

Name on Pro-Nixon Ad 'Error,' Professor Says

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A Kentucky professor whose name appeared last October in a full-page newspaper ad endorsing President Nixon's candidacy for re-election says he never authorized the use of his name for the ad and, in fact, supported Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) for the presidency.

Guy Davenport, professor of English and classics at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, said in a recent telephone interview that the use of his name was "probably a clerical error," but that the ad had caused him some embarrassment.

The ad in question appeared Oct. 5 in The New York Times, and was identified as being paid for by the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President. It contained the names of 45 professors under a heading that said they were voting for President Nixon and were urging "our fellow citizens to do the same."

A spot check of some of the other names on the ad turned

up no other persons who said their names had been used without their permission. Several of the signers have held, or have since been appointed to, posts in the Nixon administration.

Nixon re-election committee sources said that the idea for the ad had originated in the White House, and not with the November Group, the campaign unit which handled the Nixon advertising and media campaign. Sources said the use of Davenport's name was a mistake and was not done deliberately. The ad was designed to counter a similar ad run by the McGovern campaign and also to counteract the impression that academics and intellectuals supported only McGovern, sources said.

Davenport said he complained to the Times after the ad appeared, but that the man who handled the complaint died shortly thereafter and no correction was run. Davenport said he recently contacted the Times again to look into the matter.