

Students must complete registration to vote here

by Joe Sloan

Battalion Reporter

Students who want to vote here in the May 1 primary must be registered to vote in Brazos County by April 1.

Although all citizens over 18 have the right to vote, registration is necessary to avoid voter fraud, said Marlene Muse, president of the Brazos County League of Women Voters.

A voter registration postcard must be filled out first. This card can be obtained at the Brazos County Tax Assessor's Office or at a League of Women Voters or minority group registration drive, Muse said.

The card asks for such general information as social security number and the date and place of birth.

Many students incorrectly put only a box number for an address, she said.

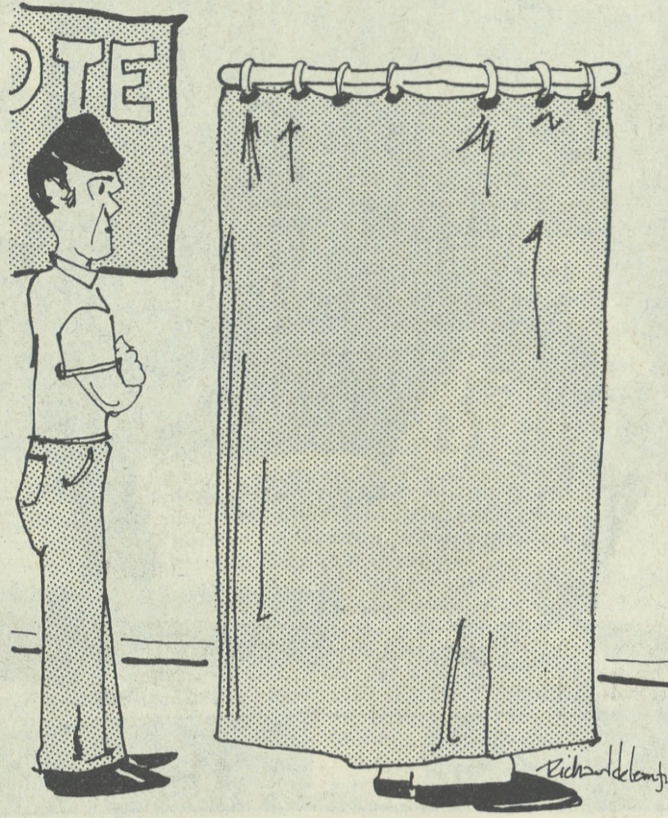
Brazos County Tax Assessor Buddy Winn agrees.

"Many students don't notice when they fill out the card that the address is split between residence and post office box," Winn said.

"If they put a post office box on the form, I try to call them about their address. But right now I am short of help and may not be able to do that with every incorrect card."

Rural route addresses also cause problems, Winn said.

It is difficult to locate a ru-



ral route residence, making precinct assigning harder. If possible, the students should put the location of the residence somewhere on the card, Winn said.

Students also should make

sure they put down their local address, not their parents'. They also should remember to inform the tax assessor's office of a change in address, he said.

Any card that arrives at the

tax assessor's office that can not be corrected will be thrown away, Winn said.

It is illegal to be a registered voter in two counties, so students should mark the appropriate box on the registration card if they are registered in their home county, Winn said. Brazos County officials will then notify the other county of the students' new registration status.

If a voter doesn't receive a new registration card, he no longer will be registered.

"If you vote regularly you are always registered," she said.

The voter registration cards also are important, Muse said, because the Brazos County Commissioners Court recently redrew the precinct lines. The cards will tell the voter which precinct he lives in.

This is especially important for dorm students, she said.

The campus used to be a single precinct, but it was divided because of the growth of the school. The northwest area of the campus now is in Precinct 35 and will vote at the old City Hall on Church Street. Other on-campus students will continue to vote in the MSC.

When the student receives his card, he should check it to see that the information is correct. The tax assessor's office will correct any mistakes.

City parks department giving away seedlings

by Pam Barta

Battalion Reporter

If you've got a green thumb, or think you might have, the College Station Parks and Recreation Department has a gift for you — a free tree seedling.

The seedlings are bur oaks and were donated anonymously to the department, said Carlos Mendez, a landscape architect and park planner for College Station.

About 1,700 seedlings were donated, but only about 200 remain to be given away. They can be picked up over the next few days.

"We want people to take them home, plant them and take care of them," he said.

"It is a very hardy oak, similar to the post oak. It's not as hardy as a live oak, but it grows faster than a live oak."

He said the trees are 12 to 18 inches tall and normally grow to about 30 feet, but can grow up to 60 feet under good conditions.

"It is a very handsome oak," Mendez said.

"North American Trees," a book by Richard J. Preston Jr., describes the bur oak as a medium-sized tree that will grow 2 to 3 feet in diameter. It has large heavy branches and a round crown. The leaves are dark green and are 6 to 12 inches long. The bark is ridged, deeply furrowed and gray-brown.

The trees are planted in peat

moss and are wrapped in newspaper when someone comes to get one, Mendez said. The trees should be planted the same day or put into a pot because the tree will die if it dries out.

Along with the tree, the parks department includes a free information booklet which gives tips on how to care for a bur oak and other types of trees.

The trees can be picked up from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the College Station Parks and Recreation Department office at 1000 Eleanor. Trees not given away will be planted in the city park.

Student Government provides guide through tutoring maze

by Debbie Schard

Battalion Reporter

It may be too late to salvage mid-term grades, but Student Government has designed a program that might help a student's final grades.

Student Government has a list of departments that have tutors and of numbers a student can call to get help. This service is designed to let students know about the different tutors and how much they charge, Kathy

Bartholomew, Vice President of Academic Affairs, said.

Student Government also has a list of departments that offer help sessions, study skill sessions and counseling. In addition, it provides information on a reading efficiency course and the Learning Resources Center operated by the College of Science.

"This is something that's concerned us because quite a few students are interested but don't

know how to go about getting tutors," Bartholomew said.

Student Government plans to ask the Graduate Student Council, the Athletic Department and various honor societies for lists of individual tutors.

Anyone interested in tutoring should fill out an application and return it to the Student Government office in 216 Memorial Student Center. Applications should be available by the end of the week and will be printed on

various fliers and in The Battalion.

Abortion to be topic of discussion Monday

Janice H. Friese, executive director of the Texas Action Rights Abortion League, and Joseph Witherspoon, professor of law at the University of Texas, will discuss abortions at 8 p.m. Monday in Rudder Theater.

"Abortion — Both Sides" is sponsored by MSC Great Issues.

Friese, 28, is involved in the National Family Planning Association, the Women's Political Caucus and the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. She also has served as executive director of the People's Community Clinic in Austin and as a trustee of the Richmond Hill Nursery Day Care Center.

Witherspoon, 66, has served on the National Right-to-Life Committee, in Washington, as

director and member of the Legislative Committee of the Texas Right-to-Life Committee.

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