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Tuition hike tentatively approved by House

By JERRY OSLIN
Staff Writer

The Texas House of Representatives tentatively approved a bill Tuesday that would raise college tuition and generate an extra \$200 million in state revenues during the next two years.

The House is expected to make a final ruling Wednesday and if passed it will be forwarded to the state Senate for a vote.

State Rep. Wilhelmina Delco, D-Austin, said the bill would enable the Legislature to fund state colleges and universities at or near current funding levels. The Legislative Budget Board earlier had recommended the budgets be cut by about 25 percent.

If approved by the state Legislature, the bill would raise tuition for

undergraduate resident students from the current \$4 per semester credit hour to \$8 for the 1985-86 school year and then to \$14 for 1986-87. Tuition would then be raised \$2 every year until it reached \$20 per hour.

Non-resident tuition would be raised from the current \$40 per hour to \$120 for the 1985-86 school year and then to \$180 for 1986-87. Non-resident students would then be required to pay 100 percent of their education costs.

The state college and university coordinating board would define the cost of education. Non-resident tuition currently covers about 22 percent of the education costs.

Under the bill, tuition for resident medical and dental students would go from the current \$400 per year to

The bill would raise tuition for undergraduate resident students from the current \$4 per semester credit hour to \$8 for the 1985-86 school year and then to \$14 for 1986-87. Tuition would then be raised \$2 every year until it reached \$20 per hour.

\$1,200 in 1985-86; \$2,400 in 1986-87; \$3,600 in 1987-88; \$4,000 in 1988-89; \$5,600 in 1989-90; and to \$6,400 in 1990-91.

Non-resident tuition would increase from the current \$1,200 per year to \$2,400 for 1985-86; \$4,800 for 1986-87; and \$6,400 for 1987-88. After that, non-residents would

have to pay 20 percent of their educational costs.

Delco said \$6,400 is about 10 percent of the current cost it takes to educate a medical or dental student.

The bill also would eliminate three conditions under which non-resident students can pay resident tuition. Non-residents who work as teaching assistants or research assis-

tants would be eligible to pay resident tuition. Previously, a non-resident student who worked at any state college or university job would be eligible for resident tuition.

The bill also would eliminate the exemption that allows a non-resident student to pay resident tuition if that student marries a resident student.

The bill would eliminate the exemption that allows all non-resident students who receive scholarships to pay resident tuition. Only students who receive academic scholarships would continue to be eligible for resident tuition.

The bill also would raise tuition for all graduate students in law, architecture and engineering. Starting in the fall of 1985, graduate students in those areas would pay double

their undergraduate tuition.

The bill in its original form called for all tuition to be retained by the colleges and universities starting in 1987. Currently, colleges and universities collect tuition and channel it back to the state for redistribution. An amendment to the bill by Rep. Tom Uher, D-Bay City, would enable all tuition to stay in the general fund.

Along with a tuition raise, the bill also allows for 25 percent of all tuition to be set aside for financial aid. Of the 25 percent, no less than 5 percent would be used for emergency loans to students.

State Rep. Richard Smith, R-Bryan, voted against the bill but said the 25 percent set aside for financial aid would help moderate the problem of the increase.

U.S. Senate frees funding for MX missile

Bush stands by as
bill passes 55-45

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Republican-controlled Senate gave President Reagan his first big congressional victory of 1985 on Tuesday by voting 55-45 to free \$1.5 billion for the production of 21 highly-accurate, long-range MX missiles.

The president and Senate leaders overcame arguments that the MX would be vulnerable to a first-strike Soviet missile attack and persuaded doubters that the American bargaining position at the Geneva arms talks would be weakened if money for the MX were denied.

The favorable MX vote "is just what the negotiators need ... to give them a shot in the arm," said Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., just before the roll call of 100 senators began.

There will be a second MX vote in the Senate, possibly on Wednesday, but the real fight now shifts to the Democrat-led House, where a similar set of dual votes is set for next week.

Among the pro-MX votes were 45 Republicans and 10 Democrats. Voting no were 37 Democrats and eight Republicans.

Vice President George Bush presided as the vote was taken and was ready to cast a tie-breaking vote if needed, but in the end the administration's 10-vote margin was a comfortable one and improved Reagan's chances in the House.

The vote followed a last-minute, personal appeal for the MX from Reagan, who talked to Senate Republicans over lunch and said a defeat for the 10-warhead missile "would gravely weaken our national defenses."

Until the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to resume arms control talks, MX foes appeared certain to win with arguments such as one made by Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark.

"All we are doing is giving the Soviets a better target to shoot at," he said in speech on the Senate floor.

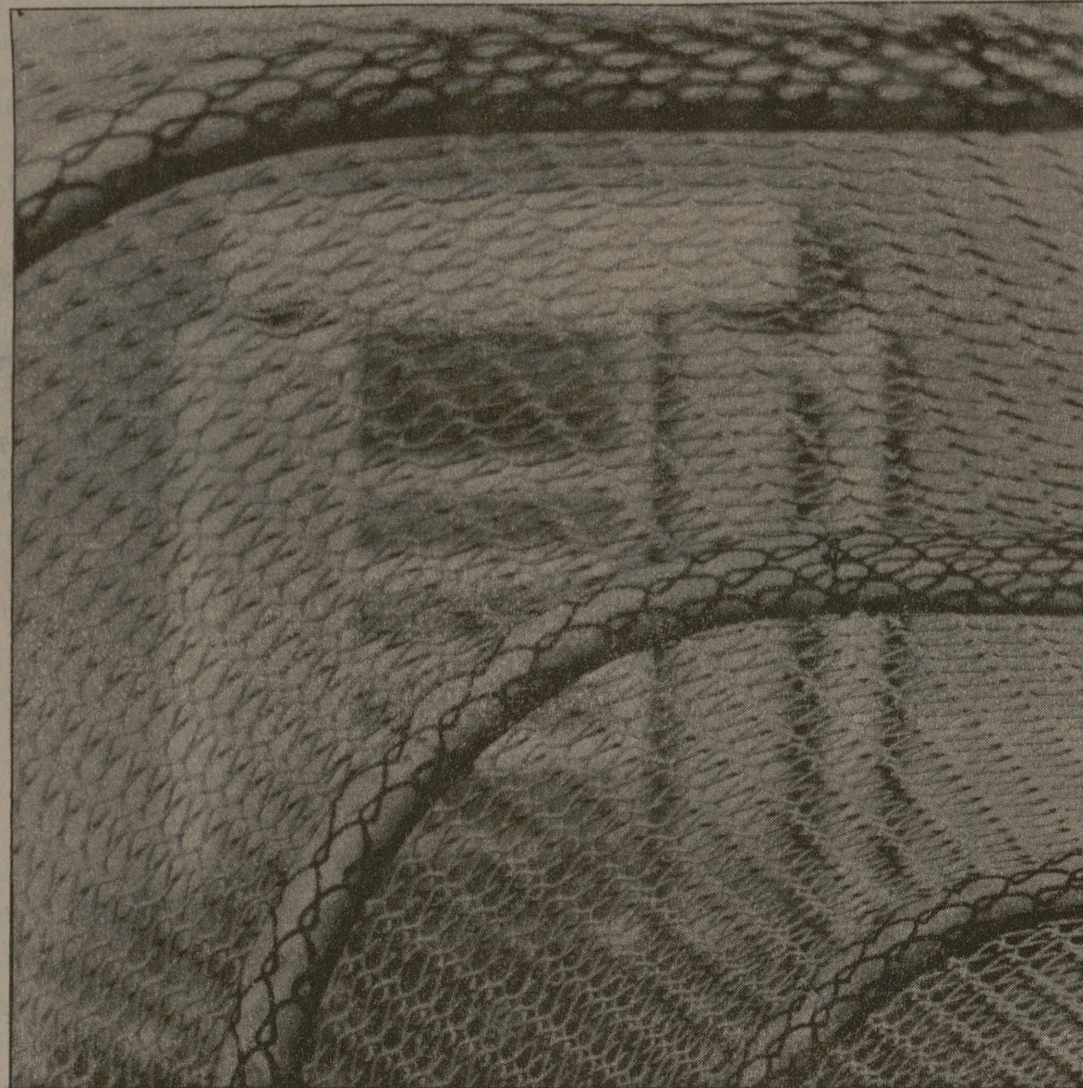
But Bumpers recalled a steady drumbeat of administration argument that the MX was needed to demonstrate national will in Geneva.

"The argument that is the most palpable nonsense of all is that you need this missile as a bargaining chip," said a frustrated Bumpers. "The power of the presidency is amazing."

Reagan ultimately wants to install 100 MXs in existing Minuteman silos deep below the prairies of Nebraska and Wyoming.

Some senators who voted for the MX on Tuesday said it was likely the last time, and pledged to oppose the weapon when 48 additional missiles are considered as part of the 1986 fiscal year military budget this summer.

Critics of the MX say the weapons would be destroyed in the first wave of a Soviet nuclear attack.



Behind Bars

Photo by KARLA JAMES

This unusual view, formed by looking through the fence on the top of the pedestrian overpass on Wellborn Road, seems to put Rudder Tower behind bars.

Sophomore unity proposal

Cadets discuss congress

By DAINAH BULLARD
Staff Writer

About 100 sophomore cadets, members of the 1st Brigade, met Tuesday night and discussed the development of a class congress to deal with problems faced by the Corps of Cadets.

Sophomore Selwyn Miller, who proposed the idea, said the congress would deal with issues such as leadership, women in the band, discipline, friction between major and minor outfits, recruiting and tension between cadets and non-cadets.

"The purpose of this is to try and get a working foundation for next year, when we will be running the Corps," Miller said.

Miller, from Squadron 17, and four other cadets, Anita Wood from Company W-1, John Beury and Mark Shankle from Company D-2, and Hermann Hasken from Company E-1, spoke to the cadets about the goals of the congress.

"One thing we'd like to demonstrate is unity among the sophomore class," Hasken said. "We have to use what few people we have left to build up (the Corps). We started out with 2,200, and now we just have about 1,600."

In addition to declining Corps membership, cadets said they are concerned about some changes taking place in the Corps. Cadets said they don't want the Corps at Texas A&M to become a clone of ROTC units at other universities.

While the majority of the cadets at the meeting approved the idea of a class congress, others said they al-

ready are adequately represented in Corps committees.

Miller, who joined the Corps last fall, said he came up with the idea of a congress because he was worried about some Corps practices.

"I haven't been too pleased with what I've seen since I got in last fall," Miller said. "Some of my buddies feel the same way. I talked with them and got them behind me, and they've backed me all the way."

Miller discussed the formation of a congress with Corps Commandant Col. Donald L. Burton and several junior cadets. Burton said the proposed congress would have to go through the established chain of command to present its ideas, Miller said.

The congress would be composed of 44 sophomore cadets, one representative from each outfit. Sophomore cadets would contact their representative about issues that concern them or ideas to improve the Corps.

"We understand all the problems around us," Miller said. "We want solutions."

Sophomore cadets from the three remaining major outfits also will meet this week. Sophomores in the Aggie Band will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Adams Band Hall. Sophomores in the 1st Regiment will meet Thursday at 7:15 p.m. in 100 Heldenfels. 1st Wing sophomores will meet Thursday at 7:15 p.m. in 105 Heldenfels.

A second series of meetings will be scheduled during the week of April 15, Miller said. He encouraged the units to choose their representatives during the next two weeks.

Brazos sheriff says lawsuit contesting election isn't valid

By KIRSTEN DIETZ
Staff Writer

Brazos County Sheriff Ronnie Miller said Tuesday he doesn't think Howard Hill's lawsuit contesting the November county sheriff election is valid.

"I think that if the students and people of Brazos County made an attempt to register, then they had a right to vote," Miller said.

Democrat Hill brought the lawsuit against Republican Miller after losing the election to Miller by 162 votes and after having a recount of the votes. Hill is questioning the validity of the election because more than 470 county residents allegedly voted illegally.

In addition to the 250 subpoenas issued before spring break, another 200 people who voted in the sheriff elections will be subpoenaed soon, Hill's attorney, Mark Davidson of Houston, said Monday.

State District Judge Arthur Lesher adjourned the March 13 trial until April 1. Miller's attorney, Chris Kling of Bryan, had asked for a week-long adjournment, which Lesher extended. Both parties agreed to the break before the trial began.

Hill said Monday that, so far, he is confident of winning the case.

Miller said Tuesday that he thought it was too early in the trial to make a prediction.

But, he said, "I was definitely not happy that, after the students stayed in town, they didn't get to testify and they had to lose their spring break."

Davidson had subpoenaed the

250 voters to appear in court March 11. Almost 90 percent of the subpoenaed voters were Texas A&M students. Seventy-three appeared in court and 67 testified by deposition.

Those who did not show are subject to arrest, Davidson said. He said that, if needed, he will ask for a writ of attachment, an order to pick up a person and hold him in jail if needed.

Davidson could not say under what condition he would ask for the writ, as he is prohibited from discussing tactics during a trial.

During the first three days of the trial, Brazos County Voter Register Gerald "Buddy" Winn testified that his office has no records to verify whether about 240 people ever registered to vote even though they allegedly voted after signing affidavits saying they had registered.

Davidson claimed 125 people voted after their names were removed from county poll lists. He also claimed that about 65 people voted in the wrong precinct or did not return their voter application cards in time to vote. The cards must be postmarked at least 30 days before the Nov. 6 election, according to state law.

Winn later testified that volunteer deputy registrars did not stamp the applications as they were received, so he had no way of knowing if the applications were received by the deadline.

The deputy registrars were supposed to keep a receipt book.

Talks go on amid Soviet allegations

Associated Press

GENEVA, Switzerland — American and Soviet negotiators met for two hours and 40 minutes Tuesday, their longest session since superpower arms control talks resumed.

In Moscow, the Kremlin accused the Reagan administration of seeking a "trump card" by pressing Congress to approve the MX missile. President Reagan has said the decision on the MX has a direct bearing on the Geneva talks.

The U.S. Senate in a show-down Tuesday approved \$1.5 billion to build 21 of the 10-warhead rockets. Critics say they would be destroyed in the first wave of a nuclear attack, but Reagan said a "no" vote by Congress would have been interpreted by Moscow as a "collapse of American resolve."

The Tuesday session in Geneva was at the Soviet mission and the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday.

Before Tuesday's session, the

Soviet media renewed charges that the United States was trying to block the talks. Secretary of State George P. Shultz had said remarks made by Victor P. Kar-pov, Soviet delegation chief, in a weekend television interview might not "bode well for the negotiations."

In Washington on Tuesday, the Reagan administration said it intends to present "concrete new ideas" in Geneva for an agreement curbing nuclear weapons. "If the Soviets approach the negotiations in the same way much progress can be made," the administration said.

The administration's statement appeared to be an attempt to head off a dispute over Soviet accusations that the United States seeks to deadlock the Geneva talks.

The Communist Party daily Pravda accused the United States of pursuing the MX missile program to pressure the Soviet Union.