

# The Battalion

Vol. 68 No. 86

College Station, Texas

Thursday, Mar. 4, 1976

## Bravenec unopposed in mayoral campaign

Larry Bravenec is unopposed in the mayoral campaign following Bob Bell's withdrawal from the race shortly before filing closed at 5 p.m. Monday.

Bell said he withdrew from the mayor's race because "the energy spent in campaigning by both candidates can be better put in service to our community."

A hard-fought campaign would divide citizens at a time when community unity is needed," Bell said.

Bell, who had resigned as councilman for Place 3 to run for mayor, filed for office. Incumbent James Dozier has also

filed for that position.

Bell said he wanted to run for one of the three two-year terms so he would not have to campaign again next year.

He said he decided to run against Dozier rather than James Gardner or Homer Adams because "Dozier's views of a councilman's duties and my own are farther apart than the other two."

Lane B. Stephenson, 1202 Dominik, will face incumbent Homer Adams for Place 2. Stephenson is associate director of Texas A&M University News Service.

Three candidates filed for Place 3: Texas

A&M sophomore James W. Crawley of 443 Dunn Hall; Larry J. Ringer (associate professor of statistics at A&M) of 702 Thomas St., and E. Murl Bailey, Jr. (associate professor of veterinary physiology and pharmacology at A&M) of 1807 Sabine Court.

Clinton Robison, 1101 Southwest 405, has filed for Place 4. Robison is an instructor at Bryan High School. James Gardner, the incumbent, has also filed for the position.

Anne Hazen, 1205 Munson Ave., was the only candidate to file for Place 5. The elections will be held April 3.

## Once-a-year occurrence

### Filing fad ends again

There hasn't been this much excitement in city hall since the time Councilman Jim Halter offered to pay the garbage bill for a man who claimed she never had to put any garbage for collection. She simply paid all of it.

So the tale went.

This time it was different: this was the last day, the last hour to file for city office.

Strolling through the heavy wooden doors of the College Station City Hall, one could sense the excitement of filing for city office at the very last minute. It's a once-a-year fad.

There were councilmen and others puffing away on low tar and nicotine cigarettes, stepping them onto the floor, and stomping on them.

And lighting another and another.

And there were the curiosity-seekers and wives of the councilmen. And a radio newsman who kept darting back and forth, with a microphone clutched tightly in one hand, pencil and notepad in the other. His recorder constantly swaying from a shoulder strap, rebounding off of his hips.

They all wanted to know the same thing: who was filing for city office at the last minute?

All of the current councilmen were there, with the exception of Homer Adams, joking and laughing and wondering out loud who might file at the eleventh hour.

Councilman Jim Gardner poked his head through the double-doors and asked the recurring question:

"Anyone file against me yet?"

Yes, someone in the crowd blurted out. Someone had filed. Gardner frowned.

"Oh well. That's all right."

Gary Halter, a mild-mannered A&M political science professor who is the only council member not facing an election this term, joked about running for mayor.

"Oh, I would but I've got only 12 minutes left to get 25 signatures on a petition. That's 30 seconds a signature. Just don't think I'd make it."

Meanwhile, the radio newsman had almost—but not quite—caught onto what Halter had said.

It took a good deal of effort by Halter and another reporter to convince the radio

newsman that the councilman was only joking.

One councilman muttered "chickenshit" when Councilman Bob Bell announced shortly after 4 p.m. that he was dropping out of the mayor's race and, instead, filed to run against incumbent Councilman Jim Dozier. Bell dragged Dozier out into the hallway to explain why he wanted to run against Dozier and not run for mayor. Nursing laryngitis, Bell called Dozier "a good man" but said nonetheless, he wanted to run against him.

It will be a tough race, Bell said.

Amid the din of laughter, outdated Aggie jokes and vocal threats by some to run for mayor, an A&M accounting professor and part-time beekeeper quietly left city hall. Councilman Larry Bravenec, the only candidate for mayor, doesn't have much to worry about.

An hour or so after the 5 p.m. filing deadline the people were gone. The cigarette smoke was gone from the air. The cigarette butts had been swept up. The lights were out.

The race was on.



### Goodies Galore

With the flu season here, your friendly neighborhood store awaits with aisles of drugs and other sundries.

## College Station negotiating for utilities from Gulf States

Representatives of Gulf States Utilities Company met with College Station city officials Friday in an attempt to work out possible arrangements in which the city may purchase its future water and electricity beginning in January 1979, city sources revealed yesterday.

The sources did not give details of the meeting but did say that Gulf States is trying to formulate a reasonable base rate that would be charged should the city decide

later not to renew its present utilities contract with the City of Bryan.

Gulf States is an independent utilities firm that provides service to several towns in the Brazos Valley, including Hearne and Caldwell. The city has been purchasing water, electricity and some sewer service from Bryan for more than a decade.

Gulf States has previously expressed interest in providing water and electricity to College Station via two transmission lines located on two sides of the city. Their offer is a standard rate for municipalities and includes power transmission costs. Company officials have said if the city were to supply its own power substations, Gulf States would give the city a five per cent discount on their quoted price.

A Gulf States spokesman said last year, however, that construction of such power substations could cost the city in excess of \$1 million.

The College Station City Council on Jan. 29 rejected Bryan's contract proposal that was submitted to the city Jan. 21 and gave Bryan city officials 14 days to submit a new proposal containing competitive rates and terms.

Bryan's deadline to submit a revised contract proposal was Feb. 12 and it has not yet been delivered to College Station. North Bardell, College Station city manager, Wednesday said that staffs for both cities are still working to resolve some of the questions regarding the contract.

"Something should be decided by the end of this month," he said, without elaborating.

The city has objected to Bryan's proposal primarily because electrical rates would be

raised 30 per cent over the present interim rate schedule that was adopted by College Station in August.

Bardell earlier said the difference in Bryan's rates and those proposed by Gulf States is indicated by a utility bill representative of the month of December 1975.

For 3,400 kilowatt-hours (kwh) of electricity including fuel costs adjustments, a resident of Caldwell would have paid \$59. Under Bryan's current rates, the cost would have been \$98, a difference of 60 per cent, Bardell said.

Local residents currently pay \$2.25 per kwh and 38.5 cents per 1,000 gallons of water. Bryan's proposal would raise electricity rates to \$2.95 per kwh and water costs would jump to 47 cents per 1,000 gallons.

The Bryan City Council met on Feb. 3 to discuss the list of objections to their proposal that was submitted to them the day before by College Station.

College Station councilmen contend that the city is partially subsidizing Bryan's administrative, billing and distribution costs under the present and proposed contracts. They have objected also to clauses within the proposal that: (1) provides for a five-year contract with automatic one-year extensions, (2) termination of one utility service would automatically cancel the other services and (3) would require that College Station purchase at least 80 per cent of its water from Bryan.

The two cities originally were to have completed contract negotiations no later than Dec. 31. There has been speculation

(See Negotiations, Page 5)

## Ten seek three positions on Consol

Ten persons, including five employed at Texas A&M University, filed at the last minute yesterday for three open positions on the A&M Consolidated School Board.

Two candidates, Elliot Bray and Lambert Wilkes, filed for Position 1, a three-year term.

Bray is a Data Base manager for the Texas A&M Registrar. "If elected I would like to see why there was a lack of maintenance in the past," he said. "One million dollars of the bond issue is set aside for repairing the old school buildings."

Lambert Wilkes, professor of Agricultural Engineering, has been on the school board for five years.

He said the bond election should be limited rather than presented to the voters in one lump sum, giving the voters a choice on each part of the issue.

Incumbent Nancy Donaldson, presi-

dent, did not file for re-election in Position 1. She said she wants to devote more time to her family and would like to campaign this month for the bond issue. However, she said she is satisfied with the progress of the school board, especially in regard to the curriculums.

A major accomplishment of the school board in the past year, she said, was the survey of educational goals, which helped the board to adopt a "learning philosophy."

Donaldson has been on the school board for four years and was chairman of the school's policy committee for two years.

The three-year term of Position 2 will be contested by four candidates: George H. Boyett, Roger G. Feldman, Elizabeth Naugle and Hoy A. Richards.

Boyett, who operates a local commercial rental business, said a bond issue must be passed, but that this \$6.4 million program

is no more valid than the last one, \$5.1 million. "It is too nebulous," he said.

Feldman, assistant professor of Veterinary Medicine, says he is "deeply committed to a program that allows each child an opportunity to take the courses he can use in the outside world."

"The lack of facilities have held us back, and little else is going to be accomplished until space is provided," he said.

Naugle, homemaker and former elementary school teacher, said she has seen the contributions of women in the past, and would like to see the school board balanced.

Richards, a transportation economist at Texas A&M, is interested in the tax payers' costs for quality education.

"Because local communities will have less federal and state aid, we need to become aware of our priorities as we become

self-sufficient and take on more responsibility," he said.

The one-year term of Position 4 is being contested by: candidates Louis F. Bouse, William D. Fitch, William A. Wasson, Helen Wilborn and Bruce Upham.

Bouse, an agricultural engineer, has three children in the school system and is active in various local youth groups.

Fitch, president of the Area Progress Corp., a local land development firm, said if the proposed bond issue doesn't pass, he will propose a smaller issue "having just certain necessities." If it does pass, he said he will make sure the public gets its money's worth.

Wasson, certified public accountant and a Texas A&M systems auditor, said "he would have preferred the bond issue to

(see School, page 5)

## Dual representation, name upheld by SG

The Student Senate battled its way through a special session last night and approved revisions to the present constitution, which will be voted on by the student body on March 11.

Senate debate on the constitution began Wednesday but was rescheduled due to the lack of time.

Dual representation was upheld as the method by which students are represented in the senate. This system covers two areas: a living area and college representation. Dual representation is currently in effect.

Senate member Scott Sherman favored the dual system because he feels it is a more complete form of representation.

"Students will not only be represented on or off-campus living area rep-

resentatives, but through their academic colleges as well," Sherman said.

To aid off-campus students, he suggested a ward system be established to divide the Bryan-College Station area into sectors depending upon the student population. Then each sector would be allotted a representative.

Duane Thompson, vice-president of rules and regulations, said this system is not efficient because there is no way to effectively distribute the living area representatives.

Thompson said out of approximately 24,000 students enrolled at Texas A&M University, 8,000 live on-campus and are adequately represented to some extent. However, the remaining 16,000 students are scattered off-campus and are poorly represented.

"A college-base system would allow a

central and easy access to both the student and the representative," Thompson said.

Kay Zenner says the ward system supported by Sherman would not work. She said it has been tried but has yet to succeed in Texas. She also added it would be difficult to draw a ward system to include representation in the areas of those students who commute to A&M.

Judy Stearman, representing married students housing, said neither she nor her constituents seldom see, much less know, their college representative. She also said that married students aren't represented enough as it is and it would be "ridiculous to take away our already limited representation."

"Living off-campus has changed my attitude," said Donnie Paine.

Paine, in favor of the dual system said that because he has become familiar and

experienced with the problems of an off-campus student, he can represent them better than someone who hasn't...like a college representative.

"It gives you a better perspective as to what is going on," he said.

Currently 33 per cent of the students live on campus and 66 per cent live off-campus. The percentage of college senators living on-campus is 63 per cent, while 37 per cent live off-campus.

During the meeting, vice president of Academic affairs, Raj Kent, a major contributor and supporter of the changes, did not ask for recognition at any time. He also left the meeting at several points. His final departure followed the approval of the dual representation article.

In communication during the meeting, (see SG, page 5)

Senator	Vote on Representation	Attendance (Absent)		
R. Kent	No	X	Buben	Yes
Flores	No	X	Smith	Yes
Thompson	No	X	Winget	No
Gerst	Yes		Buttery	Yes
Merrick	No		T. Strickland	Yes
Kasper	Yes		Cook	Yes
Palmer	Yes		Gregson	Yes
Crittendon	Yes		Stansfield	Yes
Bush	No		Lynch	No
Kelly	Yes		Luker	Yes
Marble	No		Gray	No
Payne	Yes		Gibson	No
Schwartz	Yes		McVey	Yes
J. Strickland	Yes		Brown	No
Geddie	No		Gilmer	Yes
Zumwalt	Yes		Ingram	Yes
Scott	Yes		White	Yes
Harvey	Yes		Zenner	No
Spiller	No		Sherman	Yes
Bender	Yes		Gunselman	Yes
Pankonien	No		Ben-Ali	Yes
Mayfield	Yes		Stearman	Yes
Marcello	Yes		Cummings	Yes
			Marti	Yes
			Tower	No
			Wakeman	No

Members of Student Government do many things at Senate meetings. Some read (textbooks, newspapers, anything at all) while others do more exotic things, like needlepoint.

Photos by Jim Hendrickson

