

Teacher Sparks Wayne Combustibles

EDITOR'S NOTE: Daily Nebraskan Senior Staff Writer Julie Morris spent one full day last week at the Wayne State campus researching the situation arising from the resignation of assistant English professor Norman Hoegberg. Her findings are contained in the following article.

Someone was setting off dynamite on the Wayne State College campus last week; but then some people said the noise was just a few isolated popguns.

Whatever the magnitude of the explosions on the 2,500 student campus, the ripples reached all across the state.

From the Legislative chambers in Lincoln to the Kearney home of James Knapp, president of the

State Normal Board, Nebraskans had something to say about Wayne.

Many were ready to condemn what was happening on the campus of the seemingly sleepy teacher's college. The citizens of the college town in the northeast corner of the state were talking about "riding someone out of town on a rail."

Newspaper, radio and television reporters wrote accounts of the happenings.

Anyone who held a position of authority, Gov. Norbert Tlemann, the Normal Board or the school's beleaguered president William Brandenburg, didn't have many words on the subject.

One man who had plenty to say, however, was a tall, intense, 34-year-old English teacher at Wayne who attracted a student following

from the first days he spent on campus last fall.

A Teacher Resigns

That man was Norman Hoegberg who handed Brandenburg his resignation two weeks ago Friday and touched off the events that have shook the campus and state for a week and are still moving to a denouement.

The Wayne State Students had even more to say about Wayne than Hoegberg or anyone else.

The students said they wanted to see the Normal Board, the school's governing body, abolished and replaced by a council on education made up primarily of educators rather than businessmen.

They said, in a list of 16 specific grievances, that they want better communi-

cation with the administration; a fair representation on student faculty committees; improved food service; more flexible hours for women and the gyms open on Saturdays.

The students had other things to say, too, but their basic "grievance" was expressed by two Wayne students as they sat on the floor in Hoegberg's living room.

Wayne State College, Gary Lutz and Gregroy Kwater said, "is not set up for the convenience of the students, it is set up for the convenience of the administration and the faculty and for the convenience of the janitors."

WSC Described

Wayne State takes in 108 acres on the edge of Wayne, population four thousand,

two hundred. The Chamber of Commerce signs outside the town welcome visitors and inform them that this is "The Home of Wayne State Teachers' College."

The campus is a mixture of modern and old buildings. There is a spacious new high-rise dormitory, and new auditorium. The student union is new. The school owns a good deal of the land stretching out behind the athletic field, plenty of room for expansion and there are plans for two more high-rise dorms.

Wayne was founded in 1910 to produce students to be teachers, but the school also offers a liberal arts education and pre-professional training for students not planning to teach.

Wayne students go to classes year-round, on a trimester plan, with August free for a brief vacation. The climax of the student years is the student teaching, required for a teaching certificate, that is done in the senior year.

The Teacher And Wayne
Hoegberg was something new to Wayne, he was from the East and he had a beard, not a centennial crop, but a full bushy beard he'd grown before he came to Nebraska.

The new teacher was assigned to freshmen English classes and taught one upper level course, but his influence went beyond the classroom from the first.

Four days after Hoegberg gave the college's president "The Letter," as the poetically written resignation came to be called, he was suspended with pay from his teaching duties.

The following day, a court restraining order forbidding Hoegberg to go onto the Wayne campus was issued. But Hoegberg's influence had already reached the students.

Many of them had seen a copy of "The Letter." It had been passed out in the Student Union.

A crowd of students gathered around Hoegberg as he conducted his 24-hour "sit-out" in a lawn chair outside the administration building.

The day Hoegberg was



UNHAPPY . . . with the way WSC is being run, students meet to discuss their grievances.

suspended students held a mass meeting on the steps of the library and someone spoke about "grievances."

Before the restraining order came Wednesday, Hoegberg addressed a meeting of the Student Senate where close to 1,000 students approved his actions with thunderous applause.

Teachers Speak Out

Other faculty members spoke up, too. Brice Wilkinson, assistant professor of speech presented his own list of grievances and Dr. Cont. On Pg. 6, Col. 1



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WAYNE STUDENTS CLUSTER . . . around Norman Hoegberg, former WSC professor, who touched off events of past two weeks.

One-Man Protest . . . Prof Stages 'Sit-Out' For Academic Freedom

EDITOR'S NOTE: Toni Victor, Daily Nebraskan staff writer, spent a day on the Wayne State College Campus last weekend and several hours interviewing Norman Hoegberg, the professor who started a one-man protest on that campus last week.

"You can't just tell students to be free, you have to show them by doing it yourself," said Norman Hoegberg.

Armed with this philosophy, a lawn chair and a letter of resignation from the Wayne State Teachers College faculty, Hoegberg started a one-man protest for academic freedom two weeks ago on the small out-state Nebraska campus.

On Jan. 27, the 34 year-old 6'4", English professor, handed in "The Letter," resigning from his position as of April 19, of this year, at the end of Wayne State's second trimester.

Hoegberg, a graduate of Princeton with a Master's Degree from the University of Wisconsin, came to Wayne State last Septem-

ber after terms of teaching at Loyola College and Morgan State in Baltimore, Maryland.

Except for aiding a picket line at all-Negro Morgan State, Hoegberg had never been involved in any protest groups. Yet, the Monday after handing in his resignation, the bearded assistant professor conducted a "sit-out" in front of the Wayne State administration building.

He sat there surrounded by curious students from 4 p.m. Monday until 9 a.m. Tuesday, when Dr. William A. Brandenburg, president of the college asked him to step into his office.

"Suspecting strongly that I was not going to be rehired for the next year, I wrote the letter of resignation, not so much to 'resign', but to test whether the publication of the letter suggest that I was right in feeling so," he continued.

When Hoegberg walked into the administration building that Tuesday morning with Brandenburg, the Cont. On Pg. 6, Col. 1

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YES-MAIL-ORDERS STILL ACCEPTED BUT HURRY

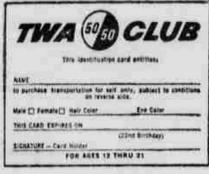
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