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Washington & Lee  
MOCK  
PRESIDENTIAL  
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1984

**MARYLAND**  
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**MONDALE**



# Front Lawn

*A Supplement to The Ring-tum Phi*

# Convention preparations began two years ago

By JOHN WILTSE  
Mock Convention Correspondent

When the first drum rolls tomorrow morning and the banner announcing the "Washington and Lee 1984 Mock Democratic Convention" begins to make its way down Main Street, a week-end consisting of over two years of preparation will have begun.

The long cycle of research and planning will be complete for co-chairmen Steve Lewis and Pete Muller.

Having all eyes focused on Washington and Lee for this event, with its \$102,500 budget and accommodations for thousands of participants, one would expect an air of tension and anxiety around those student organizers responsible for the quadrennial project — but none can be found.

"We are better prepared than any other convention. We wished it was this past weekend," said Lewis, a senior. "The tension of not having things done is just not there."

The two chairmen have followed a broad four-stage process beginning in May 1982, with their permanent appointments by the Executive Committee and leading up to the opening gavel tomorrow afternoon.

Lewis and Muller explained that the first stage lasted approximately six months and consisted of "establishing our direction" by looking through the files of previous conventions and creating an organizational framework, budget and schedule.

A three-month appointment stage, which Muller described as a "tedious process," followed in October 1982. Applications and interviews were processed for the positions of 50 state chairmen as well as approximately 20 members of the Steering Committee, which consists of the heads of the various convention committees.

The third phase, beginning last spring and continuing into this past fall, was described by Lewis as "when we molded everything together and saw the gaps ... we saw people we had to replace among the state chairmen and the Steering Committee."

In September the EC rescinded the appointment of the third Mock Convention chairman, in charge of political research, Steve Matrazzo. The resigna-

tions of Len Howard, Lower South Regional Coordinator, and John Haywood, Facilities Chairman, followed the EC's decision.

"It was definitely our lowest point," Muller said. "We simply had to consolidate the leadership in the upper echelon."

At the time of the organizational shake-up, Student Body President Bob Jenevein termed it "potentially very destructive."

"We did have the potential to fall behind schedule, but it just didn't slow us down," Muller concluded.

The 1984 chairmen worked within the basic Washington and Lee convention structures consisting of two main branches — the Steering Committee and the state chairmen.

"We brought the Steering Committee along to a point where they knew their job well, so they could relate their position and direction to the individual state chairmen, Lewis explained. "It was interesting watching Steering Committee members make presentations to the chairmen without having to rely on us for everything."

The major change from previous conventions cited by the two chairmen was in the Steering Committee framework. They split up some tasks that had been under one steering committee member and created new positions when they saw the need.

Unlike past conventions, Muller and Lewis also shared the responsibilities of chairmen with the authority "coming from both of us." Both students sat in on Steering Committee and state chairmen meetings and worked in all facets of the planning.

"What we did was broaden our responsibilities while tightening up on the Steering Committee positions," Muller said.

Commenting on W&L's "system" for predicting the correct presidential nominee, Lewis and Muller said that the key to the success is each state chairman's doing political research in his state.

Ensuring the 13th correct prediction became the job of Jack Dent during the convention reorganization process in October. It was at this time that Dent, a senior, was named chairman of the Credentials Committee and became responsible for coordinating the political research.

The Credentials Committee is



1948—Earl Warren was the California favorite.

composed of Dent along with the four regional research coordinators. In addition to overseeing each state's political research throughout the campaign, the committee will serve as the final political check for each state chairman at the convention.

Serious research began in October and November of 1983.

"The political groundwork was not done last spring as it should have been...that is why I was appointed," Dent said.

Dent described the political research process as simply laying the groundwork of contacts and organization and then just keeping abreast of developments through various resources.

He stressed that the state chairmen have been doing the research and said that "we (the Credentials Committee) are letting them make the prediction.... It is their thing now."

Dent said that some of the chairmen split up the responsibilities of political research by districts and have gotten many members of their delegations involved.

"Many of the state chairmen and regional coordinators know much more politically than I do," he said, adding that in the past two weeks he has been concentrating on the organizational details of the Convention with Lewis and Muller.

For those state chairmen whose states have not had their primaries or caucuses yet, their work has been one long research process continuing through Saturday.

For the other three-quarters of the state chairmen, whose states already have gone to the voting booth, the last few months have been spent verifying their state delegate counts and concentrating on determining the preference of any uncommitted delegates.

Dent cited three major political barometers the student researchers utilized. Factual information about the campaign was obtained from the press while party leaders served as contacts for inside and subjective information. Questionnaires sent out to various people were helpful in confirming their final hypothesis.

Each state chairman has also familiarized himself with his state's rules governing the loyalty of delegates in case the mock nomination should go beyond the first ballot, which Dent feels is unlikely.

Dent and his staff did not have much to work with as far as political information from past conventions was concerned.

"We had seen barely what they had done in the past, and then we learned by experience ... altering things which didn't work along the way," Dent said.

A common goal mentioned by all leaders of this year's Mock Convention has been to keep accurate records to pass on to future conventions.

One of the new political tools begun by this convention was the predicting of state primary and caucus results. The W&L predictions had a 65-70 percent accuracy rate.

"Predicting the primaries really got the political ball rolling," Dent said.

Dent admits that a complex nomination still exists just in the fact of having three candidates left in the race and 35-40 percent of the delegates still to be chosen. At the end of last week, Walter Mondale had approximately 1,236 delegates to Gary Hart's 670 and Jesse Jackson's 206 delegates with roughly 1,400 delegates still to be selected before July.

Dent said that once the uncommitted delegates start to commit their votes, Mondale will most likely be "put over the top."

647 votes will be needed to secure the nomination at the Mock Convention.

"We are 99 percent sure of a correct presidential nominee," related co-chairmen Lewis and Muller.

For the past two weeks; the political emphasis has been on the vice presidential nomination. Each state chairman has been researching possible candidates from his state and leaders have been finalizing a list of nominees.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen from Texas seems to be a popular candidate and a likely nominee according to Dent.

The financial end of the 1984 convention has also developed

into a strong and supportive aspect.

At the end of last September only one-fifth of the projected budget had been raised while the end of last week saw 90 percent of all funds raised, according to Mike Shelton, treasurer for the Mock Convention.

The remaining 10 percent of the budget is expected to be raised this week in memorabilia sales and final contributions with the convention ending up "in the black."

Having no lists from previous conventions to use as a guide, fund-raising efforts began in September with contributions solicited from alumni, former convention participants, parents and the individual state delegations.

Shelton was very pleased with the efforts of the delegations in raising close to \$20,000; \$5,000 of which went to the Steering Committee. A total of \$8,000 was raised through contribution and the February pavilion party.

The remainder of the Mock Convention funds came from a Hatton W. Sumners' Foundation grant that totaled \$31,000 in February and another \$14,000 in interest resulting from a separate endowment also given to W&L by the Sumners' Foundation.

A final \$10,000 came from student taxes.

The 1984 budget has been by far the largest of any Mock Convention.

"I was overwhelmed with the fund-raising response we got," Shelton said. "It is a testimony to the high regard the convention is held in across the country."

That high regard will be tested this weekend when the 18th W&L Mock Convention is convened.

Many processes and cycles have been completed to bring this event to its completion. Muller summed it up this way in speaking about his goals for the Convention: "It should be a sense of a shared project ... a culmination of a lot of people to be proud together of what we have done."

The EC already has called for the applications for the temporary chairmen of the 1988 Mock Convention. With the closing gavel on Saturday, a new cycle of success will begin.

# Conservatives & their liberal education

## Mock platform planks lead to voicing of student opinions

By STEVEN POCKRASS  
Staff Reporter

For many Washington and Lee students, the Mock Convention will be just that, a "mock" convention, although not in the pejorative sense.

Many students will be arguing for Democratic candidates and issues they could never support in real life. Of course, this is not the first time that this has occurred at our traditionally conservative campus.

According to junior Scott Tilley, who served as president of W&L's College Republicans this year and will work on the state level next year, the 1976 Mock Convention was especially divided. The College Republicans were so upset with the platform submitted by the Platform Committee that year that they had the Committee's platform defeated and submitted their own proposals, which were passed by a majority of the delegates. Tilley, who chairs this year's Platform Committee, will not allow a similar incident to occur this weekend.

A major question is whether W&L is as conservative as everyone believes, and what effect this will have on our Convention. "I've heard many times that W&L is one of the most conservative schools in the country," Tilley said. While he has no data on where the University ranks on a conservative scale, Tilley believes this to be true,

and uses as evidence the comparative size of the College Republicans (200 members, each paying four dollars dues) and the University's Young Democrats (less than a dozen members and no dues.)

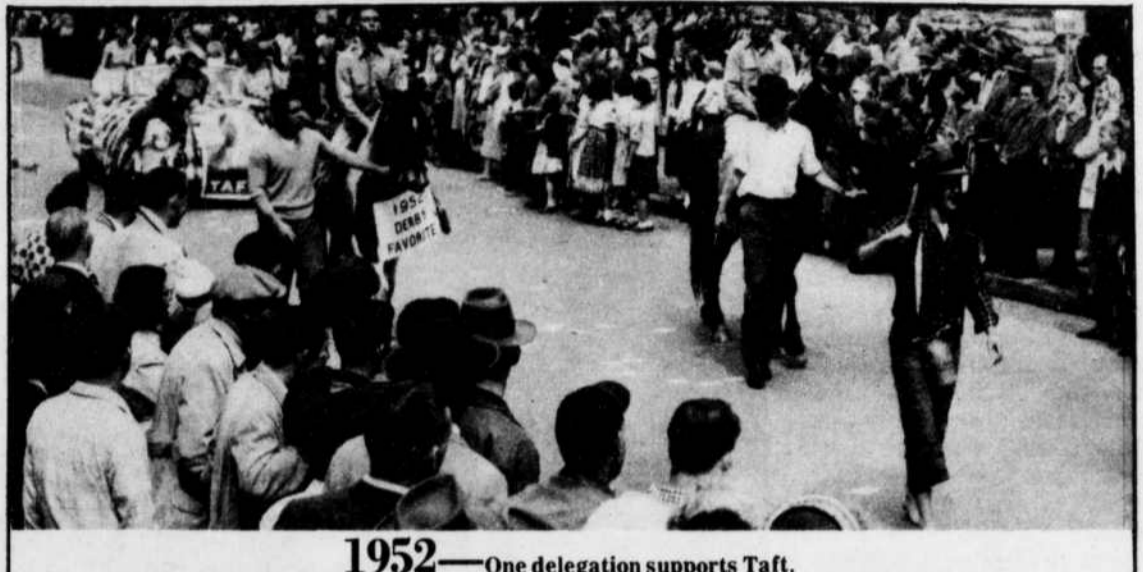
Convention co-Chairman Peter Muller feels that the school is definitely Republican, but that liberals on campus feel too intimidated to be vocal. "There is a more liberal undercurrent which is less pronounced," Muller said.

If such an undercurrent does exist, it has not resulted in any left-wing or liberal groups that other campuses find a need for, according to Tilley.

With the campus' conservative tendencies and the large number of College Republicans participating in the Convention, two more major questions arise: "Do the students have any problem representing a viewpoint they don't believe in?" and "Has working on the Mock Convention affected students' views?"

"I can separate (my personal views and Convention views). I have to do the research in my state. There's really nothing personal about that," Vermont State Chairman Ron Fenstermacher said, adding, "I would find it very hard to argue against what I think."

Mike Bearup, chairman of the New Mexico delegation, feels it is a good idea for students to be exposed to both sides, although the Convention has not altered



1952—One delegation supports Taft.

his political outlook. "I don't see any conflicts," he said.

Muller does feel that the Convention has affected his outlook. "It may have dulled my adamant Republican views a bit. It made me more sympathetic to Democratic views," he said.

"It hasn't really affected me either way," said the Convention Executive Director, Lee Feldman, a senior and a member of the College Republicans. "I know that I have my views outside of the Convention."

Tilley feels that working as Platform Chairman has actually solidified his Republican ideas because he discovered how "ludicrous" some of the Democratic planks are. "It

helped polarize my views," Tilley said.

But Tilley said he and his committee have developed a platform that may be more liberal than anything the Democrats could ever produce. It may seem odd that the committee would develop such an authentic platform but that is in the spirit of the Convention, which can be divided into two parts.

The major part of the Convention is the students' striving for authenticity in determining the party's candidate. The second part is the students' opportunity to voice personal opinions concerning the platform.

"The way we're doing it is good," Tilley said. "Once we've researched it (the platform), I

think it's good that we can have the students' input."

Indiana State Chairman Greg Flentje considers it a smart idea to allow student opinion to be expressed in the platform. "The platform will be the most difficult to argue against their views," he said.

"It's important to have some aspect that represents the University," said Bearup, who believes that it would be too difficult for a delegation to research the platform accurately.

According to Muller, the Convention is meant to be both accurate and collegiate. "It (the platform) is such a stringent Democratic view...moderated by W&L students."

As the media concentrate on the Convention's accuracy the platform gives the students the occasion to make their views known to the nation, according to Feldman. "The platform is structured in such a way as to present our views. It's our chance to actually be heard," he explained.

Marion County, Ind., offers an example of what it is like to be a Democrat in a very Republican sector of the nation or on a very Republican campus. Supposedly the second most Republican district in the nation, Marion County was gerrymandered street by street following the 1980 census.

Marion County Democratic Chairman John Livengood believes that there are actually more Democrats than Republicans in the county. His approach to politics may be the opposite of what some would expect. "Traditionally, Marion County ... has been a primary (election) influence," Livengood said. "We've shifted gears since I've been chairman."

Rather than concentrate on the primary, where the party could have definite influence, the Democrats have switched emphasis to the November election, which any decent Republican candidate is almost sure to win. The Democrats will not publicly endorse any candidate in the primary in an at-

(continued on page 4)

## Calendar of events

Thursday, May 10

9 a.m. States allowed on Brewbaker field, Lexington High School, for float construction  
8 p.m. Charles McDowell-Lee Chapel class of '48. Alumni Association Speaker

Friday, May 11

PARADE - 10 a.m.

First session-1 p.m. Warner Center

Pre-Convention entertainment  
Call to Order  
Presentation of Colors  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Singing of the National Anthem  
Invocation  
Call for Convention

Gunnar K. Jordan, Convention Secretary  
Greetings from the University  
John D. Wilson, President  
Greetings from the City of Lexington  
The Hon. Charles F. Phillips Jr., Mayor  
Greetings from the Commonwealth of Virginia  
The Hon. Charles S. Robb, Governor  
Welcoming Address  
The Hon. Ernest Hollings, U.S. Senator From South Carolina  
Remarks by the Temporary Chairman  
Michael M. Shelton  
Report of the Committee on Credentials  
Jack R. Dent, Chairman  
Report of the Committee on Rules  
Lee R. Feldman, Chairman  
Benediction  
Adjournment

Second Session-8 p.m. Warner Center

Pre-Convention entertainment  
Call to Order  
Invocation  
Election of the Permanent Chairman and Vice Chairman  
Peter Muller  
Opening Remarks of the Permanent Vice Chairman  
Steven E. Lewis  
Opening Address  
The Hon. Joseph R. Biden Jr., U.S. Senator from Delaware  
Platform Address  
The Hon. Jennings Randolph, U.S. Senator from West Virginia.  
Report of the Committee on Resolutions (Platform)  
B. Scott Tilley, Chairman  
Benediction  
Adjournment

Saturday, May 12

Third Session - 9:30 a.m., Warner Center

Pre-Convention entertainment  
Call to Order  
Presentation of Colors  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Singing of the National Anthem  
Invocation  
Keynote Address  
The Hon. William Proxmire, U.S. Sen. from Wisconsin  
Nominations for President of the United States  
Nominations for Vice President of the United States  
Roll Call of the States to select a nominee for Vice President of the United States  
Benediction  
Adjournment Sine Die

Sunday, May 13

1 p.m. SAB/IFC Spring Sunday Featuring Clarence Clemons at Wilson Field

# Conflict

(continued from page 3)

tempt not to divide the party during the general election, Livengood said.

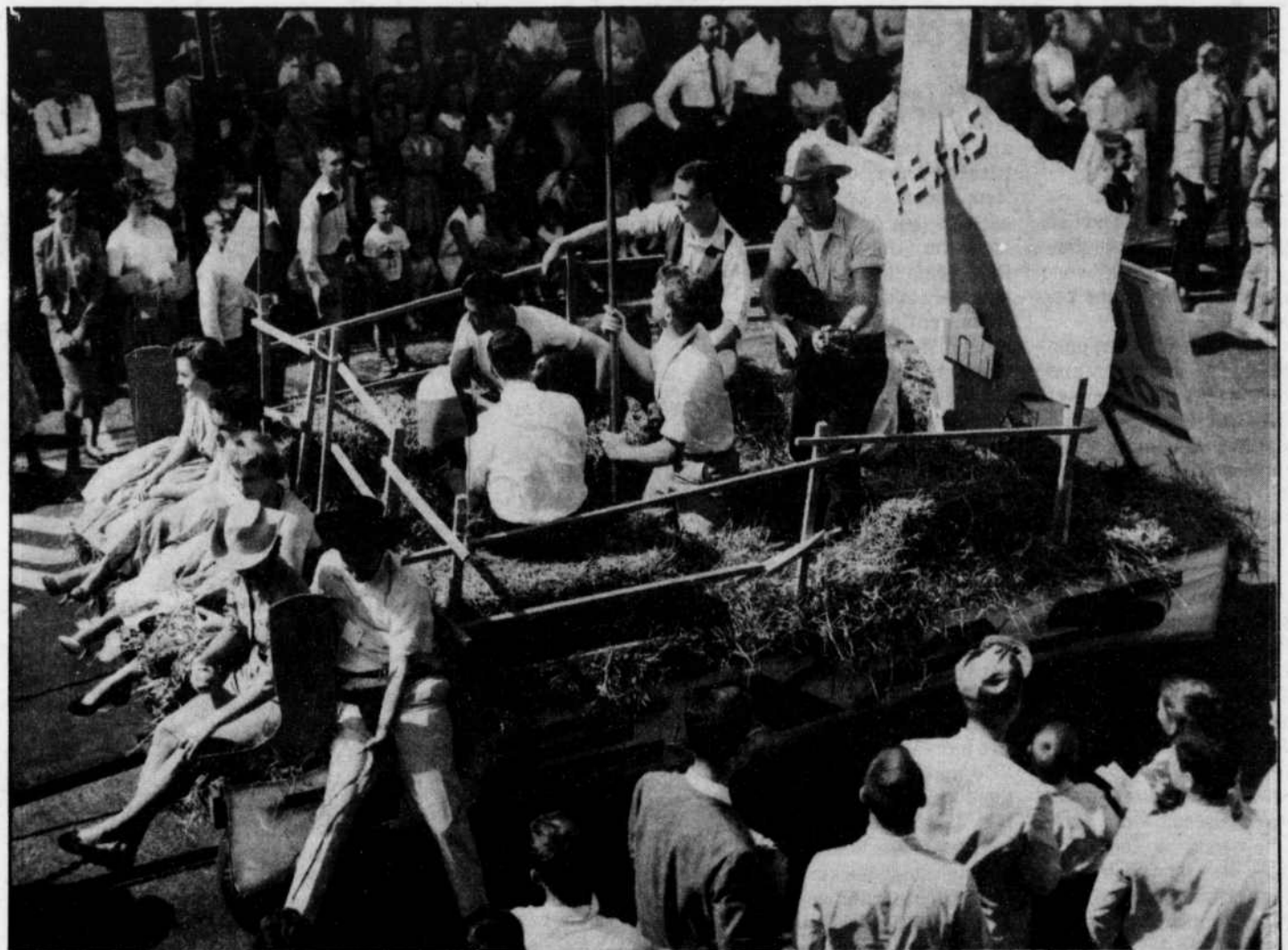
Livengood presents an overly positive attitude in an area where a liberal would seem to have little to be positive about. Terming his party "out-organized and out-financed," Livengood still is optimistic.

"We're going to make our candidates competitive," he said. For the most part, the Democratic candidates in Marion County who have been competitive are those who display a more conservative outlook.

No matter how weak a state's Democratic party, none of the states will have trouble attracting delegates for the real Democratic Presidential Convention in San Francisco. On the W&L campus, that is hardly the case.

At a University where many students will not go to hear a Soviet speaker because he is a Communist, could it be that die-hard conservatives are bypassing this year's Convention because it is Democratic? The correlation does not seem to exist.

According to Feldman, both the incoming and outgoing State Chairmen of the Virginia College Republicans are traveling to Lexington this weekend to witness the festivities. Feldman is currently filling up empty



1956—Texans backed LBJ.

delegate slots with Lexington High School students, and attributes the poor turnout compared to the 1980 Republican Convention to student apathy. "I've seen increased student apathy toward events," he said.

Tilley believes that the lower turnout can be attributed to

political outlook "only on a very superficial level." "They (the students) realize this is a one-time thing when they're here," he said.

With the large number of dyed-in-the-wool Republicans who are participating, it does not seem to be a viable explanation

that students are shying away because of political ideology. Those who are strong Republicans can still take heart in the fact this is a Mock Democratic Convention and, like Tilley, should hope that W&L holds a Mock Democratic Convention every four years. That, of

course, would mean the Republicans will always be in power.

For better or for worse, no matter how accurate our predictions, this weekend's quadrennial event will certainly have to go down in W&L's annals as one of our truly mock conventions.

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# The tale of one state delegation

By MIKE SINGER  
and  
PARKER SCHENEKER  
Summer Interns

A year ago the 1984 Mock Convention was just a distant vision of some unknown (or rather "well-known") happening, perhaps even bigger than Fancy Dress itself. After the positions for state chairmen of the Convention had been filled through the application and interview process, we began some early work in preparation for the coming year.

During the spring of 1983 we began to brainstorm about the possibilities for the Texas Delegation, especially in fundraising. Having printed our delegation stationery, we sent our first fund-raising letters to graduating seniors. Although we received no response, we had our first exposure to the hardships of soliciting for delegation funds.

During the summer a slew of letters was sent to raise money for the delegation. Working with delegation Secretary Anthony Interrante, three different letters were sent to parents of delegates, parents of potential delegates and parents of entering freshmen from Texas. At the time we were unsure as to the response to the letters, but we had made a good effort, personalizing each letter and typing every envelope. The letter would eventually raise over \$7000! In addition, we sent letters to the

co-chairmen of the Texas Delegation of the 1980 Mock Convention. The response was prompt and most helpful.

When we returned in the fall, we began efforts to find corporate sponsors. A letter was sent to Dod Distributing Company, the major distributor of Coors beer in the area, two days after our return to Lexington. We had chosen Coors as the official beer because of its great popularity in Texas, plus the availability of it in the area. A week after sending the letter, we received a telephone call from Steve Dod, president of the company, to meet him in Lexington. During our visit with him, we were assured of a sponsorship by Coors.

We returned in the winter to meet with Mr. Dod's assistant, Henley Carter, and Michele Burgwyn, the "young-adult coordinator" for the regional Coors office in Charlotte, N.C. At the meeting with Carter and Burgwyn, we finalized plans for a float design and received Coors paraphernalia. In addition, Mr. Carter promised us \$500 to "cover research expenses." When we returned to Lexington that day, we informed the Steering Committee of the sponsorship.

The money from the three summer letters began to roll in, as we had already raised \$500 before most states had even begun fundraising. Moreover, our largest check was for just \$100, while most were for \$25.



1960— Former President Harry S. Truman visits the Mock Convention.

Before we left for Thanksgiving, we sent 200 more letters to alumni.

Our first delegation meeting was called during the latter part of fall term, when we explained that we would handle different areas of delegation business. Parker Scheneker handled the finances, parties and float, while Michael Singer would handle the research, prediction and convention activities.

At our second meeting the delegates were asked to fill out information cards so we could assign them to a certain area of the convention (float, parties, research, etc.). Perhaps the

most embarrassing point at the meeting occurred when we asked the 30-or-so delegates if they knew the name of their congressmen. Only two or three said they were absolutely sure! How ironic that would later be.

With most of the states being unable to raise sufficient delegation funds, we decided to give the Steering Committee our summer solicitation letters, along with several ideas that we had incorporated in our letters. The letter and the pledge sheet/"Mock Convention History" was sent by every delegation except ours, which had already done so.

By the time the Iowa caucuses had finished, we had printed a research survey to be sent to our contacts. However, with the steering committee's interest in the survey, we gave it to them to be fine-tuned for the entire Convention. Furthermore, with the race developing, we could only hope that it would not be a Mondale run-away. We began to view the other primaries with interest and soon began to realize that this could very well be an interesting race.

Meetings were scheduled for the delegation every Tuesday night, as we assigned a delegate to each of the 27 congressional districts. We planned on eventually voting on our choice for the Democratic nomination by district, and we decided that we would predict the outcome of the important May 5 Texas caucuses. During every Tuesday meeting each delegate from the various districts gave a short report on the political situation in the area.

Plans had also begun for a party sponsored by Coors. Having informed the steering committee of our plans, we were put "on hold" to investigate the idea before the February break. We were finally informed that we could have the party just one month before the date we had planned for it. Because of this, the selection for bands was low and dates to actually have the party were slim-to-none. After scheduling the party, we asked the Alabama, Colorado and Tennessee delegation to join us. All plans were finalized.

Two days before the party, the administration informed us that we could face serious problems with the law, having advertised a "BYOB" pavilion party. After long discussions concerning the potential legal ramifications of the party, we decided to go for broke and have it. The result

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GOVERNOR CHARLES ROBB

## Virginia's Robb will welcome convention

Va. Governor Charles S. Robb will deliver a welcoming address from the Commonwealth of Virginia at Friday's first session of the Mock Convention.

Robb, who received his law degree in 1973 from the University of Virginia, was elected Lieutenant Governor of Virginia in 1977.

On November 3, 1981, Robb defeated Republican Attorney

General J. Marshall Coleman to become Virginia's 64th governor. Considered one of the more prominent Democratic governors in the country, Robb is a member of the National Governors' Association and the Democratic Governors' Conference.

Robb, 44, is married to Lynda Johnson Robb, and the couple has three daughters.

## Proxmire is keynote speaker

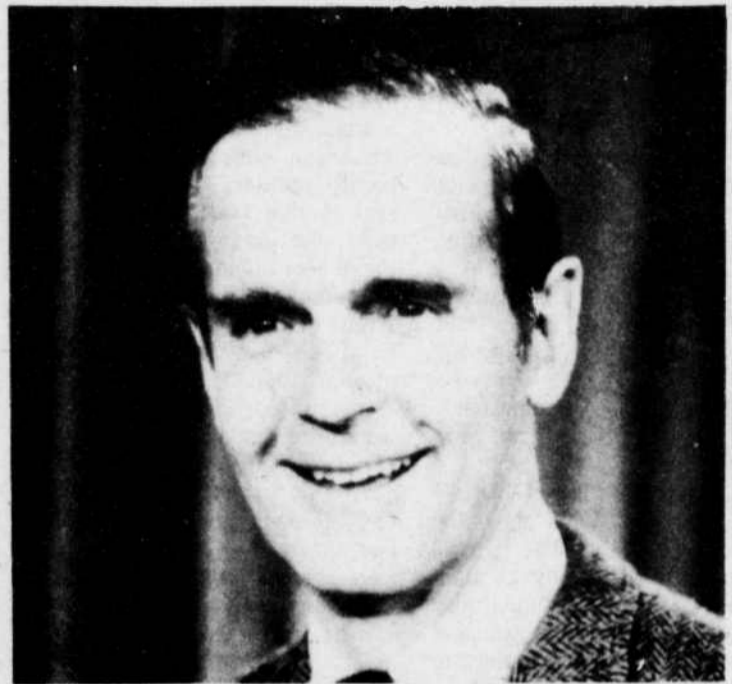
Sen. William Proxmire, a Democrat from Wisconsin, will deliver the Mock Convention's keynote address at the Convention's final session Saturday, May 12, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Proxmire's distinguished political career goes back to 1950, when he was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly. In 1957 he was elected to fill the U.S. Senate seat left vacant by the death of Joseph McCarthy. He was re-elected the following year to his first full six-year term and was again re-elected in 1964, 1970, 1976 and 1982.

In both the 1976 and the 1982 campaigns, Proxmire accepted no campaign contributions and spent less than \$200.

The former chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, Proxmire now is ranking minority member of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee and a member of the Appropriations Committee and the Congressional Joint Economic Committee.

Proxmire has the longest unbroken record in the Senate



SENATOR WILLIAM PROXMIRE

for answering roll call votes. He has not missed a single one of the over 8,000 roll call votes since April 1966.

Proxmire's "golden fleece" award for wasting federal money has become a monthly

Washington tradition.

According to the National Taxpayers Union, Proxmire held the best record in the Senate during each of the last four years for holding down spending.

## Delegation

(continued from page 5)

was a disaster; even the delegates from the four sponsoring delegations did not attend the party. But it had been budgeted, so the hard work in the area of

fundraising paid off.

By Thursday, May 3, just two days before the Texas Caucuses, those delegates who had researched the various districts met to fill out questionnaires and ballots concerning the election. Each had made numerous telephone calls from the Mock Convention office asking for the favorite Democratic candidate in the area and the percentage lead of the front-runner.

From the ballots and questionnaires, a group of four (Mike Singer, David Webber, Anthony Interrante and Markham Pyle) met to make the prediction from the information provided by the questionnaires. The final predic-

tion was then posted in the Mock Convention office a day in advance of the actual caucuses.

The greatest irony of all involved the members of the delegation who had not even known their congressmen. They were now predicting with amazing accuracy how their districts would vote in the May 5 caucuses for the Democratic nomination. Based on months of research, the delegation had made an accurate prediction; just a few percentage points off the actual vote. With the work on finances, the float and prediction in the final stages, the Texas Delegation is indeed ready for the 1984 Mock Democratic Convention.

# Palm Parlor

*Welcome all returning W&L Alumni and best wishes for a successful Mock Convention. Stop by and see us for lunch after the parade. Also our Bistro is open for outside dining.*

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## Sen. Randolph will present platform

### Lawmaker ending 52-year career

Sen. Jennings Randolph, a Democrat from West Virginia, will deliver the platform address at the convention's second session Friday evening.

Randolph, who will retire following the completion of his term in January 1985, is a veteran of the New Deal. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1932 with the Franklin Roosevelt administration. Defeated in 1946, he entered the private sector and then was elected to the Senate in 1958.

The former chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Randolph is now ranking minority member

on that committee and is the second ranking Democrat on the Labor and Human Resources Committee and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

During his 40-year legislative career, Randolph, 82, has been a champion of a nationwide transportation system and the rights of the handicapped.

One of Randolph's brightest moments occurred in 1971, when the 26th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, lowering the voting age to 18. An advocate of allowing younger citizens to vote, Randolph had introduced similar legislation in the House of Representatives as early as 1942.

## Sen. Biden to open Friday night session

Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., Democrat from Delaware and a leading foreign policy expert, will deliver the opening address at the second session of the Mock Convention Friday evening.

Biden, 41, has served in the U.S. Senate longer than over half of the other 99 members. First elected in 1972, he was re-elected in 1978 and serves on four of the Senate's most powerful committees.

Biden is the ranking Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee, second ranking on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and third ranking on the

Senate Budget Committee and the Select Committee on Intelligence.

Recognized as one of the Senate's leading foreign policy experts, Biden was a leader in the effort to win Senate ratification of the SALT II treaty and is in the forefront of most foreign policy debates. Biden also is chairman of the Senate Democratic Task Force on Crime.

Biden is a graduate of the University of Delaware and the Syracuse University School of Law. He lives in Wilmington with his wife, Jill, and three children.

## Off the campaign trail, Sen. Hollings to visit W&L

Sen. Ernest "Fritz" Hollings, a Democrat from South Carolina and a former presidential candidate this year, will deliver greetings from the Democratic party at the Mock Convention's first session May 11.

Hollings was one of the eight Democratic presidential candidates this year until he withdrew from the race after the

New Hampshire primary.

Hollings holds several important positions in the Senate hierarchy. He is the ranking Democrat on the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee and is a respected member of two other powerful committees — the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Senate Budget Committee.



1964—A platform of "free flicks" and legal "public boozing."

## Parade to begin Convention

A parade through downtown Lexington, speeches by Virginia Gov. Charles Robb and four leading U.S. senators, and the nomination of presidential and vice-presidential candidates will highlight the 18th Mock Convention this weekend.

Nearly 100 student organizers have been working for over two years planning this weekend's event, which will begin tomorrow at 10 a.m. with the traditional Mock Convention parade.

Each of the 55 state delegations has built a float for the parade, which will begin at Lexington High School and wind its way to Main Street, where it will head north. The parade then will turn left onto Washington Street before finishing at the Warner Center.

In addition to the imaginative and creative floats, several bands from area high schools and some other special attractions will be featured in the parade, which is expected to last about two hours.

The first session of the Mock Convention will begin at 1 p.m. tomorrow in the Warner Center. Following welcoming remarks by W&L President John D. Wilson and Lexington Mayor Charles Phillips, Gov. Charles S. Robb will deliver a brief address.

Sen. Ernest "Fritz" Hollings, D-S.C., will bring greetings from

the Democratic party to the Mock Convention. Hollings was one of the eight Democratic presidential candidates this year before withdrawing from the race after the New Hampshire primary Feb. 28.

Speeches by Sens. Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del., and Jennings Randolph, D-W.Va., will open the second session, beginning Friday at 8 p.m.

Biden, 41, is one of the Democratic party's rising leaders, and Randolph, 82, has announced his retirement from the Senate. Randolph's congressional experience began when he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1932 with the Franklin Roosevelt administration and the New Deal.

Randolph's address will precede the platform debate Friday evening. A Mock Convention committee, headed by junior Scott Tilley, has prepared a platform report similar to the one the Democrats will debate at their convention in San Francisco in July.

Mock Convention delegates will debate and vote on various planks of the platform, which will be a combination of Democratic stances and student opinion.

The final session will convene at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wisc., will deliver the keynote

address that morning. Proxmire, noted for his careful spending of both federal money and campaign funds, has initiated a monthly Washington tradition with the awarding of his "golden fleece" awards for the wasting of federal funds.

Following Proxmire's address, the actual nomination process will begin. Just as at the real Democratic National Convention this summer, candidates must be nominated and seconded in order to be considered.

When the roll-call voting begins later that morning, an interesting battle is expected to develop between former Vice president Walter Mondale and Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., with the third remaining candidate, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, playing an important role, according to convention organizers.

Each of the 1,313 mock delegates will cast three votes, equaling the 3,939 votes that will be cast in San Francisco this summer. When a nominee is selected by the Mock Convention, convention organizers hope to contact him by telephone for an acceptance speech.

Also Saturday, the delegates will determine a vice-presidential nominee, a task first taken seriously in 1976 with the correct prediction of Mondale. That final session is expected to end in the early to middle afternoon.

All of the events of the Mock Convention will be open to the public free of charge.

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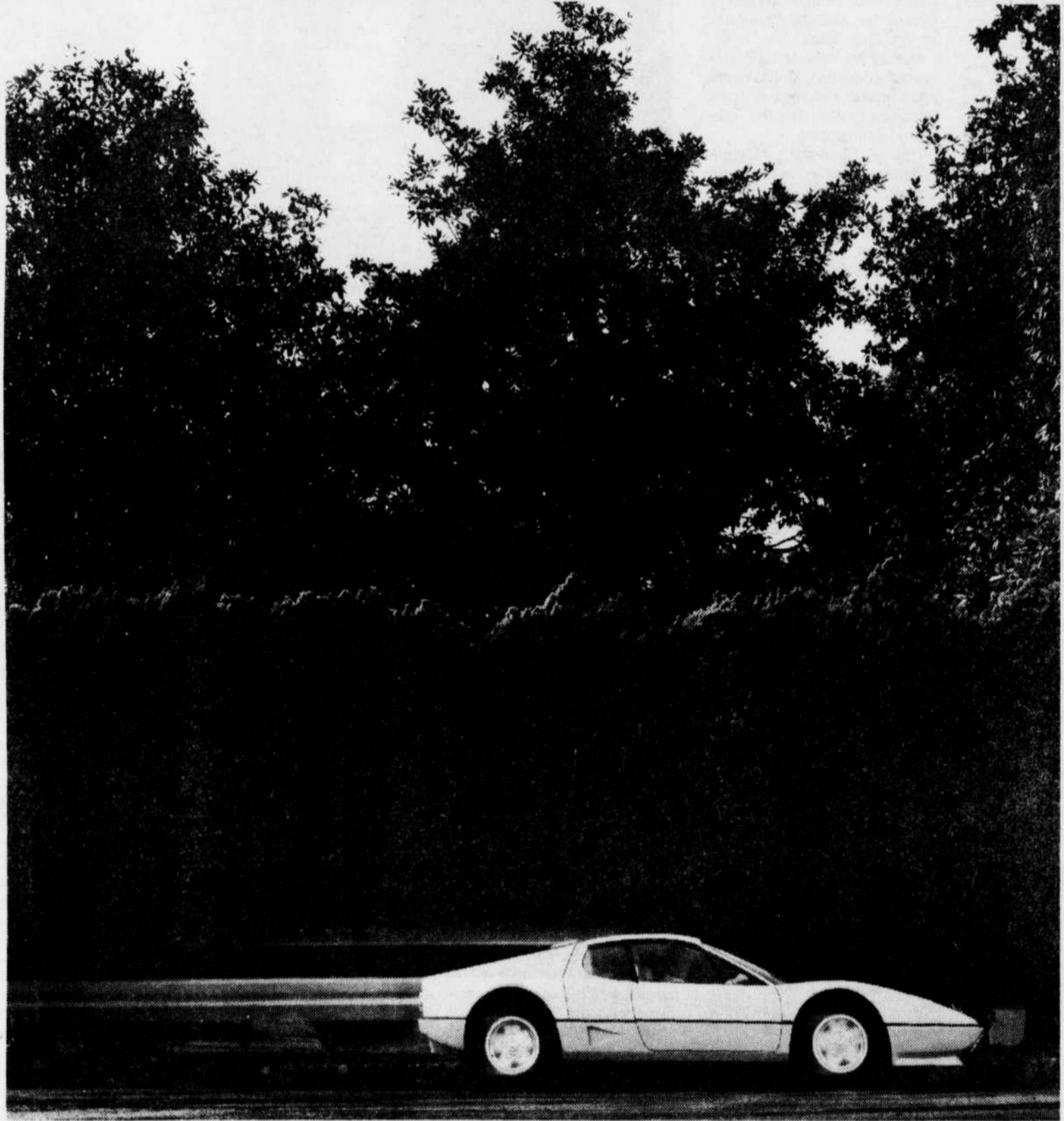
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# The W&L Mock Convention extravaganza

## *A rich history of rhetoric, speakers, hoopla and a record of accuracy*

By B. SCOTT TILLEY  
Staff Reporter

The history of Washington and Lee University's Mock Convention is an often-told story, but one whose rich tradition and record of accuracy make it ripe for repetition.

Political rhetoric and hoopla, prominent speakers (including two presidents — Truman and Carter), national media coverage, the death of a vice-president and in-depth research resulting in an uncanny record of accuracy have made the W&L Mock Convention the best known and most widely respected collegiate political extravaganza in the nation.

The visit of presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan in 1908 gave occasion to the first Mock Convention, which not surprisingly nominated Bryan. That convention was marked by the only floor fights (in the literal sense of the word) in convention history, as supporters of Governor John A. Johnson of Minnesota became over-zealous and invited the Bryan supporters outside.

After the brawl the convention continued, and thus began its record of accuracy. The Lexington Gazette reported after that first convention that "the young gentlemen entered into the meeting with the zest of seasoned politicians plus the enthusiasm of collegians."

The students missed in 1912, when they nominated Ohio governor Judson Harmon over Woodrow Wilson, but they did not miss again until 1936. In 1924 the convention accomplished its most amazing feat.

Heated debate that year over a "wet" plank in the platform (these were the days of Prohibition) carried over into a heated battle for the Democratic nomination. Thirteen candidates

were nominated, and a heated and frustrating debate ensued. After the 22nd ballot, the northeastern states united behind W&L graduate John W. Davis, West Virginia's favorite-son candidate. The "dry" states of Texas, Ohio and Connecticut walked out, but upon their return Davis was nominated on the 24th ballot.

That summer in New York City, the Democrats were deadlocked for 103 ballots before a compromise candidate was chosen: John W. Davis. The band struck up "The W&L Swing," which became Davis' campaign theme song.

The convention went through a dark spell from 1936-1948, predicting incorrectly in three of the four conventions in that period. In 1936 the students turned down the eventual candidate,

Alf Landon, for Michigan Sen. Arthur Vandenberg. Oregon Sen. Charles McNary was selected in 1940 rather than the correct choice, Wendell Wilkie, and in 1948 W&L again went for Vandenberg, although Thomas Dewey would eventually get the nod.

Since 1948, though, the Mock Convention has been wrong only once, in 1972. In that year the eventual "real" nominee, George McGovern, was only 25 1/2 votes short of the necessary 1,509 after the third ballot, but his support waned and, as he fell into a deadlock with Hubert Humphrey, the convention tried to repeat its 1924 magic with another compromise candidate, Edward Kennedy. This time it was not as fortunate, as McGovern went on to win the California and New York

primaries to sew up the real nomination.

Brilliant research paid off in 1952, when the convention was deadlocked between World War II hero Dwight Eisenhower and Sen. Robert Taft. After three ballots Taft led Eisenhower, and California Governor Earl Warren was a distant third. The California chairman at the convention had been in touch with Warren and received a wire after the third ballot to swing his support to Eisenhower, who won the nomination. Warren was thanked by being given the vice-presidential bid.

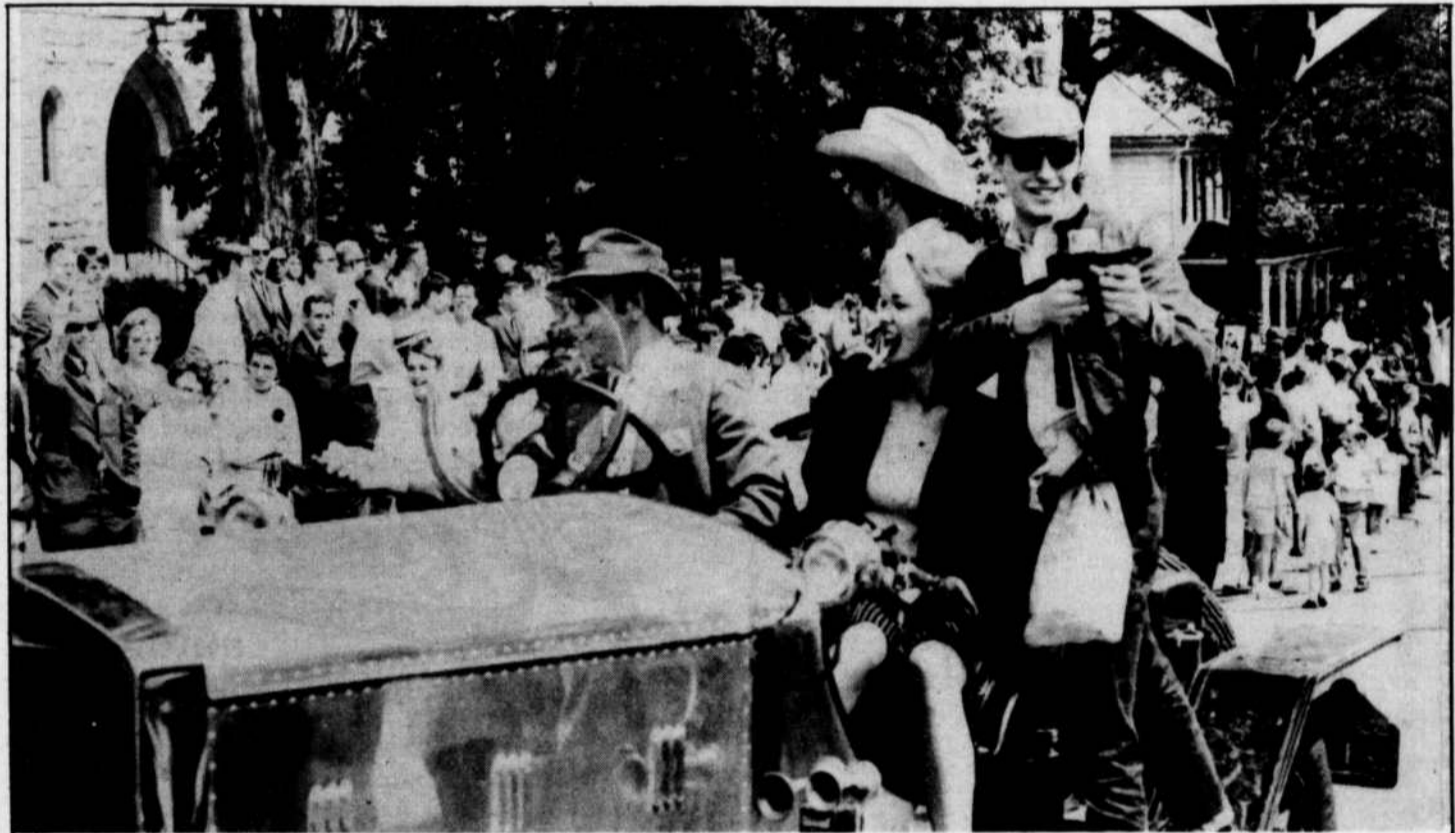
Two presidents have keynoted conventions: Harry S. Truman in 1960 and then-Governor Jimmy Carter in 1972. 1964 candidate Barry Goldwater was the keynoter at the 1980 Mock Convention, but the most dramatic

speech of all occurred in 1956, when the entire nation turned its eye to this small college community.

Former Vice President Alben Barkley keynoted the convention that year, and his fiery oratory prowess had fired the student delegates up. As his speech reached a stormy climax, he screamed, "I would rather be a servant in the house of the Lord than to sit in the seats of the mighty" — and fell dead of a heart attack.

"You have unfinished business," Mrs. Barkley reminded the convention, and it convened one week later to nominate Adlai Stevenson.

Seventy-six years of history and tradition are on the line in 1984 — a tough tradition to try to live up to.



1968 — Gangsters pass in front of R.E. Lee Episcopal Church.

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# Since 1912, Latture's been there

*92-year-old professor emeritus has supported Wilson, FDR, Truman*

By NELSON PATTERSON  
Staff Reporter

There are a few landmarks at Washington and Lee. The Colonnade, Lee Chapel and Lee House come to mind. And don't forget Professor Emeritus Rupert N. Latture, a walking and talking fount of knowledge about W&L.

For Latture, remembering the 1912 Mock Democratic Convention isn't very difficult. His knowledge of the event, however, doesn't come from books but from first-hand experience. Latture was a student at the time, and like most students at the second Mock Convention he just did what he was told.

"I was just present and voted," he said, adding with a glint in his 92-year-old eyes, "I was a (Woodrow) Wilson man. Still am."

Even the 1916 Republican Mock Convention stands clearly

in Latture's mind.

"In 1916 I was working for my M.A. degree," Latture noted. "I was chairman of the Tennessee delegation that year. Had about 15 guys on that delegation, quite a few when you consider we had a little less than 600 students here at the time.

"Let's see. In 1911, we had 636 students, I believe, when I entered. That hadn't increased much after 1911-1912. It decreased up until the first World War and then came back up after the war."

Then there's the 1924 convention. (Latture was quick to note that there were no conventions in 1920 or 1944, due to the wars).

In 1924, we nominated John W. Davis. I was adviser to the convention that year. Everybody was surprised. The contest had been between (Alfred) Smith and (William) McAdoo. At the time we needed two-thirds vote

of the delegates to nominate. It was a real battle between those two," he said. "Of course, the most amazing thing was that we nominated Davis first. Nobody expected it."

"1932 was certainly important for us also. We nominated FDR. Then he was nominated in Chicago three weeks afterward. I attended the convention in Chicago that year, quite a battle it was. A.W. Robertson, the Senator from Virginia, got me tickets.

"Dr. (Frances) Gaines was President (of the University) in 1932. His brother-in-law, a law student named Cavat Robert, nominated Roosevelt. He was chairman of the New York delegation. He now speaks before large groups as a profession and says he discovered his talents for speaking to audiences while nominating FDR for the convention in '32," he said.

His conversation slowly moved back to his experiences at the Chicago National Democratic Convention, (including) hearing Roosevelt accept the nomination. This was the first time a Presidential candidate ever addressed the nominating convention.

"In the 1932 convention, Mr. Roosevelt flew to Chicago to accept the nomination. I was sitting about as close to him as the wall over there," he noted, point-

ing to a wall about 12 feet away. "I was in the balcony above the podium."

"I remember two or three things about the 1932 convention. One was the Chicago delegation. They were afraid Roosevelt wasn't wet enough. They were afraid he couldn't get enough money or that he would push for more liquor, hard liquor. I saw Al Smith. Saw Huey Long but didn't speak to him.

"At the last meeting of the convention, we found out Roosevelt was coming to town. So they decided on an additional session. I didn't have a ticket to it. Hadn't anticipated it. I was staying at the Steven's Hotel in Chicago, and when the New York delegation came into the lobby, I walked up to one of them and asked where I might get a ticket. One guy said, 'Here. Take the damn ticket.' He was mad Al Smith hadn't been nominated. So I got to hear Roosevelt," he said.

Roosevelt wasn't the only president whom Latture remembers readily. He recalls Harry Truman's visit to the 1960 Mock Convention and then-Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter's address to the 1972 convention.

"I remember Harry Truman very well. He and Dr. Gaines sat out and watched the parade on the lawn between the President's house and (R.E. Lee)

Episcopal," Latture said. "I didn't have much contact with him. Just shook hands."

"In 1972, Carter left a favorable impression on the convention. A fine man," he said.

The convention that made the biggest news was the 1956 convention, when former Vice President Alben Barkley died after finishing his address to the convention.

"I was sitting as close as the door to Barkley," said Latture, pointing to a door about 12 feet away. "He had said his famous statement — 'I would rather be a servant in the house of the Lord than sit in the seats of the mighty' — and then stepped back. He was standing on a platform on the podium and there were ribbons around the edge. I thought he had fallen when actually he had died. In a few moments, we realized he had dropped dead. He fell right at Mrs. Barkley's feet. Some photographer tried to take his picture as he lay there. Dr. Gaines didn't think that was too appropriate and didn't allow it. Of course, Mrs. Barkley insisted they continue the convention, though they stopped the convention for a few days," he said. "We went on to nominate (Adlai) Stevenson."

Will Latture attend this weekend's convention, his 17th and the University's 18th Mock Convention?

"Oh, I guess I'll take a look in. I've seen every convention since the first one in 1912. Only missed the 1908 convention," he said, chuckling.

After all, he's only one shy of perfect attendance.

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# Convention finances in good shape

By ANDY HOPPE  
Staff Reporter

With \$95,333 raised as of Monday, the W&L Mock Democratic Convention should reach its fund-raising goal of \$102,500 this week, according to Treasurer Michael Shelton.

"This week memorabilia (went) on sale. We ought to see our goal reached if not surpassed," Shelton said.

Shelton said that the \$95,333 raised so far represents 93 percent of the total budget. The Mock Convention has spent \$48,000 so far. Shelton said the Mock Convention expected to make \$10,000 from the sale of memorabilia this week.

Shelton said that as the convention approached, the pace of contributions and expenditures increased. As evidence, Shelton reported that between April 18 and May 3 the Mock Convention raised \$3,548 and spent \$17,460.

State committees should begin spending a large amount of their money this week, as they begin construction of floats, Shelton said. State committees are allotted \$20,000 of the total budget, and the 13 committees and the reserve fund of the Mock Convention are allocated the remaining \$82,500, Shelton explained.

"We hope to leave a little nest egg for the next convention," he said, anticipating a small surplus.

Shelton said a large part of the convention's success in fund raising was due to a \$25,000 bond the Hatton Summers' Foundation gave the Mock Convention. Shelton said the bond has been

earning interest since shortly after the 1980 convention, when the Summers' Foundation made the contribution.

The Summers' Foundation also gave the University a \$100,000 endowment, from which the Mock Convention has received \$14,000 in earnings on the interest, Shelton said.

Believing that businesses would also be willing to donate money to the Mock Convention, Shelton said that early fund-raising attempts were directed at companies and banks. However, response from business was "zilch," Shelton said.

Consequently, in November the Mock Convention began sending out requests for donations to alumni, parents and relatives of students. The response from this campaign was tremendous Shelton said.

"We had a list of every parent of the University. We contacted friends and family. We were very surprised with the response, he said.

Shelton said the state committees also have been successful in raising funds. The states have almost reached their \$25,000 goal, of which \$5,000 went to the Mock Convention in taxes, Shelton added.

"States from all around the country have been able to raise money. Many delegates will approach their family and friends," Shelton said, explaining why states like California, with large delegations but few students at W&L, have been able to raise funds.

Shelton said that the Mock Convention's fund-raising efforts would have been aided if



1976—Mississippians supported George Wallace.

the staff of the previous Mock Convention had left records of their fund-raising efforts.

"When we came in we had no records of the previous convention's progress. It would have been helpful to understand how they raised funds."

"This convention will leave excellent records. The two chairmen have done a study on the progress of the convention," he added.

Shelton said that the fund-raising efforts have been tedious at times but that he has enjoyed it.

"Hopefully, this convention will be a weekend when everyone will learn something about the political process, and a successful budget will enhance the prospects for that," he commented.

## CNN leads media list

The Cable News Network heads a list of organizations that plan to cover the Mock Convention this weekend. Other news organizations that have indicated they will cover the event include:

- Donrey Newspaper Group (About 50 newspapers in the Midwest and West)
- United Press International
- WHSV-TV (Harrisonburg)
- WSET-TV (Lynchburg)
- WXEX-TV (Richmond)
- WREL Radio (Buena Vista)
- WLUR Radio (Lexington)
- The Richmond News Leader

- The Richmond Times-Dispatch
  - The Roanoke Times & World-News
  - Virginia News Network (radio)
  - The (Staunton) Daily Leader
  - The (Lexington) News-Gazette
  - The News and County Press
- The following news organizations have done preview stories on the Mock Convention within the past year:
- The Richmond Times-Dispatch
  - The Richmond News Leader
  - The Associated Press
  - United Press International
  - WHSV-TV
  - WRC radio (A Washington, D.C., affiliate of NBC)
  - The Roanoke Times & World-News
  - The Daily News Leader
  - Virginia News Network.

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