

Student rights concern Senators

Attempts to increase student rights dominated the actions of the Student Senate last fall with passages of a liquor resolution, a lenient absence policy and mid-semester grade report resolution.

Many Senate resolutions never reached fruition, however, as they were held up or killed by university administrators.

"Just because the Senate passes a resolution does not mean it will be working within two weeks," said Randy Ross, Student Government president.

The liquor resolution, which called for official approval of liquor on campus, following precedents established at other state universities, did not pass the Board of Directors. According to Ross, the Senate is still investigating and working on the proposal.

The Senate passed an absence policy resolution which would do away with required attendance in class, in order to protect students from grade devaluation. It is also still being worked on.

The Senate approved a mid-semester grade report resolution which asked that mid-semester grades be sent only to freshmen, students on scholastic probation and those who have a grade of D or F in a course. It has not yet received administrative approval.

"I believe something good will come from it," said Ross.

An intramural Council to the Senate was set up last fall. The council did extensive work for intramural facilities and more work in progress.

The textbook exchange is in operation now. According to Ross, the exchange is going well and textbooks are being sold.

A resolution calling for the publication of student evaluations of teachers has not been successful. Many questions have been raised by the administration about the evaluations, but Ross says there still is a chance for the resolution more work is done.

Student Government Radio, which went on Midwest Video broadcast this fall, will continue to operate on the cable this spring, but plans are being made to move the station to open air broadcast.

A Senate resolution which was received favorably was one which called for the replacement of men's magazines on the shelves

of the TAMU Bookstore.

Most of the Senate's time this semester will be spent allocating student service fees, but Ross said there are many other things for the Senate to discuss.

It plans to hire a student attorney within the month to kickoff the term.

More student services including a car care center and birth control facilities will come up for Senate consideration this semester.

The idea of spouse activity cards for the wife or husband who is not a student will be discussed. More help for off campus students in the form of lunch cards will be another idea for the Senate.

Being able to choose professors before signing up for a course will also be introduced in the Senate.

Ross said a student bill of rights would be beneficial to the students. He said this may also come before the Senate this spring.

Kissinger indicates Arab oil may flow here in 2 months

WASHINGTON (AP) — The unrestricted flow of Arab oil to the United States may resume in less than two months as a result of the Egyptian-Israeli troop agreement, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger indicated Tuesday.

"I have every reason to believe that our success in the negotiations mark a major step toward ending the oil embargo," Kissinger told reporters.

He laid out no specific timetable, but he said "I think in more ambitious terms," when asked if the boycott end was linked to the final implementation of troop separation along the Suez Canal.

Kissinger's report was one of several optimistic signs on the subject Tuesday.

At a news conference in Algiers, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt indicated that the Arabs should alter their oil embargo of the United States because Washington "has adopted a new policy" in the Mideast.

"There is a significant, though

Mars within scope of researcher

A TAMU scientist will play a major role in the Viking Project—an attempt to place the first U.S. lander on the surface of Mars.

Dr. A. T. Young, a physics researcher in the Physics Department, is actively engaged in design and testing of special cameras which will beam detailed pictures back to earth from the red planet's surface.

Funded with a research grant

from NASA-Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., Dr. Young's work will involve testing and calibration of the special facsimile cameras used on the Viking Lander.

"The Viking Project will be similar to the old Surveyor Projects which preceded man to the moon," Dr. Young noted. "The project will involve two separate craft, one an orbiter around

Mars and the other a lander which will photograph the planet's surface and perform several experiments.

"The cameras on board will be placed about five feet apart and will give the lander the ability to take stereo photographs. This will enable us to accurately measure distance and size of objects being photographed."

He said a soil scoop will be in-

cluded on the lander, much like the apparatus used on the Surveyor Moon landers. The photos produced during the project are expected to be slightly less in quality than the human eye, but comparable to those from a good snapshot camera.

Color capability also will be featured on the cameras, allowing scientists to determine just how "red" Mars is. No film will be used in the cameras they will not be television-type instruments.

"The cameras will produce facsimile pictures," Dr. Young explained. "The 'lens' will measure each segment of the landscape being photographed. The electrical impulses will be stored on magnetic tape in the lander and transmitted to the orbiter as it passes over."

"The orbiter will in turn store the signals until it is in prime transmission position to earth," he continued. "This rather long path from the lander to Mars is being taken because of low electrical power on the lander."

He said the lander will be powered by small nuclear batteries

which will not have the power to make high-strength direct transmissions. The batteries, which have been used on Moon landings and other space projects, will have much longer life than conventional storage batteries.

"We cannot rely on solar energy for the lander," he went on, "because suspected dust storms on the planet's surface would interfere with the solar collectors."

Preliminary tests on the Viking cameras will involve photographing samples of minerals and other objects thought to be on the planet's surface, giving scientists a point of comparison with actual appearance. Studies will also involve star photography, since celestial navigation techniques will be used to determine the craft's exact position on the planet's surface.

The project is funded with \$71,945 for initial studies, according to Texas A&M Research Foundation officials. The Viking Project has a tentative late-1975 launch date, with an arrival on Mars in the summer of 1976, according to Dr. Young.

Role of political executioner fought by Sen. Goldwater

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., says liberal columnists are "trying to set me up" as President Nixon's political executioner.

Goldwater said he won't play that role.

At the same time, the 1964 Republican presidential candidate says he has private polls showing

Nixon and Watergate's unpopularity will cause a 10 per cent loss of votes to Republican candidates this fall.

And he said should Nixon step aside for any reason, "I can see nothing wrong with Jerry Ford becoming President."

"I don't say that to urge the President to resign or to urge his

impeachment," he said in a recent interview. "It's just that we have a good man in the vice president and there would be no transition problems at all."

In an interview, Goldwater was asked to assess the change that some perceive in him from the humiliated loser of the Republican right wing 10 years ago to a respected spokesman of his party today.

"I don't sense the same thing that some of the press seem to sense, that the Republican party is looking at me as an elder statesman or one of their patriarchs . . ." he said and added: "I think there's just a lot of the press trying to egg me into saying, 'Resign Mr. President,' and I'm not about to do it."

"I think they're trying to set me up," Goldwater said of press predictions that his outspoken criticism of Nixon's handling of Watergate will cause him in the end to head a delegation of party and business leaders calling for the President's resignation.

"The liberal columnists who are figuring I might fall for this, saying, 'Damn it, I can go down in history,'" he said. "Well, I don't want to go down in history that way."

"I wouldn't do it without some concrete evidence," he said. "I have not seen anything yet that would force me to say, 'I think this man has to go.'"

"And I say that," Goldwater said, "even though I can sense a very strong feeling right here on the hill and you're going to see it more and more, that many Republicans would like to run this way without Mr. Nixon."

"But I believe my loyalty is first to the country and not to the Republican Party and I think that it is best served by helping this man as long as there is any indication that he deserves it."

Role of political executioner fought by Sen. Goldwater

not total change," Sadat said. "For every change in the American position, it is necessary for the Arabs to make an identical change toward the United States."

In Israel, Premier Golda Meir won parliamentary approval for her agreement to pull Israeli forces back from the Suez Canal, clearing the way for separation of the Egyptian and Israeli armies to begin Friday.

According to the agreement signed last week, Egypt and Israel must complete the disengagement within 40 to 60 days. The process is expected to start Friday.

This means Arab oil could be on the way to the United States no later than the end of March. And Kissinger appeared to signal a much earlier resumption when he answered "yes" to the question: Do you expect the embargo to be lifted before the agreement is finalized?

Although optimistic, the secretary injected words of caution and

warning in his first news conference since returning from his peacemaking Middle East trip. "Failure to end the embargo in a reasonable time would be highly inappropriate and would raise serious questions of confidence in our mind," he said.

However, when asked if American force might be considered to overcome a continued boycott, Kissinger responded, "I don't think the embargo will go too far."

The secretary opened his news conference by taking a question on the role of the United States in enforcing or otherwise guaranteeing the Israeli-Egyptian troop settlement.

"We are not guarantors in the sense of formally enforcing" the agreement, Kissinger responded.

While it is obvious, he continued, that the United States would be involved politically in the event of renewed fighting "in a legal sense there is no obligation the United States has taken to enforce the agreement."

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