Editor blames government for students' disillusionment

By GARY SHAPIRO

“The government must be held accountable for the events that are taking place in the university system of the United States,” and Edward Keating, publisher of Ramparts magazine, in a speech at Baker College Sunday attempted to define its cause and its effects.

Using the CIA-NSA relationship as a lead in, Keating quickly moved to his basic area of interest; students and education. He concerned himself with Ramparts’ discovery of the funding of the National Student Association by the CIA in terms of the “morals involved.”

Arrogance of Power

The CIA’s “arrogance of power” has only led to the “disillusionment of the students, who can no longer trust the government or themselves,” he said, and he praised the “remarkable courage of the young men involved who could admit that they were wrong” and saw them as “corrupted by their elders, leaders, and Presidents of the United States.”

It was Keating’s feeling that government leaders have, on an international level, been putting students against one another, rather than letting them come together. And it is this sort of “ridiculous” competition that creates the need for an organization like the CIA, he noted.

Keating views the university system as the great “corruptor” of society in his system of logic. The leaders of today were the students of yesterday. These educated people are the ones who have corrupted the youth, and they are the products of the university system.

The Great Corruptor

Before one can corrupt anyone else, he has to be corrupt himself and the system which produced him must have a like flaw.

Therefore, it must follow that both our leaders and the university system which trained them are corrupt.

The present purpose of education is to “answer people’s ambition, to allow them to rise to the top.” It is a system which is irrelevant and only provides technicians for society. And it is Keating’s contention that those who cannot fit into this