

Bryan mayoral hopefuls talk

by Melissa Adair

Candidates for mayor of Bryan said one of their main concerns is the improvement of city streets.

Ron B. Blatchley, director of student affairs at Texas A&M, and Henry Seale, a Bryan city councilman, announced their candidacy for mayor three weeks ago.

Blatchley, who has also been a councilman for the past two years, said the main reason he is running for office is because he wants to contribute to the city in which he lives.

"I want to return something to this community and I think I have something to offer," he said.

Seale, who has been a councilman for the past six years, said he decided to run because people insisted that he did.

"Most of the people asked me to run because they said the city needed a mayor with more experience than Blatchley," Seale said.

Blatchley said Mayor Richard Smith had been doing an excellent job for Bryan and if elected, he basically plans to continue on the same path.

"As a matter of fact," Blatchley said, "if Mayor Smith had decided to stay, I wouldn't have even run."

Blatchley emphasized the need for improved streets and parks, careful and prudent use

of Bryan's oil and gas royalties and increased opportunities for citizen input in setting annual goals and objectives.

"I think there should be greater expenditures ... on improving our streets," Blatchley said. "Anyone who has ever driven on any of the streets in Bryan would see how important this is."

Blatchley said the 1983 budget would provide for these improvements. The budget calls for using 50 percent of oil and gas revenues for street improvements, 25 percent for development of parks and recreational facilities, 20 percent for drainage systems and 5 percent for contingencies, he said.

"By using the oil and gas

money in this way," Blatchley said, "we can effectively meet these goals without increasing taxes."

Seale stressed three main issues.

First, he said, it is necessary to upgrade the streets, drainage and sewer system to meet future growth. Second, further development is needed for an athletic complex in conjunction with the schools and third, the city's police and fire protection should be improved, he said.

Seale said the best way to alleviate drainage problems is for Bryan, College Station and Brazos County to work together.

Seale said he and Blatchley do not differ much on any major

issues.

"Ron and I are not that different in our stands on issues," Seale said. "The difference is that ... I have more financial experience and I know more about the city in general. I know the city and I know the people."

Seale has a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Texas.

Blatchley received a master's degree from Sam Houston State University.

Both candidates agreed they do not want to make their election campaigns mud-slinging events.

The elections for mayor, city council Place 1, Place 3, Place 4 and Place 5 will be April 2.

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A&M engineer gets Florida job

by Angel Stokes

Terry E. Shoup, assistant dean for the Texas A&M College of Engineering, has been named dean of engineering at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla.

Shoup officially will take over as dean of engineering at Florida Atlantic July 1.

He has been at Texas A&M for the last three years as assistant dean and as a mechanical engineering professor. Shoup has been the editor-in-chief of "Mechanism and Machine Theory," Journal of the International Federation for the



Dr. Terry E. Shoup

Theory of Machines and Mechanisms since 1977.

"A&M has strength because of its students," Shoup said. He said he has thoroughly enjoyed being here and working with the students in his position as assistant dean and as a professor.

"A&M has changed since I've been here," he said, "and the progress made is incredible. It will be hard to leave the friends I have made here."

But Shoup said he is looking forward to the challenge of being dean of engineering.

Florida Atlantic, which has been around for about 20 years, is located in a high-technology area that has lots of opportuni-

ties and potential, Shoup said.

"The school needs to make progress," Shoup said, "and there is lots of progress to be made."

Florida Atlantic is an upper-division university — only juniors, seniors and graduate students can attend.

"It is a fairly new concept and

hasn't been proven to be effective or ineffective yet," he said.

He expects that the climate will be different than the one at Texas A&M.

Because the students have attended junior colleges or other universities first, he said, they already have established attitudes and study patterns.

PUC nominee is anti-election

United Press International
AUSTIN — One of Gov. Mark White's two Public Utility Commission nominees is opposing the election of PUC commissioners, a view White supported during his campaign.

Alan Erwin, who, along with Paso housewife Peggy Ros-

son, is expected to easily win full Senate approval on his nomination Thursday, warned of dangerous results if PUC commissioners were elected, saying "demagoguery" could result.

Erwin, 38, said restoring the public's confidence in utility reg-

ulation would be his top priority. However, he did not pledge to lower utility rates.

"I think the best thing I can promise you is that utility rates will be no higher than is necessary to maintain the financial integrity of the utilities," he said.

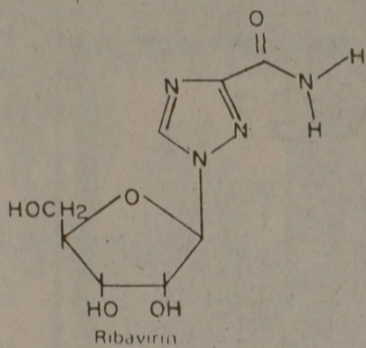
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THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL

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