Texas Common Cause plans Lobby Day' in Austin Feb. 21

By JUDIE PORTER

ecial interest groups come in izes, shapes and causes.
hose lobbying in Austin during 66th Texas Legislature include and gas companies, realtor asations, women's groups and any or group that is pushing for a se or trying to kill someone , said Theo Brown, Texas dior for Common Cause, a naal citizens' lobby.

wn was in town Thursday to et with local members and to ote a "Lobby Day" Feb. 21 for as Common Cause members to to legislators in Austin.

Cames Tournament Feb. 15-17.

"We have made a fairly significant has six priorities for the 66th sescontribution to effectively opening up the Texas government, but I fee that more needs to be done," Brown

Under the financial disclosure law, for instance, any citizen of Bryan-College Station could see the campaign contributions or personal finances of Sen. Bill Moore of Bryan by checking with the secretary of state's office in Austin.

Texas Common Cause currently

37 Aggies to compete

Texas A&M University students will join representatives of 30 the schools at the Association of College Unions International

The event will be at North Texas State University and will include mompetitions in billiards, frisbee, bowling, foosball, chess, backgammon, bridge and table tennis. Thirty-seven Aggies will attend.

Roger V. Messersmith, vice chairman of the Memorial Student

nter's Recreation Committee, says Texas A&M usually does well

"Year before last we got what is called the traveling trophy, which

given to the school that accumulates the most points," he said. Illimination tournaments were held at Texas A&M during the fall and arly spring to select students to compete.

Reapportionment reform,

which calls for a citizen's committee to draw district lines instead of legislators. This would help end gerrymandering in Texas.

Initiative, which would give citizens the right to pass laws through petitioning. However, strict rules would be necessary to protect the initiative process from well-financed special interest

said. "How successful we'll be in Austin, I don't know."

Texas Common Cause praisal districts. Common Cause wants one office per county without any overlapping districts.

— Sunset Texas Law, which was created by Common Cause in 1977. If it goes into effect, the law will require state agencies to go out of exisin games tournament tence every 12 years unless recreated by the Legislature.

 Strengthening the Public Utilities Commission by creating a public council to represent the

Extending the time limit on utility rate decisions to increase public input.

Brown said that in 1973, Common Cause pushed for open meetings in the House and Senate committees and for open records. The group also supported extension of the ERA ratification period, and worked for financial disclosure of public offi-

Under the financial disclosure

Huang has been conducting

studies at Texas A&M into in-situ leaching as a means of extracting Texas coastal plains uranium from

deposits of lignite and sandstone, in

which the uranium is intertwined

Perfection of such methods, he predicts, could make Texas the na-

tion's second leading producer of

WM geologist to lead meet

Supplies of uranium sought

the next five years, American dollar surface-mining industry in ing plans and problems to do for uranium to fuel atomic Karnes, Live Oak and Gonzales environmental and regulatory congy plants will surpass current plies, says a Texas A&M Univer-geologist.

his means one of three things: oning supplies, importing them finding new deposits and new s to get them out of the ground, researcher Wen Huang.

nce the latter seems most pracand least controversial, both stry and government are anxto see what research centers are

eloping. exas' uranium deposits, discov-

counties, but such methods will not provide enough to keep existing nuclear equipment going in the next few years, says Huang.

Huang has been asked to chair
the Texas Gulf Coast Plains' first

American Association of Petroleum Geologists conference on uranium discovery and production, scheduled April 1 at the Houston

Convention Center.

The meeting, which will include more than a dozen speakers from lexas uranium deposits, discov-din 1954, provide a multimillion government, industry and universi-ties, will focus on topics from min-

from people who make the same

House session was, "Our Father, may we find the strength to stand

is always at his best."

thru March 31

uranium ore in just a few years. In that case, a third of all uranium ore would originate in Texas. Huang, who already holds two patents for recovery of aluminum from House applauds minister coal ash, says Texas A&M's recognition nationwide has increased since a University of Nevada-sponsored uranium mining conference in Reno last November, when Huang and graduate student Ken Pickett pres-

unpredictably.

ented research findings.

Another thing that has contributed to Texas A&M's leadership has been development of ways to analyze uranium in lignite concentrations in order to tell miners if top Last month his invocation for a layers of coal contain the radioactive material as well as pinpointing other

Before Huang was asked by for our principles today, by remembering that only a mediocre person AAPG to head the Houston meeting, scientists from Japan, West Germany, Israel and Taiwan has re-quested permission to come to Col-Although the House and Senate each pick a chaplain for the session, both houses this year chose Mann. lege Station for training.

Bryan/College Station could see the campaign contributions or personal finances of Sen. Bill Moore of Bryan by checking with the secretary of state's office in Austin.

Common Cause is a public inter-

law, for instance, any citizen of

est citizen's lobbying group, Brown It is non-governmental, funded by contributions and membership dues.

"We try to make the process of government more accountable and efficient," Brown said.

"We try by supplying information about bills and issues currently in the Legislature to our members and urging them to write or call their

The Texas Common Cause started in 1972 and now has about 6,000 paying members around the state. The Austin office has one fulltime lobbyist, Shiela Cheaney, who attends the Congressional sessions; an overall director, Theo Brown, who works on fund-raising and visits the local Common Cause groups; a part-time office manager and other volunteers; and a board of directors that chooses issues to support.
Bryan/College Station has a local

Common Cause group of about 85 members, said Mrs. Mildred Lowy, network and telephone coordinator for the local group.
"We started with about 150

members right after Watergate, because there was a lot of activity to open up the government," Lowy said.
"We don't have any meetings of

our own because everyone is already involved on other organizations. We get our information from the printed page.

The "printed page" is a newsletter sent by Texas Common Cause to inform its readers. It explains what issues Common Cause supports and

gives its proposals for bills.
"We don't have a well-organized group here," Brown said. "I have been to just about every city in the state to try to re-establish local help and gain volunteers to interview senators and staff our office in Aus-

GET A BETTER THAN FLORIDA TAN! SKI

WINTER PARK COLORADO

SPRING BREAK

only 13900 *

- Complete kitchens and fireplaces
- 3 day lift pass included
- 3 days ski rental included
- discounts on extra lifts and ski rental
 FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFO

CALL CHRIS BARTON 693-2255 WILLIE WOOD 779-0450 (eve.)

OR BILL MITCHELL 779-0450 Air Package Available \$28

for non-Texas-size prayers United Press International A week ago he opened the Senate STIN — Few speakers receive tention of all 150 members in session with this prayer: "Lord, de-liver us from people who never make mistakes, and also deliver us

xas House of Representatives. fewer are applauded.

e Rev. Gerald Mann has won attention of lawmakers with his prous but pointed prayers at pening of the daily legislative Thursday was ons, and Thursday, auded by laughing House

Father, help us remember e only difference between a and a sinner is that one has caught and the other hasn't,"

e members smiled, then ckled, then light applause broke as Mann, pastor of University st Church, stepped from the

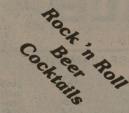
was not the first time his invois have brought smiles to the of legislators.

prayer at the opening of the session was, "Lord, deliver m evil, ourselves, and long-

75c bar drinks 40c beer

NOON-SEVEN

NORTHGATE (Next to the Dixie Chicken)





3109 Texas Avenue Bryan, Texas 77801



Chicorito

R

Mon.-Thurs. Offer valid days a week thru March

El Chico RESTAURANT

Presents 79er DINER DAYS

79¢ Off TACOS

Tacos as you like 'em. One plate with flour tortillas and six special fixings to roll your own. The original taco.



(10% discount with Student I.D.)

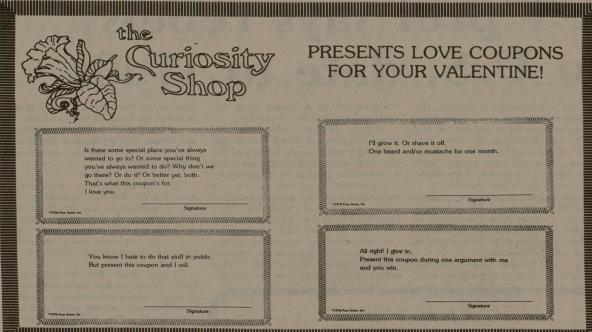
Enchilada Dinner Special

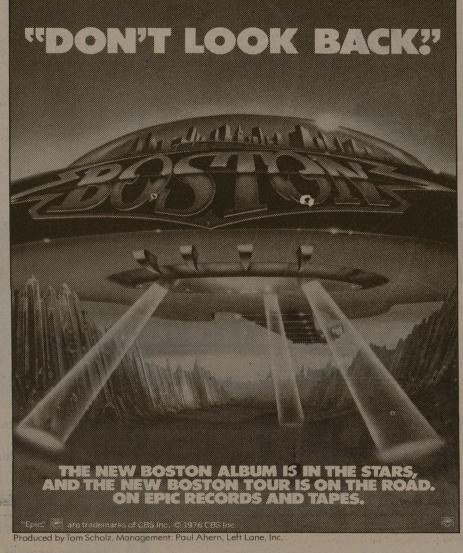
\$279

regular \$355

offer valid Sun.-Wed.

Be sure and sign up to win a 1979 International Scout Cruiser fully equipped each time you visit on El Chico Restaurant.





"AVAILABLE AT YOUR FAVORITE RECORD STORE"

INTERNATIONAL **Tapered Boxers** Tapered construction with abbreviated Packaged in a Clever Beating Heart "MY KNIGHT OF LOVE" gift giving box. SIZES 30-38 \$600

GENTLEMAN'S QUARTER

(TOWN & COUNTRY CENTER)