

## 5th Year Seniors on Campus?

A Housing Department decision not to allow fifth-year seniors and graduate students to live on campus caused much controversy and has prompted officials to take another look at the problem. Student reaction prompted several bills to come before the Senate regarding the proposed policy. The Senate passed two bills that asked for a delay of the effective date of the policy to be Fall of 1982 instead of Fall of 1981, and that the Department of Student Affairs seek input from all the student organizations concerned prior to the consideration of future policy decisions.

The main criticism of the policy has been that the students were not informed early enough, even though the decision was made in June, 1980. The original plan was to have been effective in March of 1981 and students first learned of the plan at a Residence Hall Association meeting in November of 1980. Incoming graduates to the university still

have not been informed of the proposed policy.

It is estimated that the percentage of freshmen living on campus would increase from 57 percent to 62 percent if the fifth-year and grad students were not guaranteed rooms. Married student housing is not included in the policy.

Student Affairs has formed a committee composed of two staff members, two sophomores, three seniors, and one graduate student to hear the requests of those fifth-year seniors and graduate students who wish to appeal their case because of genuine need. The deadlines for submitting an application for an appeal case is March 1 for the fall semester, and Oct. 1 for the spring semester. You can get an appeal form from the Housing Office in the YMCA building. For more information, contact the Coordinator of Housing Services, Room 101 of the YMCA building, or call 845-7219.

through the rest of the semester.

If you would like to learn more about Student Government, how it works for you, and how you can add your input, get in touch with your senators. These people have a responsibility to represent you, and they want to get your ideas and complaints so that together you can help make Student Government more effective for all students.

### New Library Hours

There is good news for all of you who like to spend time in the library. As a result of a Student Senate bill, library hours will be expanded by 12 hours each week. Beginning February 23 library hours will be extended from midnight to 1:00 a.m. Sundays through Thursdays, and from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturdays. On Sundays, the Reserve Reading Room will open at 9:00 a.m.

The Student Services Committee learned that electricity and staff costs were minimal, and that the proposed extension of hours would only cost an additional \$1800 per semester. After the Senate passed the bill, Dr. John Koldus and Dr. Charles McCandless were able to find the necessary funds for the project.

### Quiz Files

The Academic Affairs Committee has been looking into the idea of creating a University-wide quiz file. Both the Off-Campus Aggies and the Business Student Council have expressed a desire to work with the committee on this project. Research is underway to find ways of setting up such a file and obtaining large amounts of quizzes for the file. The committee has been in contact with the University of Texas, which has a computerized quiz file, to check into the possibility of a similar file for Texas A&M. The committee hopes to begin putting this file together soon, making it available to students at the earliest possible date.

### COSGA

The Conference on Student Government Associations (COSGA) began yesterday, and will continue through tomorrow. Approximately thirty schools from adjacent states will be in attendance. The conference is an effort by student leaders from these schools to better equip future leaders by acquainting each other with their various ideas, problems, and areas of strength.

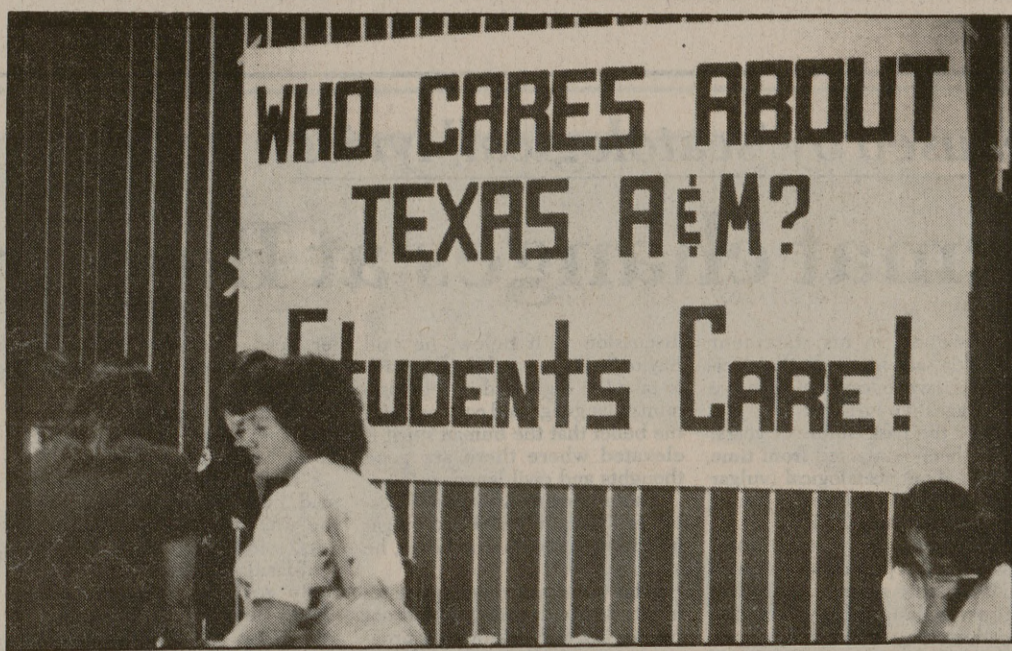
The agenda for the three day conference included a formal dinner and entertainment the first evening, with workshops and group discussions planned for yesterday as well as today. Today's discussions will also have some time set aside for an evaluation of the conference.

The COSGA committee has spent a great deal of time and effort planning this conference, and Greg Hood, COSGA chairman, is confident that the conference will be both successful and beneficial for all concerned parties.

The conference is considered to be a pioneering move in the direction of further uniting Student Governments across the South to share ideas and learn from each other's strengths. If it proves to be successful, further conferences may be planned.

### Bike Rack Congestion

Recent complaints about bicycle congestion on campus during



Student Government members express a sentiment shared by many students during Open House last fall.

the day have prompted the Student Services Committee to give the matter some consideration.

Although surveys indicate that approximately 80 percent of the students are opposed to the banning of bicycles from central campus, most agree that something needs to be done about the haphazard parking of bicycles, particularly at the library and the MSC. Students are not using the designated bicycle racks, and the resulting clutter presents a fire hazard and an unpleasant obstacle to the handicapped and unhandicapped alike. The MSC is planning to post signs specifying rack use, even though similar signs, posted at the library, have been singularly ineffective. Other solutions are being studied, including the suggestion that more bicycle racks be built.

### Weight Room

Along with the recent Kyle Field expansion, a new Nautilus weight room proposed by the Student Senate last year was opened on the second floor G. Rollie White Coliseum. The existing weight room was expanded to include \$40,000 worth of new Nautilus and Universal equipment. The cost was paid by Student Services fees and bookstore profits.

The new weight room is available for student use from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Workshops on the use of the new equipment are currently being planned.

### Spring Reapportionment

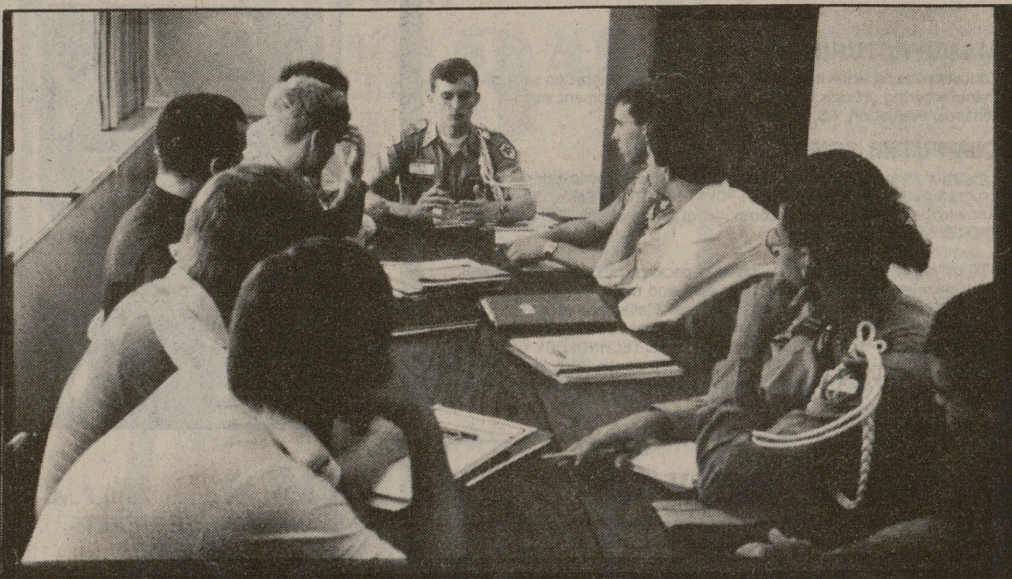
As part of its constitutional duty, the Texas A&M Student Senate annually reapportions itself to reflect trends in the growth or movement of the student body, and to insure effective representation for each student. This Spring's reapportioning, brought about by increasing enrollment, has resulted in the Student Senate being enlarged by two seats, bringing the total number of seats to 83.

Most of the other seat juggling in the senate is a reflection of unusual growth among the various academic colleges and living areas. Because of their growth, the colleges of business and engineering, the on-campus students, and the off-campus students in ward IV (the area north of University Drive and west of Texas Ave.) each gained one seat in the senate. The parties losing senate seats are the college of science and Ward III, off-campus (the area opposite Ward IV).

Each Texas A&M student is entitled to representation in the Student Senate by two senators: one from the student's academic college, and one from his dorm or living area. It is the constitutional obligation of the Rules and Regulations committee to see to it that this is carried out properly. If you have any questions concerning your representation, you're encouraged to direct them to the Student Government office, room 216 MSC.

### Student Lobby

The Student Lobby is getting



Members of the Finance Committee discuss policy during a group meeting.

### Aggie Park

Last November, the Student Services Committee began conducting research into the possibility of establishing an off-campus recreational facility for student use. Research is continuing on this project to provide a park for intramurals, classroom-type activities (such as those included in astronomy, orienteering and range science classes), and a place for students to relax and "get away from it all."

The committee is considering several tentative sites located on university-owned land. These sites are located by Easterwood Airport, about three miles from campus. The park would have a maximum of 200 acres and could even include a small lake.

A nationwide survey of similar facilities at 120 universities of comparable size has been completed, and an environmental design class has been asked to help develop some specific proposals and cost estimates. University and city officials are providing their input into the project also.

The only drawbacks to the plan for an off-campus recreational facility are the complexity and the cost of the project. At this time, research is being continued. Yet because of the long range nature of the project, results aren't expected for several years.

under way to combat some pertinent issues concerning Texas A&M students. Primary among these issues is the proposal for a major tuition increase. If passed, this increase will be the first such tuition increase since 1957, and will be of substantial proportions.

The other major issue confronting the Student Lobby concerns the proposed splitting of the Permanent University Fund (PUF) among seventeen other schools. If the \$1.2 billion PUF budget actually is divided among these other schools, Texas A&M will be forced to close several PUF funded organizations.

The reasoning behind these lobbying efforts is clear enough: if these two measures are passed, they could have serious consequences for most if not all A&M students. For this reason, representatives of Student Government will be traveling to Austin at various times this month to represent the opinion of A&M students on these issues. With a little luck, and a little diplomatic skill, this lobby hopes to establish an "ear" in Austin interested enough to allow Texas A&M students a voice on issues concerning the university.

This is the first year that A&M students have established their own lobby effort outside of the Texas Student Association. Hopefully, this change will allow A&M students to be more directly represented as well as enabling the students involved to learn more about the operations of state government.

### Senate Shorts

The following are some of the bills currently pending Senate approval:

#### Aggie Basketball Ticket Distribution Proposal

WHEREAS: The Texas A&M Basketball program has achieved much success and popularity over the last few years, and WHEREAS: The present system of admitting Aggies into G. Rollie White Coliseum for games has created long lines, confusion, and much aggravation, and WHEREAS: The present system discriminates against those students who have late classes or must work late, and WHEREAS: A better means of distributing tickets and admitting students to a Basketball game would permit maximum use of G. Rollie White Coliseum's capacity and reduce many problems, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Texas A&M Student Senate study alternatives to the present Basketball ticket distribution policy and propose to the Athletic department a new ticket distribution system.

#### Texas A&M Student Lobby Proposal

WHEREAS: The 67th Legislature of the state of Texas is now

in session, and WHEREAS: There will be a multitude of issues presented which concern the welfare of the students of Texas A&M University, and

WHEREAS: As elected representatives of the student body it is the responsibility of the TAMU Student Senate to promote the interests of our students,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the External Affairs committee formulate a set of policies on the issues deemed pertinent.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Student Senate pursue these policy aims through a comprehensive lobbying effort through the External Affairs lobbying subcommittee.

#### Traffic Problems Bill

WHEREAS: Traffic congestion has been increasing with each passing year, and

WHEREAS: Increased congestion threatens the safety of pedestrians and cyclists,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the TAMU Student Senate recommend that the TAMU Police consider policies to reduce traffic congestion in the central parts of the campus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That these policies should include, but not be limited to: Police directing traffic during rush hours; closing Spence Street to motor vehicles; rearranging blue/red traffic sticker parking areas.

#### Student Organizations Storage Area

WHEREAS: Texas A&M has achieved great success in giving its students "the other education" through a wide variety of student organizations, and WHEREAS: There is a shortage of storage space that these organizations may use for storage due to the growth of the University, and

WHEREAS: The Student Services Committee has developed a proposal for two (2) storage areas under the access ramps on the north side of Kyle field.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Senate requests that \$11,500 be allocated from University funds for the purpose of developing their plan.

#### All-University Pre-Election Bash Bill

WHEREAS: Student input has led to the suggestion of a major "Meet The Candidate" night, and

WHEREAS: There is no current popular meeting of this sort, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Student Government set up an "All-University Pre-Election Bash" in a large setting, i.e. G. Rollie White, during the week or prior to the night of elections.

Suggestions:  
Aggie Band  
Small Yell Practice

## Senior Finals

In December of 1980 it was brought to the attention of the Academic Affairs Committee that the Academic Council was considering a proposal which would allow professors to give graduating seniors an extra exam prior to grade submission. The Academic Council is composed of Vice Presidents, Deans, Associate Deans, Department Heads, faculty members and the Student Body President. In reaction to the proposal in the Academic Council, the committee submitted the "Cruelty to Dead Elephants" bill to the Senate which stated the Senate's objection to this policy. The bill was placed on emergency and passed.

Yet, in spite of the Student Senate's objection, the Academic Council decided to pass the proposal to allow an additional test. Most of the Council members felt that in many cases, a graduating senior's grade is determined without the addition of a final examination score to the student's average. They felt this was unfair to other class members, and did not motivate the graduating seniors to learn the material in the last part of the semester.

The main objection presented by the students was that any test given to a graduating senior would have to be administered and graded by the Friday before dead week when the grades are due. If the test was the same final that the other students would be taking, the senior would be at a disadvantage by not having the additional time during Dead Week to prepare for it as other class members would. The Senate felt this poli-

Speakers; Dr. Koldus, Dr. Sampson, etc. President, VP's and yell leaders Corps, RHA, OCA, local talent (?)

#### "Bicycle Parking" Bill

WHEREAS: Texas A&M University is known for having one of the best looking campuses in Texas, and

WHEREAS: The continuous parking of bicycles along sidewalks, and clustered in front of buildings detracts from this beauty,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Student Senate of TAMU recommend to the University that any possible action, such as more bike racks, be taken to improve or remove these areas of congestion of bicycle parking (i.e. the area in front of the MSC, Milner Hall, and by the outside entrance of Krueger Hall), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That along with the above recommendation, the Student Senate of TAMU recommend that the Bike Route on the west side of Spence Street, that terminates in front of the Agriculture Building, be extended along the whole length of Spence Street running south up to the Commons.

#### Clarification Of An AGGIE Tradition

WHEREAS: The tradition that classes not be held following an Aggie football victory over the University of Texas was upheld last year when classes were dismissed, and

WHEREAS: This dismissal created confusion among many students and faculty because it was not announced far in advance, and WHEREAS: Confusion again resulted among some students when classes were not dismissed following this year's victory over the University of Texas, and

WHEREAS: Such confusion could be avoided by a set policy concerning the A&M — UT football game;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That a set policy be established as to whether classes will be held after future A&M football victories over UT. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That if it is decided to honor the tradition of dismissing classes after Aggie victories over UT, then:

1. Faculty be informed of this fact at the beginning of the fall semester so that they may plan accordingly,
2. Students be informed by instructors and through student publications the week of the game or earlier that classes will be dismissed if A&M defeats UT. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That due to confusion resulting from this year's late decision and inadequate dissemination thereof, the administration instruct faculty not to penalize students for the misunderstanding surrounding the situation.

#### Parents' Day

Parents' Day is a special day shared by all Aggies with their parents. This is the day specifically set aside by the university to honor all Aggie parents. The weekend of April 25th and 26th has been set aside for this year's events. The agenda will boast many activities, such as a concert by the Singing Cadets, dorm and outfit barbecues, the Presidential luncheon, performances by the Ross Volunteers, the Fish Drill Team, and the presentation of the prestigious Gathright Academic Awards. There will also be the traditional flower pinning ceremony, in which the mother of each Corps member pins a flower on her son or daughter. This year, a dance is also being considered. All in all, Parents' Day '81 should be quite impressive.