

Tennis court location investigated Money is there — just as

The Student Campus Planning Advisory Committee (SCPAC) has completed an investigative report concerning the proposed site of the varsity tennis courts.

The proposed location of the eight new courts is south of the Rudder Center between the picnic area and Houston Street. The site extends into the grove of trees near the picnic area.

The varsity tennis courts are one segment of a plan that includes all future athletic facilities. According to the SCPAC committee's research, the location of the new courts was studied and decided upon several

years ago by an Athletic Facilities Study Committee.

Dr. Charles Samson, chairman of the Athletic Council and head of the Civil Engineering Dept., was chairman of the committee. Its membership included eleven administrators and six students.

Five members attended all of the five meetings of the study committee according to the SCPAC report. The majority of the committee members were also members of the Athletic Council. The key students on the committee have now graduated.

Students involved with the study committee were considered voting members of the committee and were "allowed full voice in all discussions", according to the SCPAC report.

The report states that Dr. Samson has said several other sites for the courts were thoroughly discussed. Other former members of the committee have said that the location of the tennis courts was a "foregone conclusion" and that no other site was considered.

The SCPAC report included the pros and cons of the study committee's decision on the site. The proposed location is close to existing

dressings rooms in G. Rollie White. Its central location will guarantee more spectators at tennis matches. The low-lying area and surrounding buildings will help block the wind.

However, the low area may also cause a drainage problem. Because of the size of the courts, many of the trees in the area will be cut down. The space required for the courts is 71,000 square feet; the Kyle Field astroturf covers an area of approximately 70,000 square feet. The location will also mean increased foot traffic through the picnic area and the areas near President Williams' home.

The SCPAC report concluded that although the varsity tennis courts are needed and desirable, perhaps another site could be better utilized. The major objection to the proposed site is the aesthetic value of the area, "one of the few remaining open spaces on campus."

The original Athletic Facilities

Study Committee unanimously recommended the proposed site of the varsity tennis courts. President Williams accepted the recommendation.

Although members say there is little chance that the site will be changed, the SCPAC report states that perhaps the student population will be better represented in the planning phase of the tennis complex. The report states: "The students who will serve in that capacity will be ones concerned with design and ecological impact rather than students serving due to membership on the Athletic Council."

The SCPAC is a standing committee of the Student Government. Its primary purpose is to voice student concern with campus construction and landscaping. SCPAC is responsible for providing the administration with current student opinions with regard to planning campus facilities.

The graduating Aggie who has a job waiting but no money for the move, the fellow who can't afford a senior ring and even the freshman who needs five or ten bucks all have a place to go for help.

The Student Financial Aid Office at Texas A&M has a whole spectrum of short-term loans to get students over those rough financial spots, even to the extent of helping pay for a new baby or financing a pair of senior boots.

The attitude of the loan administrators is typified by Alvin Bormann Jr. who says, "The loans are here to aid students and if the funds aren't used we are penalizing the students."

One of the largest of the loans is available to second-semester students or better who are full time, not on probation and can show evidence of need.

The maximum loan is \$750 repayable within one year. The interest rate is six per cent; however, loans

repaid within 90 days have a minimum charge of \$1 on amounts less than \$100. Over that, the minimum service charge is \$2.

In addition to the educational loan, there is a group of non-educational loans.

The Bertha Pratt Loan Fund can furnish up to \$200 to students who are candidates for graduation to help them meet moving and first month expenses. This includes graduate and professional students. The loan is payable within one year from the date of receipt, and carries a service charge of \$5 per \$100 loaned.

Co-op students can also be considered for loans to \$300 to get them to their assignments, pay tuition, required fees and meet living expenses until the first pay check.

The Financial Aid Office also offers loans designed to help students stay in school and assist with non-educational expenses that could lead to withdrawal.

The office is authorized to make loans to eligible married students with expensive hospital bills due to illness in their immediate families or for extra costs arising from childbirth. A one-year loan can be made for as much as \$500 with a six-month extension granted for undue financial hardship.

A \$250 one-year loan is available to pay State Board Examination or Graduate Record Examination fees. It can even be used to buy senior boots, boot pants, sabel, senior ring and such graduation necessities as cap, gown and invitations.

The smallest but not the least important loan is the Little Loan Program that lets full-time students borrow from \$5 to \$20 for 30 days with

only a 25 cent service charge. Loans are available at the "Little Window" of the Student Financial Aid Office which is open 9-12 and 1-4 p.m. weekdays.

There is no lengthy application procedure involved, "Bormann says. Upon presentation of a current slip and ID card, students fill out an application with a minimum required information, and they issued their loans."

A student doesn't have to worry why he needs a loan. CPE is a criterion for the loan so every semester students are eligible to have a clear conduct record.

"Since 1968 the program has approximately 32,000 loans totaling about \$565,000," Bormann says.

"Texas A&M was one of the first universities to come up with this program. Many donors contribute to the fund like A&M clubs, Mothers Clubs, and memorial honor of deceased loved ones provide funds for the Little Loan program."

Any of these short-term loans be applied for at the Student Financial Aid Office, room 303 on the floor of the YMCA Building.

Today in history

Today's highlight in history is on this date in 1962, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth. After being launched from Cape Canaveral, he circled the globe three times and made a safe landing in the Atlantic.

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NATO hurt by cod conflict

LONDON — Iceland's decision to break off diplomatic relations with Britain because of the cod war be-

tween the two, raises a question over one of the Western alliance's major observation posts.

Iceland's only contribution to NATO is its Keflavik air base, from which the U.S. Air Force monitors the movements of Soviet forces in the Atlantic corridor. Eighteen months ago, Prime Minister Geir Hallgrimsson's government called off the plans of the previous leftist cabinet to close the base. Foreign Minister Einar Agustsson said the break with Britain would cause no change in Iceland's ties with NATO "in the near future." But the dispute was certain to give the Icelandic Communists new arguments to use

against membership in NATO.

NATO already is crippled by the conflict between Greece and Turkey over Cyprus, the continuing economic, political and military upheaval in Portugal; and the prospect of more Communist gains in Italy.

The Icelanders claim they are protecting their only resource since fish accounts for 83 per cent of their exports. Britain maintains its fishermen have traditional rights in the fishing grounds

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Nuclear reactor has new emergency equipment

By MARILOU WOMACK

New safety and efficiency measures for the Nuclear Science Center and the nuclear reactor in Zachry Engineering Center are now being observed.

New emergency equipment including showers for decontamination in case of accidental contact with radioactive liquid and a portable emergency unit containing overalls, gloves, paper for overlaying contamination and other emergency supplies have been added to the science center.

"We want to have everything ready at a moment's notice in case we need it," Dr. R. D. Randall, center director, said. "This way we won't have to waste time running around trying to find things. It's all right here."

A modified circuitry system for

control rods (rods containing a substance such as Boron, which absorbs neutrons, thus controlling the pace of the chain reaction or shutting down the reactor) has also been added. The new equipment was designed and built at the Science Center and is more easily monitored and operated, Randall said.

The Nuclear Reactor Safety Board voted this week to redefine experimental procedures for the AGN 201 reactor in Zachry.

"The board previously approved broad areas for experimentation," Dr. R. G. Cochran, head of the nuclear engineering department, explained. "I felt it would be better to have actual experiments — ranging from learning to start up and operate the reactor to measuring the effect of materials put into the reactor to

make them radioactive — so there would be no questions whether an experiment fits into the areas that has been approved.

The reactor safety board is required to meet four times each to review, evaluate, and approve safety standards for the two reactors on the Texas A&M University campus.

Gen. A.R. Luedcke, executive vice-president of Texas A&M, formerly general manager of Atomic Energy Commission, is chairman of the board. Board members are Dr. R. G. Cochran, Dr. Randall, Dr. D. Hightower (nuclear medicine), Dr. J.K. Cochran (chemistry), Dr. L.C. North (physics), Dr. Fred Sicilio (radiation physics), and Dr. R.D. Neff (radiation safety officer).

An Associated Press wire story printed in Wednesday's Battalion is "just plain nonsense," says Dr. R. G. Cochran, head of the Texas A&M department of nuclear engineering.

The story told of three engineers who said they quit their jobs to warn of nuclear safety defects.

Dale C. Bridenbaugh, Richard B. Hubbard and Gregory C. Minor, formerly officials of General Electric, told the Joint Atomic Energy Commission that toasters and hair-dryers have more stringent safety

checks than those on nuclear reactors. Cochran said the statement was ridiculous.

"In order to obtain a license for a nuclear reactor, an extensive safety analysis must be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)," Cochran said. "It takes about a year for the NRC to review each safety analysis."

Cochran added that the engineers' statement that the safety equipment is not evaluated by an independent third party was not true.

"Every license application is re-

viewed by the Advisory Commission on Reactor Safeguards, which is set up by the congress and is completely separate from the NRC," Cochran said.

Cochran added that because of the manner in which the NRC has set up, they are free from pressures.

"I don't see how anyone honestly say that the NRC does not make unbiased decisions," Cochran said.

— Marilou Womack

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