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copy of a six-page letter written  
by Capt. J. F. Mundy Jr. of  
New Orleans, chief of the Mer-

Board moves ahead on plans  
for marine agriculture center

The A&M System Board of Directors  
moved ahead Tuesday  
with plans to establish the state's  
first agricultural research and ex-  
tension center with marine  
emphasis. The facility will be  
located at Corpus Christi.

A \$17,000 appropriation was  
approved for detailed design of  
the new center, supplementing a  
previous appropriation of \$14,000.

University officials noted the  
facility represents an expansion  
of TAMU's highly successful con-

MITCHELL HALL BITES THE DUST, though quite a bit slower than expected. De-  
molition of the old dormitory started Tuesday and quite a bit more resistance was met  
than was suspected. The building was well constructed and age had not weakened  
much of it. The cleared site will be used to hold the new health center. (Photo by Mike  
Rice)

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

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# The Battalion

Vol. 67 No. 111

College Station, Texas

Wednesday, April 19, 1972

845-2226

Cloudy,  
may  
rain

Thursday — Cloudy, thunder-  
showers. Southerly winds 10-15  
mph. High 83°, low 68°.

## Protest won't affect yell leader elections

ROD SPEER  
Staff Writer

The Student Senate Election Commission decided Tuesday night the Junior Yell Leader election was valid despite a complaint that a straw vote was taken in the Corps area prior to the election.

Bill King, a runner-up in the election, protested the vote and called the Corps straw vote "an unfair limiting of the ballot." He felt results of the straw vote were more or less binding on the candidates involved, discouraged the losers from running in the general election. This could give Corps of Cadets a block vote.

King suggested that all participants be disqualified from the election.

Randy Madison, a commission member, admitted that the vote had been taken but said that it was just an opinion poll. It was therefore not binding on the people involved, he declared. "They could have filed for a general election anytime they wanted to," he stressed.

Mark Blakemore, the only dissenter to the commission's decision, said that King was justified in his protest. "The straw vote is somewhat binding, although not binding," he said. Blakemore favored having a re-election.

Of the 30 that participated in the straw vote poll, only two ran on the general election ballot, King said.

One commission member asked if limits should be placed on opinion polls. David Moore, chairman, said that this matter should be left up to the next student government.

"Many of us won't be here next year and it would be unfair for us

to say," he said.

Later in the meeting, Blakemore reported that a John Lester had admitted to Blakemore that he was the only person involved in making the controversial lists of Corps and civilian candidates. Blakemore said both he and Lester felt that the names of Jerry Arterburn and Terry Brown were unnecessarily smeared by publicity in the Battalion connecting them with the lists.

"They had nothing to do with it," Blakemore said.

In another vote the election commission decided to have a re-election for student senator from Keathley-Hughes. Confusion had resulted from the Keathley-Hughes lounge running out of ballots an hour before the polls closed.

The commission had decided previously that a re-election was unnecessary but new evidence became available that required the matter to be reconsidered, Moore said. The commission learned that there were at least two examples of people having to request the missing ballot, he continued. It was thought that the election official at the poll site had informed each voter of the missing ballot and to mark their vote on the general election ballot.

Madison felt that the safe thing to do would be to hold a re-election, especially since the vote was so close. Bill Kemp had won with 91 votes, Tom Locke received 88 and Chet Edwards had 87.

Only residents of Keathley and Hughes will be able to vote in Keathley-Hughes lounge in Thursday's runoff elections. Others will vote at the Sbsa newsstand, the library, Memorial Student Center and the Dorm 2 guardroom.

## Coast Guard approves 'Clipper'

U. S. Coast Guard officials have refuted allegations made about the Texas Maritime Academy training ship at Galveston by two professors previously notified they were not being re-appointed to faculty positions.

A&M President Jack K. Williams announced the Coast Guard findings Tuesday after receiving copy of a six-page letter written by Capt. J. F. Mundy Jr. of New Orleans, chief of the Mer-

chant Marine Safety Division for the Eighth Coast Guard District.

Dr. Williams said the Coast Guard is the official agency charged with the responsibility for inspecting vessels licensed in the United States.

"The vessel (the 'Texas Clipper') is considered seaworthy," Captain Mundy emphasized in the concluding sentence of the detailed letter to Dr. William H. Clayton.

Clayton, dean of TAMU's College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources and acting TMA superintendent, formally requested a Coast Guard inspection of the 15,000-ton vessel following allegations by Paul Dempsey and J. G. San Martin.

A document prepared by the

two faculty members questioned the stability of the "Texas Clipper," in addition to alleging sanitation provisions and improper preparation of food.

"There is absolutely no cause for concern about the Texas Clipper's stability," the Coast Guard officer stated.

The Coast Guard investigation also determined there was no

basis for the two men's charges about lighting, ventilation, sanitation, food preparation or any other major allegations.

"I would be glad to furnish any interested person a full text of the Coast Guard letter," Dr. Williams said, "and I hope the letter will put to rest the unfounded allegations made by these two disgruntled persons."

## Martin issues opinion

# Legislators can't hire others' relatives

AUSTIN (AP) — Atty. Gen. Crawford Martin issued a legal opinion saying Texas' nepotism laws prohibit a member of one house of the Legislature from hiring a relative of a member of the other chamber.

Martin's opinion went to Speaker Rayford Price, whose wife at one time served as a secretary to former Sen. Jim Wade of Dallas in 1967.

For years, the chief clerk of the House and the secretary of the Senate have interpreted the nepotism law as allowing lawmakers' relatives to hold legislative jobs so long as they were not in the same chamber as their kin.

The Houston Chronicle ran a survey last week that showed at least 75 relatives of 45 present lawmakers have been on legis-

lative payrolls at intervals since 1967.

"The statute clearly prohibits a member of one house of the Legislature from hiring a relative . . . of a member of either house of the Legislature when such employee is to be paid from public funds," Martin's opinion said.

Martin also said the Speaker could not appoint a senator's relative as an employee of the House itself, such as a clerk, page or assistant sergeant-at-arms.

Shortly after Martin's opinion was released, Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes, the presiding officer of the Senate, said he had ordered each Senate employee to sign a statement indicating any kinship

with legislators.

"If any employee is related, he will be immediately dropped from the Senate payroll in order to comply with the attorney general opinion," Senate secretary Charles Schnabel said.

Sen. David Ratliff of Stamford denied Tuesday that he intentionally committed any misdeed in putting relatives on his legislative payroll and said he would resign if he thought the Senate would "be adversely affected."

It was Ratliff's first comment on newspaper stories that he had five relatives on his own Senate payroll and several more in the employ of other legislators.

Barnes said in Abilene Monday

that Ratliff should resign from the Senate.

"I do not feel under the circumstances that I have, with any criminal intent, committed any wrongful act. However, under the present circumstances, I am considering the matter and will determine in the shortest time possible what action to take," said Ratliff, a tall, silent West Texan who seldom does more than vote on bills before the Senate.

"If I determine that the Texas Senate, a body in which I have served for 17 years, will be adversely affected, I will resign. If, in retrospect, I find that I have committed illegal acts, I will take the proper steps to correct these wrongs. This will occur in the next few days."

Ratliff, who will be 60 on Thursday, was paired with another senator by redistricting in 1971 and is unopposed for election to the House this year. He gives his occupation as public relations counselor.

"The press in Texas has charged me in the newspapers with wrongdoing in the discharge of my office of state senator. My family has suffered much from these innuendos and accusations," Ratliff said in a written statement distributed by Schnabel.

Ratliff did not meet with newsmen in person.

Senate records show that Ratliff at various times employed his daughter, son-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law and grand-nephew.

noted.

The patrons of the club are well-behaved, he said. Everything goes along very well and no one causes any problems. Aggies are well-behaved here, he added.

A wide section of society uses the club. "Usually our business is about 50 per cent community and 50 per cent students. Our busiest times are the weekends when a lot of students come in. Also, surprisingly, many women

come with their husbands and dates," the proprietor said.

"Also very popular, are the Sunday and Monday night shows when we let women in free with an escort," he noted.

At the present time, the club does not handle any pictures or printed material.

"We are getting ready to remodel the place so we can handle other things. Right now we just do not have the facilities to do

it," he said.

The club hopes to expand its services in the future. "Later on we are going to try to get some professors from universities to come in and talk about pornography," the proprietor said.

The business is owned by a corporation now, who the proprietor said would remain nameless.

All in all, business seems to be going very well at the new club, the proprietor said.

## Barzun to give Rudder Memorial Lectures

A&M's first Rudder Memorial Lectures Thursday through Saturday will be a fitting tribute to the late TAMU president, Dr. Haskell Monroe, assistant vice president for academic affairs said.

The three-part presentation on "American Illusions" will be delivered by Dr. Jacques Barzun, distinguished author and cultural historian who holds the prestigious position of University Professor at Columbia.

Dr. Monroe said the general public is invited to the admission-free presentations financed by the Association of Former Students

and intended to provide an "added dimension" to the university's academic and continuing education programs.

"We feel this series of lectures will be a rewarding experience for persons representing a broad sector of the university, as well as for people throughout the community," Monroe pointed out.

Dr. Barzun's Thursday and Friday talks will be at 8 p. m. in lecture hall 102 of the Zachry Engineering Center. The Saturday program has been changed to 10 a. m. at the same location.

The opening talk by the eminent scholar will deal with the illusion "That Casual Manners

Allow Greater Individual Freedom." He will continue the following evening with a discussion of the illusion "That the Modern World Suffers from an Excess of Reason and a Shortage of Feeling" and conclude with the observations on the illusion "That the Increasing Concern for the Arts Will Make for a Better World."

The lecture series honors the memory of Gen. James Earl Rudder, TAMU president from 1959 until his death in 1970.

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

—Adv.



IT'S A BRICK, and the object of a fast and furious hunt in three feet of mud and water. There was nothing special about the brick; it was just part of a contest conducted as part of Civilian Week. Kendra Ward, with the brick, won third place. (Photo by Robert Williams)

