiveness, responsiveness and productivity are directly proportional to the intelligence, political sophistication and the interest of the people it (government) serves," he said.

Because hopes sometimes exceed capacities, students often fail to recognize accomplishment, he continued.

"In assuming failure, which on any objective basis would be considered success, the tendency to reject the strategy employed is great," he said.

Compromises and negotiated settlements will be the only roads to social progress, he stressed.

"This is where you must be in the forefront," he told the students, "challenging the status quo, realizing your limitations, (See Change requires, page 5)

Fish will choose sweetheart at ball

A formal ball and the crowning of the Freshman Class Sweetheart will highlight the coming Freshman Weekend.

The action will start Friday at 8:00 p.m. in DeWare Field House with a sock dance featuring the "Cornerstone Blues."

At 11:00 a.m. Saturday there will be a catered barbeque—all you can eat—in Hensel Park.

A reception for the five class sweetheart finalists, their escorts, class officers and judges will be held in the Birch Room of the Memorial Student Center at 3:30 p.m.

The Formal Ball that evening will feature the "Heritage" from Houston and the crowning of the 1970-71 Freshman Sweetheart.

Tickets for the entire weekend will cost \$8.00, and can be obtained at each of the three main events of the weekend, though there will be no reduction in price regardless of which event the tickets are purchased at.

Decorating crews for the Formal Ball are needed to work the

day of the dance, class president Randy Maness has announced.

"We need people to start decorating at 5 a.m. Saturday," Maness said; "Anyone who can help in any way."

To sign up for the work crews, freshmen should call Maness at 5-6686 or Richard Chaplin at 5-4540.

Peace Corps area to open in MSC

Alpha Phi Omega, national service fraternity, will be cooperating with the Peace Corps to sponsor a booth in the Memorial Student Center.

The booth, which will be open through Wednesday, is being sponsored as part of the APO's national service project, Bill Cronrath, president, said.

The Peace Corps is continuing to look for liberal arts majors with skills such as farming, construction and nursing, Cronrath added.



Stanley B. Thomas Jr., deputy assistant secretary for youth and student affairs of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare addresses SCONA delegates Wednesday night. (Photo by Loyd Sneed)

Second board installment due Tuesday to avoid penalty

The second board installment

for the 1971 spring semester is due on or before Tuesday in the Fiscal Office, located in the Richard Coke Building.

Payment is \$85 for students on the 7-day board plan and \$76 for those on the 5-day plan. Failure to pay by Tuesday results in a

\$1-per-day fine, up to \$10.

If a student has not paid within 10 class days after the day the installment is due, the Fiscal Office will recommend to Dean of Students James P. Hannigan that the student be dropped from the rolls of the university for failure to pay fees.

Whoops, hisses mar 'Man your Manners' discussion

By SUE DAVIS
Battalion Women's Editor

"When you first meet someone, you should go someplace where you can talk."—extreme amounts of whooping.

"I don't like smoking because it is unhealthy, and I like healthy guys."—hollering and sustained applause.

"When you go parking, remember that there are places to go and places not to go."—applause.

"Be sure and go some place patrolled by police"—hissing—"so you will be protected from vandalism."—laughter.

The first of four "Man Your Manners" programs was presented by the Student "Y" Association Wednesday. Six girls, three from A&M and three from Texas

Women's University (TWU), served as panelists before a capacity crowd of Aggies.

Representatives from A&M were Mary Hanak, a junior marketing major; Debbie Kennedy, a freshman math major; and Kendra Ward, a freshman math major. This is the first year A&M coeds have appeared on the panel.

The girls from TWU were Linda McGinness, a junior clothing and textile major; Barbara Rogers, a sophomore elementary and special education major; and Honi Wahrund, a junior occupational therapy major.

Each girl chose a topic to discuss in a 10-minute speech. A question and answer period was held after all the girls had spoken.

Miss Wahrund spoke on getting to know a girl. She told the boys in the audience to be honest and not to expect a great response

at first.

"Be yourself," Miss Wahrund advised.

Letter writing was the subject of Miss Hanak's speech. She explained how to write an introductory letter to a girl. A boy should always tell why he is writing and try to include a snapshot.

"Don't be too eager," she concluded.

"Phone calls are almost a necessity," Miss Rogers said. Calling through the operator is more expensive than dialing direct, she added. Before a long distance call, a fellow should make a list of the things he wants to say so he does not waste his money.

"The most important thing as far as appearance goes is cleanliness," Miss Kennedy stated. The only important thing about hair is that it's clean and well-kept, she added.

(See Whoops, hisses, page 5)



Aggies react to the Man your Manners presentation Wednesday night. (Photo by Loyd Sneed)

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