

Local

Urges voters to dump proposal

Caperton scared of water fund

By RANDY CLEMENTS
Battalion Staff
State Senator Kent Caperton Thursday urged local voters to reject the water fund amendment to the state constitution in the November general election and discussed the redistricting of legislative districts.

Texas has serious questions about its water problems that must be answered, Caperton, D-College Station, said at a League of Women Voters' luncheon.

The November election will have seven amendments on the ballot.

"Of the seven," he said, "I'm going to vote against one of them."

The proposed water fund amendment will authorize using part of excess state revenues for water development, water conservation, water quality enhancement and flood control purposes.

It also would authorize using the state's credit, not to exceed \$500 million, to guarantee local government bonds for financing water projects and increasing the interest rate that may be paid on previously approved but unissued state bonds.

The proposed amendment, listed as Proposition IV on the ballot, has three parts, Caperton

said. Caperton said he's in favor of two parts of the proposition: increasing interest rates on bonds and increasing the amount of credit that can be used by state and local governments for water projects.

Caperton said Texas has never had a dedicated fund without a dedicated source of revenue.

"Never have we seen a dedicated fund coming from general revenue money," he said. "Never have we seen an unnamed water plan have untold amounts of money put into it without knowing what that plan was."

"It is a scary kind of proposition. It is a radical departure from the kind of pay-as-you-go policies

we've had in Texas for many years."

On the state legislative redistricting, Caperton criticized Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby's proposed three-way division of Montgomery County.

A problem with Hobby's plan, he said, is the division of a county as large as Montgomery County, which has well over 100,000 people.

"He (Hobby) plans to divide it down an unnatural line, basically Interstate 45. There is a north-south division, not an east-west division," Caperton said.

"The redistricting problem will be resolved. If it's politics versus passing a plan that will be upheld in court, there's no question he

(Hobby) will go with the plan that will be upheld in court."

The House of Representatives' plan for redistricting, criticized by the Texas Supreme Court, called

for unnecessary divisions, which would result in incumbents running against incumbents after the redistricting goes into effect, he said.



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

State Senator Kent Caperton, D—College Station, spoke to the Women's League of Voters at Jose's Restaurant Thursday.

Seminar to save speech Saturday

By NANCY WEATHERLEY
Battalion Staff

Everyone knows the feeling: you're at a meeting and suddenly you're called upon to address the audience.

When you start talking, you realize your voice has gone up two octaves. You cough throughout the speech, leaving the audience wondering as to what you intended to say.

A solution to this problem is part of what the Student Development Written and Verbal Communication Seminar plans to do. The seminar is held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the fifth floor of Rudolph Tower.

Kirk Kelley, vice president for student development, and Donna Smith, who has set up the seminar to help in-house MSC Council and committee members develop their communication skills.

The seminar is designed for

committee chairmen who head meetings, Kelley said. The need for good communication skills is especially important for these people, he said.

William Strong, a lecturer in English, is scheduled to discuss the art of oral communication. Persuasive speech and learning to package an idea and drive it home will be discussed, Kelley said.

A video-recorder will be available at the seminar so participants can observe their own speech habits, he said.

The second part of the seminar will concentrate on letter-writing skills.

"Most students don't have much experience in letter-writing," Kelley said. "This will help us write more effective and concise letters."

Elizabeth Tebeaux, assistant English professor, is scheduled to head the writing segment.

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