

**Letters To The Editor**

**Students Petition  
For Lowering Age  
To Vote To 18**

To The Editor:

The Davie County High School Student Council would like to bring the matter of the voting age to your attention. After giving careful consideration to the issue, we support lowering the voting age requirement to 18.

Few people realize that the minimum voting age of 21, established over 150 years ago, was derived from the English tradition of common law pertaining to the minimum age of knighthood. As one can reason, the minimum age of knighthood has no positive function in a modern society and detracts from the viability of our democratic system.

Today's young people have already entered the adult world in many areas. For instance, youths between the ages of 18 and 20 can be tried in adult courts and committed to federal prisons. They are excluded from all forms of compulsory education and from receiving most forms of aid as dependent children. They are required to pay income and property tax, in fact, there are twenty million young men and women between 18 and 20 who pay government tax. Yet, they have no actual representation in governmental issues. Also, the government can draft a young man to serve his country in the armed forces. Here, a boy changes to a man fast. Since he must bear the responsibility of a man and die like one if necessary, we believe he should have a man's voice in his government. Last, let us point out the extensive exposure that today's youth between 18 and 20 have to current events. This aspect of education is

presented through history and government courses. These courses do not merely tell the students what happens, but it trains them in a mature approach of forming attitudes of the situations, being a youth no longer means being uninformed as in previous years.

We have brought this issue before you for an important reason. The Student Council at Davie High is sponsoring a petition supporting the lowering of the voting age to 18. A campaign to circulate the petition will begin February 12 and last until March 1. During this period members of the Student Council will be speaking at various clubs and organizations throughout the county to introduce and explain our viewpoint. Also, students will be visiting homes to give people opportunity to sign the petition.

Other schools in North Carolina have received identical petitions and are also circulating them. Our objective is to solicit enough signatures of registered voters to bring the issue before the state legislature for discussion.

Let us stress the point that the petition is in no way a protest. It is for democratic minded individuals who would like to see the matter discussed and both sides of the issue presented.

We thank you for your consideration and urge you to support our cause by signing the petition.

**KENNY EATON**  
Pres. of Student Council  
**SUZANNE MARTIN**  
Editor of Rebel

**To Congress**

**Nielson, Mizell Vie  
For GOP Nomination**

Wilmer (Vinegar Bend) Mizell, former major league pitcher, and Eldon D. Nielson, manager of biological research for R. J. Reynolds, have announced their candidacies for the Republican nomination to the U. S. House of Representatives from the Fifth District.

Davie will be in the new Fifth, along with Forsyth, Yadkin, Stokes, Surry, Ashe and Allegheny counties. Our current congressman, Rep. James T. Broyhill, will be candidate in the new Tenth District.

Nielson, 47, was born in Hunter, Utah, and has lived in Winston since 1962. He managed

his wife's successful campaign for the state senate in 1966.

Mizell, 37, was elected to the Davidson County board of commissioners and was named chairman.

He retired from baseball in 1962 after pitching with the St. Louis Cardinals, Pittsburgh Pirates and New York Mets. A sore arm ended his career. He acquired his nickname from his birthplace, Vinegar Bend, Ala.

He moved to Winston-Salem, where he had pitched in his minor league years, and took a sales management and public relations job with a soft drink company. He, his wife and their two sons live in Davidson County.

**Bagley Seeks  
Democrat Nod**

Smith Bagley, a finalist as one of the nation's Top 10 Young Men, has announced his candidacy for the U. S. House of Representatives from the Fifth District, which includes Davie.

Bagley, defeated in his bid in the present Fourth District by Rep. Nick Galifianakis, is a Democrat from Winston-Salem. He was cited by the U. S. Jaycees for his leadership role in founding the N. C. School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, service on the boards of Davidson and Wake Forest, director of the Reynolds-Bagley-Veney Foundation and trustee of the E. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

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