

Texas water being discussed

by Lynn Falco
Battalion Reporter

Leading state authorities are meeting in Rudder Tower today to discuss water problems in a two-day "Water for Texas" conference sponsored by the Texas Water Resources Institute. State authorities will discuss planning, financing, understanding and managing of the dwindling Texas water supply in preparation for the next legislative session in January. Governor-elect Mark White was scheduled to speak at 11:30 a.m. today on the importance of water resources. Institute director Jack R. Runkles said that with the rapid population growth in Texas, officials are becoming concerned about whether or not the state will have adequate water supplies to meet its needs. "Education is part of the problem," he said. "People should be more aware of a shortage." Although the Texas water supply is not extremely low yet, officials must start to develop water supplies for the year 2000 and beyond, Runkles said. Water researchers

have to look into other sources for funds because federal support is diminishing, he added. "We need to look into conserving water and using it more effectively, and develop any additional supplies that we can," Runkles said. Ruth Schaffer, a Texas A&M sociologist, said wasted water is a big problem. A lot of water is not reused in irrigated agriculture when it runs off the land. There is also waste in everyday activities, Schaffer said. "When you get a drink of water, do you take the first glass of water you fill up?" Another waste source is leaks in main pipelines underground, she noted. "Dallas is the only city that has a computer system to determine when there is a leak in one of its pipes," she said. "All other large cities waste one-third to one-half of their water this way." Schaffer has been studying leadership, power and decision-making. She is interested in the shortage because, she said, it's easy to study leaders when they're involved in a survival issue such as water control.

SG approves teacher evaluation forms

by Beverly Hamilton
Battalion Staff

Student senators approved a proposal Wednesday recommending that the Texas A&M professor evaluation forms be standardized in all courses taught by tenure candidates or

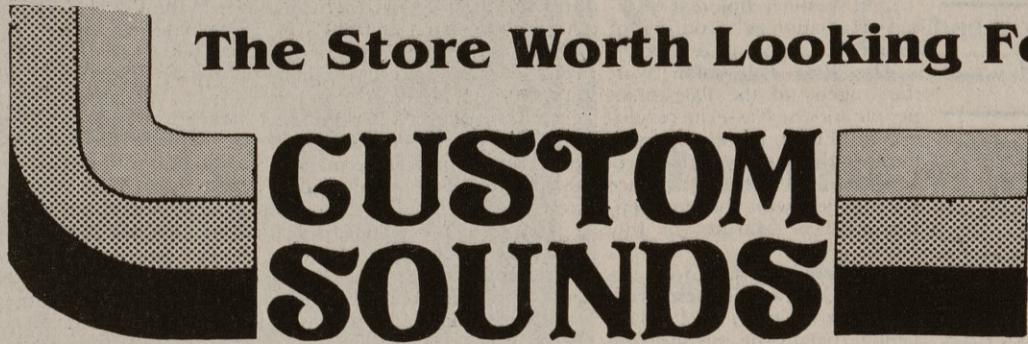
tenured members of the faculty. The proposal recommends that the evaluations be nationally recognized forms, be administered once a semester and the results be made available to the faculty and administration. The evaluation should be

funded through students' semesterly fees at a cost not to exceed 50 cents per course, according to the proposal. Student senators also gave unanimous support to a recommendation to operate seven shuttle buses before and after

home football games starting in Fall 1983. The director of bus operations will take the recommendation to the University administration for approval, Chip Heath, engineering senator, said.

The operation cost of the buses will be about \$700 and could be covered by selling home game shuttle passes for \$1.50 or by spreading the cost over the current price of shuttle passes, Heath said.

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Caperton urges energy efficiency

by David Johnson
Battalion Staff

Americans must become more efficient energy users and must diversify their energy sources in the future, State Senator Kent Caperton said here Wednesday night. Many states are encouraging homeowners to install energy-saving improvements by offering them tax credits, guaranteed loans or grants to help defray the costs of the improvements, Caperton said. Caperton's speech in Rudder Tower was sponsored by MSC Political Forum and the Texas A&M Renewable Natural Resources Association. Water resources also will be a problem in coming decades, Caperton said. He said he is trying to inform the public about the problem and develop a workable plan for the entire state that is acceptable to Texans in drier West Texas, as well as to those in the rainier east.

Caperton said that the Public Utilities Commission controversy between governor-elect Mark White and incumbent Gov. William Clements during the recent election came about because the commission was "captured" by pro-utility commissioners that didn't represent the people's point of view during rate-increase hearings. Caperton, a native of nearby Caldwell, was student body president at Texas A&M, vice-president of the student union and a member of the student senate. He graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in finance in 1971, and he later received his law degree from the University of Texas at Austin. Caperton was appointed judge of the Bryan Municipal Court in 1977 and served there until January 1980 when he resigned to run for state senator in the fifth senatorial district, which includes Bryan-College Station and Texas A&M.

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