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Auto insurance rates may drop

A state representative proposes that car insurance rates be based on driving performance, instead of age and sex. That could mean lower insurance rates for college students. See page 5.



Williams resignation not explained

By KIM TYSON and LIZ NEWLIN

Battalion Staff
The resignation of Jack K. Williams, who earned his nickname "Smiling Jack" for his warm personality, was announced Tuesday. Williams, who served as the 1978 president of the Association of Former Students, seemed to be a sad man as he left the regents' quarters. He declined to answer reporters' questions about his reasons for resigning or his future plans. He was given to Miller this fall. After Williams announced his resignation, Wells asked if any regents had comments, then thanked Williams. He said that Williams was known among his peers as a "statesman in higher education." At the close of the meeting Williams immediately gathered up his briefcase and left through a back door of the board room. He declined to answer reporters' questions about his reasons for resigning or future plans, and drove off. The board had a brief recess, then went into executive session to discuss Williams' resignation and its plans. After about 20 minutes, the board opened the session to announce its decisions: to accept the chancellor's resignation and grant him a leave of absence, name Clyde Wells as acting chancellor and give Wells the authority to appoint a committee to recommend a new chancellor. Wells said he expects to spend more time working on campus, as temporary chancellor, than he did as board chairman. However, the rancher from Granbury said he will not be here on a day-to-day basis as Williams was. Various campus officials said they were not forewarned of the resignation. Dr. Haskell Monroe, dean of faculties, said he'd heard nothing indicating that Williams planned to resign. Although Monroe said Williams' health has been discussed, he said as far as he knew the chancellor has lost weight but "is in full vigor." Williams had suffered a severe heart attack several years ago, but doctors said he was fully recovered. Monroe said the Texas A&M faculty had a high respect for Williams and identified with him because of his experience as an instructor. He said Williams has been contacted previously by other institutions about positions, and said he thought Williams might return to Clemson University in South Carolina. Williams taught American History there earlier in his career and served in its administration, including vice president for academic affairs. An official at Clemson contacted Tuesday said that Clemson is currently looking for a president, but said he didn't know whether Williams had been contacted

just do not think the system worked with Dr. Williams." In the time since Williams was named chancellor and lost control over the main campus, the board also directed Moody College and the Agricultural Extension Service to report to the Texas A&M president, instead of Williams. And the on-campus Georgian home, which Williams moved into eight years ago, was given to Miller this fall. After Williams announced his resignation, Wells asked if any regents had comments, then thanked Williams. He said that Williams was known among his peers as a "statesman in higher education." At the close of the meeting Williams immediately gathered up his briefcase and left through a back door of the board room. He declined to answer reporters' questions about his reasons for resigning or future plans, and drove off. The board had a brief recess, then went into executive session to discuss Williams' resignation and its plans. After about 20 minutes, the board opened the session to announce its decisions: to accept the chancellor's resignation and grant him a leave of absence, name Clyde Wells as acting chancellor and give Wells the authority to appoint a committee to recommend a new chancellor. Wells said he expects to spend more time working on campus, as temporary chancellor, than he did as board chairman. However, the rancher from Granbury said he will not be here on a day-to-day basis as Williams was. Various campus officials said they were not forewarned of the resignation. Dr. Haskell Monroe, dean of faculties, said he'd heard nothing indicating that Williams planned to resign. Although Monroe said Williams' health has been discussed, he said as far as he knew the chancellor has lost weight but "is in full vigor." Williams had suffered a severe heart attack several years ago, but doctors said he was fully recovered. Monroe said the Texas A&M faculty had a high respect for Williams and identified with him because of his experience as an instructor. He said Williams has been contacted previously by other institutions about positions, and said he thought Williams might return to Clemson University in South Carolina. Williams taught American History there earlier in his career and served in its administration, including vice president for academic affairs. An official at Clemson contacted Tuesday said that Clemson is currently looking for a president, but said he didn't know whether Williams had been contacted



Saying it would "come as no surprise to board members," former Chancellor Jack K. Williams announces his resignation Tuesday, left,



then sits quietly awaiting response from board members.

Battalion photos by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

Resignation ends 8 years at A&M

Jack Williams is no longer chancellor. He ended an eight-year career as an administrator to Texas A&M University when he resigned Tuesday from the Texas A&M University System. Williams, 58, began his tenure at Texas A&M as president of both the University and the system on Nov. 1, 1970, when he was named to those positions following the death of Gen. Earl Rudder. He succeeded acting-president Gen. Alvin Ludecke. One night soon after his arrival, students marched to his house and held a yelp practice. It was a warm show of support for a man newly arrived on campus. He served in the dual position until May 1977 when, in a surprise announcement, he was appointed chancellor. Williams was well-liked by faculty and students, who gave him the nickname "Smiling Jack." He gained the sympathy of the school after suffering a serious heart attack in July 1976. Upon recovering, he assumed the position of chancellor. Dr. Jarvis Miller, former director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, replaced him as president. Williams was born in Virginia where he attended high school and college and taught his first classes. He served as an officer in the Marines in World War II. From 1947 until 1960 he went through the academic ranks from history instructor to graduate dean at Clemson University, South Carolina's land-grant university. From then until 1966, he served as dean of faculties and vice president for academic affairs at Clemson. He later served as a commissioner on the Texas Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, and as a vice president for the University of Tennessee System in Knoxville. He also served as chancellor pro-tem, University of Tennessee Medical Units, Memphis. He left Tennessee in 1970 to assume the role of president of Texas A&M. The former chancellor has served on numerous industrial and professional boards and holds degrees including a Ph.D. from Emory University, an LL.D. from the University of Florida, and a D.Lit. from Austin College. He is married to the former Margaret Pierce of Welch, W. Va., and has two daughters, Mrs. Leonard R. Teel of Atlanta, Ga., and Mary K. Williams of Austin.

He said the board will name a search committee and he expects the "search to come time to find a replacement. The committee must be approved by the entire nine-member board, but it may be working as soon as possible, with approval later. Wells didn't specify how he planned to name to the committee. Dr. John Knox, president of the Association of Former Students in 1978 and a distinguished alumnus, suggested it was the result of a long power struggle between the Texas A&M president and chancellor. I knew things were not as smooth as they might have appeared on the surface," Houston doctor said. The chancellor-president system has been used at Texas A&M at least twice before and was scrapped each time. It has not worked in the past," Knox said. "It has not worked this time — at least in the eyes of many. A lot of people

Ticket system meets mixed reactions

By ERIN BECKERS

Battalion Reporter
Along with a winning basketball team comes a greater demand for tickets, resulting in long lines, ticket scalpers and camps. The system of distributing tickets to season pass holders is new this year and has met with mixed emotions from students. Previously, students with ID cards were let in free on a first come basis. "I haven't been to a game yet because they are constantly being sold out," sophomore Carol Casey said. "I can't be in the ticket line at 8 a.m. because of my class schedule." It's cheaper than having to pay for each game, said junior Sandy Spears. "Five dollars is a pretty good deal for both basketball and baseball seasons." Use of the sports pass was begun this year after a four-year phase passed by the student senate last year, said Kevin Patterson, vice president for student services. Previously, the athletic department re-

ceived money from the student service fee fund. This year, no funds were received by the department. Instead, season passes were sold to provide some of the funding for the basketball and baseball programs, Patterson said. "If you want to attend the games, you are supporting the programs with the \$5 paid for the pass," he said. "That way, those who don't want to contribute don't have to." There are approximately 12,000 pass holders, according to Wally Groff, assistant athletic director. Excluding seating for 300 band members and 300 athletes, 4200 general admission seats remain to pass holders. "That's a one-in-three chance of getting in if you have a pass," Patterson said. "It's first come, first served." Having to miss classes in order to stand in line is a "valid complaint," he said. "But if tickets were bought at the door before a game, it would be hard to tell how many have been issued, with five ticket windows."

He added, "If it's a sellout, the pass wouldn't have priority over the general admission cost." Now, if a game is not sold out to pass holders, general admission seats are sold for \$1 prior to a game, beginning at 5 p.m. he said. "It's bad having students scalping other students for tickets," said senior Larry Williams. "I think it should be set up by a priority basis, like football. You're more or less wasting your money if you can't consistently get tickets." According to Patterson, the student senate took into account that not all pass holders would get to see the games. "The pass itself states that it does not guarantee a student ticket," he said. Passes exclusively for the baseball season may be purchased in Room 113 of G. Rolie White Coliseum. If a football ticket coupon book was purchased in the fall, the pass is \$5. Others are \$7.50.

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'Swing your partner'

"Hillbillies" swing by the right, as Manning Smith called the dance at the Student Y Hillbilly Hoedown. More than 40 students formed squares and danced polkas, schottisches and the cotton-eyed joe at the Y's first hoedown Tuesday night.

Battalion photo by Colin Crombie

Regents accept land for extension service

The Texas A&M University System's board of Regents Tuesday formally accepted gifts of 260 acres in San Antonio which will be used by the Texas Engineering Extension Service. The land will be used to enlarge the South Central Texas Regional Training Center, which offers instruction in public service occupations, industrial-technical and special programs. Regent Alfred Davies questioned the San Antonio program, though he said it did not hurt to accept the land. Davies said the extension service may be performing vocational services that junior colleges could be responsible for. The 1978-79 budget allots \$2 million for the program, 70 full-time and 30 part-time workers are employed. The land was donated in three sections: 100 acres from the Bexar County Commissioners, 30 from H.B. Zachry, and 30 from the Southeast Development Foundation. Clyde H. Wells of Granbury was re-elected chairman of the Board of Regents. He has held that position for 10 years. The regents also voted to allow Prairie View A&M president Dr. Alvin I. Thomas to sign an assistance contract with Liberia's

Booker T. Washington Institute. The Agency for International Development recently gave the Liberian government \$5.9 million for the school. That money will be matched by \$6.2 million from the Liberian government. The 60-month contract will provide funds for technical assistance, commodity procurement, training of Liberians at Prairie View A&M, and reporting on work specifics. Prairie View and the Liberian school have been associated since 1955. Booker Washington Institute has an enrollment of more than 1,000 students. Its curriculum includes courses in agriculture, business, home economics and trade, and industrial education. Administrators for the Liberian school will be trained by staff provided by Prairie View. Prairie View was chosen for the project in preference to 11 other institutes. All recommendations for promotions and tenure for faculty members were approved. Tenure was granted to 90 faculty members, and 88 promotions were passed. A low bid for fire protection measures on campus was submitted by Collier Electric of Temple at \$699,587.

Resident's appeal put on TEA docket

By KAREN ROGERS

Battalion Staff
The appeal for a hearing concerning the termination of A&M Consolidated School District Superintendent Fred Hopson's contract has been put on the docket by the Texas Education Agency, according to a letter received by the superintendent's office Tuesday. In the letter, TEA senior staff attorney David Ryan informed the district that the hearing had been assigned a docket number and that all documentary and other record information developed locally in the matter should be filed with the agency by Feb. 9. The letter was missing two promised enclosures: a copy of the appeal by two citizens asking for the hearing and a copy of the TEA procedures on hearings and appeals. A copy of the appeal letter that College Station resident Oran Jones and Bryan resident Bill Parker sent to TEA was enclosed, but it was not marked with the docket number. The letter from TEA to the school district did refer to "Oran Jones vs. Board of Trustees of A&M Consolidated Independent School District, Docket No. 010-R-179." But since the letter of appeal itself didn't bear the docket number, it is not official, Dr. Jack Woods, attorney for the school district, said.

Woods said he instructed Hopson's secretary to inform Ryan of the error and to ask that the missing documents be mailed to the superintendent's office. The board terminated Hopson's three-year contract in November citing "differences concerning educational policy and policy implementation." Jones and Parker, on Jan. 9, requested TEA to examine the situation to determine the right of the school board trustees to terminate the contract. The formal complaint also asked for an explanation of the board's decision to pay Hopson \$54,000 upon the June 30 termination. Jones filed the complaint with TEA after a refusal in December of board President Bruce Robeck to grant a hearing. Robeck questioned the use of the word "hearing." He responded that only Hopson, the employee involved, could ask for a hearing. Jones' appeal was docketed with TEA on Jan. 12. After examination of the records, the director of hearings for TEA will determine if the Commissioner of Education, Dr. M.L. Brockett, has jurisdiction over the case. "Until jurisdiction has been established, there can be no hearing scheduled," said Margaret Cooper, a TEA staff attorney. The hearing, if scheduled, would take place in Austin and will be open to the public.

DA says he wants Davis back in court

United Press International

FORT WORTH — A district attorney who has failed in two attempts to convict T. Cullen Davis of a crime said Tuesday he will attempt to retry the multimillionaire on murder solicitation charges within the next six months. District Attorney Tim Curry said he wanted Davis back in court. "I suppose it boils down to whether a

man with his resources and money should be given a free ride," he said. "The law ought to apply to everyone, and I don't think it does here. The system has clearly failed here." Davis is charged with paying FBI informant David McCrory, a former Davis Industries employee, \$25,000 to arrange the murder of Davis' divorce court judge, Joe H. Eidson.