

# Muster, Parents' Day Tucker vetoes budget

By DILLARD STONE  
Battalion Reporter

Student Body President Bobby Tucker vetoed the proposed 1978-79 student government budget Wednesday night, forcing the senate to set a special session for next week.

"With passage of the budget," Tucker said, "we establish our priorities to the student body and administration."

"It's my feeling the priorities indicated by this budget are wrong," he said in announcing the veto.

Tucker based his objections to budget on two major concerns: large cuts in Muster and Parents' Day funds and increased expenditures for Texas A&M's membership in national and state student organizations.

"This budget will not meet the needs of Parents' Day and Muster committees," Tucker said. Under the proposed budget, Muster funds were cut from \$1,500 last year to \$1,100 this year, a 37 percent decrease. Parents' Day finances were decreased from \$1,175 to \$670, or by 49 percent.

Tucker's other main objection was that travel expenses for Texas A&M's membership in two student organizations were given too much priority.

"I question spending so much money on the Texas Student Association and the American Student Federation in such a tight year," he said.

When confronted by such a tight budget as student government faces this year, he said, "we should look at things that can benefit the most students."

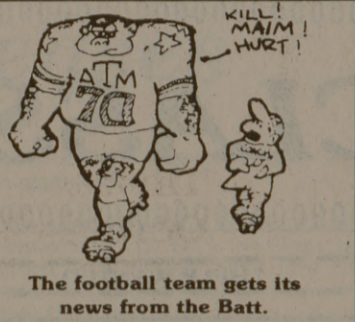
Although Tucker acknowledged the important roles that individual Texas A&M students are filling in these organizations, he said that more important projects could be carried out on campus with student money.

After considerable discussion, the senate tabled the budget, sending it back to the finance committee. The committee will reconsider the budget at a special meeting on Monday, and make another recommendation to the senate's special Wednesday session. Wayne Morrison, vice president for finance, said the committee will discuss only the proposed Parents' Day and Muster budgets.

In other action, the senate passed a resolution calling for a student government information handbook containing information on members.

Also approved was a poll to determine the consensus of the senate in establishing legislative lobbying priorities for the coming year.

Senators Teresa Beshara and Scott Farthing introduced a resolution asking the University administration to consider expansion of Memorial Student Center facilities to accommodate an increasing number of students.



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# Currents beat disappointed Gulf swimmer

United Press International

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — It was the Gulf Stream, not the dark packs, poisonous jellyfish, the cold or fatigue that finally whipped Miss Taylor, the "Swimming Num."

She was almost in sight of realizing her dream to swim from the Bahamas to Florida Tuesday, but she quit.

After 51 hours in the water and 14 miles, handlers convinced the 27-year-old marathon swimmer she needed the strength to free herself from the northward pull of the Gulf stream. She didn't want to quit.

"I found out I had to go five miles an hour for five hours to get there. I stopped," Miss Taylor told reporters in a hoarse whisper. "I didn't really want to stop, but I knew I had to. The currents were too fast. I am disappointed. I worked very hard for this."

It was nonetheless a record for women's endurance swimming, 51 hours and nine minutes short of the men's record.

She paid a painful price. A robust woman, she hobbled ashore, slumped over and was barely able to walk. Her face and tongue were swollen, lips bloodred from chapping. Scabs surrounded her mouth. Deep wrinkles showed in her hands from long exposure to water.

But she refused a trip to the hospital and medical treatment. "I'm going to go home and go to sleep for a long time," she said.

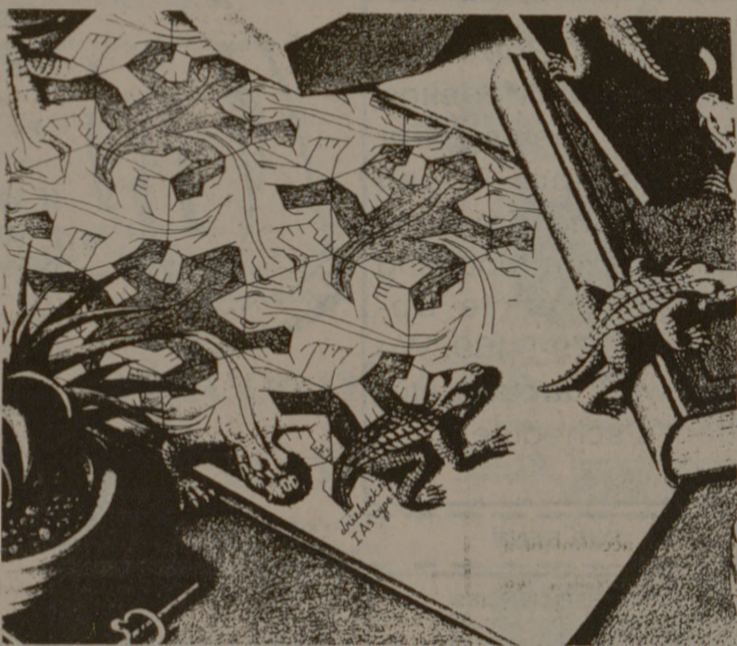
Besides the physical punishment from the elements and stings from numerous jellyfish, Miss Taylor endured a psychological pounding from fatigue-induced hallucinations of the ever-present threat of sharks. She swam without a shark net.

Two divers paddling surfboards trailed her throughout the swim to protect her from sharks. Other attendants stood guard with rifles and long sticks on the lead boat.

Three times Monday, Miss Taylor hauled onto a surfboard or onto the lead boat's dive platform while guides scared away as many as six sharks at a time.

"I won't try this again this way," Miss Taylor croaked Tuesday. "Maybe next time from the Keys to the Bahamas. Maybe someone else will make the swim this way. I didn't."

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