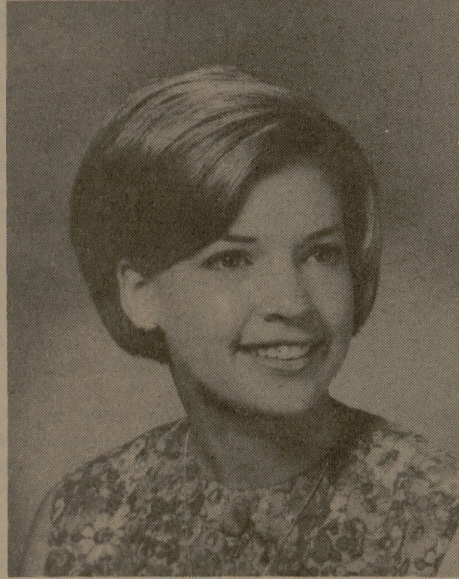


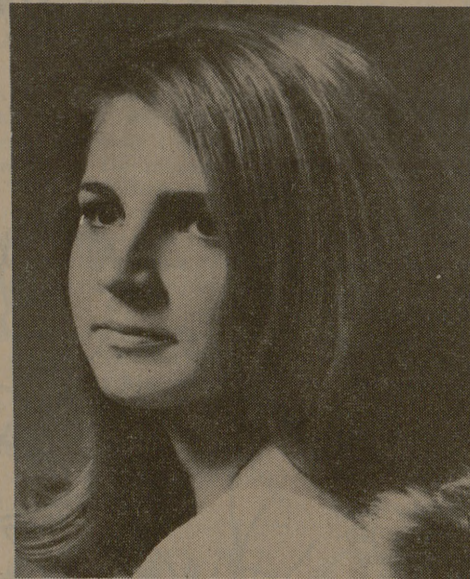
NANCY HARDIE  
... Alamo Heights senior



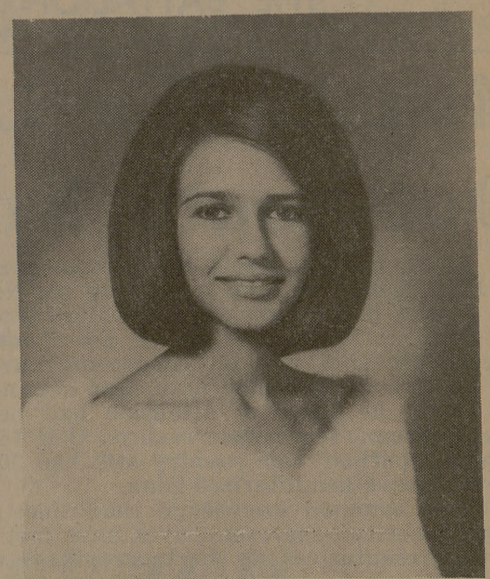
CLAUDIA MARPLE  
... SA Jeff senior



LINDA WILLIAMS  
... WTSU freshman



PAMELA LANE  
... A&I freshman



CAROL ANN RABON  
... Westbury senior



# The Battalion

Wednesday — Cloudy to partly cloudy winds Southerly 10 to 20 m.p.h. becoming cloudy early afternoon with rain, winds Northerly 15 to 25 m.p.h. High 64, low 43.  
Thursday — Occasional light rain winds Easterly 10 to 15 m.p.h. High 44, low 35.

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Number 537

## New Law Sparks Interest In ROTC

New draft provisions affecting graduate students are popularizing the Reserve Officer Training Corps program here according to Aerospace Studies officials.

The officials have noted increased interest in the two-year ROTC program as a result of the new selective service law designed to draw older men into the armed forces first.

The two-year program — open to undergraduate and graduate students — provides the graduating senior with time for his studies if he wants to get a master's degree before he enters the military.

Col. Vernon L. Head, professor of aerospace studies, pointed out deadlines must be met if a student plans to enter the two-year program next fall.

APPLICATION must be made by Feb. 26, he announced.

Testing and processing must be completed before the applicant goes to summer camp.

Two-year program information and applications are available from Maj. Hal Wandry or Capt. Samuel J. Boles at the military department.

"The program is open to all college degree categories, but quotas prohibit us taking students who are not interested in pilot training or navigation," Wandry said. "The Air Force is in short supply for pilots and navigators."

APPLICANTS must also have two years of undergraduate or graduate studies remaining and be under 27½ years of age when entering pilot training.

After making application, students will take the Air Force Officer Qualification Test, a flight physical at Bergstrom AFB and meet an A&M officer review board. Applications will be forwarded to AFROTC headquarters at Maxwell AFB by April 1.

Applicants will then be okayed for six weeks summer camp. Ad-

vanced ROTC contracts will be awarded next September on the basis of tests, review and summer camp.

## Fish Dominate WT Drill Meet

The Fish Drill Team won every trophy on the display stand for the second straight year at West Texas State's Scabbard and Blade Tournament over the weekend.

The team took first place trophies in inspection, basic and fancy drill and for overall points. Sammy Garcia of San Antonio commanded the unit in the six-team competition, conducted in below-freezing weather. The meet was Garcia's first as CO.

A&M graded 96 out of a possible 100 in inspection, tied New Mexico Military Institute in basic drill, then won by a point in a march-off and scored 93 of 100 in fancy drill.

An observer thought the team's precision in the fancy phase was better than the 1966-67 team's at West Texas. That team won all four trophies at Canyon and went on to take second in the national drill championships in the Cherry Blossom Festival, Washington D. C.

"Timing for the basic drill was perfect," commented Jim Vogas of Galveston, senior advisor. "Seven minutes were allowed to complete the drill. If we had taken one second more, the Fish Drill Team would have been penalized for taking too much time."

The FDT's next competition will be the 15-team A&M Invitational conducted by the Association of Former Fish Drill Team Members March 16.

# Fish Name Five Finalists For Class Sweetheart

## Ball Set Saturday At 8 In Sbisa

By BOB PALMER  
Battalion Staff Writer

Five candidates for Freshman Class Sweetheart have been chosen, Freshman Vice President John Bebout announced Monday.

The sweetheart will be named at the Fish Ball, scheduled for Saturday night from 8 to 12 in Sbisa Dining Hall, featuring the Fun and Games Commission.

Dress for Corps members will be Class A Formal and tuxedos or dinner jackets for civilians. Dates may wear either long or short formals.

Tickets for the ball are available in the Student Program Office of the Memorial Student Center and from any class officer. Tickets will also be on sale at the door of Sbisa the night of the ball.

A PHOTOGRAPHER will be at the dance to take color pictures at \$3.50 for five prints.

A reception honoring the five finalists — Carol Ann Rabon, Pamela Lane, Linda Williams, Nancy Hardie and Claudia Marple—is planned for 2 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the MSC to select the sweetheart.

Miss Marple, who will be escorted by David E. Frost, is from San Antonio and is a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School.

She is 18 and is five feet, four inches tall. The blond candidate plans to study nursing in college.

Miss Williams, a five-foot, six-inch brunette from Andrews, will be escorted by Windle Harper. She is an elementary education major at West Texas State University.

A FRESHMAN biology major at Texas A&I, Miss Lane is a five-foot, four-inch honey-blond. The 19-year-old Corpus Christi native will be escorted by Charles N. Gibson.

Submitted by Albert L. Reese Jr., Miss Rabon is a senior at Westbury High School in Houston. The 17-year-old ash-blond is five feet, seven inches tall.

Miss Hardie, a senior at Alamo Heights in San Antonio, will be escorted by Bobby M. Christie. She has brown hair and is five feet nine inches tall. The 18-year-old candidate plans to attend Stephens College.

"We want the whole class to participate in this ball," Bebout remarked. "To really make this a success we are all going to have to work together."

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SMITH SPEAKS HERE

Lt. Gov. Preston Smith, one of the leading candidates in the Texas governor's race, replies to a newsman's question during an informal press conference here Monday. Smith continued his tour of the state following the College Station appearance. (Photo by Mike Wright)

## 'Qualifications Will Decide Gubernatorial Race'--Smith

By MIKE PLAKE  
Battalion Features Editor

What is the most important issue of the 1968 Texas gubernatorial campaign? It isn't crime and it isn't taxes, according to Lieutenant Governor Preston Smith, the front runner in this year's race.

"Mainly, it's the simple question of which candidate is best qualified," Smith said in a press conference at the Ramada Inn here Monday night.

"All the candidates are against

## Debaters Win 4 In SFA Tourney

Texas Aggie debaters bested arch-rival S. F. Austin College but could win only four of 10 matches in the Piney Woods Tournament at Nacogdoches over the weekend.

Both A&M teams defeated SFA. Ron Hinds of Midland and Robert Peek of Jacksboro also beat Louisiana College and Lamar State for a 3-2 effort.

Hinds-Peek, regulars on last year's team that won the Piney Woods junior division championship, were stopped by Tyler Junior College and Southwest Texas State.

Senior Charles F. Stephan of Fresno, Calif., and freshman Morgan F. Heien of Beaumont comprised the other Aggie team. They beat SFA and lost to Southwestern Louisiana, Lamar Tech, Southwest Texas and Louisiana College.

Both teams debated in the senior division. Hinds is a junior, Peek a sophomore.

University National Bank  
"On the side of Texas A&M"  
—Adv.

crime," Smith noted. He explained that crime was an important consideration in the past, but now everyone has almost the same position.

"AND AS for taxes, the people themselves are now showing the initiative in this area," he continued. "Most Texas cities have approved their own city sales tax. This is an indication to me that the citizens are taking upon themselves the responsibility of taxation."

Smith said the question boils down to which candidate has the best qualifications.

He feels his 18 years of experience in state government qualifies him for the top position. The former Lubbock businessman is serving his sixth year as lieutenant governor. He previously served six years each in the House of Representatives and State Senate.

Smith was questioned on the recent Liquor Control Board investigations. Commenting on Texas Speaker of the House Ben Barnes' appointment of a committee to investigate present state liquor laws, he said:

"I really don't think this type of action is necessary. I think it might be a waste of the taxpayers' money to appoint such a committee when we already have several committees that could effectively perform this function."

HE CONTINUED that he "has every confidence" that problems uncovered in the investigation will be solved.

Concerning teacher strikes, such as the present statewide strike in Florida, Smith said:

"I would be in favor of legislative measures that would prohibit teachers from striking in this manner."

"In addition, he said, "I don't

think it's fair to the citizens of their state or to their children."

"I have worked many years with Bill Moore, the senator from this district," he noted. "We've worked on many programs, such as building plans on the A&M campus and many additions to the A&M College of Veterinary Medicine."

Smith said such issues as liquor by the drink and parimutuel betting should be decided on a local option basis.

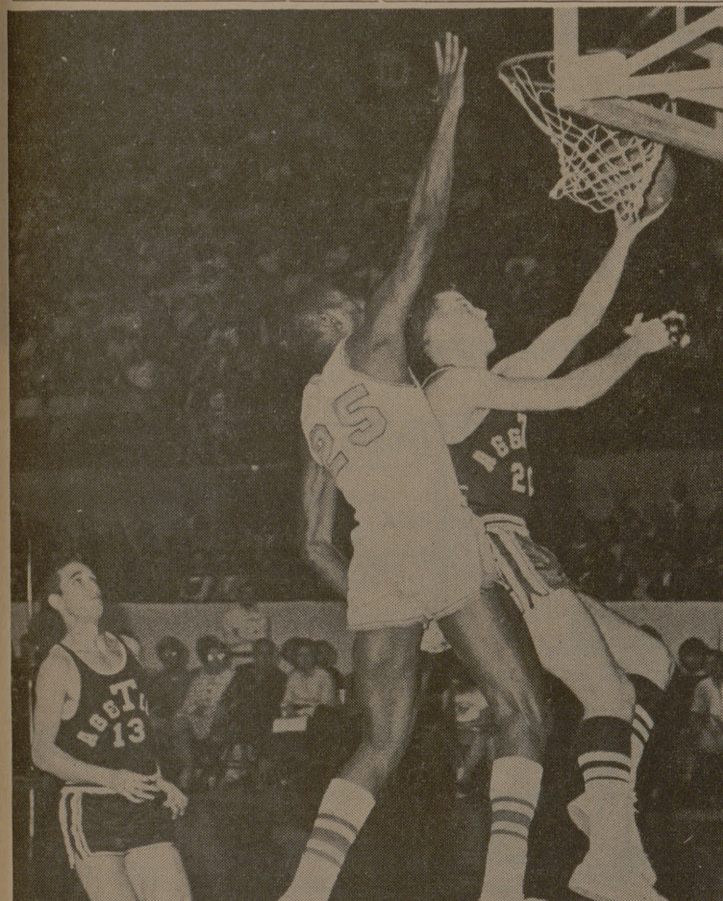
## Wilson Foundation Cites Byrd As Top Future Prof

Gene C. Byrd, A&M senior from Waller, has been designated one of the best college teacher prospects in the United States and Canada by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

Byrd, majoring in physics and listed as a top prospective astronomy instructor, is one of 1,124 seniors selected from a list of almost 12,000 nominees. A&M's Woodrow Wilson designate has a 2.9 grade point ratio and is described by his professors as "one of our top young scholars."

"He has shown an unusual ability to absorb the fundamental knowledge which we have presented and which will be so useful to him in his future career in astronomy," noted Dr. Nelson Duller, associate physics professor who serves as Byrd's faculty advisor.

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UNDERWOOD SCORES

Johnny Underwood scores on a second-half layup in Saturday afternoon's 67-63 Aggie victory over Baylor at Waco. Defending for the Bears is Tommy Bowman while Sonny Benefield for the Aggies looks on. See story, page 4. (Photo by Mike Wright)



SOPHOMORE SWEETHEART

Patti Walker, Mexia High School senior, was named sophomore Sweetheart Saturday at the Sophomore Ball. She was escorted by Ricky Wayne Holloway, an aerospace engineering major. The 19-year-old brunett plans to attend Stephen F. Austin State College after graduation.