

# Medical education to begin at A&M

The Coordinating Board of Texas College and University System, has given Texas A&M University authority to implement its \$17 million grant from the Veterans Administration to establish a new medical education program.

Texas A&M also received Coordinating Board approval to form a separate department for horticultural sciences within its College of Agriculture. Teaching and research programs in horticulture have been conducted through the soil and crop sciences department.

The new medical program is being established in cooperation with Baylor College of Medicine, Scott and White Hospital and VA hospital in Temple, Marlin and Waco under provisions of a bill co-authored by Rep. Olin E. (Tiger) Teague, D-Tex. Dr. Jack K. Williams, Texas A&M president, previously announced the target date is January for beginning classes for the university's first medical students, with 32 students — twice as large as originally planned.

The VA announced plans in 1974 to grant \$9.6 million to Texas A&M and recently increased the award to \$17,071,609, provided it received its letter of reasonable assurance as part of an overall project stemming from the Teague-Cranston Bill, (Veterans

Administration Medical School Assistance and Health Manpower Training Act of 1972). The act provides for a program to utilize the VA medical system in training both physicians and allied health personnel, to help relieve the acute shortage in general, and particularly within the VA system.

The overall Texas A&M grant includes funds for facility modifications and improvements at the Temple VA Center. The remainder of the funds will be applied to faculty salaries over a seven-year period.

Award of the grant followed announcement that Texas A&M has received the essential document, formally termed a "letter of reasonable assurance," for its new program. The document was issued by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, an accrediting body representing the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Dr. James A. Knight, Texas A&M's dean of medicine, said the letter allows the university to move forward with its programs and is essential in gaining the next step, called "provisional accreditation," which includes permission to admit students. The final step, full accreditation, is expected shortly before the first students are scheduled to graduate, the dean added.

# A&M gays organize... Group asks for sanction

Gay Student Services Organization (G.S.S.O.), a group of about 20-25 Texas A&M students, has applied for recognition as an A&M student organization and is now awaiting a decision of acceptance or rejection by University officials.

The group submitted a statement of purpose and application for recognition on April 5 to Dr. Carolyn Adair, director of student activities, as required by University Rules and Regulations. Mike, a spokesman for the gay group who was advised by an attorney not to use his last name until the group has become recognized, said that the organization regards the administration's tardiness with a reply as a delay tactic and the group anticipates rejection of the application.

The group's lawyer, Ms. Bobbie Nelson, an Austin attorney who represented a gay group in a similar case at the University of Texas in 1974, said the group will file suit if the university rejects their application. She said, "We don't know what we're going to do until we hear from the administration."

Nelson said that the administration's behavior did not surprise her. She said that she has encountered this type of delay maneuver in other situations.

"Administrations do what they damn well please—hoping the students will eventually leave or drop the matter," Nelson said. Nelson said that although she filed against the University of Texas' administration and a court date was set, the administration decided to recognize the group as a valid university organization by the time the suit was presented in court. The state Attorney-General did hand down a decision though, said Nelson, and that decision declared that the gay group should be recognized.

Mike said that the group approached Dr. John Koldus, vice president of student services, on April 1 to request permission to distribute information and literature concerning the organization on campus but that Koldus denied the request. The group then decided to apply for formal recognition by the university Mike said.

Mike said that the group's application conformed with the policies of the Texas A&M University Regula-

tions 1975-76 for the most part, but that there were two statements within the provisions the group may be weak in representing.

The first sentence of the Student Organizations section states: "Student organizations may be officially recognized when formed for purposes which are consistent with the philosophy and goals that have been developed for the creation and existence of Texas A&M University."

Mike said that he feels that this sentence is as ambiguous as part I(e) of this same section which states:

"Conduct the activities of the organization in a manner which truly reflects the highest ideals of the University which it represents."

Mike said he thinks the legal precedent set in the Austin case will help the gay group overcome the ambiguities in the regulations and allow the group to become a recognized Texas A&M service organization.

Koldus said yesterday that he has talked with Texas A&M President Jack K. Williams and with the administration's attorneys and that he is presently under advisement.

Mike said that Koldus told him that the gay group was a special case and that the application was not to appear before the Student Organizations Board, a group that normally reviews all applications.

Tom Dawsey, student member of the board, confirmed that the appli-

cation did not appear before the board but said it was probably because the board has not met since the application was submitted. Dawsey said that there is no set schedule for the board to meet and that meetings are called by Adair when it does assemble. He said it is possible for Adair to delay a board meeting until school is out but he was not sure how she usually programs the schedule.

Adair said this morning that she programs the board meetings according to the number of organizations that have applied for recognition. She said that the board has met since the gay group applied for recognition but that it was not submitted to the committee because, "I was requested to bring this application straight to Dr. Koldus."

A Gay Student Services Organization press release from April 26 stated that the organization's major purpose would be to serve the university community. The release explains that the group will operate a referral service for professional counseling. The organization also plans to provide information concerning gay life through a speakers bureau, staffed by its members.

Mike said that outside speakers, films and a provision for a "forum for the exchange of ideas," were included in the statement of purpose and application for recognition to Adair.

Mike said that he did not feel confident of University acceptance. "I feel confident that it will be

taken to court," he said. Mike said that Koldus said that the group's application was probably rejected but that still had their legal recourse. He said he and the group are optimistic but realize it may not be an easy one to become recognized on the campus. "We are mentally prepared to take the challenge," Mike said.

Speculating on who would win the case if it were taken to court, Mike said, "Unless something unusual develops, they (the administration) don't have a chance."

## Primaries today in three states

The political campaign season is in full swing as voters in three states decide today whether Ronald Reagan can take the Republican presidential nomination by overcoming Gerald Ford and the built-in advantage of an incumbent President.

Ford and Reagan meet head-to-head in Georgia, Alabama and Indiana as voters shift to the GOP race as satisfied by Reagan's sweep on the day of Texas '96 delegates in a landslide even the former California governor hadn't foreseen.

## Refrigerator to be returned

If you shiver at the thought of your \$10 deposit you put on your rented refrigerator this semester, then Allison King, refrigerator manager, says those students renting refrigerators from student government should return the units according to the following schedule.

**DEAD WEEK**  
Thursday..... 2p.m.-5p.m.  
Friday..... 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
**FINAL WEEK**  
Monday..... noon-4 p.m.  
Tuesday-Thursday..... noon-4 p.m.  
Special Services Building  
Friday..... 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Special Services Building.  
All students who do not have their refrigerators according to schedule will lose their deposits, unless other arrangements are made, calling King at 845-3051 or 683-9393.

## Area Sierra Club conducts summer adventure outing

The South Texas Regional Group of the Sierra Club will conduct an adventure outing to the Weminuche Wilderness Area, near Durango, Colo., this summer. Participants will depart from San Antonio on June 19 by charter bus. They will take the Denver & Rio Grande narrow gauge rail-road to the western side of the wilderness. Backpacking to the base camp, and other mountain hikes, are planned.

The cost is \$150 per person, which includes transportation, food and insurance. The minimum unaccompanied age is 18 years. Participants must furnish their own backpacking equipment. The club will return on June 26.

For more information, call 512-826-4020 or write: Sierra Club Weminuche Outing 218 Larkwood San Antonio, TX 78209

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Northgate - Across from Post Office

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INDUSTRIAL ARTS  
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Hamburger Pizza ..... \$1.29  
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\$1.65 per column inch each insertion  
ALL classified ads must be pre-paid.  
DEADLINE  
3 p.m. day before publication

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**  
ATTENTION MAY GRADUATES!  
You may pick up your announcements beginning April 19th in the Student Program's Office, Room 216 AB, MSC from 8:00 to 5:00, Monday thru Friday.  
Extra Announcements will go on sale April 22nd at 8:00 a.m. on a first come, first serve basis in Room 216 AB, MSC.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**  
THE MSC CRAFTSHOP reminds students who have left POTTERY, CLAY, WOOD PROJECTS, WOOD, etc. in the shop this semester, that all such items will be disposed of if not claimed before May 11, 1976.

**Professional Quality Wedding Photography**  
at Reasonable Prices  
823-2309  
Call after 5 p.m. 11615

**Service For All Chrysler Corp. Cars**  
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Two female roommates needed, starting this summer, to share three bedroom townhouse with fenced yard. \$68/month. 693-3856. 11563

Two female roommates needed, Oak Forrest Mobile Park No. 165. Come by before 10:30 a.m., after 7:30 p.m. Talk rent over. 10966

Two roommates for fall semester. Call 845-6187. 11713

For Battalion Classified Call 845-2611

MR. GATTI'S the best pizza in town... honest!  
has opening for part time bookkeeper. 4-6 hours daily, 8:30 a.m. Monday-Friday and occasional Saturdays and Sundays. 20-30 hours weekly. Some office experience desirable. Start approximately May 10. 846-4809 for appointment and interview. 11714

RN's and LVN's needed part-time or full-time on 3-11 and 11-7 shifts. Call or come to Grimes Memorial Hospital, Navasota, Texas. (713) 825-6555. Ask for Mrs. Winkelmann, RN, Director of Nurses. 10120

Summer work for college men. Call 779-1611. 11714

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Reserve your apartment now for the Summer or Fall Semester before the prices increase.  
We Will Show You a Wide Selection of Apartments in the B-CS Area.  
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## BULLETIN BOARD

**TUESDAY WHEELMEN Films**, election of officers, 7:30 p.m., Rudder Tower 302.

**TRADITIONS COUNCIL** membership meeting, 8 p.m., Rudder Tower 502.

**TRAFFIC APPEALS** 4 to 7 p.m., MSC Conference Room.

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