

Texas A&M The Battalion

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staff photo by Brenda Davidson

Aaaaaayyyyy!

Freshmen from C-1 outfit of the Corps of Cadets swing into the Aggie spirit Tuesday afternoon by wildcatting across the

quad. Freshmen who are joining the Corps are here before classes begin for freshmen orientation week.

\$373 million budget approved by Regents

by Karen Schrimsher

The Texas A&M System Board of Regents approved a \$373 million budget Monday for the University for the 1983-84 school year. The new budget is an increase of about \$59 million over the current Texas A&M budget.

The approved budget for the entire Texas A&M System set a record — \$634 million allotted for Texas A&M, Texas A&M at Galveston, Prairie View A&M and Tarleton State universities. The new figures represent a 12 percent increase over the 1982-83 budget.

The budget, which is effective Sept. 1, allows an average 4.8 percent merit raise for faculty members and a

5.8 percent average mandatory raises for nonfaculty employees.

More money will be used for teaching equipment, scholarships and minority and graduate fellowships.

The board also approved the allotment of \$100,000 to begin a military studies institute, which former governor William Clements recently recommended establishing.

In other business, the board approved an optional retirement program for senior faculty and staff members.

The plan, which was formulated by a special committee of the state Coordinating Board, will allow employees the option to retire from full-time ser-

vice before reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70.

With the new plan employees will be able to enjoy partial retirement while working part-time.

Full-time employees of the Texas A&M System may request participation in the early retirement program at age 55, or anytime thereafter if they have credit for ten more years of service with the Teacher Retirement System of Texas, another approved optional retirement plan or with a combination of optional retirement and teacher retirement.

The work load of a participant in the plan will generally consist of 50 percent or less of half of the normal full-time worker.

Crew from Texas A&M training ship rescue 16

Three crewmen aboard the Texas Clipper, the Texas A&M training ship in Galveston, rescued 16 members of a runaway ship during Hurricane Alicia.

Clipper operations officer Tom Cromer said Tuesday the Arctic Seal, a 175-foot research vessel, broke its moorings during the night and rammed into the stern of his ship after

being forced across the Galveston ship channel.

Crew members of the Seal were loaded aboard the Clipper with rope ladders and lines while a tugboat held the ship to its docks at the Mitchell campus on Pelican Island.

Robert Nation, the ship's master at arms and Jay Splaine, a sophomore

marine transportation student, aided Cromer in the rescue.

Cromer said, "I have ridden out hurricanes and typhoons during the 22 years in the navy but this was a unique experience."

The crewmen remained onboard the Clipper during the storm. No injuries were reported in the incident.

Re-election to Senate not in Tower's plans

United Press International
AUSTIN — Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, stunned politicians by announcing he would not seek re-election in 1984, saying he chose to get out of the office before he became cynical about his job.

Tower, one of the Senate's leading conservatives and proponents of a strong military, told dozens of reporters and hundreds of onlookers in the Texas House of Representatives Tuesday that he decided to retire at the "peak of my productivity."

"I have recently made a personal decision that after 24 years of elective office and at the peak of my productivity, I should step aside and pursue other avenues of endeavor," he said. Tower strongly rebuffed suggestions that he was "burned out" or "tired with his job."

"One does not get bored representing the state of Texas," he said. "But you know, the longer you stay around you run the risk of getting a little cynical and not having much left for your job. I still have a great deal of vigor for my job and I think it's the time to leave."

The veteran Republican, whose initial victory to the Senate in 1961 and subsequent re-elections were an oddity in heavily Democratic Texas, said he made the decision about three weeks ago. He informed President Reagan of his plans just 10 days ago while in El Paso.

"He just shook his head and said he wished I'd reconsider," Tower said.

Tower, who is chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said he expected to join Reagan's as an unannounced re-election campaign "in a leadership position" and added that he would like to both teach and enter the private business sector



Sen. John Tower

after completing the remaining 16 months of his term.

However, he said he would not discuss a position with a defense-related company until after his term expired.

The decision by Tower shocked many veteran political observers who expected him to face a tough re-election battle from numerous Democrats interested in his seat.

However, Tower denied he had lost popularity or that he feared facing former Ambassador to Mexico Bob Kreuger in another election scrap. Tower narrowly defeated Democrat Kreuger in 1978. Kreuger already has announced his candidacy again.

"I've never shied away from a tough fight," Tower said. "The campaigning is the thing I probably will miss most. I glory in a good political battle."

Other Democrats considering a run at Tower's seat include Rep. Kent Hance, D-Texas, former Gov. Dolph Briscoe, and Texas Railroad Commis-

sioner Buddy Temple. State Sen. Lloyd Doggett, D-Austin, already is an announced candidate.

Potential Republican candidates for the post also were being mentioned, including former Gov. Bill Clements and state GOP chairman George Strake.

Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, announced his candidacy for Tower's seat just hours after Tower's announcement, and Rep. Phil Gramm said he was also considering campaigning for the seat.

In Los Angeles with Reagan, White House chief of staff James Baker, a Texan, dismissed reports that he might run for Tower's seat. He said he is not interested in a Senate race.

Tower also discounted speculation that he was abandoning the Senate position in order to serve as Secretary of Defense should Reagan win a second term.

"That is pure bunk," he said.

Tower said the \$1.57 million in campaign funds he acquired in anticipation of the re-election race would be used for other purposes that he refused to specify. Tower said none of the funds would be put to personal use.

Tower said he would return to Texas, but said he had not decided whether he would live in Wichita Falls, where he taught as a political science professor prior to entering politics.

Although Tower said he was certain he could have won re-election, heavy registration of new Hispanic voters in Texas would have made it increasingly difficult for any Republican to win election statewide.

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A&M 'U' now 20

Tuesday marked the twentieth birthday of Texas A&M University. Prior to Aug. 23, 1963, it was known officially as the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.

For its first 87 years, the institution was known informally as Texas A&M.

"Under the new designation, the 'A&M' meant nothing — it did not

mean Texas Agricultural and Mechanical University — it simply retained the old familiar sound," writes Dr. Henry Dethloff in his history of Texas A&M.

Although the 58th Legislature made the new name official effective twenty years ago, students to this day still refer to "Texas AMC" when singing the school song.

Correction included in sticker package

Instructions on Texas A&M parking stickers being issued this semester state that the stickers should be placed on the front window of the car on the passenger side. In the past they usually have been placed on rear windows.

However, a piece of paper accompanying the sticker requires that it be placed on the rear window. A worker with the University Police says the

stickers should be placed on the rear windows as in previous years.

At the time of the printing, the new front window requirement was printed on the sticker. But because a decision was made to continue current policy, a correction was placed with the sticker inside its plastic covering.



staff photo by Brenda Davidson

Fee mania

Students returning for the fall semester crossed into Rudder Complex Tuesday to

pick up scholarships and pay fees. Drop-adds begin today in the Pavilion.

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forecast

MEMBER OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Skies will be partly cloudy today, with the high in the low 90s and tonight's low in the mid 70s. Variable winds are expected.