

No Monday Bonfire holiday; class skips cited as reason

Monday before Bonfire will not be a class holiday as has been the case in past years.

The change is based on complaints from instructors and their various deans that too many students cut class during the semester and that the free day given at the beginning of Bonfire week is just another day that class is missed.

A rumor has been circulating that if we beat t.u., Monday, Dec. 2, would be a student, faculty and staff holiday. No decision has been made yet about the Monday following the Aggie-Texas game.

In a memorandum circulated by Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services, some changes in the Bonfire activities were announced.

In order to prevent some of the accidents that mar the Bonfire effort each year, caution in the working area has been advised by the administration and this year the height of the stacks will be controlled. Mr. J. B. Mainord, assistant director of student affairs, is in charge of supervision and coordination of Bonfire activities.

The Battalion

Thought for today:
How can you be two places at once when you're nowhere at all?

Firesign Theater

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Board to decide allocations, fees

By BARBARA WEST
Staff Writer

A \$40,000 contract extension with the interior design firm for the University Center will be considered at Tuesday's TAMU System Board of Directors meeting.

The extension would supplement \$362,000 in previous fee appropriations given to William Fahlmann Associates Inc.

The Board will also consider a \$91,000 appropriation for Centennial expenditures.

Production of a 28½ minute documentary film on TAMU will claim \$65,000 of the sum and the remainder is earmarked for six 8-foot woodcarvings which will give a symbolic exposition of A&M's history.

In addition to the new appropriation, expenditures of \$126,000 from the Association of Former Student's

Annual Fund Program, sales, special gifts and \$221,000 from the 1974-77 operating budgets are planned for the Centennial activities.

The board will make recommendations for appropriations to cover construction and design expenses. They will request \$410,000 for relocation of utilities services now blocking construction of the new West Campus.

At present, building sites are obstructed by an electrical substation, water and sewer lines and overhead power lines. These must be relocated before construction can begin.

A resolution for the sale of \$15.9 million in bonds will be raised before the board. This money will be used for construction, enlargement and equipping utilities facilities. The bonds will be backed by stu-

dent services fees.

Several bid recommendations are slated for review and acceptance when the Building Committee of the board meets Monday. Among the projects for which bids have been submitted are street renovations, landscape development, parking facilities west of Kyle Field and room modifications in the Biological Sciences Building.

Starting in December students may have to pay twice as much for transcript copies, if the TAMU System Board of Directors pass a resolution at the request of Edwin H. Cooper, dean of admissions and records.

The reasons for the request were the increase in minimum wage and increases in the cost of paper and chemicals needed to copy the records.

Holidays to close MSC

Memorial Student Center (MSC) services and facilities will be closed during the Thanksgiving holidays.

The students, faculty and staff holiday includes Nov. 28-Dec. 1.

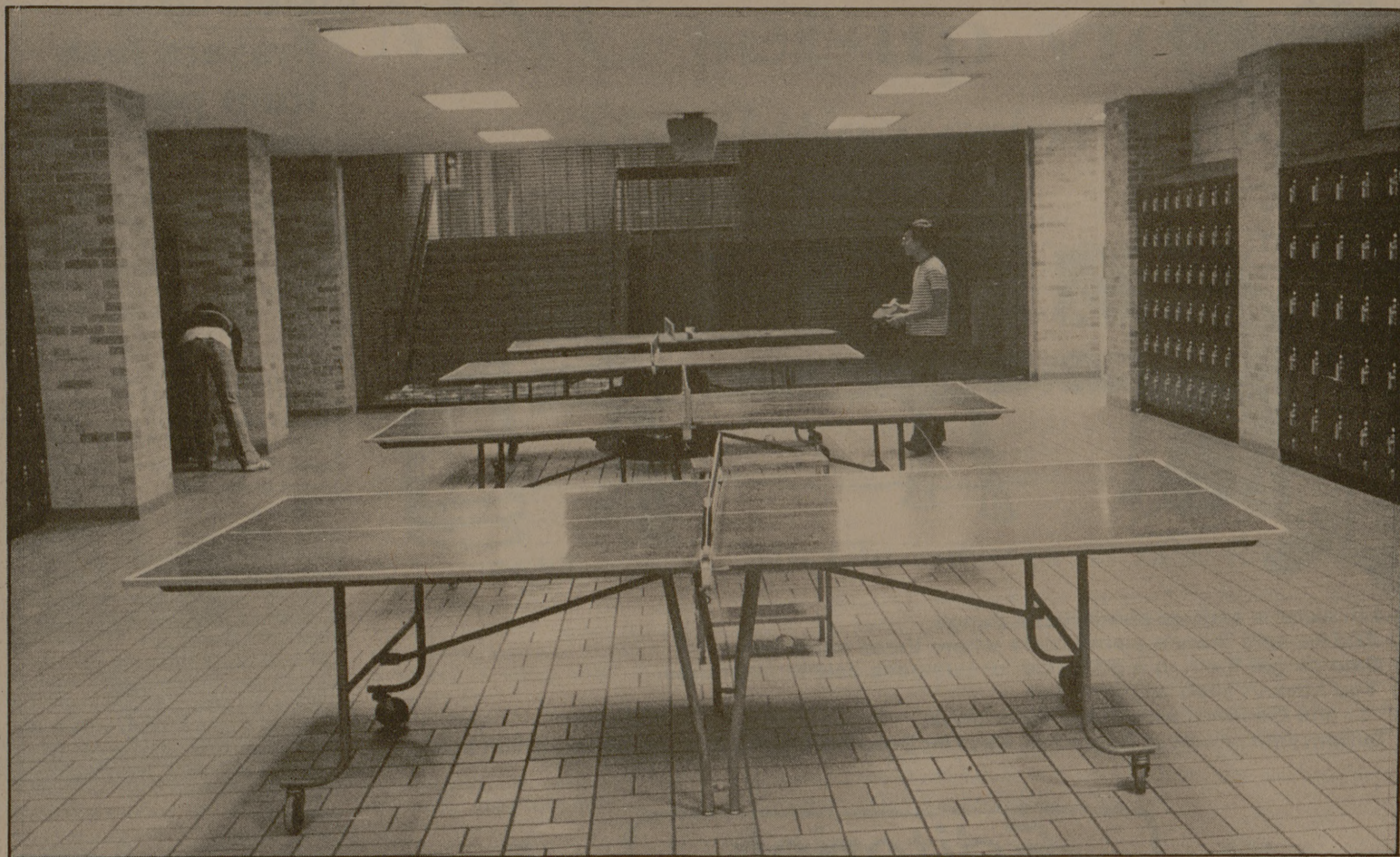
MSC facilities will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday. All areas served by university personnel will shut down until classes resume Dec. 2, according to Sanders Letbetter, University Center business manager.

The Aggeland Station post office lobby will remain open for box mail delivery and pick up. Access during the holidays will be by the MSC south entrance, on Joe Routt Blvd. across from G. Rollie White Coliseum.

MSC Traffic To Replace Ping-Pong

Come next spring, table tennis buffs won't have a place to play in the MSC. These tables will be

removed when the hallway they are located in is opened to pedestrian traffic. See story below.



Students start own paper Walk off UTPB 'Windmill'

By DARALYN GREENE
Staff Writer

Students at the University of Texas at the Permian Basin (UTPB) are getting their own newspaper.

All 10 staff reporters and four student editors walked out Tuesday from the UTPB Windmill to start their own off-campus paper. The move was in protest of UTPB President Amstead's move of the campus newsletter from the mass communications department to the university information service.

Amstead's action was prompted following publication of a controversial letter to the editor in the Nov. 8 issue of the Windmill. Student Editor Joel Asbery was reassigned following the letter's publication.

Editors of the new student paper will be Lark Edminster and Karen Storey. Joel Asbery will be technical adviser. Asbery was voted in as editor but declined the position. "I decided I would be more of a hindrance than help to the paper."

The four-page tabloid will appear the week after Thanksgiving, with 1,000 copies to be distributed. The paper will be distributed free since advertising will pay for its costs.

"If we can sell enough advertisements we will expand it at a later date," Asbery said, when contacted Thursday night.

The paper does not have a name as of yet, but the staff will vote on it

soon. Several are being considered, including "University Free Press." When asked about students' reactions to the new publication, Asbery said, "They're in favor of it. It's about time they had their own paper." President Amstead has said little about the paper.

Amstead did say the students' resignations were meaningless. They were no longer members of the staff because the director of the univer-

sity information service, Sarah Crowe and her staff became the staff when the newsletter was transferred.

Asbery, after he was first reassigned following publication of the controversial letter, said he hoped to avoid a legal battle over Amstead's actions.

"President Amstead, my attorney and I met today and called a truce," Asbery said Thursday night.

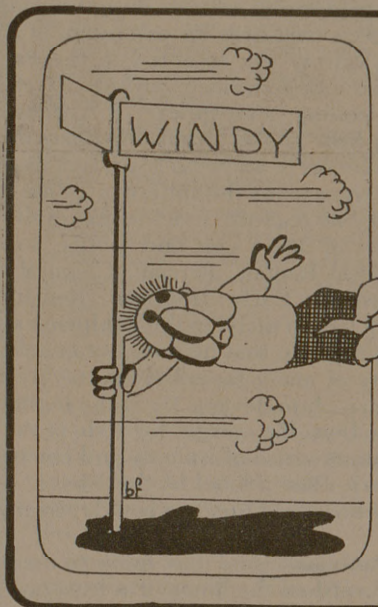
Today

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Weather

Partly cloudy and warm Friday and Saturday. Southerly winds 8-14 mph. High today 79°; low tonight 59°; high Saturday 83° and 20% chance of showers.



Board sets budget, policy

By BARBARA WEST
Staff Writer

The nine-member board of directors will gather on the A&M campus Monday and Tuesday.

These eight men and one woman are the governing board for all branches of the TAMU System. They hold the purse strings and are responsible for decisions of major importance in all phases of university operations.

Most of the board members have strong backgrounds in business and finance, but there are members such as President of the Board Clyde H. Wells who are known for their knowledge of agriculture.

Most students would consider the amount of money handled by the board phenomenal. This year's A&M system budget, totaling close to \$200 million, was broken down into allocations for each part of the

system and into various categories within each part. Texas A&M proper received the largest portion of the funds with \$107,214,818.

The members of the board are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the State Senate. They serve six-year terms which are staggered so that three terms expire every odd-numbered year when the legislature convenes.

The board meets for five regular

sessions per year, as stipulated in the by-laws. Earlier this month a special meeting was called to accept a gift of \$436,380 to the Agricultural Experiment Station. It was the fifth special meeting called this year along with the previous four regular sessions.

With the Nov. 25-26 meeting, the board's business for 1974 will be completed unless another special session is called for.

New MSC President of council says not designed for students

By JIM PETERS
Staff Writer

The Memorial Student Center (MSC) was not designed to suit the needs of students, said Bill Davis, president of the MSC Council.

Davis cited the exclusion of students from the planning process of the facility as the cause.

"At almost every other university students have a hand in the planning and design of their student union," but no such committee was set up here, Davis said.

"As a result, we've ended up with a lot of things that don't relate to a campus . . . and are not conducive to a good student union."

His primary target was the lavish furnishings throughout the complex, but he also criticized the operation of the center which leaves students "out of touch."

"The center should be union oriented, as opposed to business oriented," Davis suggested.

Whereas the operation and maintenance of the old MSC was controlled entirely by the MSC Council and Directorate, much of the new MSC's operations are handled by the University Center Board. (Only the student programs offices and the Browsing Library are now under the auspices of the MSC Council.)

An offshoot of this neglect for student planning is the growing shortage of space in the center, even as construction continues on a portion of the building.

The Student Programs Office

does not have enough room to expand, Davis said, and "we've had to limit the number of cubicles granted."

Other problems of insufficient space centers around the Bowling and Games area in the basement of the Center.

Originally, there were to have been twelve bowling lanes, along with a separate section for ping-pong, billiards, and various other games.

It was noticed, however, that the Singing Cadets organization did not have a location on the building's blueprints.

So the planners decided to transform the "game room" into a vocal music area. The ping-pong tables were moved into the hallway, while the pool tables had to be shifted into a space where four of the bowling lanes were to have been.

As a result there are only eight lanes on campus, the same number that it had in 1947 when the original MSC was built.

In that time the student body has tripled in size.

"It's a shame the frustration the students have when they come in here to bowl and find only the eight lanes," lamented Jan Gray, manager of the Bowling and Games area.

Students, she pointed out, must share the alleys with physical education classes that use them. Bowling leagues are directed to facilities in Bryan.

That frustration, though, pales

next to that of the Basement Committee which in inclement weather used the "brown bag" area, adjacent to the bowling lanes, for their activities.

Guitar strans and folk singing were often drowned out by the noise of tumbling pins, Gray noted.

This weekend the Committee moves into its makeshift, albeit permanent, headquarters in a storage room behind the post office.

When the rest of the MSC opens this spring the hallways containing the ping-pong tables will become a heavily traveled thoroughfare. The tables, because of a lack of room will be placed in storage, says University Center manager Richard "Chuck" Cargill.

In the event of a scheduled table tennis tournament, Cargill said, the tables can be set up in one of the banquet rooms on the upper levels.

Included in the portion of the MSC being "modified" is a new service desk and front lobby area. The temporary desk at the east entrance to the MSC will become an information center.

This temporary desk was modified often.

The formica counter tops had to be replaced with a smooth surface when persons cashing checks had trouble writing on the original, rough surfaced countertops.

A hinged door in the countertop proved too heavy to lift. A display case for candy and cigarettes is empty, blocked from access by a safe and intersecting counter.



MSC pool hall replaces new bowling lanes

(Photos By Chris Svatek)