

Weather

Mostly cloudy with 20% chance scattered showers Thursday. Winds from the northeast 7-12 mph. Decreasing cloudiness tonight and tomorrow. High today 63°; low tonight 41°; high Friday 66°.

The Battalion

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Briscoe pledges reforms

In school finance, privacy areas

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Dolph Briscoe laid out his legislative proposals Wednesday, topping the list with school finance reform and again pledging to veto any spending that would require more state taxes.

In an address that representatives and senators interrupted 18 times with applause, Briscoe also placed special emphasis on the right to privacy and health care.

Some legislators thought the 45-minute speech was as notable for what it left out as for what it included.

Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby said in answer to a question that he attached no particular significance to Briscoe's failure to mention public utilities regulation or constitutional revision, but added: "I would have hoped that he would have mentioned them."

House Speaker Bill Clayton withheld detained comment until he could read the address but called the governor's proposals, "a very ambitious program. I think it is a pretty balanced program."

In bare outline, Briscoe's school

finance proposals would require a mix of state and local expenditures based on a formula that takes into account the actual cost of various instructional programs, using the best 42 districts as a model.

The governor received some of his heaviest applause when he declared:

"I will not, as governor, approve an appropriations bill that requires new or increased taxes."

He suggested that state agencies, through attrition, reduce the number of state employees by 5 per cent and recommended only a 6.8 per cent per year pay raise for government workers in the two years that start Sept. 1. The Legislative Budget Board has recommended a 24 percent raise over the next two fiscal years.

Briscoe asked for three bills to protect the right of privacy:

-Prohibiting secret or unauthorized use of information about any individual and guaranteeing everyone access to the information about them in records of credit rating bureaus, schools and govern-

ment.

-Setting "strict guidelines" for state and local police intelligence and record-keeping. "We cannot tolerate and will not have politically motivated investigations on our citizens."

-Prohibiting electronic surveillance. However, once that bill passes, Briscoe will ask for legislation permitting wiretaps in "extreme cases" . . . when organized crime is involved.

Briscoe said he would recommend appropriations that would enable the state's medical, dental and other health-oriented schools to increase their enrollments by 30 per cent over the next two years.

He also said he wanted expenditure of \$39 million for new alternative care services for the mentally ill and the retarded, plus \$51.2 million for the state's institutions for the retarded.

And he endorsed the concept of Health Maintenance Organizations, which provide a wide range of medical services for a particular group in a specific geographical area for a

fixed monthly fee, similar to an insurance premium.

"I recognize that individual Texans have the right to make a choice. This is a very personal matter and it is their personal decision to make this choice," Briscoe said.

Briscoe was applauded several times as he recommended new laws expanding the authority of the Texas College Coordinating Board to give it a veto power over any college construction and new degree programs, departments or divisions.

He repeated a recommendation he already had made publicly during his campaign for re-election: Repeal of the sales tax on gas and electric bills.

Without referring to his own troubles in court, Briscoe recommended legislation requiring all campaign contributions over \$10 to be in the form of personal or cashiers' checks. Briscoe was recently embarrassed by disclosure that his campaign manager in 1972 accepted \$15,000 in cash from South Texas banker and rancher Clinton Manges. Briscoe said in a

deposition taken by attorneys for former Rep. Frances Farenthold that he had tried to return the money but had not made connections with Manges. Mrs. Farenthold is suing Briscoe for alleged campaign finance violations.

Other recommendations:
-Prohibit the growing and cultivating of marijuana, now legal because of a loophole in the 1973 Controlled Substances Act, Briscoe said.

-Enable prosecutors to use voluntary oral confessions as evidence in criminal cases.

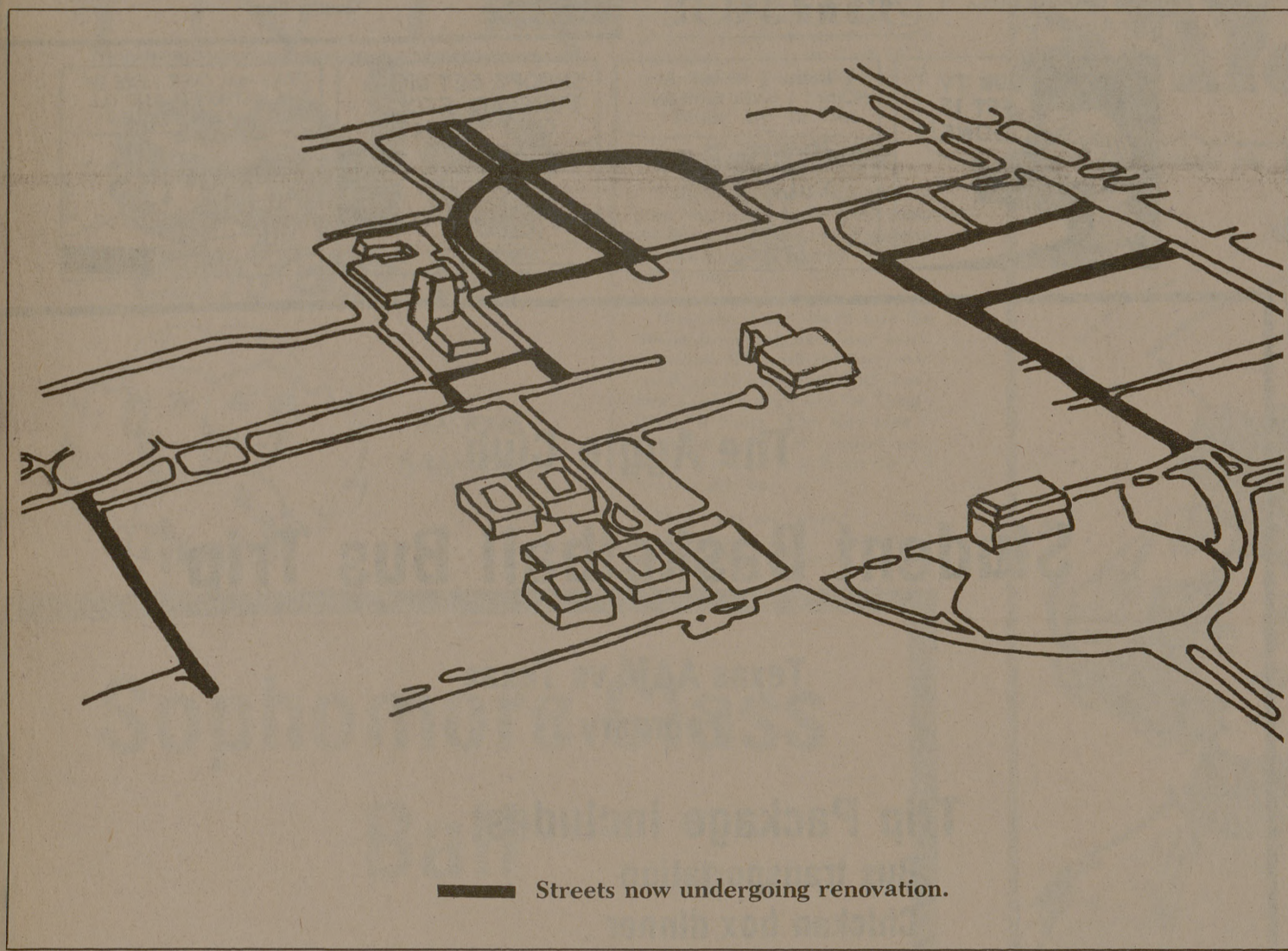
-Remove habitual traffic offenders from the highway — something Briscoe sought in 1973 but could not get through the legislature.

-Give the governor authority to negotiate contracts with other states for water for import to Texas.

-Merge the Texas Mass Transportation Commission into the Texas Highway Department, with a dedicated fund for support of urban public transportation.



The mud and detours encountered by students like the one to the left are caused by construction in the problem areas shown on the map below.



Campus update

A&M undergoes changes during students' holidays

By ALAN KILLINGSWORTH
Staff Writer

Even though the students go home for the Christmas holidays there is still a little hum of activity around campus. The following is a series of briefs to inform the student of campus happenings over the holidays.

The Battalion took a survey of other schools and found the total expenses were as follows:

- Rice-\$1,580
- Southern Methodist-\$1,225
- Texas Christian-\$1,187.50
- Texas A&M-\$204
- Texas-\$202
- Houston-\$164
- Texas Tech-\$146

This survey was based on a student taking 16 hours and excluded room and board.

Economic effect

A&M's economic impact on the Bryan-College Station area totaled a record \$118,700,000 for 1974, revealed a survey conducted by the university.

The sharp increase is attributed to the university's enrollment growth and expanded research activities. TAMU's 2,943-student increase, for a total of 21,463 last fall, is expected to place the university among the nation's fastest growers.

Board appointees

The A&M Board of Directors has two new members and one reappointee following appointments by Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

Joe Reynolds, (reappointed) Houston attorney; Alfred I. (Al) Davies, vice-president of Sears and Ross C. Watkins, Uvalde bridge contractor were appointed by Briscoe on Jan. 10.

All three of the appointees expressed their desire to be a part of the A&M system and looked forward to meeting the needs of the university.

Board payoffs

Board of Directors appointment are costly political payoffs, said Richard "Buck" Weirus, executive director of the TAMU Former Students Association.

Addressing a student government reunion, Weirus contended that TAMU president Jack K. Williams is not consulted enough on the appointments.

"When president Williams calls me to find out who an appointee is . . . something is wrong," Weirus said.

Williams said that he and Gov. Dolph Briscoe have many conferences but never on the appointment of board members.

Fees lowest? Nope

TAMU does not have the lowest education cost of Texas schools.

KKs need men plus new cars

By BARBARA WEST
Staff Writer

Even the University Police are caught in the crunch of shortages and delays, as evidenced by vehicles which have been out of service for maintenance.

Necessary repairs have taken longer than expected because of the unavailability of certain parts.

Morris A. Maddox, assistant police chief, said Wednesday that the work cannot be completed until maintenance crews receive the needed parts. One patrol vehicle has been in the shop since last week, and another was only recently returned to service.

Until then police used the chief's car, not ordinarily used for routine patrols, to fill the gap created by the inoperative vehicles. Only two cars patrol at any one time, Maddox said.

The total police motor fleet includes five automobiles and three Cushman motor scooters.

Police efficiency was not affected by the temporary vehicle shortage, Maddox reported.

He also noted that there are new patrol cars on order, and one is due next month. The order has been in since last September, but must go through the state comptroller's office, which causes delay in delivery.

In addition to the vehicle shortage, police are below their allocated manpower levels. There are five unfilled positions on the force, and seven officers are still in a six-week basic training program.

Maddox said that with the current unemployment status, he thought more individuals would be interested in applying for the positions.

Beauty overlays road renovation

By JUDY BAGGETT
Staff Writer

Beautification of the campus before the Centennial and protection of pedestrians are reasons for campus reconstruction and landscaping, said R. L. Melcher, administrative officer, Wednesday.

Melcher said the most complaints caused by the construction have been about parking because several lots have become inaccessible. Cars usually parked in these lots have been assigned to lots on other parts of the campus. There have also been complaints about having to walk further.

No significant change has occurred in the number of parking tickets issued because of renovation, said Chief O. L. Luther. He estimated that 300 tickets a day are given. About 30 per cent of these are excused when brought in.

The area around the loop from the MSC to Fowler is planned to be completed in January 1976. Other areas under construction will be finished in September.

In the future, several streets will be renovated, resurfaced or demolished.

Street renovation:
Coke from Joe Routt to Lewis, and extension to Jersey Spence from Ross to Roberts Bizzell from Lamar to Jersey Drive and from Ross to University

Street resurfacing:
Throckmorton from Joe Routt to Dorm 12
Houston south from Joe Routt for one block
Joe Routt from Clark to Wellborn Road

Clark from Lamar to Joe Routt Lamar in front of MSC
Hogg from Power Plant to Sbis
Ireland from Ross to University

Lamar from Nagle to Bizzell
Lubbock from Nagle to Bizzell
Street demolition:
Lamar from Houston to Throckmorton
Roberts Street
Hubbard Street



Wade Aday passes construction marker blocking Ross Street.

*Photo by Jack Holm