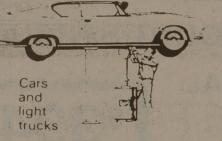
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Soviets ready for elections — no upsets expected

United Press International

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union is gearing up for a theatrical per-formance unparalleled in the world of politics. On March 4, the people will elect 1,500 deputies to the Supreme

On March 4, the people will elect 1,500 deputies to the supreme Soviet — the nation's rubber-stamp parliament. The figures alone, when tabulated, will be enough to bring tears to the eyes of the most hardened American ward heeler. The turnout will approach — and perhaps exceed — 99.9 percent. All of the party-endorsed candidates probably will win. Leonid Brezhnev will be returned to parliament by a mind-

boggling margin the same way Nikita Khrushchev was returned in the parliamentary elections of 1962, two years before it was decided by ouster that his mandate was somewhat overstated

All across the Soviet Union, candidates will walk off with mandates exceeding 99 percent. Most go into the elections assured of victories by such margins. That's the way elections — officially proclaimed as the most democratic in the world — have always been in the Soviet Union,

From the selection and nomination of candidates to the casting of votes, it is all calm and procedural, almost as though the Communist party controlled it all, which is not technically true.

Nor will all of the victors be members of the Communist party. In the current Supreme Soviet only 72.2 percent, or 1,096 members, are party members.

Candidates do not run against one another in the 750 voting dis-tricts where delegates to the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities will be elected.

However, there are provisions for challenges at the nominating level before the name reaches the ballot. It is possible for two or more candidates to be in contention for a nomination, although this rarely happens. Such challenges are settled before nominating time.

When it comes to voting, a citizen votes for a candidate, crosses out candidate's name in protest, or writes in another name. Crossouts

and write-ins are rare, but it happens. In the 1974 parliamentary election, there were 332,644 votes against candidates for the Soviet of the Union and 245,750 votes against candidates for the Soviet of Nationalities. These figures represent, respectively, 00.21 percent and 00.15 percent of the votes cast.

At the parliamentary level such negativism has no impact. But in elections to local Soviets, candidates have been defeated. In 1967, 2 million delegates to local Soviets were elected, but 122 faced the unique infamy of being so disliked they actually lost.

In that rare instance - the defeat of a candidate who fails to draw 50 percent "yes" votes - the election machinery must reorganize itself for special contests to fill the seat.

The upcoming elections will take place under an updated election law ratified when the new Soviet constitution was rubber-stamped in





Thursday

AGGIE PLAYERS: Bertold Brecht's play "Threepenny Opera wi be performed at 8 p.m. in the Rudder Theater. Ticket prices \$2 for Texas A&M students and \$3 for all others.

- PAN AMERICAN ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: TAMU's in pact on Latin American countries is the subject of discussion President Jarvis Miller to the Pan American Round Table at p.m. in Room 206, MSC.
- TAMU HUMAN FACTORS CLUB: Dick Reamer will speak Like most "Human Factors Aspects in Aircraft Accident Investigation" i p.m. in Room 342, Zachry. Iniversity us with water. Wells are
- TAMU WATER SKI CLUB: There will be an exhibition all day atthe MSC Fountain.
- the water for CLASS OF '80 COUNCIL: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 350 from San Ant MSC Because w Brazos Coun
- BRAZOS VALLEY ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF: There will be a meeting for educators, students, deaf persons and parents the deaf at 7 p.m. at 2806, Normand Drive.
- METHODIST STUDENT MOVEMENT: Jim Wild will lead ada cussion on "Ethics of Genetic Manipulation" at 7 p.m. in Ro 350, MSC
- RESIDENT HALL ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 7 p.m. in Ro 204, Harrington. All RHA members are urged to attend.
- SUPERVISING TEACHERS CONFERENCE: Will be held Rudder Tower. The conference is designed to aid the super teacher in doing a better job with the student teachers they h in the field.
- ROTARACT CLUB: Dale Webb of the Civil Engineering Dep ment will speak at 7:30 p.m. in Room 501, Rudder Tower.
- 'Hope in a Hopeless Time' at 7 p.m. in Room 308, Rudder Town
- **Rollie White Coliseum**
- The aquife
- story of a kingdom in which everything and everybody has a p except a boy named Oblio, will be shown at 8 and 10 pm Room 601, Rudder Tower. Admission is 50 cents.
- PLACEMENT OFFICE: Graduating seniors who wish to inte for the following companies may begin signing up today for views on March 8: Amoco, Army Corps of Engineers (Ft. and Galveston), Arthur Young, Brazos Electric Power Co., oco, Drilco, Global Marine Drilling, Houston National I Howard Nettles Tammen & Bergendoff, Johnson and John Kentucky Central Life, Kroger Co., Linbeck Construction, coln Labs, Manhattan Construction Co., Marsuco, Mon Homes, Reed Tubular Production Co., Southwestern Elec Power, Temple Associates Inc., Texas Instruments (Science S ices Divi ion), United Energy Resources.

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indwiched CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Larry Collier will speak npervious enetrate the and is sponge Since these f

MSC TRAVEL COMMITTEE: There will be an informational me ing for those who want to study, work or live overseas at 7.30p in Room 205, MSC.

TAMU FENCING CLUB: Will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 261,

SWIM TEAM: The women's team will compete in the TAM Championships in Lubbock today through Saturday.

CEPHEID VARIABLE: "The Point," an animated film that tells