

# Nader Knocks 'The Bloated Bureaucracy' And Big Business

By DEBI BLACKMON

The "bloated bureaucracy" and the U. S. Department of Big Business are Ralph Nader's pet peeves these days.

Ralph Nader, consumer advocate and activist lawyer whose name has become a household word, spoke strongly about current government problems Wednesday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum in a Political Forum-Great Issues presentation.

"There exists in our government a triangle phenomenon—big business, our executive branch and Congress—and something needs to be done about all of them."

Referring to President Nixon's struggle with Congress over fund impoundments, Nader gave his

view of the history of the problem.

"As year after year went by programs concerning military, education and domestic affairs were passed by Congress, and more and more powers were given to the President.

"It's gotten where all these programs' special privileges are overlapping. Now we don't know what the President can't do."

"President Nixon doesn't need any more laws from Congress. He has set up his own 'little Congress' in the White House.

"This is authoritarianism—one man rule," he concluded.

"Congress is still there on the hill. You could call it the 'Withering Heights' because power is

being shifted to the White House."

Nader referred to the Anti-Disciplinary Act with which President Nixon justifies impounding Congressional funds.

"The intention was to give a President a little authority to withhold funds limited to 'unusual circumstances.' The White House has gotten a hold of it and is using it to withhold funds approved by Congress on an unlimited basis," Nader said.

"Withholding the taxpayers money is not the real issue here. It involves a very important question—Who makes the decision?"

By law the congress is the institution closest to the people and the most accountable according to Nader. He considers the White

House's interference as a pretty serious thing.

"This leads to the domestic Vietnam-type decisions."

Nader explained that the Congress and the executive branch begin with about the same amount of power, with laws allowing them to check and balance each other.

"The executive branch has become a monster.

"It's such a bloated bureaucracy that it will be a long time before it can be made responsible to the voters from whom it gets its legitimacy," Nader said.

Nader said the concept of the "controlled society" has fallacies of the utmost seriousness. He discussed pressures large corporations have on governmental bodies.

"We have the technology to reduce many prices today, but corporations like GM, AT&T and EXXON are fighting the onset of such technology."

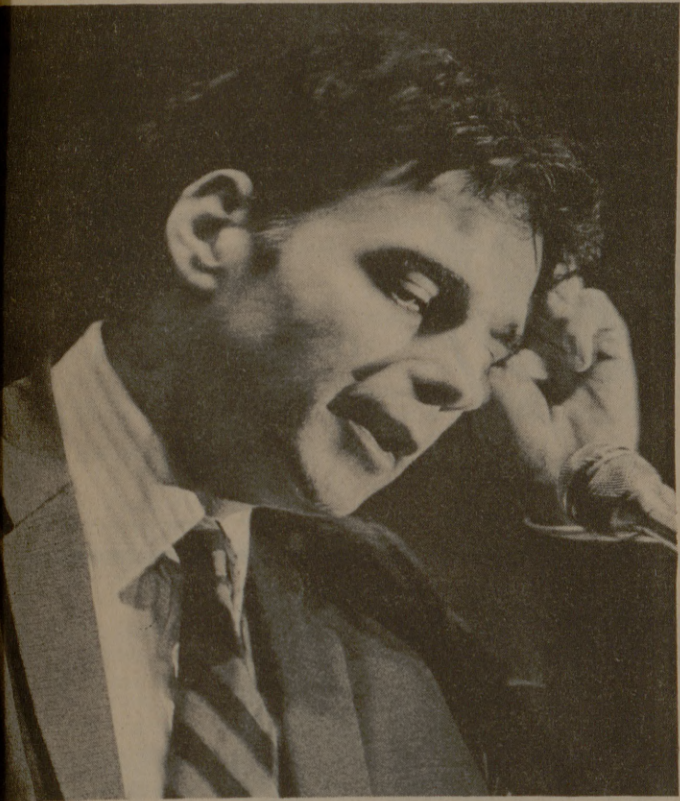
Nader concluded that many new technological concepts are being shelved because they would provide more efficient methods of production, thus cutting the large corporations' prices.

"Inefficiency makes them money."

Promoting citizen activism, Nader urged that students think about engaging themselves in the turmoils of the times.

"I want you to leave college and find a job where you can use your professional skills and own value systems with conviction.

"I don't want you to become bureaucratic cogs."



Ralph Nader

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## Wants Fewer Computer Systems

# Miller Warns Of Technology Takeover

LARRY MARSHALL Staff Writer

Society is at 1984 minus 11 and counting, declared Arthur R. Miller Wednesday in describing the impending 'computer privacy dilemma' faced by citizens of the United States at the opening speakers' session of SCONA XVIII.

Advancing technology in the area of computer data storage, threatening to overtake the personal freedom and privacy of the individual, the Harvard law professor noted. He cited recent pressures of the data banks of general government and military agencies as a basis for this concern.

The Army Military Intelligence system, which Miller called "the granddaddy of them all," was recently shown to have over seven

million entries. Its purpose is to list radical and subversive elements of society, but in reality contains the names of many prominent clergymen, congressmen, judges, newsmen and reform workers.

However, Miller emphasized, the real problem here is one of controlling this technology so it will work for mankind instead of against it. One of the pluses of computer development is in the field of medicine. Here there are new programs to monitor heart attack patients in an attempt to formulate an early warning plan of symptoms.

But with a few more advances in technology, a similar set-up could be used to locate people, sense feelings and even monitor thoughts. A Harvard professor has been able to sense colors

through sensors in a robot from 25 miles away already, Miller said.

"There are many good bona fide reasons for using computers and compiling banks of information about people, I'm not against that. But we have paid no attention to restraint," he said.

## '36 Marijuana Film Is Slated For Saturday

"Reefer Madness" featuring marijuana, the "weed from the devil's garden," will be shown to the general public as the conclusion to SCONA XVIII.

The film is "a major influence in forming the attitudes that led to the present legal situation regarding marijuana," according to Kevin Saunders, ABC-TV.

The anti-marijuana propaganda film features such actors as Dave O'Brien, Lillian Miles, Dorothy Short and Carleton Young in scenes as smokers raping, murdering, plundering, etc.

"The worst film I can recall sitting through . . . ever," said Saunders. "A young victim is seduced into smoking the devil weed . . . No one seems to inhale, but it must be powerful stuff."

"Before the film is over, they all become scrambling maniacs lumbering around like Frankenstein monsters, murdering people, leaping out of twelfth floor windows and tearing at their throats shouting 'Give me a reefer!'" continued Saunders.

The NORML film (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) will be shown on behalf of the Student Government along with W. C. Fields flicks. Free color "Reefer Madness" posters will be given to everyone.

The film will be shown Saturday in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom at 7, 8:30, 10 and 11:30 p.m. for \$1 admission.

Lack of restraint is what has led to the present situation, and what could let this grow until it severely inhibits our civil liberties, commented Miller. "If a person knows his name is on a government list, it will normally restrain his activities."

In the recent Pentagon Papers case, Miller noted, the printers of the Papers, Beacon Press in Boston, were under FBI surveillance. An FBI report showed data on employees, customers and people in contact with the press, a Unitarian affiliated business. As a result, the rate of employees quitting increased, business dropped and even church attendance in the Boston area declined, said Miller.

As a possible way out of the present dilemma, he proposed five guidelines, which he called "Miller's Platitudes." These are:

1. The establishment of a code among information handlers, if not by law at least by morals, to spur fairer dealing, better accuracy and more discretion with regard to people affected by the data.

2. Set standards on what information could be collected and stored in the data banks. Much of what is in these today is not pertinent.

3. The development of computer systems to make these data

## Golf Course Remains Open

The A&M golf course will not close today for completion of the renovation project as was scheduled.

Due to bad weather, nine holes and the snack bar will remain open until further notice, according to Luke Harrison, golf course manager.

The course is still scheduled to reopen in June with the project completed.

banks safe from improper access. All users should be positively identified and be questioned as to their usage of the system prior to use.

4. Make the files open to the subject. Presently, it seems many times the only person who can not see these is the subject himself.

5. Do not allow the information to petrify. As data becomes outdated, remove it. If not destroyed, at least place it in a dead file.

Miller summed up his presentation with an adaptation of a quotation saying, "If it should be a dictatorship of data banks and dossiers, rather than hobnail boots, it will be no less a dictatorship."



INFORMATION RETENTION received a fair-sized blast from Harvard professor Arthur R. Miller Wednesday. Miller, speaking for SCONA XVIII, condemned information misuse for which no controls have been provided. (Photo by Steve Krauss)

## Student Aid, Air Fares To Highlight NSL's Conference

Several hundred students from all over the country will converge on Congress Feb. 28 to March 2 to talk to Senators and Congressmen about student financial aid, minimum wage for students, airline discount fares, newspapers' rights and other issues.

The students are among the nearly two million represented by the growing National Student Lobby (NSL), founded in 1971.

One goal of these people, who will be attending NSL's Second Annual Conference, will be full funding of the Basic Opportunity Grants (BOG) program to channel an additional \$1 billion per year directly to needy students. The program is also crucial for middle-income students because its funding will greatly ease the pressure for sharp tuition raises.

The students, who will register as lobbyists, will also urge no cuts on existing student aid programs such as grants, fellowships, work-study and loans.

Last year's Lobby Conference delegates were instrumental in convincing the House-Senate conference committee on the Higher Education Act to authorize the landmark BOG program by one vote and to support student representation on college boards of trustees.

Other major student goals are: (1) Defeat of an amendment by Cong. John Erlenborn (R-Ill.) allowing employers to hire students (under 21) and youth (under 18) at 80 per cent of the regular minimum wage. The amendment passed the House, but not the Senate, last year and was strongly supported by McDonald's Restaurants.

(2) Passage of bills offered by Sen. Frank Moss (D-Utah), Cong. Harley Staggers (D-Va.) and Cong. William Keating (R-Ohio) permitting youth and senior citizen discount air fares despite the December Civil Aeronautics Board elimination of

youth fares. (3) Passage of a bill preventing federal authorities from forcing newspapers, including student newspapers, from disclosing confidential information or the sources of such information.

Former Newark Evening News Reporter Peter Bridge, recently released from jail, will address the conference and meet with students informally.

Also giving major speeches will be Cong. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.) and Americans for Democratic Action Chairman Al Lowenstein, former president of the National Student Association and the man who persuaded Eugene McCarthy to run for President in 1968.

Besides listening to Lowenstein, former peace activists will lobby for limits on Presidential war powers to prevent future wars such as in Vietnam without a vote by Congress, an end to the

(See Student Aid, page 3)

### SCONA And Other Activities This Week

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. Fourth Roundtable  
 8:30 a.m. Fourth Round-Table Session\*  
 10:30 a.m. Dr. Jack Michael, "Behavioral Determinism and the Controlled Society," MSC Ballroom  
 12:45 p.m. "Conversation with B. F. Skinner," MSC Assembly Room  
 1:30 p.m. Dr. Paul Saltman, "Science, Biology, and Control," MSC Ballroom  
 3:00 p.m. Fifth Round-Table Session  
 5:00 p.m. "Man-Made Man," MSC Assembly Room  
 8:30 p.m. Senator Walter F. Mondale, "The Controlled Society," MSC Ballroom

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

## Aggie's Father Is One Of The Lucky

The family of Air Force Col. Samuel R. Johnson is one of the lucky ones, according to his Texas A&M son.

Col. Johnson was among 143 American military and civilian personnel freed Monday in Southeast Asia. His wife, son and three teenage daughters patiently wait for the Vietnam war POW's return from Clark Field in the Philippines.

Bob Johnson expects his father to be back in Texas next week, possibly by the weekend.

"It probably helped Dad out, knowing we were a little older and could help ourselves. Families with very young children must have had a rough time," added the Texas A&M University senior who was a Plano High School freshman when Col. Johnson was captured.

He pointed out that a large number of Americans thought by the military services to be POWs were not on lists provided by the North Vietnamese Communists. "There are 382 Americans still held prisoner in North Korea," young Johnson soberly reflected. "They haven't been seen since 1952 or 1953. I guess our family is really lucky."

The TAMU senior physics major last saw his father at University National Bank "On the side of Texas A&M." Adv.

Christmas, 1965. Col. Johnson, an F4 Phantom pilot, returned to flight duty in Thailand and on April 16, 1966, was downed by ground fire and captured near the DMZ.

Reports that he was captured came in 1968. Bob's family first received mail from him in 1970. They got 30 letters and the Texas A&M student credited much of the mail to efforts of H. Ross Perot and American sentiment.

"I was in bed when the TV coverage at Clark Field started," related Johnson, who transferred to Texas A&M from Navarro Junior College and plans to stay for a master's in physics. "My sister called and said everybody at home was up watching."

"I ran downstairs, turned on the lounge TV and got in while the second plane was unloading," he added. "Dad wasn't on that one and things became grim."

"But he was on the third plane," Johnson grinned. "He looked a little thin but fine otherwise. He nearly ran down the ramp."

A Tuesday call from Plano revealed Mrs. Johnson had talked with her husband. He will fly into Sheppard AFB at Wichita Falls, one of two regional bases in Texas handling the returning POWs.

Bob plans to become an astro-physicist, but has found concentration on studies hard to come by this week.



START TO FINISH . . . An isolated swimmer recalls his performance in an earlier event. The faceless Aggie could be contemplating his win or loss while catching his breath after his endeavor. Photographer Steve



Ueckert took these shots during the A&M-Arkansas swim meet held here recently.