

Listen Up—

'Word Of God' Said Missing From SCONA Topic

Editor:
SCONA is here. Certainly the topic, or theme, is one that is high in priority on the minds of concerned people today.

On the surface, it would seem like the idea behind SCONA is the epitome of the educational institution meeting its responsibilities in a free society by providing access to a complete spectrum of available information and research on any particular topic of study. The list of speakers reflect some of the nation's most renowned scholars' opinions and research. Truly some of man's highest intellectual thought will be aired regarding control of our fellow man.

I suggest one area of thought and authority on this topic is notably missing: the Word of God. There must be a long list of highly noted men of God (use the word theologians if it satisfies you better) who could, with no proselytization attempts merely show what God has said in His Word about these problems! I'm sure one of them could have been engaged as a speaker.

Some may say "religion" is out of place in a "state" institution (Big Brother's "state" may be closer than we think). In a country formed on Judeo-Christian mores and ethics (even going so far as to put "In God We Trust" on its money), I wonder how out of place such a presentation would be. (Special note is made of the historical role of "religion" in Bryan-College Station and Texas A&M.) If as a country and as an educational institution we boast of "free" speech and "free" access to information, I suggest a gross neglect in omitting even the consideration of what the God most of us claim to honor and worship has to say about our attempts to control man. Without need for specific Biblical references of any kind, I can say that God has spoken quite specifically and directly to this question.

It somehow seems a shame when we pay such special attention to behavioral modification and control where we can reduce man to a programmed "lab rat"

following the directions of his "master," rather than freely following the Will of the God who created man, a being in His own image, to be a rational, loving servant (tender of His garden).

Howard Eilers
★ ★ ★

Editor:
We would like to comment on the use of a pass key by resident advisors in the women's dormitory, Krueger Hall, to check on the presence of men in the rooms of coeds.

This practice involves a knock on the door which if unanswered is followed by the utilization of a pass key. The presence of a man in the room after hours leads to review before a judicial board which has the right to deal out punishments to the women involved.

We are not questioning the rules involving the presence of men in the women's dorm, we are questioning the right of university officials, i.e. resident advisors to, in effect, break into the private room of a student.

This practice seems to us to be contradictory to the fourth amendment of the Constitution of the United States which says "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or Affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

We would like to hear from any university official who, after reading this amendment (which is the supreme law of the land) can justify the practice described in this letter.

Again we are not questioning the rules involving the presence of men in the women's dorm. We would only like to see them find a legal way to enforce these rules.

Ross Maynard
Norma Buentello
★ ★ ★

Editor:
With respect to the letter and editor's note published in The Battalion on Feb. 9 concerning renovation of Legett Hall, I believe a few points need to be made. The context of Mr. Parker's letter was meant to present two basic points:

One, that spending \$40,000 on halls and hall lighting and leaving the rooms as they are (with the exception of two electrical outlets per room) indicates a decided University preference toward impressing campus visitors rather than in improving student facilities.

Two, that as we have been informed 100 per cent student participation in painting their rooms (on their own time) is a prerequisite before any renovation of any kind will be initiated.

According to the editor's note all participation is on a voluntary basis. However, according to our information (what little information we've been able to get), a failure to voluntarily paint our rooms could result in anything ranging from having other students "voluntarily" paint the

room in question to having the room occupants moved out of the dorm. I would hardly call this voluntary.

In attempting to discern the true facts concerning this matter, about all I can see is that there exists a communication gap between the students concerned and the University. I might add that all attempts to obtain the University's true policy concerning the matter have either proved fruitless or only served to muddy the picture. Until I am informed otherwise by University officials, I must assume that 100 per cent "voluntary" painting appears to be the University renovation policy at this time.

Bill Black '75

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Batt News Summary

AUSTIN—A bill resulting from a two-year interim study of drug use in Texas was introduced in the Senate Wednesday. Among other things it would decriminalize marijuana possession.

Sponsored by Sen. Chet Brooks, D-Pasadena, the measure was authored by former senator Don Kennard, who was chairman of an interim committee appointed by former Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes in 1971.

Kennard described the measure as in "complete contrast" to a stringent proposal supported by Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

Kennard said the study committee bill shifts enforcement efforts from the user to the pusher. While it provides treatment instead of jail terms for users, the measure is very rough on pushers, he said.

Brooks' bill would make simple possession of a small amount of marijuana non-criminal. Only for sale of the drug would it become a felony.

SAIGON, Vietnam—Maj. Gen. Gilbert H. Woodward, the chief U.S. delegate to the Joint Military Commission, handed an official protest note to the senior Viet Cong representative saying the Viet Cong violated the peace agreement signed in Paris Jan. 27 by delaying the release of the 27 American prisoners at Loc Ninh, 75 miles north of Saigon.

Woodward accused the Viet Cong representative at Loc Ninh of trying to induce the U.S. representative at the site, Brig. Gen. Stan McClellan, to "sign a receipt on which had been added a remark falsely ascribing to the Republic of South Vietnam responsibility for a delay in receipt of U.S. personnel."

AUSTIN — A bill that would prohibit abortions after the sixth week of pregnancy was introduced in the House Wednesday.

The legislation, by Reps. Joe Hubenak, D-Rosenberg, and Larry Vick, R-Houston, appears to run counter to a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling that threw out Texas' previous abortion statute.

SAN ANTONIO—Two persons died and five others were taken to San Antonio hospitals Wednesday night, all believed victims of escaping natural gas in a south-side residence, firemen said.

District Fire Chief Jesse Renteris said it was uncertain what overcame the three children and four adults in the frame house. Renteris said he smelled an odor in the residence which may have been natural gas.

DETROIT—The United States Olympic Committee reorganized itself last week, but that's not stopping proponents of massive changes in the structure of the USOC.


The "Organizing Committee for a Better Olympics," a group headed by Mayor Tom J. Vandergriff of Arlington, Tex., is scheduled to meet in Chicago Sunday and Monday to discuss eight major proposals.

"We've got a pamphlet out called 'Let's Give the Olympics Back to the People,' and basically that's what we want to do," explained Dr. Marcus L. Plant, long-time University of Michigan faculty representative to the Big Ten who preceded Vandergriff as chairman of the "Better Olympics" organization.

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines —The second large group of released American war prisoners left the Philippines for home Thursday morning, just a day after they had wandered through a U.S.-style supermarket like so many Rip Van Winkles returned from captivity instead of sleep.

The 20 men, smiling and waving, boarded a C141 Starlifter hospital plane and took off on the 15-hour journey to Travis Air Base in California.

Twenty other former POWs left for Travis on Wednesday, and two went home earlier because of family illnesses. Another group of 20 men was scheduled to depart later Thursday.



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The Battalion

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PEANUTS
By Charles M. Schulz



Panel 1: "WHAT'S ALL THE YELLING ABOUT?" "THIS STUPID MARCIE SAYS WE'RE ALL HYPOCRITES!"

Panel 2: "SHE SAYS WE DON'T REALLY BELIEVE THAT CHUCK IS A GOOD BASEBALL MANAGER SO OUR WHOLE DINNER IS HYPOCRITICAL!"

Panel 3: "I'M NOT STUPID, SIR." "BY GOLLY, IF IT WEREN'T FOR ONE THING, I'D SLUG HER!!" "WHAT'S THAT?"

Panel 4: "DEEP DOWN I KNOW SHE'S RIGHT!" "OH, GOOD GRIEF!!"