

Local



Staff photo by Brian Tate

Springtime Gardening

Grounds maintenance workers care for the spring flowers blooming in the Floral Test Gardens on Houston Street. The Test Garden is used to see if plants can grow well enough to be

used in landscaping around campus and in horticulture classes for plant identification and examination.

Cuts could end Sea Grant

By KITTY FRALEY

Battalion Reporter  
Budget cuts proposed by the Reagan Administration could eliminate Texas A&M University's Sea Grant Program by 1983, the program's deputy director said.

The proposed budget would cut National Sea Grant funding from \$39 million in 1981 to \$2 million in 1982, with no support in 1983.

"If the budget is cut, the immediate impact will be on the research, education and advisory aspects of the program at Texas A&M," said Lauriston King, deputy director of the Texas A&M Sea Grant Program. "The research will be the area hardest hit. And without the research base, the entire program will probably end."

The U.S. Congress established the Sea Grant Program in 1966 to provide the research, education and advisory service needed to use and develop the nation's marine resources. Texas A&M began its Sea Grant Program in 1971,

one of the first four universities in the country with the Sea Grant designation.

Funding is primarily federal and state, with a small amount from local and private donations. In 1980-81 Texas A&M received a total of \$3.1 million. Of this, \$1.8 million came from federal funds and \$1.3 million from the state.

The 1981-82 proposed budget calls for \$2.4 million in federal funds and \$1.7 million from the state, a total of \$4.1 million. This is a 35.1 percent increase over the current budget.

The 1982-83 proposed budget calls for \$2.6 million in federal funds and \$1.9 million from the state, a 6.9 percent increase over the 1981-82 budget.

The budgets were proposed with the understanding that federal support would continue.

"We were counting on the federal funds, but if they're not there then we'll have to find the money somewhere else," King said.

The program at Texas A&M isn't ending current research or

making any plans for immediate changes, King said.

"Since we don't know exactly what the outcome will be, there isn't any way for us to plan alternative strategies," he said. "We won't make any changes until a decision is reached."

The Sea Grant Association consists of 16 Sea Grant universities and has lobbyists in Washington who are working to save the program. Feenan Jennings, director of the Texas A&M program and president-elect of the SGA, was recently lobbying in Washington.

The Sea Grant Program is just getting off the ground, King said, and it's disappointing to think it may be cut out.

"It usually takes at least 15 to 20 years for a program to begin showing results," King said. "Our research is starting to have sound results and the initial investments are paying off."

Just think where everyone here would be if Texas A&M had been shut down 10 years after it was founded."

One of his comments summed up the situation: "It's a hell of a way to celebrate the program's 10th anniversary."

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Sign-up ends today for CS arts festival

By TERRI ZAWACKI

Battalion Reporter  
Today is the last day applications will be accepted to participate in the third annual Spring Arts Festival to be held April 25.

A variety of arts and crafts, including painting, pottery, wood-craft and jewelry, will be exhibited and for sale at the festival sponsored by the College Station Parks and Recreation Department.

Food, entertainment and some demonstrations are also planned for the day.

The festival will be held in Oaks Park at Highway 30 and Stallings Drive and will be free to the public.

"All exhibits are professionally judged prior to the festival to insure a high-quality show," said Marcy Rodgers, recreation superintendent. Andy Bally and Jeane Graue from Texas A&M University's MSC Craft Shop will judge the exhibits.

Applications for exhibiting work were due on March 25, but Rodgers said a few late forms will be accepted through today.

Those applicants chosen to participate in the festival will be notified next week. Participants are required to pay a \$20 booth fee.

Rodgers said the average number of participants in the previous two festivals was 20, but she said she expects more exhibits this year because of a more extensive advertising campaign for the festival.

Tamales, fajitas (grilled beef strips rolled in flour tortillas) and barbecued sausage are among the

foods expected to be sold. Soft drinks will also be available.

Musical entertainment will be provided by the King's English String Band and Carter's Creek Bluegrass. Various dances will also be performed by a local dance studio.

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5. The paper should not have been used for a class prior to Spring 1980.  
6. Entries should be taken to Bolton 130.  
7. Deadline is Friday, April 10 at 5:00 p.m.  
The winner of the competition will receive a \$100.00 award and will present the paper at the annual Pi Sigma Alpha/Faculty banquet in April.  
Anyone with questions can call Lauri at 845-0689.

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