

# THE KEY

Vol. 30, No. 5

Olympic Hotel, Seattle, Washington

March 22, 1977

## COUNCIL ELECTION A PHOTO-FINISH Ken Orton

Elections were the main agenda item at yesterday's business meeting. Elected to the National Council were Phyllis Bosley and Roger Hufford.

In an unprecedented tie for the third seat, Gary Horn and Rosalyn Freedman will be competing again today for the position.

Nominees for National Council came primarily out of the nominating committee and included Jim Dockery, Jim Riley, Harold Widvey, in addition to Bosley, Hufford, and Horn. Two nominations were accepted from the floor: Freedman and Larry Richardson.

By Constitutional requirement, voting was done in two ballots, the first prioritizing the top five of the eight candidates, and the second electing the three council members. Ballot counting time was lengthy, and the meeting was declared "at ease" during it.

While counting continued, Professor Ted Karl gave the biennial report of the national secretary-treasurer. Included were attendance statistics, budget figure, and projected directions.

According to Professor Karl, 518 people were registered as of Monday afternoon, and he expected an eventual total of 525. Delegates here represented 105 schools.

As to the current outlay, 80 percent of the costs of the convention have been paid, leaving just over \$1,000 in the PKD accounts. The budget was based on 500 people, said Karl, and the convention should break even.

Karl reported \$12,000 in certificate deposits for PKD, and urged chapter action in obtaining new memberships, since they are PKD's only source of income.

Still waiting for election returns, the convention turned to recognition of new chapters, and four were presented charters. These included Connecticut Delta—U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Louisiana Iota—Louisiana State University at Shreveport, Missouri Tau—Missouri Western State College at St. Joseph, and L.A. Lawrence Alumni Chapter—Montana State University.

## TWO GRAND OLD MEN Bob Beagle

For many Pi Kappars, the attraction of a national convention never fades. Here in Seattle many "oldtimers" are in attendance, and the KEY was fortunate to be able to interview two of them -- W. H. Veatch and R. D. (Hap) Mahaffey. Both of these men have been instrumental in shaping forensics throughout the past fifty years. Both are past presidents of Pi Kap, with Veatch having served from 1928-30 and Mahaffey from 1950-52. Veatch started attending PKD conventions in 1920 while Mahaffey has missed only two conventions since 1928.

Dr. Mahaffey is still active in forensics and teaching. Currently he teaches at a community college in Kansas and coaches a high school debate team which recently won its district and qualified for the state tournament. Among his many contributions to debate was establishing the Linfield (Kansas) Invitational Tournament, which is now the nation's oldest invitational, and originating the semi-final/final round concept in tournaments.

Dr. Veatch retired (for the fourth time!) from Whitman College in 1970. He was a founder of the tournament format for college debate and directed the Washington State High School tournament for twenty-five years. Although he is now content to just relax, bowl on a regular basis, and smoke his ever-present pipe, Veatch still has high school and college students seeking advice from him.

Although both men regularly produced championship teams, they have always held a deep commitment to the educational value of college debating. As a result, they are disturbed by such recent trends in debate as "motor mouth" speaking, evidence slinging, and the selection of broad topics that promote squirrel cases. Neither man likes the term topicality, preferring instead that an affirmative team have to prove the "relevancy" of its case. And they believe relevancy should be a valid criterion for a judging decision. Veatch also commented that "If a case is designed to confuse the negative, it will probably confuse me the judge." Their own belief is that coaches obsessed with winning

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PKD POTPOURRI  
Carolyn Keefe

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are responsible for many of the undesirable aspects of debate, and if reform is to come it must originate with coaches. Both men would also like to see more emphasis on value questions and philosophical issues, with Mahaffey noting that his current students enjoy a good value-oriented argument.

For over an hour I talked with these grand old men of forensics and listened to them reminisce. Their combined experiences are myriad and fascinating. Noting that some present Pi Kappars are unhappy over room arrangements, they recalled the 1948 Convention in Tiffin, Ohio, where army cots were used to accomodate large numbers of people in a single room. Mahaffey observed that he co-ordinated the first Pi Kap tournament ever held in a hotel--the Fresno event. They also recalled the times they judged debates in corridors when rooms weren't available. Veatch claims that his most memorable experience was his return from our 1975 Philadelphia gathering when he was snowbound at Chicago's O'Hare Airport for thirty five hours.

Veatch and Mahaffey have served in numerous official capacities within Pi Kap. They welcome the trend toward more student input in decision-making, but caution that students are a transient factor and Pi Kap must never make decisions without the benefit of the past.

They are truly remarkable men. Their minds and their hearts belie their ages. When students and faculty began dancing during Sunday evening's general meeting, this writer, sitting close to both men, noticed a twinkle in their eyes and a smile of satisfaction on their faces.

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"ON THE DOUBLE," "MOVE IT"

Photo-taking tonight will be a test of PKDers' listening, marathon running, and posing skills. The plan is to herd superior winners out of the ballroom and into the left lobby. (Yes, we have our ferocious sheep dogs.) Somewhere on the mezzanine or staircases, the Forensic photos will be snapped. Winners will then return immediately to the ballroom to sink into that pleasant drolerium of gold-medaling. Other photographs will be taken during and after the banquet.

The Large and Small of It

South Dakota Delta from Brookings has entered a tentative claim to "Largest Delegation"--eleven students and two coaches. (See the box below for official figures.) With them came the "Smallest Delegation," 5' 3" Renee Schmidt from Iowa Kappa at Buena Vista College. (KEY hears there's a shorter one but doesn't know her name.)

Speaking of Small Females--

California State College in Pennsylvania left a diminutive member at home--4' 10" Donna Wheare. Sponsor Pat Miller, knowing the size of Western homo sapiens, couldn't risk losing her in the crowd.

Super Sleuths

After receiving a 5:30 a.m. wake-up call, Joel Sherlock Hefling and Harold Watson Widvey, began an intensive investigation in order to establish guilt.

"Who done it?" queried Widvey.

"Bet it was an inside job. Like one of the eleven villains."

"Never fear, Hef, we'll get 'em. I ain't a debate coach for nothin." Less skillful sleuths would have dragged all eleven suspects out of bed. Not these two. Using their superior inductive skills, they reasoned that none of the seven who had been out with them the night before would have had the heart (or the gall) to do such a dastardly deed. So the finger of guilt was pointed at the remaining four. Under intense interrogation, two suspects (having been informed of their right to council), pleaded guilty. Their defense, "We gave the wrong number," was summarily dismissed. Pronounced "GUILTY!" by self-appointed Justices Hefling and Widvey, the criminals awaited sentence.

"What possible punishment would be just, your Honor?" asked Hefling.

"Got just the thing, your Honor," retorted Widvey. "Let's smash all their trophies."

"Hmm, we must make the punishment fit the crime. We musn't be so soft, wid."

"Then in that case, let 'em run interference. That'll larn 'em." So if you see two battered females on I-90 running ahead of the South Dakota Delta car, you'll know who the crooks are. Their initials: D. D. and R. G.

HONOR ROLL: Number in Attendance	
Henderson State University--	11
Harding College--	13
Cameron University--	15
Bloomsburg State College--	12
S. D. State University-Brookings--	14
University of Puget Sound--	15



SPECIAL ITEMS

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PKDERS AT NDT!

While their coach, Dwight Connely, was toiling away in Seattle running the Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Paul Hoffman, student president of PKD's Nebraska Theta chapter at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and his partner Laurie Tefft qualified for the National Debate Tournament by finishing second at their district tournament in Kearney, Nebraska, over the weekend.

Paul is a sophomore and Laurie is a freshman. The University of Iowa finished first at the district tournament, and Augustana-Sioux Falls, South Dakota, finished third.

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## A MESSAGE FROM PENNSYLVANIA DELTA--

Bloomsburg State's voices of the East are pleased to report that politics are right in the field of forensics--the fine art of B.S.

The eleven-member squad was able to use their art of persuasion, debate, and information ability to obtain a considerable fund to sponsor their trip out to Seattle. If all else fails, try kidnapping your coach and holding him for ransom until he meets your demands. Much to our dismay we were only able to muster \$23.50 for Harry Strine.

Professor Erich Frohman is recovering from his heart attack nicely and sends his best to Pi Kap.

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## MAIN COURSE TONIGHT

Father Rausch, banquet coordinator, apologizes for the fact that tonight's dinner will not include swiss steak. Although this alternative is listed, the menu was printed before a final decision was made. Thus, everyone will be enjoying "braised beef round hunter style."

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## AN OMISSION

The KEY apologizes to South Dakota Iota at Black Hills for omitting them from our schools in attendance list. They want everyone to know they are here.

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## KEY STAFF

Editor - Carolyn Keefe  
Associate Editor - Bob Beagle  
Student Editor - Ken Orton  
Typists - Susan Diehm and  
Roselyn Freedman  
Guest Artist - Marlys Hansen

## "WHAT I THINK IS . . ."

Carolyn Keefe

At the end of a tournament, most students have formed a personal opinion about the general nature and competitive level of that tournament. Yesterday during the ballot tabulation at the general meeting, I solicited some opinion statements from students.

Joy Halcomb, a senior from Georgetown College in Kentucky, has entered entertaining speaking, oratory, and discussion. She stated, "I've competed in tournaments which have stiffer competition. But here, I find there is a variety of delivery and style. This is not a negative comment. There is a value in being able to see people from all over the country. Because the competition hasn't been so stiff, I've had a really enjoyable time."

Linfield College coed Melodye Suva commented about oratory: "One thing I've noticed is that there are people in my rounds who have a more extemporaneous way of speaking."

Pat Kurz, also from Linfield, concurred. She felt that the reason is that the tournament itself is more relaxed. "On the whole," she added, "the level of competency of the speakers is higher than at other tournaments I've attended."

Cross-X debater Doug Kirkpatrick from Pacific Lutheran University said, "I found the debaters extremely courteous, friendly, and honest, easy to understand."

A Texas delegate who preferred to remain anonymous had some observations about his discussion rounds: "I've seen a lot of people who make generalizations and are not using evidence. And then there are people who use evidence and don't make generalizations. We were in the solution stage when we were still supposed to be in problem analysis. I would like to have seen more evidence."

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## WHAT DOES THE HOTEL THINK OF US?

Bob Beagle and Ken Orton

After hosting a national convention composed mostly of students, what does the Olympic Hotel staff think of our fraternity? Interestingly, after five days of us, most of the staff interviewed still doesn't know what forensics means. But while we may not have sold baliwick, we have apparently sold ourselves.  
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The maids, even though finding some people messy, were generally impressed by our demeanor and by our consideration for their work. "They're pretty good kids," seems to sum up the general feeling.

Although somewhat concerned that we haven't spent enough money inside the hotel, the manager was generally pleased to have hosted Pi Kap. He has been particularly impressed by the courteous manner of the students and by how seriously everyone takes his contest obligations. He noted that one young lady, anxiously anticipating her impending oratory, became ill while eating lunch yesterday in the restaurant. The hotel staff not only cared for her, but played "coach" and gave her a pep talk designed to fortify her courage. This morning she reported to the manager that "all had gone well" and thanked him for his help.

Some hotel employees, after being informed as to what Pi Kap is all about, expressed disappointment that they didn't have an opportunity to hear some debates and other events. They seemed genuinely intrigued that people would gather from all parts of the country to participate in speech contests. As one older bellhop said, "I don't know much about speech, but I know these kids are better than most."

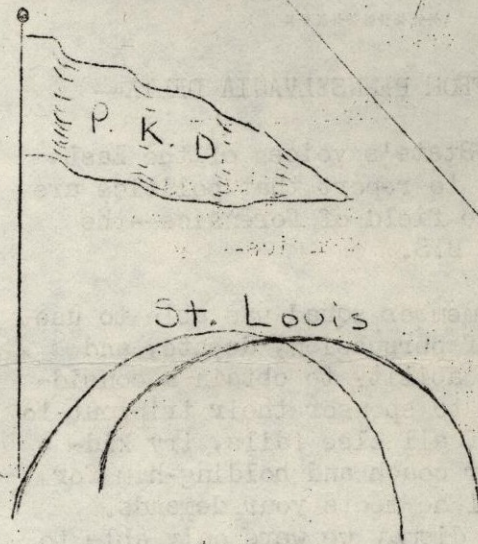
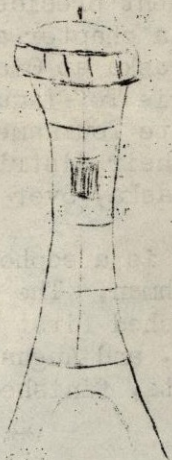
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#### CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMMITTEE

The Constitutional Revision Committee has received several suggested amendments for future consideration and evaluation. If anyone has additional constitutional ideas, please contact Jack Starr.

We saw you in Seattle  
in '77

P.K.D.  
was  
here!



St. Louis

We'll meet you in  
St. Louis in '79!  
--- Bye!!!