

Local



Leisure living

Staff photo by Brian Tate

Students took their feet to Rudder Fountain Thursday for relief from the heat. A late, strong winter is finally rising into 90-degree

temperatures combined with high humidities. With the weather continuing to get warmer,

more people will be wading for some relief spelled "w-a-t-e-r."

# Students have input at A&M, but more levels should open

By WAYNE COOK  
Battalion Reporter  
ITEM: Texas A&M University President Jarvis Miller is re-designated as a special assistant to the chancellor of the Texas A&M University System. After a few editorials in The Battalion and a letter of protest by student leaders, the University goes on as usual.  
ITEM: The Department of Student Affairs announces that beginning in fall 1981 fifth-year seniors and graduate students will not be given on-campus housing. After students voice a few complaints with no real results, the University goes on as usual.  
ITEM: An increase in student service fees is recommended by the Student Government Finance Committee amid controversies

members is high.  
For example, 13 members of the 23 members on the Who's Who Committee are students. And of the 10 members on the Students' Rights Appeals Panel five are students.  
Conversely, on committees which indirectly affect students the proportion of student members is low. Of the 19 members on the Curriculum Committee only two are students. The Curriculum Committee is responsible for recommending new classes and courses of study to be offered by the University.

back and gloat in the access they presently have to University administration at the committee level or take this opportunity to

step forward, let their voices be heard and begin taking an active role in determining this University's future.

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## Analysis

concerning procedures and errors in dollar figures. Only a few students complain; the University goes on as usual.

Texas A&M may be known for the love its students have for the school, yet few students voice opinions on critical University issues — issues which affect students either directly or indirectly.

The term 2-percentor normally refers to a student who does not uphold Texas A&M traditions, but the term could just as easily refer to the students who make no effort to influence policy at the University.

And those who do participate have the difficult task of representing an apathetic student body. In recent student elections only 20 percent of the student body voted.

Yet, students not having an opportunity to express their ideas is not the problem. Student Body President Brad Smith said,

"We are fortunate in the way the administration allows us input into University policy making. Any well-backed argument will be heard."

Students are presently on 38 of the 91 University committees.

The number of students on the committees is sufficient to give the student body fair representation, Smith said. The committees are evaluated as to how often the student members disagree with the faculty and administration members.

Smith envisioned possible improvements, however.

"Improvement could be made in equipping students on the committees with more knowledge, not through increased numbers," he said.

On committees which directly affect students, such as the Who's Who Selection Committee or the Students' Rights Appeals Panel, the proportion of student members to faculty and administration

"It's not the vote of the students that change the policies of the University system," said Brent Taber, Student Government coordinator of University committees. Rather, he said, what is significant is that students have an opportunity to voice their opinions and have them heard.

"In general, student representatives take an interest and participate," Associate Dean of the College of Science John B. Beckham said. "Of the committees I've worked with, the students on the Rules and Regulations Committee are the most active and come in with more knowledge of the issues."

The committee system is not without problems, however. And Dr. John Koldus, vice president of student services cited a lack of communication as one trouble.

"I think the main problem is channeling input from the entire student body to their representatives and from the representatives back to the student body," he said.

Similarly, Smith said: "There is a tremendous lack of information concerning what students are doing for other students."

"We've doubled or tripled our PR (public relations) effort this year. Our biggest drive is to get student senators to talk with their constituencies."

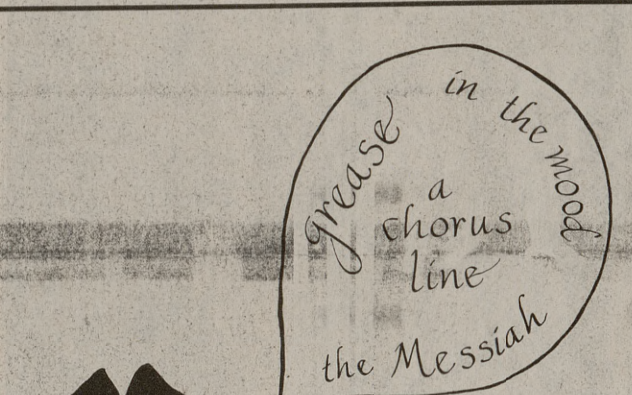
Student representation at the committee level may be adequate. The same cannot be said for the higher levels of University administration, however, and attempts to change the situation are underway.

Student Government is attempting to gain student representation at the highest level of University administration — the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents. This issue has been addressed every year, but little progress has been made.

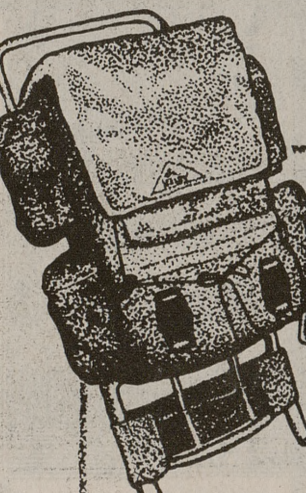
Smith, however, supports students' moves to get representation on the board.

"Students should be involved at every single level, or have access to every level," he said.

At present, student representation on the board doesn't look promising. This leaves two options available to students — sit



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<p><b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee</p>		
<p><b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> BREADED FISH FILET w TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b> Yankee Pot Roast (Texas Salad) Mashed Potato w gravy Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b> ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable</p>

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