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The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	82	High	80
Low	55	Low	55
Chance of rain	10%	Chance of rain	10%



File photo

The Forsyth Alumni Center, located in the Memorial Student Center, is the home of the Association

of Former Students. The association boasts a membership of more than 90,000.

December grads become former students Dec. 10

By GARY BARKER
Battalion Staff

There is no such thing as a former Aggie. Right? Well, there is such thing as a former student and on Dec. 10, an estimated 1,500 Texas A&M seniors will become former students.

All graduates automatically become members of the Association of Former Students. But to formally induct December '81 graduates into the association, there will be a banquet at the Ramada Inn, 410 S. Texas Ave., on Nov. 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Seniors who will be graduated Dec. 10 are invited to the induction banquet. Complimentary tickets for the dinner are available in the association office, located in the first floor of the MSC across from the post office, today through Friday.

The program will include a steak dinner and a short speech by Association President James Moore, Class of '52.

Fam Behling, Muster and club coordinator for the association, said seniors should get their tickets soon because there will be only 850 available.

The Association of Former Students sponsors two banquets for seniors every year, one for May graduates and one for December graduates.

Behling said the Class of '81, the largest in Texas A&M history with around 6,000 graduates, is already becoming active in the association. Ten to 15 percent of the class have contributed money to the association and several '81 graduates have donated over \$100.

Behling said she is impressed with the number of '81 graduates who are already becoming active members.

"It is a supreme sacrifice for someone just out of school to donate that much," she said.

The association has a list of around 100,000 graduates on its computer records. Of these, Behling said, about 40,000 are active members.

To become an active member, a graduate must donate at least \$25 per year to the association. Active members receive copies of the association's mailouts including The Texas Aggie, its official magazine.

The Association of Former Students is funded totally by contributions and uses the money it receives to support the University in a variety of ways.

Last year the association gave \$300,000 to the University to be used for student financial aid and academic scholarships. It also gives money to support faculty recruitment and to recognize outstanding faculty members. In addition, the association provides funds to the various department heads and administrators to be used for programs which are not funded by the state.

The Association of Former Students also offers programs which benefit its members.

It helps organize regional A&M clubs and reunions every five years. There are 226 active A&M clubs in the U.S. and abroad.

The association also publishes a former student directory and funds the Alumni Placement Center which keeps a list of employment opportunities and provides placement counseling for former students.

Swedes reject Soviet demands on sub

United Press International
KARLSKRONA, Sweden — Swedish officials rejected a Soviet demand that the captain of its trapped submarine be interrogated on board and told the skipper to leave his vessel for further questioning on his suspected espionage.

Submarine commander Capt. Pyotr Gushin, who underwent seven hours of interrogation Monday on a Swedish torpedo boat, said Tuesday he had been told to remain on his vessel for any further questioning about why the submarine was only 10 miles from Sweden's main Baltic naval base at Karlskrona.

The Swedes rejected the Soviet demand, although late Tuesday night fore-

ign and defense ministry officials indicated an unspecified compromise was reached that might end the impasse.

Defense ministry spokesman Roger Johansson had said Gushin was told the Swedish position is the same.

"Any questions or investigations will be carried out on Swedish vessels or Swedish ground," he said.

But another defense official said the investigation is now being concentrated on the submarine.

"We are interested in what is on board," the official said. "There can be documents and things, not just navigational equipment."

A third official, Cmdr. Gunnar Ras-

mussen of the Karlskrona base, said officials had been on board and looked at the equipment on an earlier visit.

The gray, 228-foot Whiskeyclass submarine was refloated by the Swedes Monday in a howling gale and towed to a sheltered inlet, about a half mile from where it ran aground on rocks eight days ago 20 miles inside Swedish waters.

At the same time, after a week of diplomatic wrangling, the Soviets relented and allowed the red-moustachioed skipper to be questioned by Swedish officials.

The end of the embarrassing incident appeared near as the Soviets also met Swedish demands for an official apology

and permission to refloat the vessel.

But following the interrogation session, the Swedes said they were not satisfied with the answers they received about the sub's presence in militarily restricted waters, and said it might take another week to get to the bottom of the affair.

The Soviets claimed Gushin's radar failed in fog causing the craft with its crew of 56 to sail blindly into Swedish waters. The claim was rejected from the outset by Swedish officials.

The sub is considered obsolete for combat but useful for intelligence operations.

Shuttle launch scrubbed until Friday at earliest

United Press International
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The breakthrough flight of astronauts Joe Engle and Richard Truly in the space shuttle Columbia was postponed today until Friday at the earliest.

The postponement occurred because delays caused by problems with the computerized launch control process allowed oil pressure in the ship's auxiliary power units to reach abnormal levels.

"It will be at least 48 hours before we can reschedule," launch control spokesman Hugh Harris said. "It could be longer, depending on what the problem with the auxiliary units is and how long it takes to fix that."

Launch director George Page made the decision to postpone the unprecedented second orbital test flight of the shuttle at 8:40 a.m., more than two hours after the original launch time.

It was a disappointing end to a countdown that had proceeded almost flawlessly since it began last Saturday. The

flight had been delayed more than a month earlier by other troubles, but it appeared everything had been going well today.

Engineers had resolved the computer difficulties and were preparing to resume the countdown when the abnormal oil pressure showed up in the auxiliary power units. That was a "no-go" situation.

"We still need to understand this oil pressure problem," Harris said after announcing the postponement.

The Columbia's first flight in April also was delayed by two days because of problems with the computers on board.

Earlier today, when it appeared a new launch try still might be possible, Page advised Engle and Truly, lying on their backs in the Columbia cabin, that there would be a delay of at least two hours.

"How do you guys feel about sitting there that long?" Page asked.

"We're go," said Engle, who like Truly will be making his first flight into

orbit. "We'll wait that long. You know where to get hold of us if you need us for anything."

"Thank you George," said Truly. "Take your time and do it right."

Page told the astronauts he would resume the countdown "if we can find out what our problem was and solve it quickly to everybody's satisfaction."

The computerized countdown controller stopped the count when it received an indication the ship's internal oxygen tanks were not at the proper pressure.

The countdown had come as close as 31 seconds before launch when the delay was called. Engineers tried twice to resume the countdown at the minus-31-second mark, but the process did not work.

The problem developed after the astronauts had received a weather clearance. Heavy clouds moved over the launch site, but astronaut John Young, flying an airplane over the cape, reported that conditions were acceptable.

Clements: best were rejected

Five proposals approved

United Press International
DALLAS — Texans approved five new amendments to their century-old constitution, but rejected two others that Gov. Bill Clements said were the most important of the seven issues on the statewide ballot.

Speaker Bill Clayton blamed heavy opposition from cities and a light turnout in rural areas for Tuesday's defeat of his proposed Water Trust Fund that would have used half of the state's budget surplus each biennium to help finance water projects.

Voters also turned down a proposal creating a State Finance Management Committee to direct expenditure of certain funds when the Legislature is not in session.

Five other amendments, including ones authorizing tax breaks for homeowners, farmers and ranchers, were handily approved despite a turnout of only about 10 percent of the state's registered voters.

Other amendments approved cleared the way for East Texan Jessie Johnson, 81, to finally obtain clear title to the farm he bought 50 years ago even though the state had never legally surrendered its ownership of the property; authorized local governments to use tax increment financing to help revitalize blighted areas, and authorized issuance of an additional \$250 million in bonds for the Veterans Land Program.

Clayton, who had used his considerable political clout to push the water fund proposal through a special session of the Legislature, watched the returns from his farm near Springlake, and managed to chuckle when asked his feelings about the outcome.

"I was kind of disappointed," he said. "I was kind of surprised at the turnout in this part of the country. It went real strong for the amendment, but the turnout was real low."

There had been speculation that defeat of the water fund might deter Clayton's plans to seek statewide office next year, but he said the campaigns are completely separate.

"I submitted it to the people, and the people didn't want it in the constitution," he said of the amendment. "That doesn't affect me one bit."

The speaker said he plans to announce his political plans in January, and is leaning toward a race for land commissioner although he said, "There are a couple of other options."

Stuart Henry of Austin, chairman of Citizens Against Water Taxes, said the only reason Clayton was able to push his water plan through the Legislature was because of his clout in writing new re-

districting plans for the House and Senate.

"I think people voted against it because it's just fundamentally a bad proposal," Henry said. "It was complicated, and it didn't have a funding cap. I think that's one of the reasons Bill Hobby and former Gov. Allan Shivers came out against it. If they had put a cap on it, it would have fared better, considerably better."

Backers of the water fund spent about \$300,000 in an effort to persuade voters to adopt it, Henry said, while the opponents spent only about \$15,000.

The five amendments adopted Tuesday bring to 247 the number of changes Texans have approved in the constitution since 1879.

The tax break proposals exempt poultry and livestock from all property taxes, and authorize local governments to exempt up to 40 percent of the value of a homestead from local property taxes.

But the homestead exemption is not mandatory, and many governmental units, especially school districts, may choose to ignore it. Teacher organizations had opposed the plan, saying

school districts which grant the exemptions could face financial difficulty and be forced to reduce spending.

The amendment winning the greatest margin of support affects the fewest number of people — the proposition allowing the land commissioner to surrender the state's claim to half a dozen tracts of land in East Texas, including the 120-acre farm of Johnson, who bought the land more than 50 years ago and learned only recently he didn't have clear title.

A soldier in Texas' battle for independence from Mexico had been granted a certificate for 640 acres of state land for his services, but filed claims for tracts exceeding that acreage. Because he claimed more land than he

was entitled to, the state declined to give up its title to the land which eventually became the Johnson farm.

Johnson's plight generated immense sympathy from the governor, Legislature and voters, and the amendments to give him and others in similar situations clear title to their land was approved by a margin of almost 5-to-1.

Class of '85 officers elected in run-off

The Class of '85 class council was elected Tuesday in a run-off election. Voting in the election were 1,115 students.

Warren Sumner was elected president of the freshman class with 622 votes, or 55.2 percent, of the 1,068 votes cast for his office.

Jim Allen was elected vice president. He received 605 votes — 56.8 percent of the 1,066 votes cast for vice president.

Sherrie Couch is secretary/treasurer. She won with 60.1 percent of the 1,060

votes cast for this office.

Mary Ann Heaton was elected social secretary. She had 63.6 percent of the 1,052 votes cast for social secretary.

In the Class of '85 election last week, seven freshman senators-at-large were elected from more than 40 candidates. The senators are: Kirsten Murphy, Grant Swartzwelder, Linda Thomas, Melissa Williams, Jay Holland, Mark Holubec and Tracy Turner.

In that election, a total of 1,730 votes were cast.

Incumbent ousted, Houston run-off set

United Press International
HOUSTON — City Controller Kathy Whitmire and Harris County Sheriff Jack Heard paced a crowded field of 15 mayoral candidates to land runoff slots for the city's highest elected position, tossing two-term incumbent Mayor Jim McConn out of a job.

With 315 of the 396 precincts reporting early today, Whitmire had captured 37 percent of Tuesday's vote. Heard followed with 25 percent of the vote.

A runoff election will be held later this month; no date has yet been set, officials said.

Former City Councilman Louis Macey was in third place with 14 percent.

McConn was next, receiving 12 percent of the first ballots counted.

"Things are not looking real bright," McConn told campaign workers late Tuesday.

"My competitive spirit has been bruised. We had our butts kicked."

The 35-year-old Whitmire was elected controller four years ago and

often was at odds with McConn over city spending. During a five-month campaign, the widowed accountant pledged she would run the nation's fifth largest city in a businesslike manner.

Heard, 63, longtime sheriff and former city police chief, stressed leadership as his strongest campaign pledge.

A city charter change for tax limitation, similar to California's Proposition 13, appeared to be defeated by voters. The tax relief issue would limit the city's tax rate to 50 cents per \$100, based on a 100 percent assessment ratio.

Voter turnout was heavy, with approximately 35 percent or 250,000 citizens in the city casting ballots.

In the city controller's race, tabulations showed Councilman Lance Lalor appeared to be ahead of former U.S.

Immigration and Naturalization Service director Leonel Castillo. Castillo had been the city controller's before President Jimmy Carter tapped him for the INS post.