

Resident Hall Association

Well into third year of civilian dormitory representation

The Residence Hall Association is well into its third year as a representative body of dormitory students. It is composed of the presidents of 22 civilian dorms. The association discusses problems within the dorms, plans organized dorm activities and works with the administration.

The RHA was established in 1973, but its real beginning was in 1964. With the entrance of civilian students, there was a need for a governing body for civilians. The Corps of Cadets had the Cadet Court, so the

civilian students formed the Civilian Student Council.

During the CSC's formative years, the council was in competition with the Student Government. The CSC began programming activities for the residence halls, which conflicted with the Memorial Student Center directorate and the Student Government.

Ron Blatchley, associate director of student affairs, began working with the CSC in 1973. It was during this year that the CSC members decided that they had no place in trying

to govern the student body.

With Blatchley's help, the CSC determined that there was a need for an organization to work within the residence halls and concentrate upon problems affecting dorm students.

A new constitution was drawn up in the fall semester of 1973, and the CSC's name was changed to the Residence Hall Association. After organizing itself, the first project of the RHA was to work with the 20 civilian dorms to revise their constitutions.

During the past years, RHA has

worked to organize dorm activities such as push ball games and Halloween trick-or-treat. This semester RHA is planning a Texas Residence Hall Association convention and the annual Casino night.

RHA has worked with the administration to get increases in visitation hours, to purchase a Quonset hut for student parties and to set limitations on cooking in dorm rooms. Current RHA committees include:

Dorm Improvements Committee, now working on lounge renovations.

Laundry Committee, now trying to get washing machines put into the dorms.

Spirit and Recreation Committee, which sponsors activities such as push ball, tug-of-war and anything-goes games.

Ice Machines Committee, which will install three ice machines in March, to be placed in the North dorm area.

Casino Committee which needs student volunteers to work as dealers and saloon girls.

— Gale Kauffman

Today in A&M history

Today is Wednesday, March 3, 1976, the 46th day of the spring semester. There are 67 days until Final Review, 73 days until the last final exam.

On this date in 1954, The Battalion, in its Spring Forecast, advised its readers to "dig out your petticoats, back in style," and predicted that cotton would "step strongly into style than before."

On this date in 1940, editorial in The Battalion condemned a proposed rate Southwest Telephone Company, arguing that the telephone service actually installed did not justify the increase.

The emblems of any other high school other than A&M.

On this date in 1968, the Student Senate announced a poll which would determine the civilian students' opinion of the college clothing regulations. The poll was to ask whether the students preferred the present regulations, elimination of all standards or relaxed rules.

The clothing regulations at that time prohibited T-shirts, beards and mustaches, long hair and clothing which displayed

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Texas underground water necessary but scarce

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Underground water — the crucial ingredient for Texas' rich bin of food and fiber — is not as plentiful as water planners once thought.

Three state geologists say that in 1968, when the statewide Texas Water Plan was written, it was estimated that 4,779,300 acre-feet a year could be withdrawn from underground water sources without depleting the supply.

Their recent survey, however, shows Texas can count on only 4,295,700 acre-feet, a 10 per cent decrease from the previous estimates. An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons.

The results of the survey were disclosed by R. D. Price, D. A. Muller and W. B. Klemm of the Texas Water Development Board in the board's magazine, "Texas Water."

They noted that "Texas is fortunate in that more than 50 per cent of its total surface area of 267,339 square miles is underlain by either major or minor ground water aquifers."

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The drought of the 1950s forced Texans to rely more on ground water, the geologists said, adding:

"Although more than 1,000 municipalities and numerous industries use large quantities of ground water, the greatest use in Texas has been in agriculture for irrigating important crops such as grain sorghum, cotton, wheat, forage crops, rice, hay and pasture acreage, vegetables, oil crops other than cotton, orchards, and nut crops."

Agriculture Commissioner John White has cited Texas' High Plains, for example, as "probably the most agricultural region in the nation."

The semi-arid High Plains includes Lubbock, Plainview, Lamesa and Amarillo, depending on the underground Ogallala aquifer to grow billions of dollars worth of crops.

The geologists said the decrease in estimated amounts of underground water available on a permanent basis "results primarily from re-estimation of the Gulf Coast aquifer where approximately 1,217,600 acre-feet of ground water is now estimated available than in 1968."

The Gulf Coast estimate was reduced because the geologists lowered for "minimum land subsidence" and sought to "pumpage" to "alleviate salt water encroachment within" the aquifer.

"Conversely," the geologists said, "the Ogallala aquifer shows the largest increase in estimated yield of 298,000 acre-feet a year. In previous estimates, effective charge had not been determined and was not included in the plan."

The geologists said their assumption that the water "will use proper methods and dures to locate, space, construct complete his well or minimize potential ground quality degradation, borehole age, and maximize the life well."

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Franklin to fly over D.C.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON—The National Park Service said it will launch the centennial with a Ben Franklin kite fly at noon March 13 on the Washington monument grounds.

"Free red white and blue kites will be given to the 2,000 youngsters," the nouncement said, "but participants will be required to bring their own tails."

Some of the kites will be given to the 2,000 youngsters, the nouncement said, "but participants will be required to bring their own tails."

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