

Ford budget to meet opposition

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Ford will propose a \$394.2-billion budget to Congress, but congressional Democrats are attacking it and marshaling their strength for imminent veto battles to test the election-year spending outlines of the budget Ford will Wednesday were made clear in his address of the Union message last night as he renewed his call for a balancing income tax cut.

ago but that it's still not good enough. He proposed cutting income taxes by \$10 billion, raising Social Security levies \$4.2 billion, adding catastrophic health insurance for Medicare recipients, encouraging business expansion by offering new tax incentives and providing housing assistance for 500,000 families.

A White House data sheet announcing the budget total for the 12 months beginning next Oct. 1 says the budget will be \$43 billion in deficit. The deficit for the current fiscal year is estimated at \$76 billion.

Democrats responded with a chorus of charges that Ford was putting what they

called an arbitrary spending ceiling ahead of the needs of the unemployed in an economy just beginning to recover.

The Democrats also signaled that the forthcoming disputes over vetoes and the federal budget will bear the seeds for future political issues in this election year.

Ford raised some political themes in his address, possibly trying out "new realism" as a campaign slogan and obliquely criticizing his Republican opponent, Ronald Reagan.

The first veto dispute comes next Tuesday when the House will vote whether to override Ford's veto of a \$45-billion labor-

health, education and welfare appropriation heavy with funding for social programs. They would need a two-thirds vote to override, and the outcome is in doubt.

House Majority Leader Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., said Ford's economic plan would throw an additional 200,000 persons out of work. Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, D-Minn., said Ford failed "to come to grips with the problem of unemployment and the sluggishness of our economy."

In another major squabble between the Democratic Congress and Ford, the House votes next Tuesday on a \$112-billion defense appropriation that contains a ban on

using U.S. funds to help any faction in the Angolan civil war. The Senate already has approved the ban.

"We must not face a future in which we can no longer help our friends, such as in Angola, even in limited and carefully controlled ways . . .," Ford told Congress in the nationally broadcast address.

He said such actions as the Senate's vote for the Angola-funds ban were "very shortsighted."

House Speaker Carl Albert has said he cannot conceive of Congress approving Angola aid on the basis of arguments put forward by the administration. Albert called

Ford's spending restraint-tax reduction plan unworkable.

Ford said his tax-cut and spending ceiling proposal, essentially the one Congress refused to vote last year, would provide a \$10-billion tax reduction in addition to the compromise cut in effect until mid-year. He said it would mean \$227 a year in addition take-home pay for a family of four with \$15,000 income.

But Ford also proposed an increase in another tax, the payroll levy paid by employers and employees to support the Social Security system that has been running a See FORD, Page 4.

The Battalion

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ord to nominate sery for labor osition today

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Ford will name chief federal mediator W. J. Usery, Jr. as secretary of labor, a job for which he waited nearly three years, according to House sources.

These sources confirmed Usery's selection and said a formal announcement of the nomination is expected today.

Usery, 52, was Ford's invited guest for President's State of the Union address last night, and was given a front-row seat in the executive gallery of the House of Representatives.

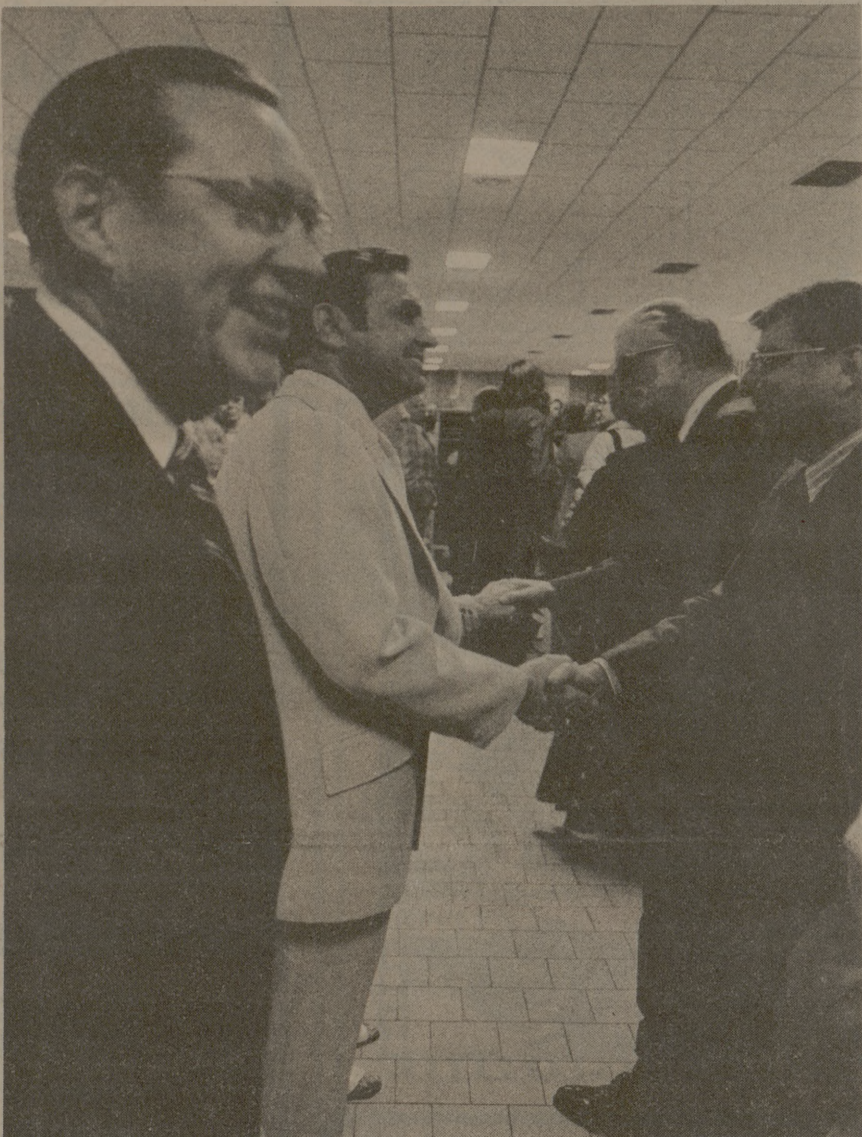
Ford offered Usery the job during a private White House meeting last Friday. It was named by the Senate, he will succeed T. Dunlop, who resigned, effective Jan. 1, because of the President's veto of a common site" picketing bill.

Usery, a big, back-slapping former well-known Georgia, has built a reputation as a labor mediator. He has served as director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service since 1973 and as the chief of the House labor trouble-shooter.

He was twice passed over for the Labor Department post, first when President Richard M. Nixon named New York build-union leader Peter J. Brennan to the job in 1973 and last March when Ford named Dunlop.

Dunlop, a Harvard economist and time arbitrator in construction disputes, quit with the explanation that he destroyed his effectiveness with organized labor. The veto also enraged union leaders, who charged that Ford doubled them after first promising to sign legislation which would have broadened picketing rights at construction sites.

Although Usery, a former official with the labor union, has the respect of top labor leaders, he is unlikely to find the trade union movement receptive to restoring relations with the administration.



Prenal Appreciation Dinner

President Jack K. Williams (left) and State Rep. Bill Prenal (center) greet guests at an appreciation dinner for Prenal in Duncan Dining Hall Friday. The Bryan Democrat and Aggie is chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

Photo by Steve Goble.

Presnal honored by speeches and appreciation dinner

By JIM PETERS
City Editor

"He's a good man to know. He's the one that brings home the bacon," commented State Rep. Tom Schieffer of Fort Worth as hundreds of dinner guests mingled around the greeting line for the guest of honor.

More than 850 friends of State Rep. Bill Prenal had come to pay tribute to the Bryan Democrat and chairman of the House Appropriations Committee with an appreciation dinner Friday night in Duncan Dining Hall.

State legislators and officials, including Speaker of the House Bill Clayton, Texas A&M President Jack K. Williams, and the vice-presidents from at least six state universities, joined with many A&M employees and longtime friends in honoring the state legislator for Brazos and Robertson counties.

Tickets for the dinner cost \$7 for regular tickets and \$30 for patron ticket and contributions. Proceeds after the dinner expenses go to Prenal's campaign fund.

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(dorm advisor) for the Corps of Cadets and ran for state representative.

A year ago in a surprise move Speaker Clayton picked Prenal to be chairman of the Appropriations Committee, perhaps the most powerful chairmanship in the House. It writes the budget for nearly 200 state agencies.

Clayton, who once was a waiter in Duncan Hall, hailed Prenal Friday as "a great man of courage and integrity . . . A great man for Texas. A great man for Texas A&M, College Station, the surrounding area, and a great friend of mine."

Other speakers on the dias praised the Tabor native as an outstanding family man, friend, Christian, and a man of integrity and impeccable character.

"We've never suspected him of commiserating when he could've helped," said Joe Hedrick, head football coach and superintendent of the Franklin school system.

As a representative of "Texas A&M University, the faculty, staff, students and friends," President Williams expressed gratitude for "everything he does. He represents us well and we are heavily in his debt."

Williams then pointed to the large number of Aggies who are highly visible in

state government, such as Clayton, Prenal, Sen. Bill Moore of Bryan, House Speaker Pro-Tem Richard Slack, Senate Pro-Tem Glenn Kothmann, and others.

"Many may think their presence makes our task in Austin easier," Williams said. "And they're right."

Prenal has also represented the A&M name the past six years in his position as special assistant for the A&M Research Foundation. He is in charge of legislative liaison with the U.S. Congress and receives a salary of \$14,160 a year.

Foundation director and Dean of Engineering Fred J. Benson said that Prenal's "thorough knowledge of the legislative process" is invaluable in coordinating Federal legislation dealing with research funds.

Since the foundation is not supported by any state monies, but rather through gifts and Federal funds, Benson says there is "no conflict of interest" in Prenal's duties.

News Summary

After a month-long holiday lag from the hustle and bustle of College Station one often loses touch with the local news scene. Presented below is a summary of some of the off-campus news of the past few weeks.

Political Scene

Olin E. "Tiger" Teague, (D-College Station) has filed for another term as U.S. Representative from the 6th District. A 30-year Congressional veteran, Teague will be opposed by Ron Godbey, a Fort Worth lawyer and television weatherman.

Glynn A. "Buddy" Williams has resigned as Brazos County Democratic Party chairman after 20 years in office.

College Station city employees may now run for any political office except city council. The council recently changed the section of the personnel code restricting such activity.

Traffic Control

After an eight-month study, the Brazos County League of Women Voters presented recommendations for city bike paths and walkways to a joint meeting of the College Station City Council and A&M Consolidated School Board. The recommendations included: the approval of an ordinance to prohibit parking in bike lanes and development of a joint master plan for lanes and walks by College Station, Bryan and Texas A&M.

The City Council has approved renaming State Highway 30 the Harvey Highway and F.M. 2154 (Wellborn Road) as the Wellborn Road.

Emergency med system insecure without appropriated funds

By STEVE GRAY
Contributing Editor

The proposed Emergency Medical Service system for the seven-county Brazos Valley region could be in jeopardy if sustained federal money is not appropriated by Congress by June 30, the end of the 1975 fiscal year.

That point was brought up Monday night at a meeting of the executive committee of the Brazos Valley Development Council (BVDC). The committee heard a report from the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Advisory Committee concerning the present status of efforts to establish a regional EMS system which would include participation by Brazos, Leon, Madison, Tarrant, Burleson, Robertson and other counties.

Don Nowlin, chairman of the advisory committee, said the efforts to establish an EMS system in this area are being hampered because of a lack of qualified health and ambulance personnel and "too little coordination of EMS with other public safety services."

According to the report, an EMS system could operate in the Brazos Valley "only on a limited basis" with present available manpower. The present EMS project has purchased four ambulances with grants from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). There are plans to purchase a fifth one out of the \$20,000 remaining from the present grant period, Nowlin said, pointing out that the BVDC will request funds in its next grant application to buy two additional ambulances.

Dawson Kilcrease, an EMS consultant with HEW in Dallas, told the executive committee and advisory group that a regional EMS system must satisfy 15 basic requirements in order to qualify for additional federal funding under the EMSS Act of 1973.

The Act provides funding nationwide for

councils of government wishing to provide efficient, quality ambulance and emergency medical services to residents included in the system.

Nowlin said a particular problem is that a basic requirement for an EMS system is an emergency room with proper life-support systems that must be available on a 24-hour basis. At present, according to the status report, only St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan would be capable of providing such service around the clock. St. Joseph's, which has a 24-hour emergency room during the weekends only, is being considered as a site for EMS operations in Brazos County by the BVDC.

Nowlin said the BVDC will request funds for the next fiscal year to train students, police, firemen and other public service personnel as EMT's at the newly-created College of Medicine at Texas A&M University.

TOP OF THE NEWS

Texas

GOVERNOR Dolph Briscoe said in San Antonio yesterday that he will introduce legislation at the next session to deter crime by imposing the bills largely at repeat offenders. He made the remarks after a welcome speech to the opening session of the annual Conference of State Criminal Justice Planning Administrators.

In answer to criticism that he spends too much time away from the capital, Briscoe said he needs input from the grassroots that spending time in Uvalde gives him input.

THE HOUSE intelligence committee staff has drafted a report that says the U.S. government seriously undervalued large quantities of weapons supplied to anti-Soviet factions in Angola. This has allowed the CIA to transfer much larger quantities of weapons that would seem possible under the \$25 million price tag which has been attached to the Angolan operation. However, the report does not mention a provision in law which allows surplus weapons to be transferred to foreign countries at one-third their original cost.

LEFTIST MOSLEM militias appear to have taken control of Lebanon's northern, eastern and southern regions. Page 5.

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TWO TONS of marijuana were found in an airplane that crashed in Houston this morning. Page 2.

THE ECONOMY is settling into its long-term growth trend, government figures show. Page 4.

KISSINGER is headed for Moscow in hopes of starting new nuclear weapons talks. Page 5.

LEFTIST MOSLEM militias appear to have taken control of Lebanon's northern, eastern and southern regions. Page 5.

Student fee allocation hearings begin today

More than \$1 million will be budgeted by a group of 11 students Tuesday and Thursday evening at a Student Fee Allocation Committee meeting.

The group, mostly comprising student senators, will make recommendations to the administration after hearing the plea for funds from 13 student service organizations.

"There is a projected \$1.078 million for 1976-77 student fee collections," said Bill Flores, Student Senate vice-president of finance, Monday.

"A 5 per cent reserve of \$54,000 is set aside," said Flores.

"Last year the committee's recommendations were taken exactly as made, except for a three or four per cent increase after a surplus showed up," Flores said.

Shuttle bus and the student lounge accounts are asking less, he said. "All others are asking the same or a little more including the Athletic Department."

Flores said that in a meeting held

Monday morning, the Athletic Department indicated that there would be a ticket-cost increase instead of a fee-request increase. "But tickets have nothing to do with these allocations," said Flores.

Two other athletic endeavors, intramurals and extramurals, are requesting twice their request of last year.

The committee will meet in Memorial Student Center 230. Tuesday hearings will begin at 8 p.m. and Thursday requests will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The committee members are: Debbie Boyd, undergraduate off-campus senator; Tom Dawsey, a second-year committee member; Bill Flores, chairman; Scott Greson, senator; Dan Kaspar, junior agriculture senator; Clare Kelly, at-large business senator; Joe Marcello, a second-year committee member; Donnie Payne, at-large business senator; Susan Rudd, student government secretary; Robert Smith, sophomore science senator and Tom Strickland, junior Corps senator.



The "Texas 500" of Nov. 18, 1973, was a race that was never held. It was canceled and no racing events have been held at Texas World Speedway since October of that year. The Battalion has learned that the speed-

way is about to be sold and two races are tentatively set this year at the track, which is eight miles south of College Station on Highway 6. Tomorrow The Battalion will analyze the track's history and status.