

Delegates discuss educational legislation with Bentsen

By VICKIE ASHWILL
Staff Writer
WASHINGTON, DC — Twelve National Student Lobby delegates met with Sen. Lloyd M. Bentsen to discuss and lobby for priority issues Monday afternoon.

Ten of the twelve students were from Texas colleges, including Barb Sears, John Nash and Carol Moore of the Student Government, and Rod Speer and Vickie Ashwill, of The Battalion,

are at the NSL Conference this week for TAMU.

four from TAMU, and two were Texas residents attending Tulane University.

Bentsen, an avid supporter of educational legislation, said he had legislation concerning the abolition of the "means test" for students in middle-class families.

The "means test" was implemented in March 1973 after passage of the 1972 Education Amend-

ment, requiring families, regardless of income, to demonstrate a need for a Guaranteed Student Loan from banks.

"I think we're in good shape concerning the abolition of such a test," said Bentsen. "It will be helpful and it is necessary to knock out the "means test" system."

Bentsen said his legislation would not affect the other student-aid programs directed pri-

marily at the poor.

Students mentioned the "severe money crunch on campus" to Bentsen, noting the seven per cent increase in tuition and fees during the past ten years.

"Obviously I want to keep tuition rates down," said Bentsen. "I imagine I will support an increase in work-study funds but I can't dedicate myself to any item I haven't studied."

Bentsen also said he had en-

couraged bankers to make the loans available to students and had worked on legislation a year ago to try to clear up some of the red tape for both the bankers and the students.

Bentsen said he was leaning toward supporting grants to students rather than to schools, thereby giving the student a choice as to which school he wished to attend.

"Some Texas colleagues in the

House say I am making a big mistake," said Bentsen.

The Big Thicket was another priority issue brought up by the delegates during the meeting.

"I think we can get it done," said Bentsen, in a reference to making the Big Thicket a national park. "I've got to push it through to get it done. Obviously the Senate and the House are going to have to give on this issue, but I would rather see a

compromise than no bill."

Early Senate legislation said the park should not be more than 100,000 acres. Bentsen would not comment on what his compromise for the size of the park would be.

"If I made a public statement of compromise, I could lose all my bargaining power," he said. "I want to go into Congress with as strong a position as possible."

Bentsen also said he had not studied NSL's position on stand-by discount fares for the aged and youth on airlines, bus and train transportation. He said he could not justify special legislation for special groups, but that he would look into the stand-by proposal.

Full minimum wage for students was supported by Bentsen. "A full day's work, a full day's pay," he said.

Radio-TV ask right to cover

WASHINGTON (AP) — Executives of three networks and public broadcasting have urged Congress to all radio-television coverage of its sessions.

"Make the proceedings of Congress available to broadcast coverage on the same basis as they are available to other news media," Arthur R. Taylor, president of Columbia Broadcasting System, urged the Senate-House Committee on Congressional Operations.

Elton H. Rule, president of American Broadcasting Companies, said "freedom of information is indivisible. There should not be two standards, one for the printed press and another for the electronic media, particularly today when television news is recognized as the single most important source of information on what is happening in government and politics."

As the committee opened a second day of hearings into how Congress can get the public ear, C. Edward Little, president of Mutual Broadcasting System, said an obvious answer is for Congress to open all its committee meetings and its floor debates to microphones and television cameras.

Radio and television reporters are allowed to cover House and Senate sessions with pencil and paper but cameras and microphones are banned.



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bulletin board

TONIGHT

ST. THOMAS HOMETOWN CLUB will have its picture taken at 5:45 p.m. at the MSC fountain. Dress casual.

WEIGHTLIFTING CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the G. Rollie White Coliseum weightroom.

ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS will hear A. C. Shirley speak on Texas carpenter unions at 7:30 p.m. in the Zachry Engineering Center.

SPORTS CAR CLUB will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Mimosa Room, Old College Station City Hall, 101 Church Street.

SAILING CLUB will meet in Room 504 of the Rudder Tower at 7:30 p.m. to see the movie "Sailmaker, A Man and His Craft."

PHILOSOPHY CLUB will present Ric Masten at 4 p.m. in Room 410 of the Rudder Tower.

SAN ANGELO-WEST TEXAS HOMETOWN CLUB will meet in Room 301 of the Rudder Tower at 7:30 p.m. Agzieland picture will be taken and plans for spring party will be discussed.

THURSDAY

SKEET AND TRAP CLUB will meet in Room 404 of the Rudder Tower at 7:30 p.m.

JUNIOR CLASS COUNCIL will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 229 of the MSC Tower.

MOBILITY IMPAIRED AGS will organize at 7 p.m. in Room 311 of the YMCA for the removal of structural barriers to disabled students. All students are invited and may call Mike Gannee at 846-1898 after 7 p.m. for more information.

RADIO COMMITTEE will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Rooms L and M of the Student Programs Office.

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