



The Battalion

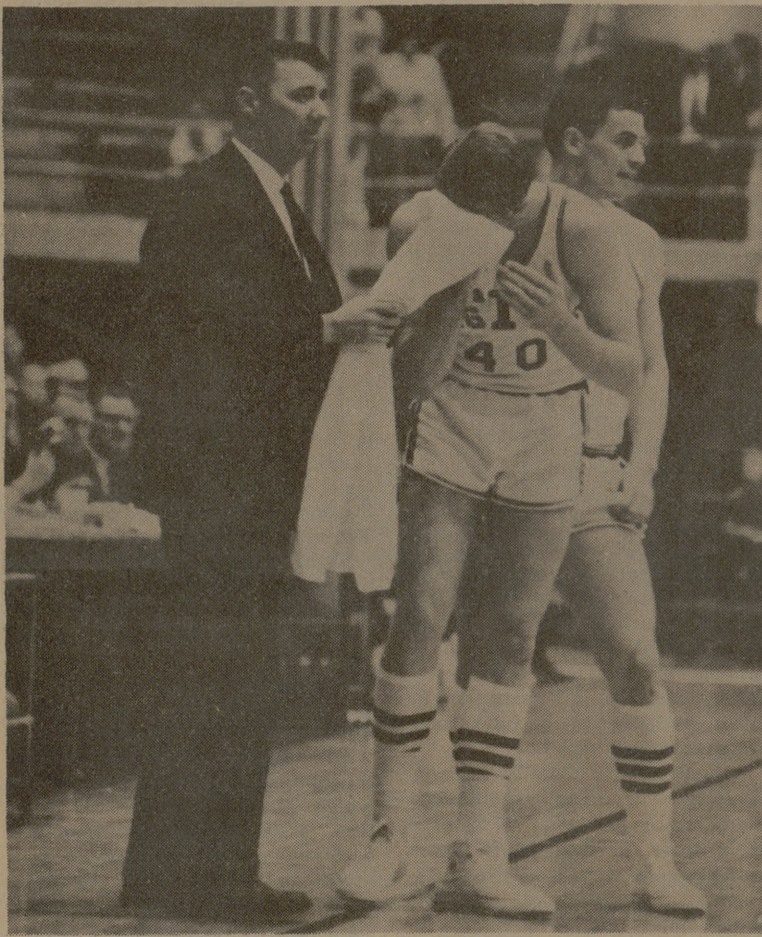
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Weather

THURSDAY — Cloudy to partly cloudy, winds southerly 10 to 15 m.p.h. High 68. Low 49.
FRIDAY — Cloudy to partly cloudy, occasional light rain, winds southerly 10 to 15 m.p.h. High 67. Low 52.



AGGIE TIMEOUT

Coach Shelby Metcalf talks with Billy Bob Barnett (with towel) and Dick Rector in Tuesday night's 85-71 loss to Southern Methodist. (Photo by Russell Autrey)

Optional City Sales Tax Gets Tentative Approval

Author Thwarts Change Attempts

By LEE JONES
AUSTIN (AP)—A one per cent local option city sales tax bill, which opponents said would help only big property owners and "strangle" downtown merchants, won tentative House approval Tuesday.

Rep. John Traeger of Seguin succeeded in knocking down 30 attempts to amend the bill before steering it to an 84-63 vote.

He failed, however, to get the 120 votes needed to bring it up for an immediate final vote. The vote was 107-39.

If the measure is reached on Wednesday's calendar, Traeger said he would try for final passage. Wednesdays are Senate bill days, and several Senate bills are ahead of the city sales tax on the calendar.

"THIS OFFERS the cities of Texas an opportunity to shed the straightjacket they now wear, with their sources of revenue limited to the ad valorem tax," Traeger said. "A vote for it is not necessarily a vote for the tax, but a vote for local option, a vote for local self-government."

A coalition of small town and big city members voted for the bill. The entire Tarrant County Fort Worth delegation voted against it, as did all but one member—who voted "present"—of the Bexar County San Antonio delegation. Dallas and Houston lawmakers split. Three of four El Paso members voted for the bill.

The Texas Municipal League and many mayors support the bill. They say the property tax has been used to its maximum feasible limit and must be supplemented by other revenue sources.

Gov. JOHN Connally agreed with the municipal league that the sales tax is the best way to raise additional city revenue, and Speaker Ben Barnes has indicated his support.

Rep. Paul Floyd, Houston, said the bill would drive business from cities where the tax is imposed to places without a local sales tax.

"What we are doing is killing downtown business districts in every city in Texas. And guess where the shoppers are going: To the bedroom cities that don't have the sales tax. Downtown districts will be strangled," he said.

THE LOCAL sales taxes could be imposed only on items covered by the 2 per cent state sales tax. The state comptroller would collect the city and state tax together, skim off 2 per cent for administration and return the rest to the city.

A city sales tax election could be called either by the city council or on petition of 20 per cent of qualified voters. The tax later could be abolished by a similar election.

In other action, Connally's liquor by the drink bill was formally introduced in both the House and Senate. It was referred to the Senate State Affairs Committee and the House Revenue and Taxation Committee.



HOW DO YOU GET IT DOWN?

Serenely flying from the top of the Academic Building is a white banner with the number 70 on it that someone somehow managed to place there over the weekend. After two days, the banner is still there. (Photo by Russell Autrey)

'Secrecy In Legislature' To Be Discussed By Senator

Sen. A. R. Schwartz of Galveston will discuss "Secrecy in the Legislature here Friday.

The fifth speaker of a Political Forum series will appear at an informal lunch in the Memorial Student Center Assembly Room, announced David Gay, chairman of the Great Issues forum program.

The program is jointly sponsored by MSC Great Issues and the History and Government Department.

Senator Schwartz is a 1947 graduate of A&M. A controversial figure in state government, he has been spokesman for state senate liberals. The senator was one of the first members of the Jewish faith elected to a state governing body.

Gay said all interested students and faculty members are invited.

"An R.S.V.P. list for a light lunch will be posted in the MSC Student Programs Office," Gay added. "Persons desiring to eat should sign up before 5 p.m. Thursday."

"The 12 p.m. luncheon will provide an informal atmosphere for discussion of political processes in contemporary political issues," the forum chairman went on. Senator Schwartz will speak for 20 minutes after which a question-answer session will be held.

"We expect standing-room-only attendance," Gay said. The assembly room will seat 150 at tables.

Board Nixes Course Fees For Auditors

Among measures taken by the A&M System Board of Directors Tuesday was the rescinding of fees for audited courses.

Wayne C. Hall, Academic Vice-President and Dean of Graduate Studies, recommended the change on the basis of the small number of audited hours registered for last fall and on the small attendance at audit classes.

Hall said 219 students registered as auditors during fall 1966, but about half either dropped or did not attend the course during the semester. Actual credit hours involved totaled 400, he added.

"As a result, the income from these fees is relatively small and it is more expensive to administer and report by machine the auditors than the income represents," he pointed out.

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

Flying Cross Is Awarded To Aggie In Vietnam

Maj. Frederick H. Mitchell of Austin has been awarded the Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross for successive acts of combat bravery in Vietnam.

The 1954 Texas A&M graduate was decorated for rallying two First Infantry Division companies under attack by numerically superior Viet Cong forces and for helicopter reconnoitering of heavily fortified VC positions under intense fire, after which he landed in an unsecured area and directed offensive measures.

Major Mitchell was cadet colonel of the Corps and is a distinguished military graduate of A&M. He was also a member of the Ross Volunteers and recipient of the Caldwell Trophy and Ainsworth Saber.

Nobel Prize Winner Named Visiting Prof Of Engineering

Sir John Douglas Cockcroft, British Nobel Prize winner, was named visiting distinguished professor of engineering at Texas A&M Tuesday.

The 1951 recipient of the Nobel Prize for Physics was one of four appointments announced by the university's board of directors.

Dr. R. D. Radeleff, director of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Southwestern Veterinary Toxicology and Livestock Insects Research Laboratory at

College Station, was named adjunct professor of veterinary physiology and pharmacology.

A senior member of the scientific staff in the research laboratories of RCA Victor Company, Ltd., in Montreal, Dr. T. W. Johnston was named visiting professor of physics.

Dr. Verne E. Grant, currently professor of botany at Claremont, Calif., was appointed professor of biology, effective Aug. 1.

In addition to the new appointments, the board also approved the titles of professor emeritus for retired Geology Professor Horace R. Blank and retired Professor Henry Ross of the Agricultural Education Department.

Sir Cockcroft, who built the first high-energy particle accelerator and used it to confirm Einstein's theory of relativity, will visit Texas A&M next month and present the keynote address at the university's "Engineering for the 1970's" convocation March 21-22.

He served as director of England's Atomic Energy Research Establishment from 1946 to 1958 and has been master of Cambridge University's Churchill College since 1959.

In his position as adjunct professor, Dr. Radeleff will present several toxicology lectures here and help investigate means of developing joint research projects between the USDA's veterinary toxicology laboratory and the university's College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Radeleff received his doctor's degree from Texas A&M in 1941.

Dr. Johnston, an authority in the field of plasma physics, received his Ph.D. from Cambridge in 1958 after completing his undergraduate work at McGill University.

Dr. Grant, who specializes in the field of genetics, received his AB in 1940 and Ph.D. in 1949 from the University of California at Berkeley.

UAC's Importance Underrated

By JERRY GRISHAM
Battalion Staff Writer
What is probably the only major student organization at Texas A&M that even the people in the University Archives have never heard of?
The answer is the University

Apartment Council.
Never heard of it? Don't count yourself a failure in campusology. Most students, and that includes many of those most affected by the council, those living in University housing, have never heard the name before.

The Apartment Council has been a part of student government for several years—again no one even seems to know how long it has been around, although at least 10 years seems to be a good guess—but the only apparent contributions it has made during its shadowy past have been to place three of its members on the Civilian Student Council and to give Christmas, Easter and Halloween parties for the children of students living in the apartments.

BUT LAST summer the current officers of the council took steps to bring the organization into the light and make itself felt among the apartment dwellers.

The president of the Apartment Council, Bob Christy, explained that meeting during the summer was in itself a departure from past practice.

"This summer was the first time the council has ever met before the school year begins," Christy said. "During this time we completely rewrote our constitution, eliminating some parts which had become obsolete."

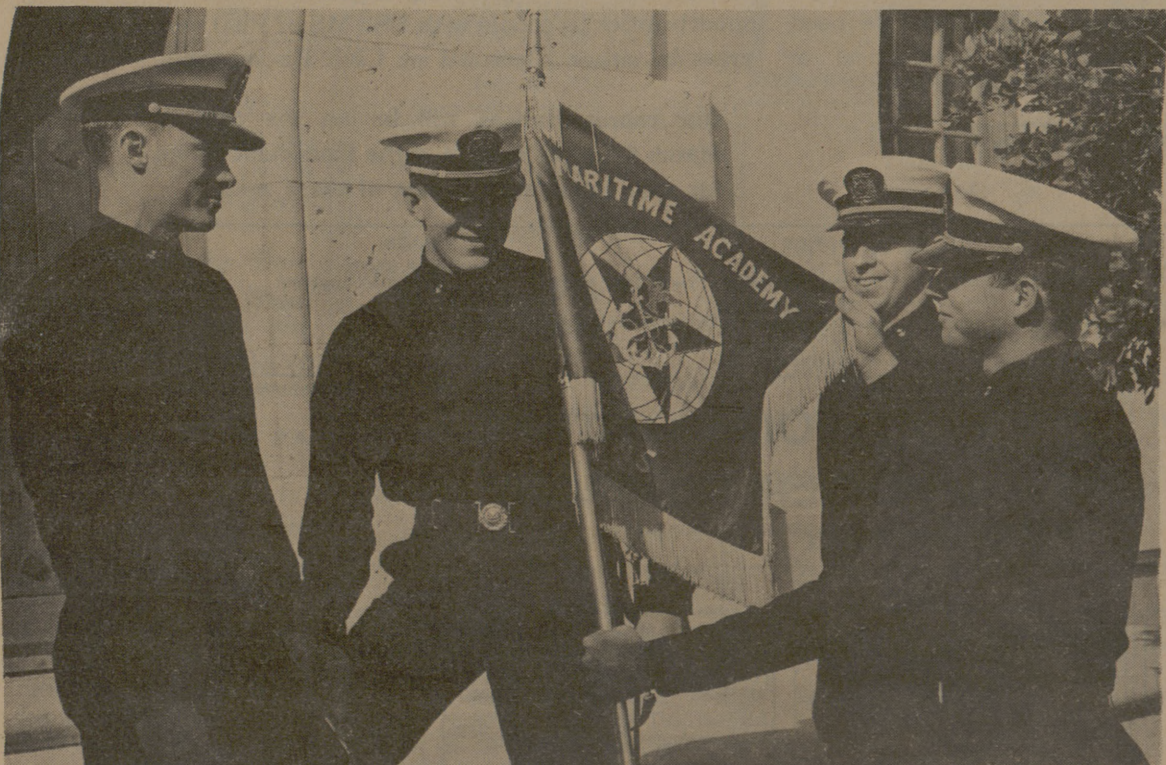
The council chalked up another first in September when it held elections among the residents of College View, Southside and Hensel Apartments to choose the representatives on the council.

"PREVIOUSLY," Christy commented, "we had just found someone in the apartments who was interested in being on the council and he was in. But since we had rewritten the constitution and included election of the council members we decided to go by it."

In February the council erected six sets of swings in the apartment areas. Two sets were placed at strategic locations in the Hensel Apartments, three in College View and one in Southside.

"We obtained the money to buy the swings from the Exchange Store," Christy explained, "through its program of putting

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MARITIME OFFICERS

New officers of the Texas Maritime Academy Corps of Cadets (from left) are Thomas A. Craig, executive officer; William W.

Pickavance, Jr., commander; Cecil B. Eubanks, Jr., adjutant, and David C. McWilliams, chief petty officer.

Aggie To Direct German Play At Texas Convention

Steve Thurman, a senior economics major, is director for a German play to be performed at the Texas Association of German Students' Convention April 7 at San Marcos.

"Das Abschiedssouper" has the English meaning of "The Farewell Supper."

The TAGS competition will be staged at Southwest Texas State College.

Frances Flynn, secretary of the Aggie Players, said the cast includes Chris Schroeder as Annie, Robert Roundtree as Max, and Don Carter as a waiter.

Advisors are Martin E. Gottschalk and Karl Reitermajer of Texas A&M's Modern Languages Department.



A SWINGIN' TIME

Children in College View enjoy new swings erected by University Apartment Council.