

The Battalion

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Friday, April 7, 1972

845-2226

Partly cloudy, warm

Saturday — Cloudy in the morning, partly cloudy in the afternoon. Northerly winds 10-15 mph. High 77°, low 58°.

Sunday — Clear, northerly winds 10-15 mph. High 76°, low 47°.

Elections held on one day, senate decides

Hayden Whitsett
Editor

The student general elections will be held one day rather than the two originally planned, the Student Senate decided Thursday night.

Tom Autrey, parliamentarian, proposed that elections be held only on April 13 rather than April 13 and 14 as previously planned.

The general election results will be tabulated by computer while the living area results will be counted by hand.

Polls for the election will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fee slips and activity cards will be required.

All Corps members and civilian students in the living area will vote at the guardroom, David Moore, election commission chairman, said. All other campus students will vote in their respective dorm buildings, he said.

Off-campus students will vote in the Memorial Student Center, the Library, Sbsia Dining Hall, and apartment areas. Locations of the apartment buildings have not been decided upon, Moore said.

The senate also decided to hold the elections in alphabetical listing of candidates on the ballot, in the past, but following elections will have a lottery to decide ballot position.

Autrey felt that a lottery should be used in this election but Moore said that to retype the computer program to be used for ballots would possibly delay the elections.

"We're running about 40,000 cards in 19 different groups," Moore said. "The master cards for these have already been prepared." To change the master cards would create problems for both the commission and the Data Processing Center, he added.

Reviving part of a past meeting, the Student Senate also decided to hold a referendum on the Sweetheart question if 20 per cent of the student body, about 3,000, signed a petition requesting such action.

In their last meeting, the senate had voted to select the sweetheart from TAMU coeds only. Protests from Texas Women's University, where all previous sweethearts came from, brought the issue back up.

Tony Best (Sr-Eng) told the senate that a petition calling for a referendum has been circulated and collected 1,500 signatures. He said he believed that 1,500 more could be collected "without much trouble."

Opposition to the move developed when Spike Dayton, treasurer, brought up an opinion poll taken during spring preregistration in which 53 per cent of the participating students favored having a TAMU coed only.

The referendum depends upon 20 per cent of the student body signing the petition before the election.

The senate also recommended that the Rules and Regulations of TAMU (the Bluebook) be changed to allow alcoholic beverages to be possessed and consumed on campus.

"We are really concerned with only the guy's room," he said in making the proposal.

Best disliked the proposal, saying that he felt it would disrupt study conditions in dorms. "There will be a party every night," he said.

Debi Blackmon, freshman senator, said that at other universities with like policies there had been a few initial blowouts but would eventually settle down.

The motion passed 45-22.

Also passed was a resolution calling for letting political candidates campaign on campus as long as selection of speakers was done on a bipartisan basis.

The law that has been interpreted in the past as prohibiting political candidates from speaking on campus is "fuzzy," according to Fred Campbell (Jr-Sci).

John Sharp, senate president, said that President Jack K. Williams has written a letter to Texas Attorney General Crawford Martin asking for a ruling.



STUDENT CAMPAIGNERS are doing their part, along with construction workers, to help blockade the campus. The signs, for the April 13 general elections, are thick and getting thicker as all the 267 candidates jockey for a small piece of land to stake their claim to student politics. (Photo by Mike Rice)

Coalition government Cong's aim

PARIS (AP) — Claiming major victories in the offensive in South Vietnam, the Viet Cong's chief delegate to the Paris peace talks said Thursday the over-all aim is to set up a coalition government in Saigon.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh also insisted the United States return to the peace table. She and the North Vietnamese delegation reiterated charges that the United States had sabotaged the peace talks.

Mrs. Binh claimed at a news conference that South Vietnamese and American forces in the two northern provinces of South Vietnam had suffered heavy defeats during the offensive that began there March 30. There are no U. S. combat forces known to be in the battle area.

She in effect denied a suggestion that the Viet Cong might establish a provision government seat in the northern part of South Vietnam, saying that such a capital had long ago been set up in a "liberated zone" of South Vietnam.

"What we want and what we are doing is to liberate all of South Vietnam from American aggression to permit a government of national concord, which will be formed, to install its seat in Saigon itself."

The government of national concord, which is a key point in the Viet Cong peace plan put forth last July 1, would include the Viet Cong, members of the present Saigon administration after the departure of President

Nguyen Van Thieu and representatives of other forces favoring peace, independence and neutrality.

Mrs. Binh told reporters she hoped that the Viet Cong peace plan will be accepted by the United States at the Paris talks. But since the United States suspended the conference indefinitely March 23, she continued, the "national liberation forces of South Vietnam" were obliged to step up military action to achieve their goal.

The news conference was called on the day the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese had proposed resumption of the peace talks. The United States and South Vietnam rejected the proposal, claiming the Communists

were still not ready to negotiate seriously.

President Nixon suspended the talks, saying he was trying to break a 3½-year filibuster by the Communists. Since then the United States has indicated it will not resume the talks under military pressure.

Elsewhere, Red China restated its support for North Vietnam and said the Communist-led thrust into South Vietnam dealt a major blow to the U.S. Vietnamization program.

A broadcast of an article in the official Peking People's Daily declared: "No matter how frenziedly U. S. imperialism may struggle, it can by no means save the U.S. aggressors and the Saigon puppet clique from their doomed defeat."

Civilian Weekend tickets will be on sale April 10

Tickets for this year's Civilian Week-Weekend activities will be on sale from April 10-20 at the Sbsia newsstand.

Sales will begin at 9 each weekday morning and continue until 5 p.m.

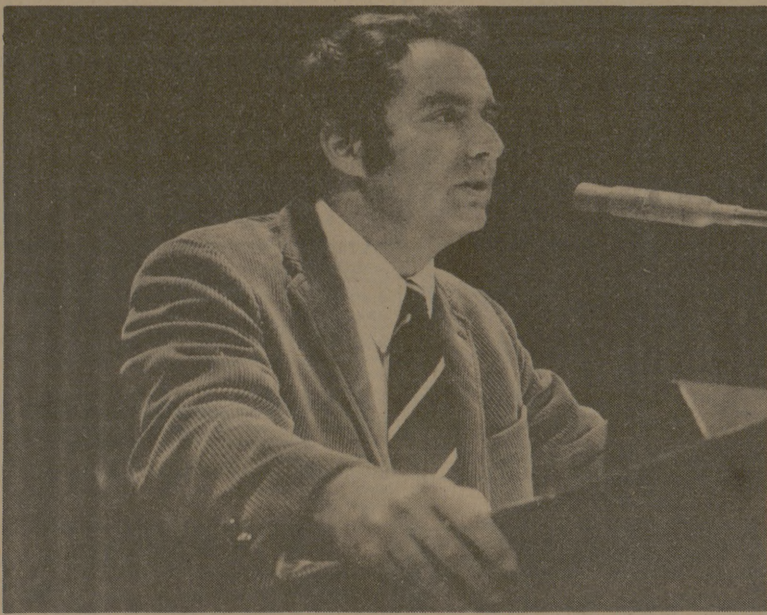
Dorm students who have a Spring hall activity card will receive one free Las Vegas Night ticket. Others must purchase a ticket at \$2 in advance and \$2.25 at the door.

A&M students with a student activity card can get a free general admission ticket to the "Rare Earth" concert. A&M date tickets sell for \$2.50 and all others for \$3.

Only general admission tickets will be on sale at the Sbsia newsstand while both general admission and reserve tickets can be purchased at the Student Programs Office.

Students with a fall dorm activity card can receive one free ticket to the Civilian Sweetheart Presentation Dance. Students without this card must pay \$3. Advance date tickets for all students will be \$1. The cost at the door will be \$4.50 per couple.

Dorm students holding hall activity cards must present them for Las Vegas Night and dance tickets during the advance-sale period. The cards will not be honored at the door.



Dr. J. Thomas Ungerleider

Private use of marijuana permissible, expert claims

We unanimously agree that marijuana use is not desirable, but when placed in perspective with the other problems of society, it is wrong to criminalize users of the drug, said noted drug abuse authority Dr. J. Thomas Ungerleider Thursday night.

Ungerleider, a member of the 13-man National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse, presented the commission's findings at a Great Issues program in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom.

The commission, following a one-year study, recommended the

use of the drug be decriminalized when used in the privacy of the home. But use in public, sale of or cultivation of marijuana should still be illegal, they emphasized.

Anyone caught with it in public would have it confiscated as contraband, the commission added.

The commission was authorized by Congress to study the growing use of drugs and their abuse in this country, Ungerleider said.

"We were widely criticized at first for the extremely conservative nature of the commission; all of the members were on record previously as being against marijuana use," he noted.

But the conservative nature did enable us to see many law agencies' information which we might not have been able to see, Ungerleider stated.

We conducted many hearings around the country in big cities, he said, and talked to people in public as well as in private homes. Many so-called 'captains of industry' have different views in private that they are afraid to express publicly.

Our survey was the most intensive ever made, Ungerleider stressed. We talked to over 3,000 people face-to-face and got some interesting facts.

"We found that at least 24 million Americans have tried marijuana at least once, more than 40 per cent of the college students have tried the drug and most users use it less than once a week," Ungerleider noted.

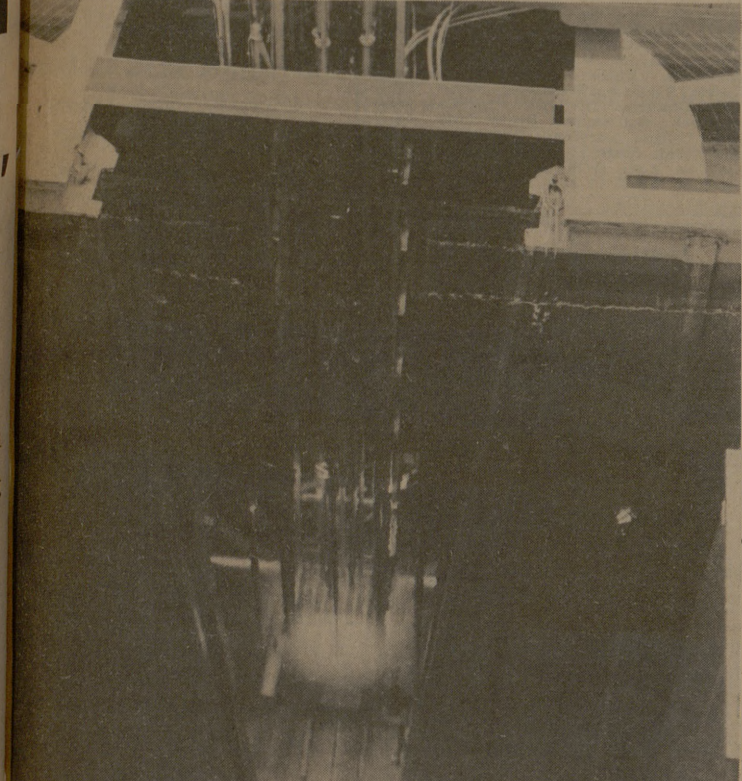
One of the great problems we found is the great amount of mythology which surrounds the use of marijuana, he said. "Fifty to sixty per cent of adults thought that people could die from an overdose of marijuana," Ungerleider said.

The commission found no evidence of any physical or psychiatric dependence in users and no brain or genetic damage. But there is a temporary intoxication of the senses, Ungerleider noted.

The commission's report has been presented to President Nixon, but no immediate action is planned. Nixon did sponsor the Uniform Drug Law a year ago which makes first offense arrests for any drug a misdemeanor, Ungerleider said.

The commission recommendation is a lot like the prohibition plan used for liquor in the 1920's, Ungerleider said. This is a way to discourage use, but to solve the current problem of criminalization of users.

TAMU reactor for education purpose



By MICHAEL RICE
Staff Writer

Swimming in A&M's nuclear reactor cooling water may not be everybody's idea of fun, but for Tom Godsey it is one of life's little pleasures.

"Though we don't get the opportunity to do it often, swimming in the 33-foot-deep pool is a warm and invigorating experience," said Godsey in a recent interview.

He emphasized, however, the only time a person is allowed in the pool is when underwater maintenance must be conducted or for installation of an experiment. In either case, the reactor is shut down completely and the unit is moved to the opposite end of the pool.

Godsey described the Nuclear Science Center, which is located at the end of the Easterwood Airport runway, as a research organization which "maintains and operates the nuclear reactor to produce radioactive particles for research."

The center was designed in the late 1950's and site operations began in 1962. All operations are controlled by the Atomic Energy Commission, which enforces

stringent rules on reactor operations.

The heart of the facility is, of course, the reactor core. Suspended from a movable bridge in the blue-water pool, the reactor is powered by fuel elements containing uranium-235 and emits a bright blue-white glow while in operation.

The nuclear facility is controlled by placing boron rods inside or outside the core. When inserted within, the boron rods become highly radioactive, yet when pulled out they will lose all their radiation.

The reactor facilities are used by researchers and students from colleges and universities in Texas and three neighboring states. Godsey said 85 per cent of the work done at the center is for educational purposes with the remaining 15 per cent going to private individuals or businesses.

Godsey, a licensed reactor operator, described himself and his fellow staff members as busdrivers for researchers.

"We know what is going on as far as reactor operations are concerned," said Godsey. "We get the researchers to wherever they are going but we don't know why they're going there."

Public opinion has attacked the use of nuclear reactors because of the pollution given off. Godsey said their complaints are only valid for thermal pollution which is also given off by coal-burning plants.

"Coal-burning plants release much more radiation into the atmosphere than do nuclear reactors," Godsey said. "People shouldn't attack reactors until they know all the pluses and minuses."

There is a danger of nuclear poisoning that can occur at the reactor but a person would deliberately have to violate reactor procedure for that to happen.

"For what it's worth," said Godsey, "if I were to know in advance that I would live to be 70 years old while working here at the reactor, my chances of dying from radiation poisoning increased by ten to the minus fifth degree each year."

If Godsey reaches the age of 70 he would have lost only two and one-half days from his life which he considers will be "totally insignificant" by then.

As radioactive materials are brought on the A&M campus there is one office that knows there is one office that knows (See Reactor, page 2)

O'Hair, renowned atheist, slated for church program

Madalyn Murry O'Hair, a noted American atheist, will speak at the College Station Unitarian Fellowship at 7 p.m. April 9.

O'Hair is best known for her participation in the court case that culminated in the Supreme Court order prohibiting Bible reading and prayer recitation in public schools.

She is an attorney, has written three books on atheism and has Banking is a pleasure at First Bank & Trust.

brought several federal suits concerning separation of church and state.

Because of her beliefs O'Hair has been denied the right to travel outside the United States. She was not issued a passport on the grounds that she did not believe in a higher power.

O'Hair's talk is open to the public and infant care will be provided by the Fellowship.

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

A bluish glow in the bottom of a calm pool of water is actually the slow, controlled unleashing of the most powerful forces known—those that form the atom. (Photo by Mike Rice)