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Texas A&M The Battalion

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Events center, tracks discussed by regents

By KELLY SMITH and BRIGID BROCKMAN

Senior Staff Writers

The Planning and Building Committee of the Texas A&M System regents Monday discussed the relocation of the railroad track which divides the campus and reviewed preliminary plans for the proposed special events center.

The board discussed the relocation of the track saying that such a project should be one of the board's ultimate objectives.

Regent Joe C. Richardson Jr. said, "It's time for the campus to be one campus; the railroad splits it apart like a big canyon."

Final action to relocate the track

will depend on the railroads, Richardson said, and the board must now appeal to the railroads to see how they feel about the situation.

Regent William A. McKenzie said during the meeting that Welborne Road is as serious a problem as the railroad, and that ways to re-route street traffic must also be studied.

Slide presentations on the Erwin Special Events Center at the University of Texas and several special events centers in Utah were given at the meeting to show the regents how other institutions had developed and utilized such centers.

The board then discussed several ways an events center could be developed at Texas A&M with different facilities, seating capacities, square

footages and costs.

Regent David G. Eller said that for such a center, the seating capacity should be large enough so that events such as NCAA championships could be held at Texas A&M.

One figure estimated the total cost of the project at \$45,471,000. That figure is based on cost information received from five recently constructed events centers.

Included in the cost estimate is \$2 million for the relocation of the beef cattle center. McKenzie questioned that figure saying it was unreasonable.

"We're not playing the army game where we ask for more then cut it down?" McKenzie asked.

Regent Royce E. Wisenbaker asked

if the costs were padded to scare the board off such projects.

Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning and Construction, Gen. Wesley E. Peel said the estimated figures may be off, but only by a few percentage points. The actual cost estimate can not be quoted until a final plan for the center has been approved, he said.

The Planning and Building Committee also reported that four firms have been chosen as possible project engineers which will be subject to the board's approval later.

During discussion of the Committee for Academic Campuses, Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver spoke in favor of the proposed Military Sciences Institute. The committee approved the institute which would

be University-wide in scope. Its functions would include sponsoring research on past and current military topics.

During discussions of the Executive Committee, Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen reported that one of the problems facing not just Texas A&M, but most universities, is the question of how to utilize computer-based education.

The committee approved the appropriation of funds from the Available University Fund for the development of courseware for computer-based education.

Vandiver said the key to achieving a viable development capability is training, and the \$206,000 from the Available University Fund would pay

for the training of a small body of faculty in the detailed techniques of quality courseware creation.

However, the question was raised as to how such a program would benefit the University.

The faculty who "author" the programs would work in collaboration with the training company, and the programs would be sold to other universities with the training company and the University splitting the profits.

But there is some uncertainty as to what "other University" meant Texas A&M for the faculty member who authored the program. Hansen said this problem would have to be worked out.

Reagan names Meese to post

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Reagan named counselor Edwin Meese, a conservative law-and-order advocate, Monday to replace Attorney General William French Smith, whose resignation he accepted with "deep regret."

Smith, the sixth member of the Cabinet to leave since Reagan took office three years ago, told a news conference, "There was a time to come and a time to go."

Saying he has accomplished many of the things he set out to do, he told Reagan in a letter, "It is now time for me to return to private life."

The millionaire Californian, a member of the president's "kitchen cabinet," also said he hopes to be involved in Reagan's re-election campaign — something "that would not be possible in my present position."

Reagan praised Smith "as one of the nation's very finest attorneys general" and said, "It is with deep regret that I accept your resignation." At the same time, he said he is "delighted" to nominate Meese, a former Alameda County, Calif., prosecutor and longtime friend, to the \$80,100-a-year job of running the Justice Department.

"Ed is not only my trusted counselor, he is also a person whose life and experience reflect a profound commitment to the law and a consistent dedication to the improvement of our justice system," he said. "I know of no one better able to continue in the fine tradition so well represented by the service of Bill Smith."

Smith, 66, who intends to return to his lucrative law practice in Los Angeles, will stay on the job until Meese, 52, is confirmed by the Senate.

During his tenure, Smith turned

the department to the right, aggressively opposing busing as a means of school desegregation and quotas for hiring blacks and women. Other changes during his three years as attorney general included loosening antitrust restrictions and stepped up efforts against drug smuggling and organized crime.

Meese, who has served as counselor to the president, is perhaps the closest to Reagan's philosophy among the "Big Three" members of his White House inner circle.

He told reporters in Montecito, Calif., where he was making a speech, that the offer of the new post was made "rather suddenly."

"I really was very happy with the job that I had," he said. But when this other opportunity came along — totally unsought by me — it was a tough job to turn down."

Meese said he does not expect to have trouble winning Senate confirmation.

"I just don't think the senators are going to want to play politics with a Cabinet appointment. I think traditionally, historically, it hasn't been the case," he said.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., said he expects his name to receive the nomination by next week and begin hearings promptly.

"In my judgment, he (Meese) will make an excellent attorney general," Thurmond said.

But Sen. Charles Mathias, R-Md., second-ranking Republican on the committee, predicted the nomination will touch off a "bitter debate on anti-trust, civil rights and privacy issues."

See related editorial page 2



Photos by MIKE DAVIS

Rally at Rudder Fountain

Mike Roth holds his son Megan while he and wife Vita, attend the anti-abortion rally held Monday at Rudder Fountain. Above is a sampling of the people and signs at the rally. Please see related column page 2, related story page 7.



Advisory board supports funds policy

By SARAH OATES
Staff writer

The Chancellor's Student Advisory Board Monday voted in favor of proposals to support a uniform funding policy to "eliminate disparities in international student programs and increase foreign student contributions" to Texas A&M University, and to encourage student support for a legislative bill that would create an endowment to fund state universities that do not benefit from the Permanent University Fund.

The 13-member board also voted

to support the development of procedures to increase student involvement in student service fee allocations by the four universities within the University system.

The board recommends that the University system adopt a policy of greater student input so that students at each university will have greater opportunities to decide what programs and services they wish to support.

Fred Billings, chairman of the CSAB, said that students at Texas A&M have much greater input than students at other universities within the system.

"The problem is that other students in schools within the system don't have input," Billings said. "We recommend that they be given a reasonable amount of input in deciding how their money is spent."

At Texas A&M, the student finance committee of Student Government proposes student service fee levels and allocations to the administration. The committee holds hearings for groups that wish to receive funding and then determines which services qualify for funding. The amounts received by each group are determined by need.

Billings said that Texas A&M stu-

dents have greater input through this procedure than students at other universities within the system.

The board also supports the development of funding policies from a uniform source, such as state-allocated administrative funds for international student services. This policy would include stabilizing the funding of the University's International Student Services Office and developing methods to strengthen the international student programs at the other universities within the system, such as Tarleton State University.

see BOARD page 8

Accounting scholarship started at Freeman retirement banquet

By KAREN WALLACE
Staff writer

The establishment of the W.C. Freeman Jr. Scholarship for Accounting was announced at a banquet Monday night honoring the retirement of William Clyde Freeman, Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration.

Freeman, 64, has held various positions in the Texas A&M System from 1947 to 1983. He has served as Assistant Comptroller, Comptroller, Vice President, Vice Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration.

"Every time they added a responsibility to him, they had to change his title," Dr. M.T. Harrington said to the audience of 400 at the Memorial Student Center.

Joining Harrington as guest speakers were Chancellor Arthur G. Hanson, Former Deputy Chancellor Fred G. Benson, Bob Anderson, Calvin Guest and Regents H.R. Bright and Joe Reynolds.

After dinner was served, Hanson

presented Freeman and his wife with two gifts.

Hanson said that upon retirement, Freeman will take on the characteristics of a child, therefore he presented Mrs. Freeman a book by Erma Bombeck entitled, "Motherhood, the Second Oldest Profession."

Hanson gave a picture of an oil well to Freeman. This picture symbolized Freeman's fervor for the oil business.

Hanson ended his speech with a humorous yet truthful poem entitled, "An Ode to Clyde."

H.G. Bright, chairman of the Board of Regents, said that when he and Freeman attended A&M in 1940, Freeman's nickname was "Knappy."

"I can't tell you why, just like I can't tell you why they call me Bum," Bright said.

Bright said Freeman had three qualities, willingness, capability and faithfulness, that gained him the respect and admiration of anyone who had dealings with him during

his 36-year-service.

"Clyde will not be replaced," Bright said. "He will have someone else doing his job but he will not be replaced."

Board of Regents member Joe Reynolds said Freeman is the only indispensable man at A&M.

"You've really left your mark here and helped make this a wonderful institution," Reynolds said.

Harrington said that during the years Freeman was comptroller, he kept all the money transactions "legal and honest."

"This is hard to do when dealing with other people's money," Harrington joked.

Harrington also congratulated Freeman for having the same office in the Systems Administration Building for as long as he did.

Benson said Freeman always demonstrated fine composure at all the meetings he had to attend during his term and he never made a "slip of tongue."

"I don't know whether he memorized that stuff he said or if he just

said the same thing at every meeting," he said.

Freeman humbly accepted the honors given him during the evening.

"The honors are not deserved, but I can guarantee they are deeply appreciated," he said.

Freeman thanked the speakers for their remarks.

"First let me thank the speakers for what they did not say," he said, jokingly. "There are things in my past that need not be said."

Freeman wished the audience a touching farewell.

"I wish that 1984 be the best year of your life," he said.

In ending the banquet, Edwin H. Cooper, dean of Admissions and records, dedicated an old Indian saying to Freeman.

"May your moccasins make many happy tracks in the snows of life," he said.

In Today's Battalion

Local

- Bryan-College Station continues to have the lowest unemployment rate in Texas. See story page 3.
- Battalion staffer speaks out on Rudder Fountain demonstration. See column page 2.

State

- The Houston Cougars drop to #6 in NCAA basketball ratings after a loss to #3 Kentucky. See rankings page 14.
- Dan Rather, CBS news anchorman, has been named an honorary football letterman at Sam Houston State — 33 years after failing to make the team. See story page 4.
- An animal rights group says negligence is the cause of the unnecessary deaths of dozens of horses near Marlin. See story page 4.

World

- A Canadian couple has claimed \$11.1 million in a lottery — the largest tax-free prize ever awarded in North America.