

campus

Group aims to inform students about issues

By KENT DUNLAP
Battalion Reporter

Ignorance about educational issues and legislation is not new, and the American Student Federation is attempting to teach today's college student about the issues that affect them.

The ASF was organized in October 1978 by Jeb Hensarling, former vice president of the Committee for External Affairs in the Texas A&M University student senate.

Now in its second year, the ASF consists of 52 colleges and universities, and is trying to organize a nationwide representative group to voice the educational issues which affect them most.

The number of schools that are members is expected to double by December, said Lance Wright, Texas A&M Student Senator and ASF Board Trustee.

Until now, there has been no educational group representing students in Washington.

The ASF does not maintain a staff in Washington. Instead, a government relations officer will be stationed on Capitol Hill to moderate all national legislation.

ASF business will be dealt with from regional offices maintained at colleges and universities, Wright said.

Wright said this decentralized system would allow the ASF to be run more efficiently and economically because members will use their own student government office space, and provide a student work force.

The government relations officer, who will be hired in 1980, will be responsible for writing a legislative bulletin describing the details and status of all national education bills.

The bulletin will be sent to each member school. All schools will be

asked to report their positions on the issue.

A national resource center will be provided by the ASF, which will disperse upon request, information on college and university programs to any of the member schools.

Most of the past year has been spent on solving logistical problems common to a new national organization, Wright said.

One of ASF's major goals this year is to recruit 100 new member schools by the end of 1979.

"Recruiting is now being carried out from the school of each board trustee, who is responsible for contacting and, if needed, visiting the colleges and universities in the area," Wright said.

"The ASF feels that a broad representative base is necessary to be able to represent and comfortably claim representation of the nation's students on Capitol Hill."

Wright said since membership is still in the growth stage, and since the organization will not be approaching corporations alumni groups, and others until next semester, fundraising activities will be taking place at schools across the country.

"A large portion of the budget of

the ASF will go toward paying the salary of our government relations officer," Wright said.

Further development of the Resource Center is the third immediate goal of the organization.

The center, which is located at Texas A&M, will contain information concerning projects, activities, services, and ways of dealing with problems at the various member schools. It will also contain information concerning education and education-related subjects.

"This is now being collected from the member schools and state and national government agencies," Wright said.

Wright hopes these goals will prepare the ASF to represent students by 1980.

In addition to Wright, two other Texas A&M Student Senators were elected to fill positions in the ASF organization. Sisco Spence was elected to the ASF Board of Trustees, while Kathy Rivera is the Resource Center Director.

Island seeks way to formalize dress

United Press International
BRIDGETOWN, Barbados — Barbados doesn't want tourists in beachwear or other flimsy attire to go into the downtown business district of the Eastern Caribbean island. Board of Tourism director Maurice Ward says other Caribbean destinations like Jamaica and the Bahamas allow tourists to travel around anywhere in beachwear, so travelers "do not realize that Barbados' standard of dress is different.

It is a continuous problem and we will continue to try to solve it."

The tourism board has distributed humorous posters around business establishments showing, for example, a girl with a minibikini in a supermarket being told that all the "goodies should be on the shelves," while a fat man with a stomach bulging out over a bathing suit is told in a bank that he doesn't have to show all his assets.

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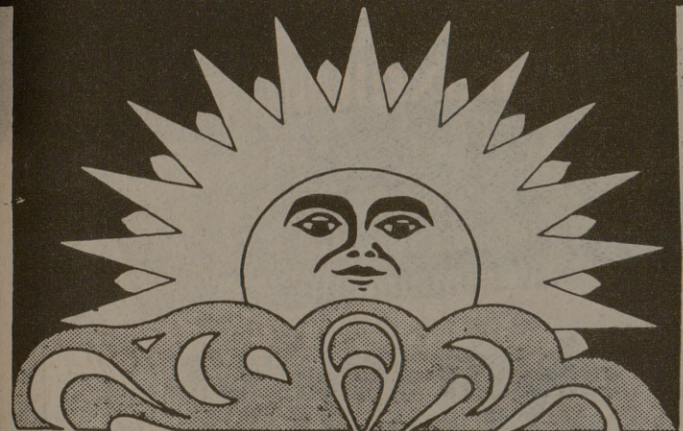
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