

*Windy,
warmer
days*

Friday — Cloudy to partly cloudy. Winds easterly 10-15 mph. High 72°, low 58°.

Saturday — Cloudy to partly cloudy. Afternoon rain showers. Winds southerly at 10-15 mph. High 77°, low 62°.

Fee authorization bill gets Senate backing

DAVID S. MIDDLEBROOKE
The Student Senate Wednesday gave its support to a bill before the state legislature that would give Texas A&M's board directors authority to assess Student Center Complex (SCC) fees of up to \$10 per semester and \$5 per summer term.

The bill, passed by the Texas state, is in a House committee and is due out within the next week, with a full House vote likely after that. If passed, assessment of the fee could begin next fall.

Senators also defeated for the time in two weeks a proposed constitution which would establish a student association at Texas A&M, and moved the general election date from April 15 to April 28.

Management Services Director Edward Vestal, in asking the state for support of the new bill, said the House committee considering the bill would place great value on endorsement by the Student Senate.

Vestal was quick to emphasize that while the bill allows up to \$10 per semester and \$5 per summer term to be assessed, university officials will—if the bill is passed—ask the board for no more than \$5 per semester and about \$2 for each summer term.

"I give you my guarantee on that," Vestal said.

He explained passage of the bill would not automatically in-

stitute the SCC fee, but would give board members the authority to assess such a fee if they wish.

The purpose of the fee, Vestal explained, will be to provide operating, maintenance, improvement and equipment funds for the student center complex soon to be constructed.

This complex will include an auditorium, theater, conference center and continuing education area being constructed where Guion Hall stood, as well as the enlarged and renovated Memorial Student Center.

By asking for a \$10 and \$5 ceiling, he said, the board would have a latitude in the fee amount and would not have to ask the legislature every two years for a higher ceiling.

Vestal said the modern facilities the complex will have will require a competent staff to run it and funds to maintain it. Money for matters such as those does not come from the legislature, he said.

"It would be a tragedy to not be able to operate the complex after building it," Vestal said.

He said another \$300,000 will be needed when the complex is finished to provide moveable equipment and such items as musicians' chairs and stands. Such items, he said, are not in the building contracts, yet they are needed to use the complex.

The board may wish to begin assessing the fee next fall, he ex-

plained, to allow a fund to build up so money will not be lacking when the time to buy needed items arrives.

Vestal said the fee would be the only source of operating funds for the theater-auditorium part of the complex. He explained, in response to a question, that the board had not provided funds to operate the complex because the board thinks in terms of progress and doesn't worry about operations—it leaves that to university administrators.

"I don't mean for one minute to criticize the board's methods," Vestal said. "They want a first-class university."

He stressed the money to build the complex is already provided, and the fee will provide only operating expenses.

C. A. Bedinger (grad) said he believes many graduate students will be against the bill because they don't enjoy use of the present MSC that much. He said possible graduate students are not adequately informed on money use.

"Graduate students will get as much use out of the new facilities as anyone," Vestal said.

He also said that he knows of no alternatives the administration might fall back on if the bill doesn't pass.

"The board authorized the building of the complex," he said. "When it is finished, they will give it to the university, and it's up to us to provide operating money."

Texas Intercollegiate Student Association (TISA) President Tommy Henderson (sr-LA) said TISA is opposed to the bill because student activity and building use fees are fixed by law, and TISA sees the bill as a way around limitations. He said TISA felt the university should press for increases in the existing fees.

Vestal said such an effort would affect every state school. He also said the bill contains no definition of a student center complex, but that he doesn't think the definition can be changed at will because the area is physically defined.

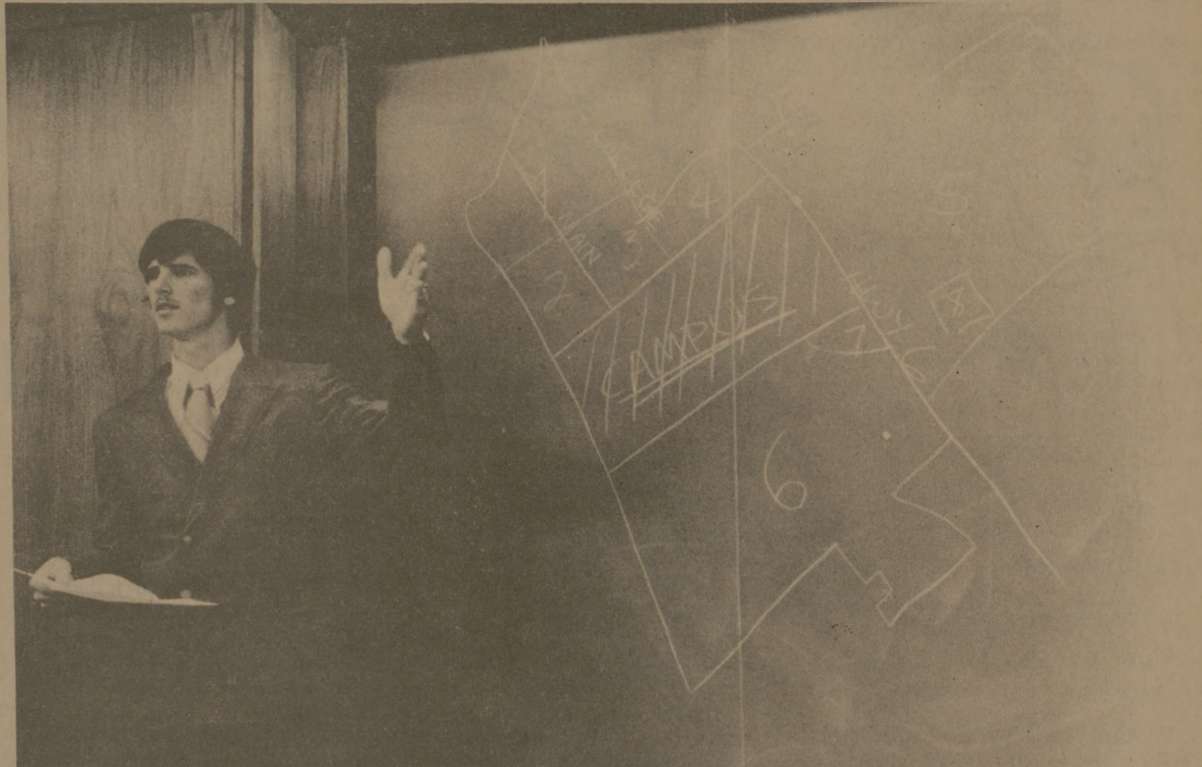
"The money is not a concern, it's a matter of equipping the complex," Bill Brady (sr-Eng)

said. "It's not an optional concern. The money already is spent. We have to have equipment and a staff. I move the Senate support SB 573 (the authorization bill)."

Senators voted 57-13 with one abstention to back the legislation.

In bringing up the twice-defeated proposed constitution for consideration, Senate President Kent Caperton said a new committee had met, considered the document and now was recommending acceptance of the constitution.

The proposed document was identical to the one defeated two weeks ago except propisions were (See Student Senate, page 4)



Issues Committee Chairman Kirby Brown Wednesday night explains a possible method of day student representation if a proposed constitution were to be passed. Senators later defeated the constitution for the third time. (Photo by Hayden Whitsett)

Governor's appropriations role explained by forum spokesman



James Oliver

By STEVE DUNKELBERG

James Oliver, administrative assistant to Gov. Preston Smith, Wednesday explained and defended Texas' practice of maintaining two state budget offices, one for the Legislature and one for the Executive Department, and added that the main job of the governor, in relationship to the appropriation process, is planning and coordinating the state's programs and funds.

Speaking at Political Forum in the Memorial Student Center Wednesday, Oliver added that he expected the Texas Senate to defeat a bill calling for a raise in resident student tuition fees in state supported schools and reduce the tuition hike for non-residents proposed by the House of Representatives.

The governor designs his budget program to show where he feels the money should eventually end up, Oliver explained. His budget office must also propose and anticipate necessary legislation, and additional programs or new taxes that the budget plan would require, he added.

In his role as chief planning

officer for the state, Oliver said, the governor is responsible for planning state programs and allocating funds for them.

The governor's executive powers have been strengthened greatly in the last four to six years, Oliver claimed. He cited increased federal legislation placing the governor in charge of allocating federal funds to state agencies.

Another strengthening factor of Texas' executive branch is in its power to form inter-agency councils to avoid having "related agencies running in different directions."

To substantiate this, Oliver announced that Smith signed an executive order Wednesday morning which will form an Inter-Agency Transportation Council, including the Highway Department, the Aeronautics Commission, the Railroad Commission and several other transportation-oriented agencies.

This new council is designed to provide greater interaction between the agencies, and consequently provide better cooperation and service, Oliver said.

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

Prison reform GI topic tonight

Dr. George J. Beto, director of the Texas Department of Corrections, will speak on Prison reform in a Thursday Great Issues presentation at Texas A&M University.

Beto's discussion will begin at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom, announced Great Issues chairman Rip Russell.

The MSC committee's public admission policy will be in effect for Beto's address.

Banking is a pleasure at First Bank & Trust.

Chief executive of the Texas correction system since March 1, 1962, Beto is responsible for 14 TDC units operating on 99,000 acres with more than 12,000 inmates.

The department's policy-making body is the nine-member Texas Board of Corrections, to which nonsalaried members are appointed for six-year overlapping terms by the governor.

Beto is a clergyman and former president of Concordia College in Austin from 1949 to 1959 and head of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

(See Prison reform, page 2)

Juniors pick 10 semifinalists



Laurel Conglose



Barbara Dowling

Ten semifinalists have been announced for Junior Class Sweetheart, to be selected at the Junior Ball Saturday night.

A selection committee will choose five finalists, Jerry McGowan, 1972 class president said, and sweetheart selection will be by ballot of juniors and their dates at 7:30 p.m. semiformal dance in Duncan Hall.

Finalists will be introduced during a special intermission. Continuous playing bands for the 7:30 to 12:30 event will include "The Gripping Force," a Fort Worth group that played for Gov. Preston Smith's inauguration, and "Sundance," which plays out of San Antonio and has a hit single recording on the charts.

The 10 junior sweetheart semifinalists were picked by a selection committee from the class.

Laurel Alicia Conglose, a freshman English major at A&M, is a 5-foot-5 brunette and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Conglose, 402 Mitchell, Bryan. She will be escorted by Robert A. Snedden.

Sam Houston State business freshman Barbara Ann Dowling calls Prairie Village, Kan., home. She is a hazel-eyed brunette and will be the date of Robby Dan Robertson.

Gloria Sharon Harrison transferred to A&M from LSU and is in her junior year of secondary education studies in physical education and history. She was an LSU band twirler and participates in the Host and Fashion Committee's Mam'selles modeling group.

Miss Harrison resides with her grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. R.

Henry Harrison Jr., 601 E. 32nd, Bryan. She has red hair and blue eyes and will be the date of Sam Parigi Jr.

Carol Lewis, to be escorted by Stephen L. Baker, is a Robert E. Lee High senior of Houston. She has brown hair, brown eyes and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Lewis, 10026 Overbrook.

University of Houston freshman Margie Metcalf will be the date of Tommy Orr. An education major, she is a blue-eyed brunette.

Music education major Karen Pittman attends East Texas State, where she is a junior. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Pittman of Talco, she will be the date of Steven L. Vaughn. Miss Pittman has green eyes and blonde hair.

Vicki Rye lives in Bay City and is a freshman fashion design major at Columbia, Mo., College. She has light brown hair and brown eyes. Clifford Giese will be her escort.

Peggy Aileen Samson also attends A&M. The freshman English major is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Samson, 200 College View, Bryan. Miss Samson, who has brown hair and eyes, will be escorted by William W. Smith.

Blonde, blue-eyed Valerie Ann Schott studies home economics at Southwest Texas State, where she is a junior. Her home is in Devine. Miss Schott's escort will be Mike Weynand.

Twyla Toler also is a local resident. The daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Toler, Charles R. Moorhead will be her escort.



Gloria Harrison



Carol Lewis



Margie Metcalf



Karen Pittman



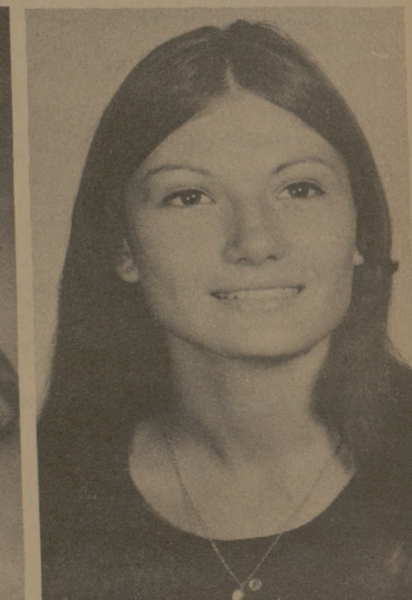
Vicke Rye



Peggy Samson



Valerie Schott



Twyla Toler