

Weather

Partly cloudy and mild Wednesday with a high of 83. Low tonight 60. Increasing cloudiness Thursday afternoon, 20 per cent chance of showers. High tomorrow 84.

# The Battalion

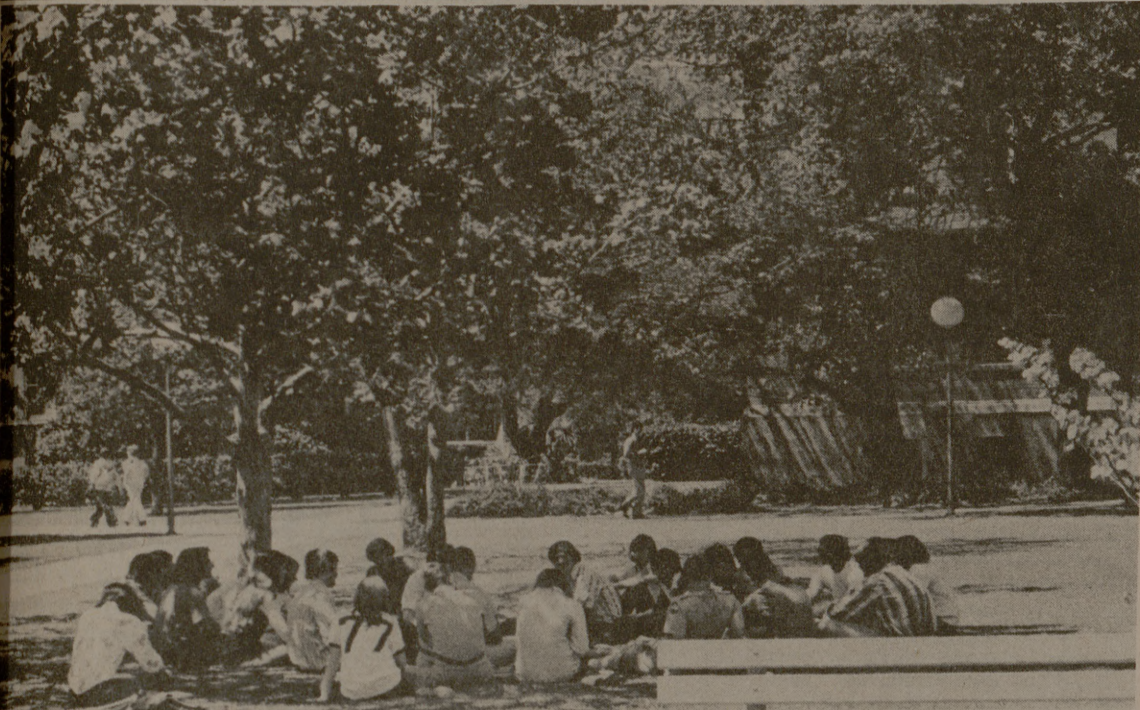
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Wednesday, April 17, 1974

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A GROWING anticipation of summer is becoming evident on campus as students and faculty alike seek the outdoors. Many classes are leaving the confines of buildings to study in more pleasant surroundings. (Photo by Alan Killingsworth)

## Nixon's work fails as Democrat wins

SAGINAW, Mich. (AP)—Riding a tide of urban votes, Democrat Bob Traxler captured Michigan's special congressional election Tuesday night, defeating a Republican for whom President Nixon campaigned.

Traxler's victory, the fourth by a Democrat this year in five elections for previously Republican seats, ended a 42-year GOP hold on Michigan's 8th District and cost Republicans their second district in the state this year.

A heavy majority for the 42-year-old Traxler in his Bay City home and a smaller margin in the city of Saginaw enabled him to withstand a surge for Republican James Sparling Jr. in the Saginaw suburbs and the district's rural areas.

"From all indications," Sparling told applauding supporters, "Mr. Traxler has won."

With 255 of the district's 296 precincts counted, Traxler had 50,895 votes and Sparling had 43,824.

In earlier special elections this year, three of four traditionally Republican districts went Democratic. Surveys in those areas showed public opposition to Nixon's handling of the Watergate scandal and other problems contributing strongly to the GOP setbacks.

The White House hoped a Republican triumph after Nixon's campaign trip here would demonstrate renewed presidential popularity and ease impeachment pressure in the House.

A state representative who called the election a "referendum on Nixon's policies and moral leadership," Traxler scored heavily in his home of Bay City, while Sparling led in normally Republican rural areas.

But the 45-year-old Sparling's margin in the Thumb, the region of small towns and farms where Nixon campaigned for him last Wednesday, ran behind that polled in 1972 by former GOP Rep. James Harvey, whose resignation forced the year's fifth special House election.

In the earlier contests, Democrats won longtime GOP seats in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan, the latter the Grand Rapids seat held for 25 years by Vice President Gerald R. Ford.

### Senate considers board censure

The first resolution of the new Student Senate calls for the censorship of the Student Publications Board.

The meeting will be held tonight in the Rudder Tower, Room 701. The new senate will officially take office at that time.

The resolution urges the action because of the dismissal of Steve Goble as managing editor of The Battalion. Goble was dismissed because of his non-student status. The resolution states the welfare of the student body was not served by the Board since no provisions were made to allow for training of a new managing editor.

The only other item on the agenda is the approval of three appointments. Steve Eberhard,

president of the student body, will present his nominees for secretary, executive director and judicial board chairman and the senate must approve the nominations before they take effect.

Applicants for the position of executive director are Tom Taylor, Hal Brunson and Tom Walker.

For judicial board chairman, they are Larry McRoberts, Michael Perrin and Jerri Ward.

Six persons applied for the position of secretary. They are Laurie Koenig, Kay Zenner, Barbara Palmer, Susie Brewer, Karla Mouritsen and Susan Carstens. Eberhard said he had not made a decision Tuesday on the positions. His choice will be presented to the senate.

### R&R Committee delays decision on Rights bill

The decision on the Student Bill of Rights was postponed again Tuesday by the Rules and Regulations Committee.

Some members of the committee had other meetings to attend and they adjourned after less than one hour.

The first two articles in their revised form were considered by the committee. The revisions of the Bill of Rights resulted from a meeting of the committee of students, faculty and administrators established at the last committee meeting.

Dr. Haskell Monroe, assistant vice president for academic affairs and chairman of the committee, suggested the committee vote on the first two articles. The committee, however, decided to finish hearing all of the articles before voting on any of them.

Howard Perry, assistant vice president for student services, made a motion to hear all of the articles and then consider the bill as a whole. The motion passed with only one dissenting vote.

Requirements for honors in the veterinary medicine field were changed by the committee. Previously, students counted all college work toward graduation with honors. The revision which passed the rules and regulations committee Tuesday would count only the 174 professional curriculum hours taken at A&M for honors.

### Faculty club a possibility

The TAMU faculty may soon have a private club.

The possibility is being investigated by a faculty committee chaired by Dr. A. R. Burgess. The committee published a questionnaire on faculty desire for a club in the April 5 issue of Fortnightly, the faculty-staff newsletter. The results have not yet been tabulated.

Any change in the use of the Tower dining room would not begin until after the MSC cafeteria opens, according to Burgess.

The Tower dining room was originally intended for a faculty club; however, it became a restaurant for the general campus when the MSC dining hall was closed for renovation and expansion, said Burgess.

It has been proposed that the club be a private restaurant but not serve liquor. It has also been proposed that members pay dues. These would go to food services, to help defray costs and to hire a general manager.

According to Dr. Tom Adair, the facilities of the dining area are not adequate for present usage.

Business would likely diminish if the restaurant were turned into a club, Dr. Burgess noted in the Fortnightly.

### Shortage real, says Simon

WASHINGTON (AP)—The major oil companies apparently are telling the truth about their supplies, based on audits by the Federal Energy Office, energy chief William E. Simon says.

Simon said that the ongoing energy office audits of refiners have turned up no evidence that oil companies are lying about their inventories.

In an interview, the energy chief said that the government has made giant strides in convincing the American people that the fuel shortage is real. "We're still going through the scapegoat phase in this country," he said.

But Simon added that congressional hearings and government investigations eventually will remove much of the emotion from the debate and Americans will realize the energy crisis is real.

Simon, who is expected to be named treasury secretary later this week, said that first-quarter profits of the oil companies as well as second-quarter profits will be embarrassing to the oil firms.

He also said that with the end of the Arab oil embargo, conservation efforts by Americans are continuing. "I am optimistic that demand will not explode," he said.

Simon declined to discuss specific questions about economic policy, but he did say that wage-price controls have introduced dis-

tortions and inequities in the nation's economy. But he said he wouldn't rule out the possibility that one day they might be reimposed.

He said he subscribed to President Nixon's statement that the American people are taxed enough, but he said the tax system is in constant need of study to make sure it is equitable.

The price of gasoline will rise only a few cents a gallon on the average nationally, but there will be significant regional price increases in areas or by oil companies that depend heavily on imported oil, he said.

That is true even if it is assumed that imports will peak at about 7 1/2 million barrels a day this summer, he said.

### Feds can restrict employe comment

By VERNON A. GUIDRY Jr. Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—The federal government is entitled to restrict public comments by its employees if they would impair the reputation and efficiency of the government, the Supreme Court ruled today.

In a 6-3 decision, the court upheld a portion of the Lloyd-LaFollette act providing for dismissal or suspension of federal civil service employees "for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service . . ."

The provision had been attacked as being so broad and vague that it inhibited the exercise of free speech rights by federal employees. The court found otherwise.

In passing the act, the court said, Congress intended to give federal employees job protection and did not intend to authorize dismissal for constitutionally protected speech.

But, the majority wrote, "the act prescribes only that public speech which improperly damages and impairs the reputation and efficiency of the employing

agency, and thus it imposes no greater controls on the behavior of federal employees than are necessary for the protection of the government as an employer."

In another aspect of the decision, the court held 5-4 that a trial-type hearing is unnecessary before dismissal. The existing provision for such a hearing after dismissal is sufficient, the court said.

Justices William H. Rehnquist, Potter Stewart, Lewis F. Powell Jr., Harry A. Blackmun, Byron R. White and Chief Justice Warren E. Burger joined in finding that the Lloyd-LaFollette Act does not impermissibly encroach on First Amendment rights.

Justices Thurgood Marshall, William O. Douglas and William J. Brennan Jr. dissented.

On the issue of the hearings, White joined the dissenters.

Marshall said that the importance of government employees "being assured of their right to freely comment on the conduct of government, to inform the public of abuses of power and of the misconduct of their superiors must be self-evident in these times."

### Message on Governor's desk relates to student input

Currently laying on the desk of the Governor is a message which could mean a greater student input on every state campus.

It is concerning the 1220 Commission, which has been proposed by the national government to serve as the state post-secondary education planning commission.

The ruling on this committee states that all sections of such training must equitably and rep-

resentatively be accounted for, which mean students will more than likely be part of either the commission or an advisor council to it.

In Texas, such a commission exists but without any student input. A student advisory board is a real possibility for this coordinating commission. April 25 will be the day of reckoning, having been extended from April 15.

Fuller talked about war. "Humans are born naked and ignorant and hungry. They invaded each other for food. Thomas Malthus said there is just so much food and there isn't any more, and humanity will fail. Darwin said the fittest will survive.

"Marx discovered the writings of both men and said the workers handle the tools so the other people are parasites. Now the largest countries assimilate weapon stockpiles and say, 'Whose is it going to be, yours or mine?'"

Fuller talked about the mind. "The mind is capable of discovering relationships not suggested by concrete, physical observations. It may discover elusive and beautiful metaphysical behavior but why that behavior occurs,

there may be no idea."

Fuller talked about the energy in the universe. "The old concept of the universe is its energy is running down. But a child gets bigger, not smaller. If there is energy used, there must be energy collected somewhere else." He said tremendous energy is stored on this planet. He stood up to demonstrate with body motions

how much of the sun's energy is distributed to life on earth, and he did plenty of moving.

Fuller compared the storing of energy to the storing of knowledge. "We can employ our information to keep life going. You can help because you have to prove you're special to earn the right to live. This is known as making a living."

Fuller then introduced his definition of synergy. "It is the behavior of all systems, unpredictable by the behavior of parts or subsystems." An arrangement of triangles into a dome, for instance, created the revolutionary structure of the geodesic dome, he said.

With this concept presented, Fuller moved to the conclusion of his talking. "I know, and can display, that with our knowledge and resources we all humanity can be provided for without using more manpower or resources than we already have. And I have concluded that war is invalid, weapons of war are invalid and lies are invalid. My hope lies in youth, truth and love."

Fuller talked for two hours and at the end there was a standing ovation.

"This is why when you ask me to come speak to you, when you take a chance with your time to listen to me thinking out loud, you see that we do have an option you didn't know we had."

## Buckminster Fuller thinks out loud

On youth, war, mind and synergy

By CLIFF LEWIS

A girl at the entrance handed out leaflets that said R. Buckminster Fuller, "was once dismissed as a crackpot inventor, but now is considered 'the man with the option.'"

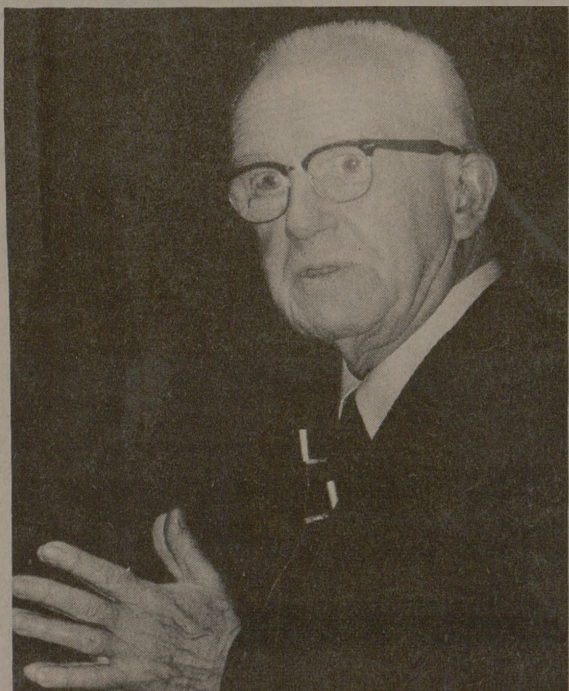
An architect student read that and said, "He's a god. Someday when I'm a great architect I can say that I saw Buckminster Fuller."

A lot of people wanted to see R. Buckminster Fuller. The 2,500 seat Rudder Auditorium was over half full Tuesday night for his appearance arranged by the Great Issues Committee of the Memorial Student Center.

Fuller didn't talk like a god. He sat in a chair and talked like a grandfather to his front-row grandchildren. He was "thinking out loud" the way any grandfather would, about the way things have changed in his 78 years. But Fuller is a mathematician, a scientist and an engineer, and he designed the geodesic dome.

Fuller talked about youth. "Daddy used to be the final authority. But one day little brother came in and said, 'Daddy, an airplane just crossed the Atlantic,' and Daddy said, 'WHAT!' Daddy didn't bring home the news, and he hasn't ever since."

Fuller explained that each new generation has more outside information to think about and has to form more of its own opinions.



Buckminster Fuller

### NSL strength lies in vote of large student population

After trying violent words and actions, college students are trying to reach all levels of the administration through other means.

The national administration or government is reached by National Student Lobby. NSL lobbies for students' interests on a year round basis in the Congress.

"There are three methods of lobbying, with money, information and sheer strength in numbers of votes," said Carol Moore, member of the NSL board of directors.

"Students individually have very little extra money to spend on anything but necessities. On the information angle, NSL has been asked to testify in Congress 44 times. But the most power that NSL has is the student vote," Moore said.

Noting that students have always been an ideological group, Moore said that they have come to the realization that compromise and working through the system is the most effective way to reach a goal. "A small step forward

is better than none at all," Moore said.

NSL efforts are yearly symbolized by the gathering of 700 students in Washington, D.C. These students swarm the Capitol offices to lobby with their own Congressional representatives.

NSL has several special areas of lobbying each year, but give the visiting students leeway on issues especially on their minds, Texas students.

Policies and interest areas are chosen by means of a referendum taken at all member schools, like TAMU, and from individual members. The fall referendum is interpreted by the Board of Directors.

The board consists of two members from each of the six regions and several at-large members which serve to balance the board in respect to school size, sex and race.

The board picks issues which (See NSL, p. 4)

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