

The Battalion

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Telephone 845-2226

On Open-Air Campus Mall Work Under Way

Hayden Whitsett
Staff Writer

Work on the new open air mall, located between the Academic Building and the Agriculture Building is under way, according to Harold C. Carter, manager of construction at A&M. Carter said that recent rain delayed construction on the 100,000 park, but that it shouldn't extend work past the end of the summer.

The mall project was designed to produce a more academic environment in the area extending from the Academic Building to the Agriculture Building. So far shrubbery between Nagle Hall and the Library has been removed and Roberts and Hubbard Streets, flanking the Library, have been ripped out. According to Robert H. Rucker, A&M landscape architect, a pedestrian plaza will be constructed

between the Academic and Cushing Buildings and the library and Agriculture Buildings. Roberts and Hubbard Streets will be replaced by 24-foot-wide sidewalks and the existing sidewalks will be removed.

Rucker said that lights, benches, flowerbeds, new foliage and planters around the existing trees are part of the mall project.

He added that no trees will be removed or transplanted and that all existing plants that can be salvaged will be saved and replanted. An automatic irrigation system will be installed.

"We realize that the work will cause inconvenience to students, faculty, and campus visitors," Rucker said. "But we hope everyone will be patient with us for the next six months."

Major changes in the area will be the closing and removal of vehicular traffic and parking from the turn-around and block of Coke Street east of the Academic Building, plus Hubbard and Roberts Streets between the Academic Building and the Agriculture Building.

Coke Street will be used only as a service and emergency vehicle route to the library.

Nagle will continue to dead-end either side of the library.

Architects for the project are Jarvis, Putty and Jarvis of Dallas. R. B. Butler and Sons of Bryan is the general contractor with Charles W. Scott and Son of San Antonio is the contractor for the landscape work.

Voting Today Will Decide 10 Positions

Elections for freshman class executive and senate positions and a junior business administration senate post are being held today.

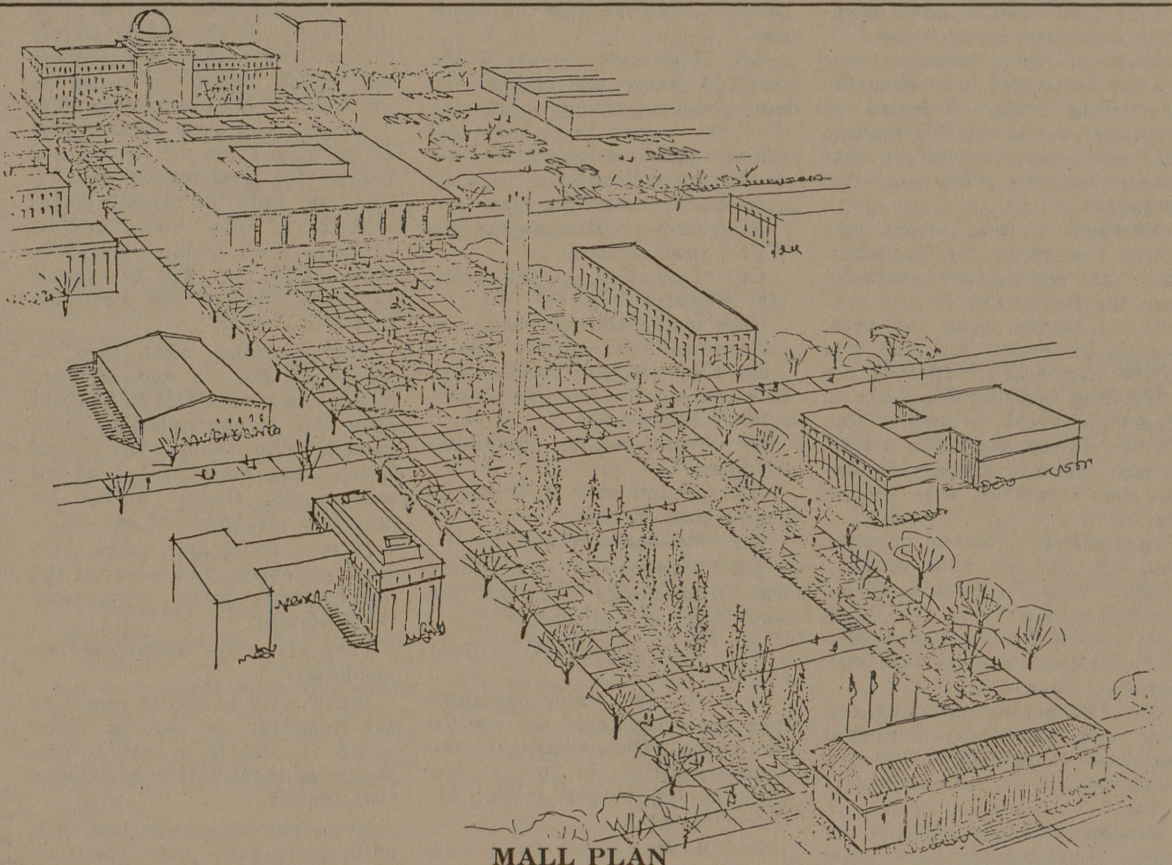
Polls will be open from 7:30 a. m. - 8 p. m., according to Mike Wiebe, Election Commission vice president for publicity.

Freshmen may vote at the dormitory 2 guard room, the basement of the Memorial Student Center, or the newsstand in front of Sbsa Dining Hall, Wiebe said.

Junior BAs can vote in room 102 (typing room) of Francis Hall, he said.

The first-year students will be electing a class president, vice president, secretary-treasurer, and social secretary, along with five senators-at-large.

The third-year BAs will be voting for one senate representative.



Here is the proposed long-range plan for a central campus mall extending from the Academic Building to the System Administration Building. A&M landscape architect Robert Rucker has said that the area between the Academic Building and the Agriculture Building (not shown) should be completed within six or seven months.

Fish Place 5th At UH Contest

A&M's defending national champion Freshman Drill Team experienced its first front row action and came out better than its predecessors.

The team commanded by Beverly S. Kennedy of Austin placed 5th in the annual University of Houston competition last week. It was the FDT's first competition as a unit and only appearance other than football game appearances and the Veterans Day show.

The finish was a two-place improvement over that by the 1968 team, which went on to capture an unprecedented second national title.

Their performance was as good as any fish team I've seen at UH," commented J. Malontherland, advisor of the team's officer.

"It wasn't spectacular," he said, "but the consistency was there and the experience was there."

Malontherland said the upperclass members headed by senior Richard Gonzalez of San Antonio did well at the first meet of 1969-70, by

WEATHER

Wednesday — Partly cloudy to sunny. Wind Northeastly 8 to 10 m.p.h. High 60, low 49.

Thursday — Partly cloudy to sunny. Wind Northerly 10 to 12 m.p.h. High 65, low 47.

Christmas for the Poor Is Aim Of Ags' Family Adoption Plan

A&M students have begun their annual project to bring Christmas to the poor before leaving for their homes for the holidays.

Sponsored by the YMCA, students have annually "adopted a family for Christmas," declared Ed Donnell of Jones Creek, YMCA Cabinet president.

Donnell explained that the YMCA receives a list of needy families in the Bryan-College Station area. Individual students, cadet units, civilian residence hall organizations and campus clubs select a family to help.

The YMCA serves as a center and clearinghouse for clothing and non-perishable food items.

"Used clothing for adults and children can be used," Donnell

noted, "we only ask that the clothes be clean and mended."

Canned foods also are important to the project, he added.

Students normally visit the family and find out what their specific needs are before buying any merchandise. Christmas boxes of fresh foods, canned foods, clothes and gifts are presented to the family just prior to the students' leaving for the Christmas holidays on Dec. 19.

"We find this annual project usually makes Christmas more meaningful to the students who participate," Donnell maintains.

Persons wishing to donate goods or help a needy family may contact the YMCA office in room 102 of the YMCA Building.

Today is the beginning of four days of discussion and debate for the delegates to Texas A&M's 15th Student Conference on National Affairs, but for the A&M students who make up the SCONA XV Committee it is the end of 10 months of planning and hard work.

For others, preliminary planning for SCONA XVI will soon begin. A year-round schedule, including fund drives during holiday periods, is necessary to insure a well-organized meeting of 162 scholars from 58 universities.

SCONA was begun in 1954 by two A&M students, John Jenkins and Herbert Whitney, who had attended a similar conference at West Point, said Harry Kay Les-

Corps Review Thursday Will Honor SCONA

More than 200 delegates and participants to the 15th Student Conference on National Affairs will be honored Thursday by the Corps of Cadets.

The 2,800-member corps will pass in review for SCONA delegates at 5 p.m. on the Memorial Student Center drill field, announced Col. Jim H. McCoy, commandant.

Dean of Students James P. Hannigan will be the reviewing official. Among honorees here for SCONA XV will be 115 students from colleges and universities throughout the U.S., Mexico and Africa. In addition, 30 speakers and round-table co-chairmen will view the Cadet Corps' third formal review of 1969-70.

A&M designated 50 regular delegates to SCONA and for the first time qualified 40 sophomores and freshmen to participate in the annual conclave that examines issues of national and international concern.

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And It Never Ends SCONA: Hard Work

ser, chairman. The other major conferences of this type are held at Principia and the three military academies, he said.

The conference was begun to bring together outstanding students to discuss current issues of national and international scope, Lesser explained.

SCONA attempts to create intelligent interest in the complexities of the policies of the U.S., he said, rather than to suggest solutions or accept ready-made answers and, thereby, to develop enlightened, responsible leaders from among the students.

Of the five such conferences sponsored by American colleges, Lesser pointed out, SCONA is the only one for which students raise the entire operating fund, which this year totals over \$21,000.

A&M students also secure speakers, panelists and chairmen for round table discussion groups, with help from Congressman Olin E. Teague of the Bryan-College Station district.

Teague suggests names of possible speakers on conference topics and encourages Washington authorities to accept SCONA invitations. For this year's topic,

Friday Last Day To Pre-Register

Friday is the deadline for pre-registering for spring semester courses, reminded Registrar Robert A. Lacey.

Students should pre-register through their major departments, Lacey emphasized. He said they must also obtain fee data cards at designated areas and then turn in both the pre-registration card packets and fee data cards at registration headquarters on the ground floor of the YMCA Building.

Lacey said that any student who fails to pre-register may not be able to enroll for all his desired courses during delayed and late registration.

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

—Adv.

"Black Africa: The Challenges of Development," he has had a background paper drawn up by members of the Library of Congress staff.

A&M students began planning for this year's conference in February, when the SCONA Committee met to evaluate SCONA XIV and offer suggestions for improvement. Lesser took over leadership of the committee, organizing a new membership drive and calling for suggested themes and topics for SCONA XV.

"Letters were sent out to all the previous speakers and chairmen asking for suggestions for topics," Lesser said. "The planning committee culled these suggestions down to 10-12 and then the advisers and executive committee narrowed the choice to four or five. The planning committee then researched available material and speakers for each topic and Africa was chosen as our topic before spring vacation."

"We went through the same process to find speakers for the topic," he said. "We divided it into five or six sub-topics and researched each for appropriate speakers."

The SCONA finance committee sent out letters early in March asking past sponsors and prospective sponsors for appointments to allow SCONA workers to talk with them.

The students gave up their Easter holiday to contact potential donors in Houston, San Antonio, Tyler, Fort Worth, Dallas and Corpus Christi. The 40 students were divided into teams of two and three to call on the sponsors, the majority of whom are former students.

Temporary office space was acquired in each city and the teams, armed with a copy of the past conference's brochure and the agenda to the next, contacted corporations, endowment agencies and individuals.

"More than \$18,000 was collected in this and a second fund drive the first week of June," Lesser said. "The last two weeks of August, Mexican students conducted a fund drive in Monterrey and other major Mexican cities."

Basic planning for the conference began after the Easter holidays. Meeting rooms were reserved, dates were placed on the official University calendar, and a list of schools to be invited was drawn up.

"We invited schools that had attended in the past and pulled enough names out of the hat to invite 145 schools," Lesser said. "Three African and one Mexican university have accepted as well as 54 others."

"Letters were sent to the presidents of all the universities re-

(See SCONA, page 6)



SKI STUNT

As the sun slowly sets, a silhouetted skier soars in a somersault stunt to start the season for a ski school near Toronto, Canada. The skier, Dan George, is the assistant director of the school. (AP Wirephoto)

**SCONA XV
Tonight**

Plenary Session — 8 p. m. MSC Ballroom
"Building of African Nations"
—Dr. Gwendolen M. Carter

Thursday

Roundtables — 8:30-11:30 a. m. MSC
"Building of African Nations"
Panel Presentation — 1:30-3 p. m. MSC Ballroom
"The Role and Objectives of Industrial Development in Black Africa"
—E. Jefferson Murphy
Arthur N. L. Wina
Paul S. Slawson

Roundtables — 3-4:30 p. m. MSC
"African Society and Social Changes"
Corps of Cadets review — 5 p. m. Drill Field
Plenary Session — 8 p. m. MSC Ballroom
"African Society and Social Changes"
—Dr. Immanuel Wallerstein