

The Battalion

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Allegations Denied By Thomas; Wants To 'Set Record Straight'

Prairie View A&M College President Dr. Alvin I. Thomas Monday "emphatically and categorically" denied allegations that he has been requiring faculty members to pay him kickbacks from their salaries.

The charge was made Thursday by Rep. Paul B. Ragsdale, a member of the eight-person House Black Caucus. Ragsdale alleged that Thomas had required seven former or present staff members to make payments to him as a condition for keeping faculty positions. The Dallas legislator also said Thomas was forcing restraint of freedom to express ideas and opinions at the school. Thomas, in a prepared statement at a press conference in Austin, said: "To set the record straight and to explore the possibilities for making the responsible individuals accountable for their statements, I have asked the appropriate criminal justice agencies to look into the situation and take whatever action they deem appropriate."

The Prairie View president has turned the matter over to district attorneys in both Waller and Travis Counties. "No investigation could rectify the damage done to me professionally," Thomas said, "or make up for the suffering of my family as a result of these irresponsible charges. I have waited until this time to reply to charges to insure it was done in a rational and dignified manner."

Ragsdale made the allegations at a committee hearing that lasted until early Wednesday on a resolution to investigate conditions at the Prairie View campus.

When it appeared the committee was going to send the resolution to a subcommittee because of lack of a concrete case for an investigation, Ragsdale told committee members he had witnesses ready to testify under oath on the

charges.

Sen. William T. (Bill) Moore of Bryan, in whose district Prairie View is situated, has said that if any Black Caucus member thinks the allegations about Thomas are true, "they should take it to a grand jury."

"We're not the prosecutors here in the legislature," said Moore. "Personally, I don't believe the allegations."

Ragsdale has said that he had not intended to make the allegations against Thomas and was sorry he had done so.

He added the black legislators have received complaints from various people over an extended period of time.

"Some of us thought the time had arrived to see if there is any validity to them and straighten them out," he said.

May Discounts Controls In Society's Freedom Search

By LARRY THOMPSON Staff Writer

"I've been thinking about freedom ever since I was old enough to."

So began Dr. Rollo May's speech to SCONA XVIII delegates Saturday.

May, a New York psychoanalyst, is labeled an Existential Psychologist. He has worked in the field for 25 years.

May agreed that there are many types of determinism, but disagrees with the principle of psychological determinism.

He said, "Psychological determinism is an assault on man's consciousness. Man can transcend other determinisms, but not this." "What I'm talking about," he

continued, "is an idea of trying to control society, a kind of fascism which I for one could not believe in."

May also saw determinism as crucial relative to a changing society. "Our age is dying and another is not yet born. We live in an interim or transitional age," he said.

Movies are indicative of the age people live in, said May. "Art is important in the development of an age, because it predicts the future. Movies are the art of this time."

May's speech ended with a definition of freedom. He labeled it "the capacity to transcend concrete situations, to realize humans are both subjective and objective."

Contained in this definition of freedom is the ability to transcend determinism. May said, "Consciousness can understand these determinates, but transcend them."

According to May, B. F. Skinner must deny consciousness, which works only in limited situations. May drew applause when he said "Man is not made for technology. Technology is made for man."

May stressed that there are movements toward freedom in this country. He cited Women's Liberation, which he called Women's Freedom.

"We cannot surrender our freedom without losing part of our essential nature. Freedom is the basis of values in that it allows man to have values."

Gives OK To SCONA

NSL Head Explains Lobby Use

Motivation, a key part of SCONA XVIII, should happen to people everyday instead of just once a year, according to National Student Lobby Executive Director Layton Olson.

"People are always asking 'what can I as one citizen do?'" said Olson, round-table co-chairman for the conference. "They lack confidence in themselves which makes them less able to organize."

"There is a lack of people in the world today who can jump in and try to change things," he continued. "Hopefully, SCONA produced leaders with confidence and the ability to get things done."

As NSL executive director, Olson coordinates lobby activities, oversees the national office, is in charge of fund raising and writes proposals for actual lobbying of key issues.

One of his functions while traveling around the nation is to coordinate efforts between the national and state lobbies.

"The strength of NSL is greatly increased by having state lobbying going on," said Olson. "State lobbies are mainly concerned with the educational issues which are the core issues NSL deals with."

Student lobbies exist mainly because every faction in society has to begin to define its interest, he said.

"Students interested in the adult process of rights and responsibilities need to learn to run affairs," said Olson.

"Five to 10 years ago there



NSL Executive Director Layton Olson discusses the upcoming NSL Lobby Conference with Sen. Clifford Case (R-N. J.)

were no student groups trying to change the outlook on the environment."

Olson said NSL's financial situation shows whether or not people are sincere and have the initiative to sponsor particular projects. Student governments join NSL by paying anywhere from \$50 to \$350, depending upon enrollment.

NSL has an intern program to increase student involvement. Olson said these interns are usually students or recent graduates with backgrounds in politics or organizing.

"The intern program is mainly to train people to go back to their own states and help that particular state," said Olson. "The people involved are able to handle the responsibility and have good judgment. They have the ability to grow and relate to situations."

NSL will sponsor its second annual lobby conference in Washington, D.C., Feb. 28 through Mar. 2. During the conference students from across the country will have a chance to lobby on NSL issues.

"We always try to support the issues we know can win," Olson said. "We try to demonstrate that we intend to follow up on what we say and be professional in what we're doing," he said.

"A lobbyist must become the most informed person on the subject he is lobbying for."

Issues NSL support include increasing federal student aid, reinstatement of airline youth discount fares, protection of the rights of news persons to withhold their sources of information from inquiries by state and federal grand juries, minimum wage for students and youth and child care centers for campuses.

"I came to SCONA as a guest of A&M," said Olson. "I try to

attend as many statewide meetings as possible.

"SCONA is an extremely good idea, well organized with a good topic and material. SCONA is full of down-to-earth facts people already understand but need to put together," Olson continued.

"A lot of people are saying the system does or doesn't work. Those who say it works are overly optimistic. Those who say it doesn't work are giving themselves an excuse for quitting."

"People need to define what they want and relate to it."

Filing Open To Students For CS Posts

Students may file for College Station City Council positions one, three and five to be contested in the April 3 city election.

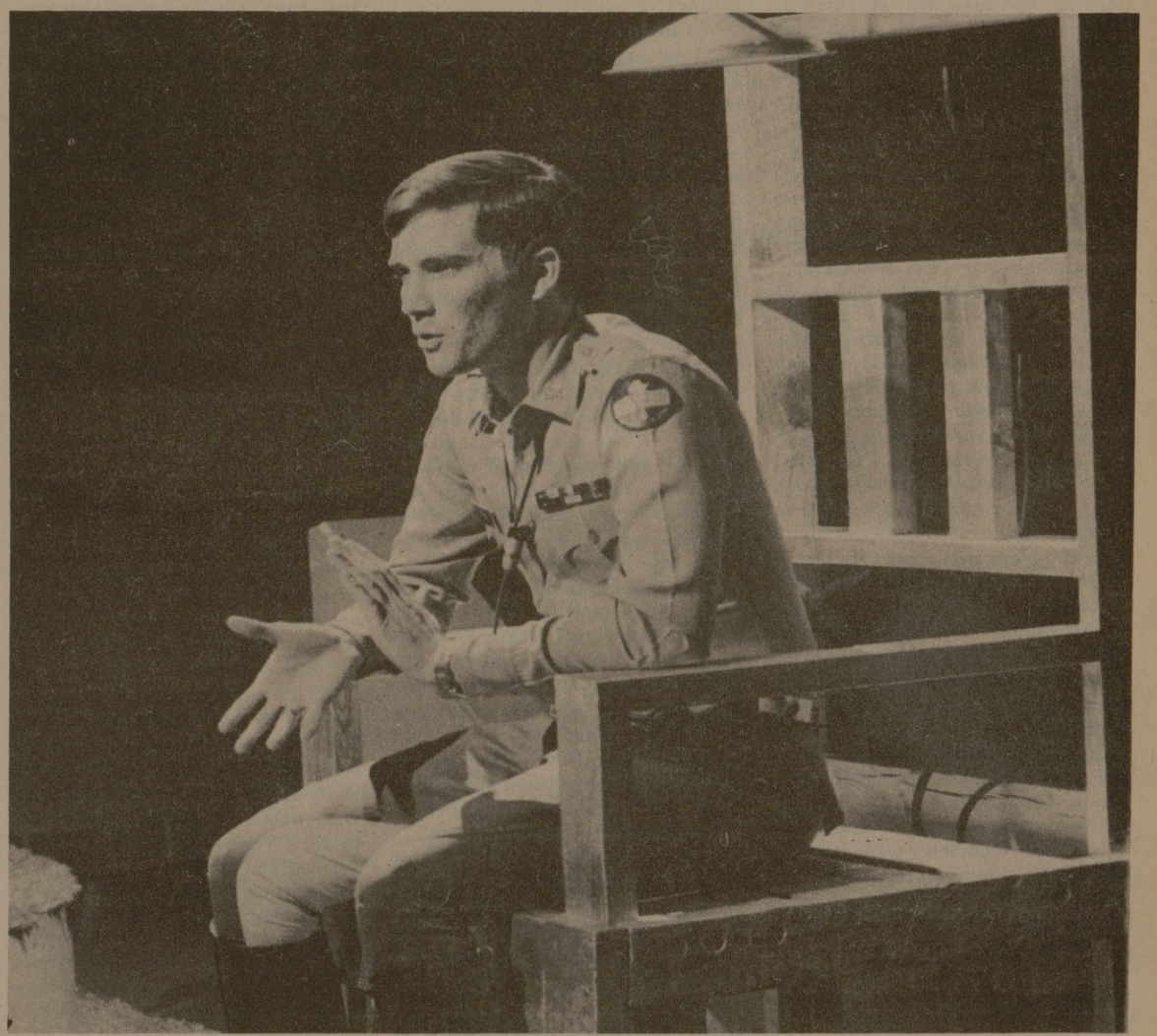
The filing deadline is March 2, said City Manager Ron Boswell. Only incumbents for the positions, Fred Brison, Don Dale and R. D. Radelcliff, have filed.

Bruce Clay was the last A&M student to run for a place on the council in April. Clay, at the time a senior finance major, was defeated by C. A. Bonnen in his bid for Place 6, 516-465.

A campus polling site will be available for the first time in the upcoming election. The new polling site was approved by the council last July. It will be located in the Cushing Library.

Bryan will hold elections for city council and school board trustees on April 7.

Ralph Bobbitt, 2705 Carter Creek Parkway, Bryan, filed for mayor, pitting him against incumbent J. A. Skrivaneck. Frank Hudson, of Harvey, filed for Place 6 of the Bryan School Board of Trustees. James Stegall had already filed for the position.



AN ELECTRIC SANCTUARY now spells its doom for different A&M student leaders as KAMU-TV's "Student Sandwiche" program premiered Monday at 9 p. m. Questions from a studio audience open to all students are fielded to the person sitting in the "hot seat," which in this case was Student Government President Layne Kruse. (Photo by Steve Krauss)

Student President Gives Nod To Shuttle System Expansion

The shuttle bus system is something all students will benefit from, either directly or indirectly, said Layne Kruse, Student Government President, Tuesday.

On Thursday the Student Senate will vote on a proposal calling for eight buses to be run in the surrounding area.

Discussion on the proposal centers on whether student services' fee money should be used to help with the cost. The proposal requests \$42,000 from the student services fee while providing a projected \$54,000 from the users' fee.

"While not all the students will be using the buses, all students will benefit from them," said Kruse. "With day students using them, they will aid in reduction of traffic and parking problems. None of the programs funded by the student services fee are used by all of the students, anyway."

The shuttle bus issue has been discussed and studied for the past three years, using other campuses for studies. The five buses used this year are part of a pilot project.

The users' fee will be \$18 per year which is comparable to the cost of registering a car for an entire year.

Using both student services fee and users' fee is not a method of financing unique to the shuttle bus issue.

You Cannot Raise Anyone Up By Calling Them Down.

TUESDAY — Mostly cloudy through Wednesday. Chance of light rain. Mild day; cool night. High 61, low 41.

WEDNESDAY — Chance of light rain. High of 61.

Freshmen Select A&M Coed, Donna Durow, Sweetheart

Donna Lou Durow of Giddings was selected Saturday by the Texas A&M Class of 1976 as Freshman Sweetheart.

Miss Durow, an 18-year-old brunette, is a freshman pre-medicine major at A&M. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan L. Durow, 681 N. Chambers, Giddings, was one of six finalists who were all TAMU students.

Only two of 22 nominees for Freshman Class Sweetheart were not Texas A&M students.

Miss Durow is a Student Government Representative and resident of Dunn Hall. At Giddings High School, she was homecoming queen, band member and twirler and selected to Who's Who Among High School Seniors.

Also introduced as finalists at the Saturday Fish Ball were Lynn Bliss of Everman; Loralee Gullede, Midland; Kathy James, Victoria; Becky Liere, Houston, and Karen Mahler, San Antonio.

'Miles For Mankind' March Has Three-Fold Objectives

The Student "Y" Association, in cooperation with the national YMCA, will sponsor a "Miles For Mankind" walk on Mar. 24. The walk consists of participants who will walk along a 20-mile route and be sponsored for an amount of money for each mile completed.

All participants, young and old, students and businessmen, will walk the 20-mile route. After they walk, each will return to his sponsors to receive the contributions for the total miles walked. These funds will be returned to the Student "Y" Association to be distributed for various needs.

The funds raised in this manner will be used to finance three objectives of the YMCA. The first is to help in the renovation of Hensel Park so it may be of more use to a greater number of students at TAMU. About 20 per cent of the funds will be used for this project.

The second objective is to aid the Bryan-College Station area and Chamber of Commerce in building a teen activities center for high school students. About 30 per cent will be used here.

The remaining 50 per cent of the money will go to the YMCA United World Service. The Service is a catalyst for education with literacy programs, regular schools, professional institutes, with supplementary courses that improve inadequate public education programs on all levels.

In Korea, the YMCA's Boytown provided schooling and vocational training for boys having nowhere else to turn. In Hong Kong, the children go to school on the rooftops—one of the few uncrowded spots in an overcrowded city. In Ecuador, over 1,000 learned to read in a three-month period.

YMCA World Service is an effort to get the community and the student body active together for the benefit of each other and the rest of mankind. "Miles For Mankind" has been endorsed by both the Student Senate and TAMU Residence Hall Association as a worthwhile project. Both are encouraging active participation in the walk by students.

Students are urged to come by Room 102 of the YMCA Building to pick up a registration form or volunteer time to the effort.

Recorder Post Now Available

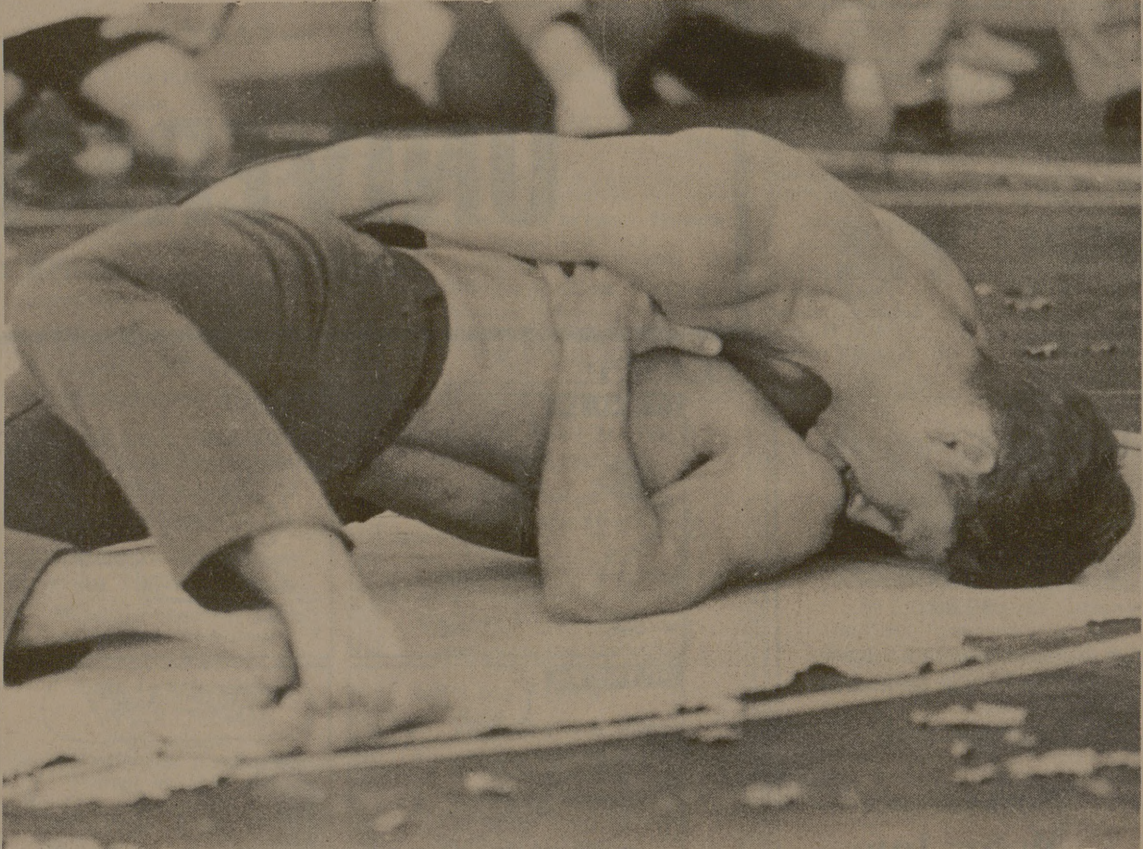
Applications will be accepted starting today to fill the vacancy of Recorder in the Student Senate, Student Government President Layne Kruse said.

Applications are available at the Student Government office in the Memorial Student Center and the deadline for filing is noon Thursday.

The appointment will be announced Thursday night at the Student Senate meeting in the Zachry Engineering Center.

The appointment is being made to fill the vacancy left by Sandy Eichorn who resigned.

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



NO, IT'S NOT obscene, but it is two of A&M's intramural wrestlers practicing their skills Monday afternoon. This rather "curious" photo was snapped by Steve Krauss.