

Interview With SCONA Delegates: First Thoughts On Control

By MIKE RICE
Editor

"Control in one area leads to control in another area."

"The 'in' crowd of businessmen will always be able to control their positions."

"United States control in Mexico causes great amounts of hardship on the Mexican people."

These were but a few of the many comments received Tuesday night from six delegates to the eighteenth Student Conference on National Affairs as they anticipated the opening of activities early this afternoon.

The topic of conversation stemmed from SCONA XVIII's program, "The Controlled Society," which is a catch-all phrase conglomerating government controls and restrictions with society's controls and limitations.

"The controlled society can't really be broken down," said one delegate from Boston University. "Government control is self-evident in our society because education of people leads to this control."

He added that the blame can't truly be placed on the U.S. alone since whatever form of government exists in a country, that

form needs to have controls to sustain its very existence.

One thing attacked in the meeting was the amount of "b.s." students are given while in high school.

One student suggested that once it is realized that the nation's founding fathers wore no halos and couldn't create a utopia, people can see that this "b.s." can be undone. He emphasized this undoing depends on how the government system is being fought and how the system allows for that dissent.

The group then turned to defining a college education, which

group consensus opinion felt shouldn't and can't be defined.

"Definitions put restrictions on education," said Paul Lambert, a delegate from Occidental College of California.

The political science major stressed that an education is a broadening self-concept and must remain this way because all people have different goals and attitudes.

Ed Piedgon of Norwich, Vt., said he feels the government acts and reacts to public opinion and should take into account what public opinion wants or demands.

He noted that public opinion doesn't trust government for the most part.

SCONA has delegates from two universities in Mexico, including the University of Mexico, located in Mexico City.

Alfredo Toures, one of those delegates, said he feels democracy is nice to talk about but it isn't real—like socialism.

"It's natural for man to have control of people," he said, "but it is impossible to control society by one opinion. In a country, such as the U.S., people think many different things on a single issue.

"The great number of American business trusts make it hard for the Mexican government officials to move on their own," Toures said.

The corporate influence creates the biggest problem because Mexicans' survival often depends on corporate structures. From this, Toures said, comes the political control.

He also noted that when a man is preparing to take over the Mexican Presidency, he comes to visit the U.S. President, who conveys what he thinks is best for Mexico.

Discussion was concluded on a

couple of thought-provoking notes.

The group decided that it is only minorities that are worried about societal controls because only they are directly affected by controls. Spiro Agnew, it was pointed out, will decry media controls over government yet he is actually worried that the controls aren't his.

Does anyone really care about "The Controlled Society?"

The delegates said most people don't since it's too much trouble to do mental battle with differing viewpoints and, consequently, they accept most of the controls.

WEDNESDAY — Partly cloudy and cold. Fair and colder to night. High 59, low 29.

THURSDAY — Fair and cold. High of 49.

It Is A Gain
To Find
A Beautiful
Human Soul.

The Battalion

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SCONA And Other Activities This Week

TONIGHT

8:30 p.m. Ralph Nader, "Congress and Big Business: Who Controls Whom?"

THURSDAY

8:30 a.m. Second Round-Table Session*
10:30 a.m. "Conversation with B. F. Skinner," Assembly Room, MSC
11:00 a.m. "The Hunters," Room 108, Nagle Hall
12:00 p.m. Patrick Gray III, "The Control of Crime in a Free Society," Ballroom, MSC
1:30 p.m. Third Round-Table Session*
3:30 p.m. Nicholas Johnson, Federal Control & The Mass Media," Ballroom, MSC
6:00 p.m. "Token Economy," (Film) Assembly Room, MSC

*Roundtables in MSC Rooms 2A/B, 2C/D, 3B/C, 3D, Birch, Assembly, Art and Social Rooms.

House Gives Senate Open Records Bill

AUSTIN (AP)—The Texas House unanimously passed and sent to the Senate Tuesday a bill requiring most state and local government offices to open their files on request to newsmen and the general public.

Representatives also gave tentative approval to a bill giving collective bargaining rights to firemen and policemen. The vote was 104-33. A final vote is expected Wednesday.

The open records bill passed 143-0. Like two other House-passed "freedom of information" bills, it had the backing of Speaker Price Daniel Jr.

Sponsored by Rep. Lane Denton, D-Waco, it would be Texas' first law guaranteeing the public's right to examine documents of government agencies.

There would be a number of exemptions, including personnel

and medical records; reports on criminal investigations; correspondence files of officeholders; and documents designated as confidential by other laws.

The attorney general would resolve disputes over whether a particular document is exempt.

Rep. Don Cavness, D-Austin, failed in an attempt to eliminate a requirement that the attorney general hold hearings on such disputes.

House members approved the firefighters' and policemen's bill after hearing a plea by Rep. Joe Hawm, D-Dallas, a retired fire captain with 23 years' service.

"I know how it feels to answer 12 alarms on one winter night and have a sizeable fire at each one . . . I know the feeling of losing four close brother firemen at one fire because a roof col-

lapsed . . . I have moonlighted to make a living throughout my entire fighting career," he said.

Before advancing the bill, the

House slapped on a local option requirement that the sponsor said "gutted" it.

"It guts it—it sure does," said

Lone Boarders Must Find Roommate By End Of Week

A&M students who are the only occupant of a residence hall room have until Friday to arrange double occupancy or indicate preference for single occupancy.

University policy requires that students without roommates pay a third more rent unless consolidation is impossible, reminded Housing Manager Allan M. Madeley.

"Students should either arrange to share the room with another student or notify us they wish to pay the additional rent and live alone the remainder of the semester," he said.

Intention must be provided to Mrs. Margaret Truitt at the Housing Office by 5 p.m. Friday. The requirement includes notification to block a vacancy so another student is not assigned to it.

Students who wish to continue living alone are expected to pay additional room rent on notifying the Housing Office.

In addition, the second board installment payment for the 1973 spring semester is due on or before Feb. 20. The amount is \$95.50 for the 7-day board plan and \$86.00 for the 5-day board plan. Students can pay at the Fiscal Office, Richard Coke Building.

"Beyond Freedom And Dignity"

SCONA Showing Works Of Skinner

By VICKIE ASHWILL

No one is bored when B. F. Skinner starts to speak.

Why? Because Skinner is one of the most revered and feared psychologists of this era, noted for his views on behavior modifications.

The general public, along with the 170 SCONA XVIII delegates, will be able to view two films in which Skinner discusses his work.

The first, "Conversations With B. F. Skinner," to be shown Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and Friday at 12:45 p.m. in the Memorial

Student Center Assembly Room, begins to discuss the meanings and implications of Skinner's summary work, "Beyond Freedom and Dignity?"

The film is an interview with Elizabeth Hall, managing editor of "Psychology Today" magazine. Skinner's main argument in the film deals with the need for a culture designed by behaviorists.

"I'm not for depriving people of freedom. I want them to feel free as much as they've ever felt free . . . and I'd like them to feel freer than they do now, and I want people to be achievers . . ."

said Skinner.

Within this context, he explores the nation of control, its use and potential misuse, punishment, freedom, resistance to a behavioral technology and "hidden" controls in our culture.

Also included in the film is the redesign of Walden Two, the problems of the survival of a culture and the definition of "man."

"Token Economy: Behaviorism Applied" is the second of the Skinner films to be presented during SCONA Thursday at 6 p.m. in the MSC Assembly Room.

In a demonstration of his theories, Skinner answers questions concerning the use of "tokens" in a program of reinforcement therapy. Parts of the film were produced within the Adolf Meyer Center, a facility of the Illinois Department of Mental Health to show behavioral therapy in use with retarded and delinquent adolescents.

Dr. Bernard Wagner, program director for the Center, explains how the token economy is practiced using Skinner methods of reinforcement, scheduling, punishment and extinction.

"I'm absolutely sure I could go into a school system in a big city if I had the chance and could give students positive reasons for coming to school, sitting down and getting to work and learning things and having a fine time doing it," said Skinner in regards to the film.

"SCONA is trying to present the possibility that the Skinner principles of control could be used on all of society in order to reach the perfect society," said Gary Taraba.

TTI Makes Snows Work For Research

The snow and ice that covered the Texas landscape Jan. 10 and Feb. 9 gave drivers in the area a feeling of almost total peace and harmony as they started for work. Children will remember the unusual snowfalls fondly as a great event, for it might be

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

another 10 years before it happens again.

But others will remember the snow as a time of tragedy due to the unpreparedness and inexperience that most Texans have for driving under these exceptional conditions. Because of the inexperience of most Texans in driving on snow and ice, the accident frequency rose abruptly during the two snowfalls.

Researchers at A&M's Texas Transportation Institute took advantage of the icy conditions to run vehicle handling tests at the Highway Safety Research Center. Both stopping and cornering tests were run, using several different types of tires. The tires included a snow tire, a studded tire and a set of tires with chains.

(See Snow and Ice, Page 4)

The 1973 Freshman Class Sweetheart will be crowned Saturday night at the Freshman Ball being held in Duncan Hall.

The dance, which lasts from 8 p.m. until midnight will feature music by "Reunion." Formal dress is requested but coat and tie will be accepted.

The finalists include Lynn Bliss, 18, a pre-veterinary medicine major from Everman. She was a National Honor Society member and Everman sweetheart while in high school and is a pro-

Freshman Sweetheart Finalists Named

fessional horse rider. Her interests include dancing, traveling, ceramics, sports and playing the piano.

Donna Durow, an 18-year-old brunette, hails from Giddings. The '59" pre-med student was a twirler and homecoming queen at high school and was selected Who's Who Among High School

Seniors. She is a Student Government Representative at A&M and enjoys painting, needlework and collecting trivia in her spare time.

Midland is the hometown for 5'4" blonde, Loralee Gullede. The 18-year-old microbiology major was an all-region member of her high school band. She won three UIL medals and was selected to

the National Honor Society. She is a water safety instructor and likes to play piano, flute and piccolo.

Kathy James, 18, is a microbiology major from Victoria. The 5'7" blonde graduated Magna Cum Laude from high school and was a member of the National Honor Society and the "Victorians" drill team. Her interests

include knitting, cooking, sports, biology and playing the guitar.

Becky Liere, a 19-year-old blonde, hails from Houston. A 5'10" marketing major, she was once a semi-finalist for Miss Teenage Houston. The Cum Laude graduate was a National Honor Society member and sweetheart. She is the A&M Dairy Club sweetheart and is a member of

the girls' volleyball and basketball teams. She enjoys water skiing, knitting, cooking and decoupage.

Karen Mahler is a 19-year-old zoology major from San Antonio. The 5'7" brunette was valedictorian from Churchill High School. While in high school she was a member of the band, Na-

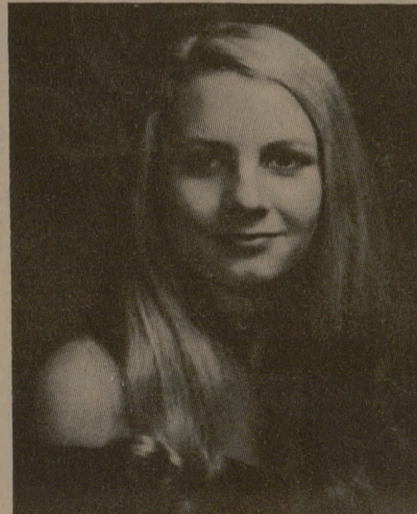
tional Merit finalist, DAR good citizen and was selected band sweetheart. She is presently a Presidential Scholar and a member of the New Tradition Singers. Among her interests are music and playing tennis.

Tickets are five dollars a couple and are available from Freshman Council members, Freshman Class Officers and at the Student Projects Office.

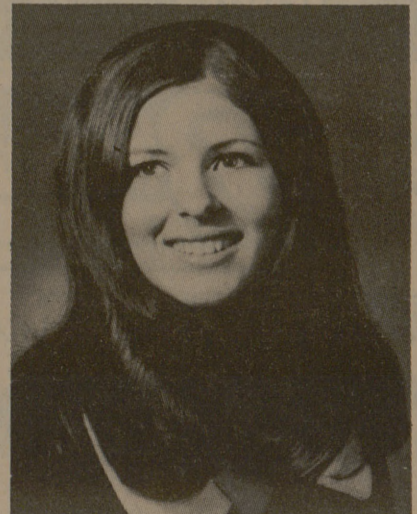
Any student wishing to work at the dance can call Vito Ponzio at 845-4365.



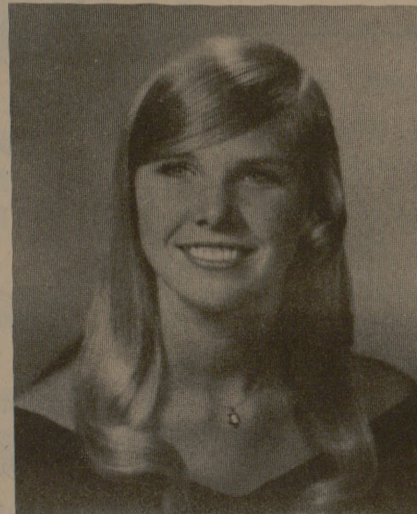
Lynn Bliss



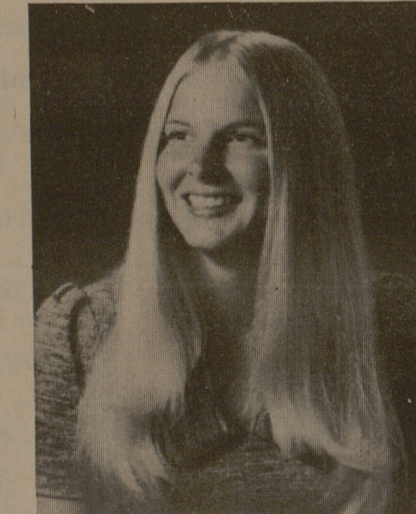
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