

Former mayor seeking 14th district election

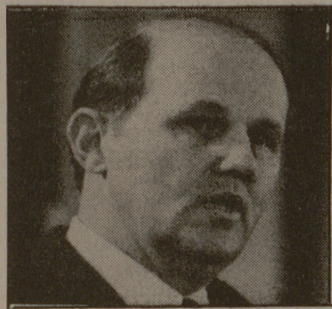
By MICHELLE POWE
Staff writer

Richard Smith, former mayor of Bryan, announced Thursday he will seek the District 14 House of Representatives seat vacated this week by Bill Presnal.

Smith told about 100 supporters at the Brazos Center that he will run in the special election which will be held to fill Presnal's seat and in the general election in November. The date of the special election has not been announced yet.

"I believe Brazos County needs and deserves a representative who has experience in the legislative and governmental process and who is close enough to the people to understand their problems and to identify their needs from state government," he said. "For many years I have had and continue to have a commitment to the people of Brazos County and to good conservative government."

Smith, a 1960 graduate of Texas A&M, was mayor of



Richard Smith
Bryan from 1978 to 1983 and previously had served three

years as a Bryan city councilman.

Smith said that "improving the quality of education in the state, reducing crime ... and maintaining Texas A&M as a first-class university" are three issues of major importance to Brazos County citizens.

Other issues of special importance, he said, are water development, agricultural and research development, energy and programs to help the disadvantaged.

Regents conduct final review

Faculty considered for tenure

By KELLEY SMITH
Senior staff writer

After nominations and several reviews, 107 Texas A&M system faculty members will receive their final review before the Board of Regents for tenure approval.

The board will review the list of names, 88 from the main campus, at its regular meeting next week. The board, which will meet Sunday through Tuesday, reviews the tenure recommendations once a year.

At the meeting, the regents

will discuss a presentation on the status of the parking and traffic flow study. They also will discuss the progress on the special events center and the possible relocation of the railroad track that divides the campus.

The regents also will consider the appropriation of \$4.4 million from the Available Fund to the University for the acquisition of instructional and research equipment. The recommendation for the appropriation states that funding for that purpose from legislative appropriations falls short of

actual needs each year and the basic needs for teaching and research equipment have not been met.

The committee will consider a proposal to establish a Military Studies Institute to act as an institutional focus for the studies of military affairs in many academic areas, mainly those considered among the liberal arts. The institute would sponsor research on past and current military topics; support teaching, seminars, lectures and visits by distinguished scholars and representatives of the milit-

ary, government and industry; and provide community service activities such as publications and conferences on military issues.

The board also will consider an amendment to the Objectives, Rules, Regulations for the Texas A&M University System. The amendment would enable the board to establish maximum hiring ages and mandatory retirement ages below the age of 70 for certain classifications of employment where age is an occupational qualification.

Airport handles two crises this week

By RONNIE CROCKER
Staff writer

For the second time this week, there was a moment of tension at Easterwood Airport as pilots reported instrument readings that meant the landing gear on their planes were not functioning properly.

Thursday about 2 p.m., Capt. Steve Hughes and Maj. Tony Palumbo of the Army Reserve just taken off in a U.S. Army C-130 Alpha on their way to Ft.

Hood. After taking up the landing gear, there was no response on the instrument panel.

After consulting the operations manual, they put the landing gear back down. When they did, the unsafe landing gear light came on, indicating the gear either was still up or not locked in place.

Palumbo, a facilities supervisor/flight instructor on duty at Easterwood, said they made a low pass in front of the tower and airport officials told him

that the landing gear appeared to be down and locked.

Inside the plane, which is similar to a Cessna 310, it is impossible to tell if the gear is down or not. All the pilot has are the instruments.

As a precautionary measure, several fire trucks and an ambulance were called to the runway to stand by.

Earlier in the week, a civilian airplane reported similar problems.

Humana Hospital to change location

By LYNN RAE POVEC
Reporter

The College Station Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously passed a recommendation to allow for the proposed Humana Hospital relocation from its present site in Bryan to a new site in south College Station Thursday night.

Humana Hospital also turned in an application to the state for approval, but a hearing date has not yet been set, according to Al Mayo, director of planning for College Station. The state must decide whether or not a hospital may be built in College Station, but the city itself must decide where the hospital will be built.

In other action, the Commission granted Area Progress Corporation, the developer and owner of the tract of land upon which the hospital may be built, a conditional use permit. This permit allows early any structure to be built "just about anywhere," according to Mayo.

The Commission then approved an additional-parking plan for Alfredo's Tacos Al Carbon, located at Northgate, after adding a provision to include four-foot islands surrounding the single parking space in the plan. The plan passed 5-1.

A parking lot plan for the Omni Center, formerly Columbia Park, was resubmitted to the Commission. The plan was denied at the Nov. 17, 1983 meeting because "at the time it was proposed, there was a difficulty in discerning the plant types on the plan," according to Mayo. He also said that the Commission suggested that the plan be resubmitted when it had been revised. Five commissioners voted to approve the resubmitted plan, and one abstained.

Lastly, the Commission discussed a previously presented land zoning plan for an area in south College Station, but it postponed a decision until maps of the area could be further reviewed.

Computer theft up, campus police say

By RONNIE CROCKER
Staff writer

Detective William Scott of the University Police Department said Thursday that computer theft — not a major crime area now — will be an increasing problem in the years to come.

Computer security needs to be increased, he said, and that he is planning a crime prevention survey on the matter following a theft of over \$12,000 worth of computers and equipment in the Learning Resource Department in the Sterling C. Evans Library.

University police still are conducting investigations of the theft.

Among the items taken in the Jan. 10 theft were three Apple II microcomputers valued at \$1,395 each, an MX 100 printer, an MX 80 printer and other computer accessories. Enough items were taken for three complete Apple setups.

Scott said probably more than one person were involved in the crime and that he speculates the thieves either stayed in the library after closing or entered through the University's steam tunnels.

He also said that the thieves had to have knowledge of the LRD's set-up because the thieves found the keys to locks on the computers.

Since some of the items taken from inside the computers was specific in nature, Scott said he felt the thieves were looking for a particular type of program.

The theft occurred between midnight and 7:30 a.m. of Jan. 10.

This was not the first computer theft on campus. Nor was it the first one in the LRD.

An Apple system was stolen from the Academic Building a few months ago. About two years ago, computer equipment was stolen from the LRD. The individuals were caught in connection with that crime.

An attempted theft of some typewriters, headphones and other items was attempted on

Dec. 29 in the library, but Scott said the persons apparently were interrupted and left the library without the items.

Scott said he has made no recommendations as of yet for improving security.

Police presently are conducting investigations about the steam tunnel theory and then will make recommendations to library officials on how to secure the library if that turns out to be the case.

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