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Dr. Chenea Cites Uncommon Man At 90th Rose Poly Commencement

Dr. Paul F. Chenea spoke about the uncommon man, his uncommon obligations and his ability to fulfill them uncommonly well in an address to the 172-member 90th graduating class of Rose Polytechnic Institute.

And an uncommon group of young men it was that received diplomas Saturday, June 8, in Wilbur B. Shook Fieldhouse.

It was by more than 40 members the largest graduating class since the post-World War II class of 1949. The class of '68 had no fewer than 40 members who graduated with honors—eleven of them with high honors.

Although it was Rose Polytechnic Institute's 90th Commencement exercises, no fewer than two "first" were recorded.

The institute became the first in the nation to give an undergraduate degree in biological engineering. Three men received degrees in the new area of study which is projected to graduate a class of 15 by 1970.

The second first was the presentation of the Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award to Dr. Oran M. Knudsen, chairman of the department of chemistry.

In his commencement address, Dr. Chenea, a graduate engineer who rose to vice president for academic affairs at Purdue University and more recently scientific director of the General Motors Corporation research laboratories, emphasized that Rose graduates are uncommon men.

"All men are not created equal," he said, "in spite of the Declaration of Independence . . . Created free and independent, yes, but not equal at creation nor created to be equal.

"In short, you are people who have inherited a high intellectual potential and through your own efforts have realized some of the potential, hence your uncommon status."

"We must never forget that all history resolves itself into the biographies of a few stout purposeful individuals, the uncommon men," he continued. Not only do we need the best men in the highest places, but we cannot afford to overlook any talent this nation possesses, no matter how modest."

Dr. Chenea also emphasized that uncommon ability carries with it some uncommon obligations. "An obligation to use your intellect for the benefit of mankind . . . an obligation to prepare yourself for the uncommon jobs in this world and to do them uncommonly well when

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RECEIVE HIGHEST RPI HONOR—Dr. John A. Logan, third from right, is flanked by five outstanding men of engineering who received honorary doctorates at the 90th Rose Polytechnic Institute commencement. Those receiving degrees were, left to right, Lix Da Cunha, Burt F. Raynes, Fred W. Garry, Dr. Paul F. Chenea and Dr. James B. Reswick.

Work Begins On Renovation Of Deming Hall

Renovation of 42-year-old Deming Hall aimed at bringing the dormitory up to a standard comparable to newer residence halls on campus started last week, with the contractor pointing to Aug. 30 as the target date for completion of the \$161,600 project.

Workmen began June 17 on remodeling the vacated basement of the building to provide housing for an additional 26 men, the addition of a two to four-bed infirmary, school physician's office, laundry and lounge areas.

In addition to the remodeling of the lower level of the building, the plan calls for replacing plumbing on the first and second floors and installing new doors and casings. H. Readinger and Sons, Inc., is the contractor, while Shelton Hannig and Associates was the architect on the project.

The project was approved at the June 7 meeting of the Board of Managers, which at that time elected a new member to its ranks and approved two other renovation plans.

The new member of the board of managers is Frank P. Thomas, president of Burger Chef Inc., restaurant chain.

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175 BS Degrees Given At 90th Commencement

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the opportunity is presented to you by your discriminating colleagues who will recognize your ability.

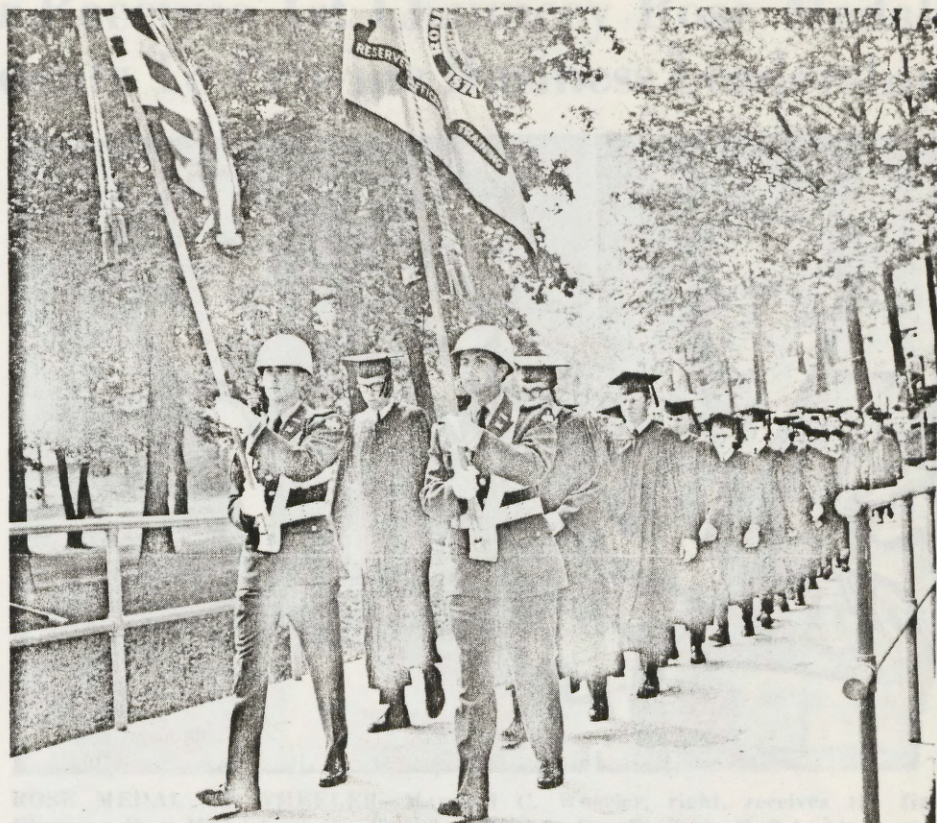
"You are inheriting a world beset by strife and unrest," he told the graduates. "A world that is not free from hunger, poverty, war, disease and discrimination. . . . It is not perfect, but it is the best man has been able to devise to date.

"It is your unique duty to further improve our world and make it a better place for man to live. You must preserve the best of the present and add imagination and responsible innovations," he added, and in concluding said, "In all these changes you must know the good from the bad, the differences between anarchy and evolution—and proceed with understanding and wisdom."

In addition to the 172 bachelor's degrees, three master's and five honorary doctorates were conferred during the Commencement exercises in Shook Fieldhouse.

Fred W. Garry, a member of the RPI class of 1950 and one of only four graduates to complete all his course work with a 4.0 grade point average; Lix Da Cunha, celebrating his 50th anniversary as a Rose graduate, and Clinton native and former RPI student Burt F. Raynes received Doctor of Engineering degrees.

Garry is general manager of the Aircraft Engine Technical Division of Gen-



SOLEMN PROCESSIONAL—The 172-member class of 1968 marches solemnly down the hill to Wilbur B. Shook Memorial Fieldhouse during Commencement exercises June 8.

eral Electric Company, Da Cunha is a major road builder in his native Brazil, South America, and Raynes is president of Rohr Corporation, an aircraft parts manufacturer in Chula Vista, Calif.

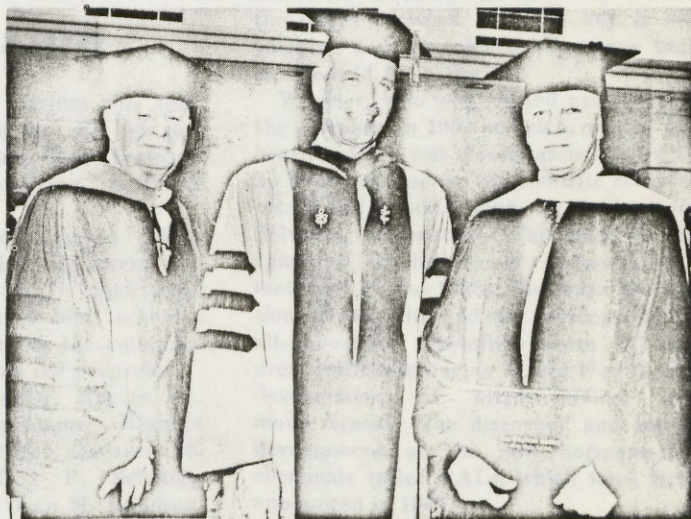
Others honored were James B. Reswick, professor of engineering and director of the Engineering Design Center

at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, and Chenea, the commencement speaker.

Philip Mark Gerhart, a mechanical engineering major from Burlington, was presented the Heminway Gold Medal as the most outstanding senior in the class with a 3.92 average out of a possible 4.0.



HEMINWAY MEDAL WINNER—Philip Mark Gerhart, a mechanical engineering major from Burlington, receives the Heminway Medal as the most outstanding senior from John L. Bloxsome, vice president for development during commencement exercises.



50TH ANNIVERSARY—Lix Da Cunha, right, a 1918 Rose Polytechnic Institute graduate and Brazilian engineer-architect, poses with classmate Richard F. Bergmann, left, and institute president Dr. John A. Logan following commencement. Da Cunha received an honorary degree.

Maynard C. Wheeler Receives 1st Chauncey Rose Medal; Challenges RPI Students To Provide Business Leadership

"Few times in a man's life is he truly honored. This is one of those occasions."

Those were the words of Maynard C. Wheeler, retired chairman of the board of directors of Commercial Solvents Corporation, after he received the first Chauncey Rose Medal for "Significant contributions to the American society through the medium of free enterprise" at the final convocation of the year.

Wheeler, who presented the annual annual Oscar C. Schmidt Memorial Lecture, then challenged the student body of the institute to provide the leadership for the free enterprise system in future decades.

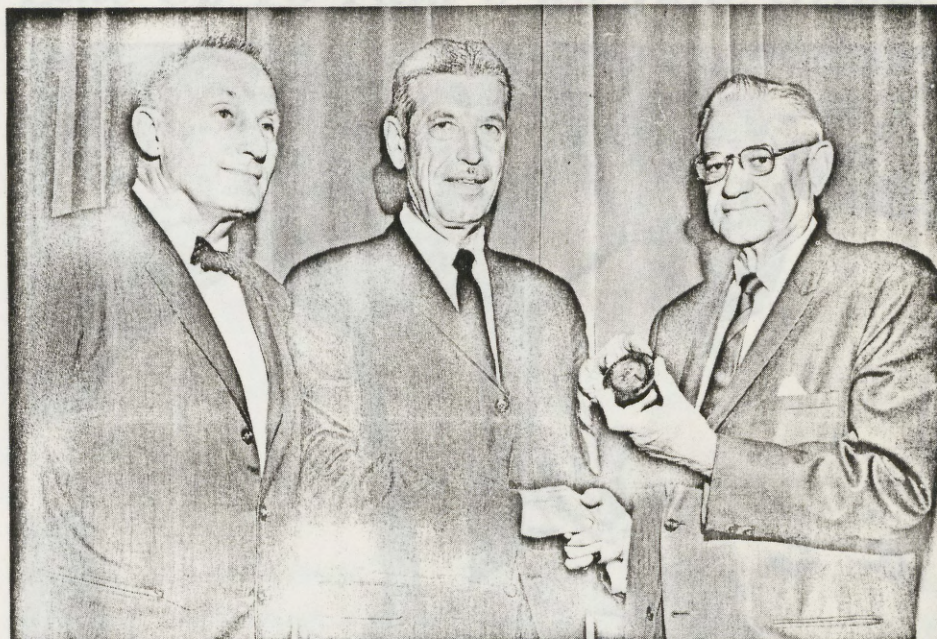
President Dr. John A. Logan presented the medal to Wheeler at the beginning of the Schmidt Lecture, praising the retired CSC official for his leadership in business, engineering and education.

The Chauncey Rose Medal winner is to be chosen annually by the RPI faculty and staff from those with outstanding business backgrounds, preferably with an engineering or science background, who have contributed substantially to the free enterprise system.

Wheeler opened his address with the challenge that the "young people of science and engineering will set the guidelines of tomorrow."

He pointed out that while bankers and lawyers were responsible for founding the system, it would be the engineer who would be the key figure in what he termed the "Intelligence Revolution."

A native of Terre Haute and graduate



ROSE MEDAL TO WHEELER—Maynard C. Wheeler, right, receives the first Chauncey Rose Medal from Dr. John A. Logan during the Oscar C. Schmidt Lecture on the RPI campus. C. Oscar Schmidt Jr. watches the presentation of the medal which is to be given annually to a person in business who has contributed substantially to the free enterprise system.

of Purdue University, Wheeler illustrated the opportunities of the free enterprise system with his experiences at Commercial Solvents — beginning with his hiring at the then fledgling company, after an engineer had given up what seemed at that time to be an uncertain

future for the security of a mail carrier's job.

The former chemical engineer, who rose to process superintendent, then plant manager in his first six years with the company in the mid and late 1920s, made a special point of incentive performance and profit-making. He said prospective engineers "need not go half way around the world to work . . . the key is developing a marketable product, one that can be sold for a profit."

Wheeler, who was elected president of the company in 1959 and chairman of the board in 1966, was closely associated with an impressive series of scientific achievements and breakthroughs by Commercial Solvents Corporation. This includes the synthetic production of ammonia and methanol in the 1920s, the mass production of penicillin and the development of all-important crystalline form of this great antibiotic during World War II, the development of nitroparaffins, and more recently, the discovery and initial development of the new hormone-like chemicals called RALs, which were first announced in 1965.

C. Oscar Schmidt, son of the Cincinnati industrialist in whose memory the final RPI convocation is named, was the honor guest at the lecture.

57 Boys In 1st Catapult Session

Fifty-seven prospective engineers and scientists who completed their junior year of high school this spring converged on the Rose Poly campus for the first of two "Operation Catapult" sessions last week.

The first session will run through July 11, with the second session, which still has a limited number of openings, being slated July 14 through Aug. 8.

Indiana led with number of boys registered for the Summer program, followed by neighboring Illinois and Ohio with eight apiece. Boys from as far as Oklahoma and Pennsylvania are on campus for the program.

"Operation Catapult," which was launched last year as a single four-week program for pupils interested in engineering or science, was so well received

Rose Poly set up two sessions this summer. The program again will be centered around the practical problem-solving approach involving extensive laboratory work.

The project-oriented program allows the pupil to work with equipment and people he would not have an opportunity to be associated with in high school—the significant factor being the outstanding faculty which guides the program.

The faculty includes Dr. Marvin McMillin, director; Professor Herman Moench, vice president for academic affairs; Professor Alfred R. Schmidt, mathematics; and Dr. Oran M. Knudsen, chairman of the chemistry department. Harry Johnson, science coordinator for the Vigo County School Corporation, also will help in the program.

Class of '68 Flirts With \$10,000 Starting Salary As 443 Recruiters Line Up To Talk With June Grads

Talent recruiters from industry woo Rose Polytechnic Institute seniors in much the same manner professional sports scouts go after a seven-foot super star of the No. 1 schoolboy baseballer in the land. They too pay the price.

During their senior year at Rose most of the young men were interviewed between six and ten times by recruiters from 443 industries, governmental agencies or graduate schools and had signed contracts higher than the national average for beginning engineers and scientists before graduation, according to figures released by Paul B. Headdy, director of placement.

Starting salary of 1968 Rose graduates receiving B. S. degrees in engineering was well above the average predicted by a national news magazine with chemical engineers averaging \$797, electrical engineers \$787, mechanical engineers \$785, and civil engineers \$778 per month. Those with majors in physics averaged \$778, chemistry \$761, and mathematics \$728.

The salaries represented a rise of more than \$50 a month over last year's starting rates, with mechanical engineering and physics making the most marked jumps. Mechanical engineers averaged \$70 per month more than the 1967 group, while four members of the highly honored physics class came within \$1.50 of averaging \$100 per month more than last year's starting salary for a physics major.

General Motors led in recruiting of RPI graduates by signing 14 to contracts, followed by General Electric with seven. DuPont and the U. S. Naval Ammunition Depot at Crane, Ind., each landed five seniors, while Westinghouse, Bell Laboratories and Proctor and Gamble each put four under contract.

Twenty-one of the 172 of the class of 1968 reported plans for graduate school at the universities of Illinois, Wisconsin, Arizona, Michigan and Miami, Northwestern, Rensselaer Poly, Case-Western Reserve, MIT, and Stevens Institute of Technology.

The competition in recruiting at Rose was keener than ever in 1968, with only 62 of 443 companies being successful in hiring an RPI man.

Competition was so keen 29 companies returned for a second time—this trip luring underclassmen into summer jobs, truly making recruiting a year-round proposition at Rose Polytechnic Institute.



OUTSTANDING TEACHER—Dr. Oran M. Knudsen, chairman of the department of chemistry, was named the first winner of the Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award during commencement. Above picture shows the close association with students in the classroom which helped him earn the honor.

Dr. Oran M. Knudsen Named Dean's Outstanding Teacher

Twenty-three years ago Dr. Oran M. Knudsen had not heard of Rose Polytechnic Institute, a small midwestern engineering school located at Terre Haute, Ind.

But that was nearly a quarter of a century ago.

Today Dr. Knudsen knows Rose Poly and the institute knows that Dr. Knudsen is one of the finest teachers ever to teach at the engineering school.

Dr. Knudsen was recognized for his contributions to the school and its students by being named the first recipient of the Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award during commencement.

Dr. Knudsen, a native of Utah who came East (to Wisconsin) to go to school, joined the Rose Poly staff in 1946 after teaching four years at Michigan State. He previously had taught at Alfred (N.Y.) College and Long Island University.

Although his work in the class room and laboratory has always come first, the chairman of the department of chemistry since 1952 has worked closely with academic affairs and the educational philosophy of the school.

He was chairman of a committee which recommended degrees be given in chemistry, physics and mathematics in 1958, and headed the committee on academic development during the 1961-62 year which initiated the study of the Rose philosophy.

Dr. Knudsen also was chairman of the faculty committee which worked with the board of managers on the selection of Dr. John A. Logan as president of the institute.

The institute is indeed fortunate Dr. Knudsen took the time to ask a Michigan State colleague about Rose Poly some 23 years ago.

Faculty Plans Busy Schedule Over Summer

A peaceful calm fell over the Main Building last week.

The bells stopped ringing every 50 minutes. The constant creaking of the floor of the second floor south corridor has ceased.

Only a few members of the Rose Polytechnic official family stayed on campus to work toward the opening of school in the Fall, to run "Operation Catapult" and do research.

Starting with the president, here is a brief rundown of the activities of the faculty and staff this Summer:

Dr. John A. Logan will travel to Quito, Ecuador, and Geneva, Switzerland, to chair national and world health organization meetings. The president will attend the Regional Seminar on Teaching of Sanitary Engineering in Quito in mid July and the World Health Organization at Geneva in August.

He also will attend the National Symposium on the Analysis of Water Resource Systems of the American Water Resources Association in Denver July 1-2.

Wilkison Meeks of the physics department will take the longest single hop of the summer when he attends the International Congress of Acoustics in Tokyo, Japan Aug. 22-27.

Dr. Theodore Sakano of the chemistry department will be at Kansas State University for 10 weeks to work in the National Science Foundation summer research participation program for college teachers. Dr. Sakano will work with Dr. R. M. Hammaker of Kansas State on spectroscopic studies of hydrogen bonding.

Another member of the chemistry department, Dr. Benjamin S. Benjaminov, will do research at the neurochemistry laboratory at the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness at Bethesda, Md.

Don Dekker of the mechanical engineering department will work in industry with American Electrical Power at the Cardinal Plant in Brilliant, Ohio. This program is called "Project Probe" and has 12 engineering school students after their junior year and two faculty members.

Dale Oexmann of the mathematics department will be with the NASA-ASEE Summer Fellowship Program at the University of Houston and the Manned Space Center. He will work in the area of advanced design and development.



Frank P. Thomas

Frank P. Thomas Named Member Of Board of Managers

(Continued from Page 1)

Thomas has been a member of the board of associates since its inception in the Indianapolis area.

The Indianapolis business and civic leader is a 1941 Purdue University graduate mechanical engineer. He built the giant drive-in restaurant chain from a fledgling ice cream equipment manufacturing company founded in 1947.

The company was known as the General Equipment Company until 1957 when it became part of Burger Chef Inc.

Thomas also was a founding director of the International Franchise Association in 1961, and currently is first president of the Metropolitan Arts Council of Indianapolis and a member of the board of directors of the Indianapolis Symphony.

The other plans approved by the board of managers called for the renovation of the vacated Student Center for use as administrative offices and the addition of general class rooms and faculty office space on the first floor of the Main Building.

Plans call for the office of the President, Dean of Academic Affairs and those offices under the Director of Development to move from the Main Building to the former Student Center. The offices currently used by Development will be remodeled for classrooms and faculty offices.

No date has been set for the completion of the projects.

Board Promotes Five Members Of Rose Faculty

Five members of the Rose Polytechnic Institute faculty have been promoted by action of the Board of Managers.

Anthony G. Blake, a member of the faculty since 1958, has been promoted from associate professor to professor in the Chemical Engineering Department.

Dr. Donald C. Chiang, who received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota and came to Rose in 1965, has been promoted from assistant professor to associate professor. He is a member of the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Dr. Ralph A. Llewellyn, who received his Ph.D. degree from Purdue University and came to Rose in 1961, has been promoted from associate professor to professor in the Physics Department.

Dr. James B. Matthews, who came to Rose in 1957 and received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Arizona, was promoted from associate professor to professor. Dr. Matthews heads the Rose Mechanical Engineering Department.

Dr. Charles C. Rogers, chairman of the Electrical Engineering Department, was promoted from associate professor to professor. Dr. Rogers, who received his Ph.D. degree from Purdue University has been a member of the Rose faculty since 1961.

7 Corporations Give RPI Gifts

Rose Polytechnic Institute has received seven grants from major corporations during the last two months.

The institute was presented checks of \$1,500 for unrestricted grants from Alcoa Aluminum and Texaco and \$1,250 from the American Telephone and Telegraph Long Lines Division.

Commercial Solvents Corporation provided a \$1,500 grant to be divided equally between the chemistry, chemical engineering and biological engineering departments, while Dow-Corning gave a \$500 restricted grant to the chemical engineering department.

The mechanical engineering department, meanwhile received \$2,000 from the Bendix Corporation Brake and Steering Division at South Bend and another \$1,200 from Olin-Mathieson.

Dow Chemical Company also made its annual contribution of drugs to the Student Health Center, marking the second year of RPI's participation in the company's Navahistine Contributions Program initiated a year ago.

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Mutchner Announces Coaching Assignment Changes

Athletic Director John Mutchner has announced two coaching assignment changes for the 1968-69 school year.

Mutchner named recently appointed football line coach Jerry Anderson as head baseball coach. Anderson will replace Mutchner in the diamond sport.

The athletic director will take the tennis coaching duties, relieving Don Dekker who coached the net sport this spring in addition to his duties in the mechanical engineering department.

Rose Poly wound up its athletic season with the All-Sports Banquet May 28.

Senior Jerry Novotny, who earned seven letters in football and baseball at Rose Poly, was presented the Blanket Award, highest athletic honor at the institute.

Novotny, who prepped at Blue Island, Ill., started at tight end for three seasons and on numerous occasions was called upon to go both ways. He also played first base on the baseball team, starting every game for the last four years in the position.

Dayton product, Roger Ward, president of his freshman class, was named the Most Valuable Player in football, with Pete Doenges, Olney, Ill., and John Jacobi winning the most valuable lineman and outstanding defensive player awards.

Senior Jim Pettee, an Indianapolis Howe product who started every game for four years, picked up the MVP honor in basketball. He averaged nearly 17 points a game over the last two years and was the team leader on this year's 18-7 team.

Doug Roof, Kettering, Ohio, was the MVP in baseball. The classy shortstop

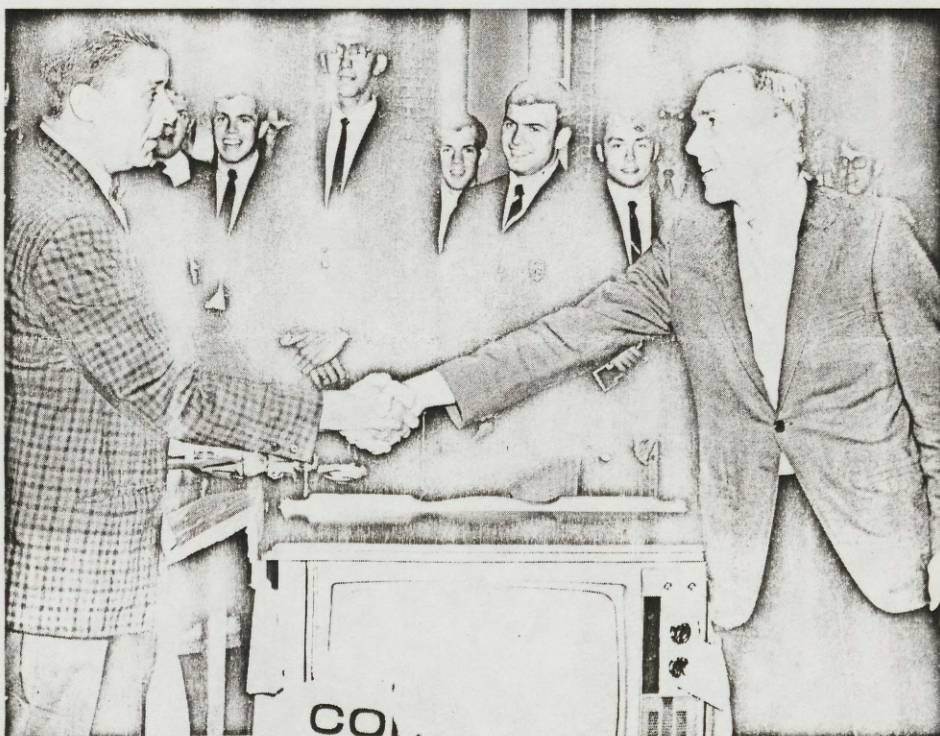
also received a trophy as the leading hitter with a .316 batting average.

Tom Johnson, who set school records in the discus and shot put and led the Engineers in scoring this spring, was named MVP in track. Dennis Porter copped the honor in tennis.

Jim Edwards was MVP in Varsity Rifle, while Larry Lynn and Tom Thuer-

bach picked up the honor in cross country and golf respectively.

Dr. Harold Sabbagh, assistant professor of electrical engineering who serves as an end coach during football season, received the Old Jock Award, which annually goes to a person who has contributed substantially to the athletic program.



WATCH YANKS IN COLOR, TIL—Engineer trainer Til Panaranto receives 23-inch color television from Rose Polytechnic athletes during the surprise moment of the All-Sports Banquet. Trackman Barry Jenkins typifies the athletes' admiration for the popular trainer and former professional baseball pitcher with a hearty handshake and a broad smile.