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**Student voter turnout heavy**

By **KATHERINE HURT**  
Staff Writer

Student voter turnout was unusually high in Brazos County Tuesday. The number of voters in precinct 20, an all-student precinct on the south side of campus, doubled 1980's figures.

Seventy-four percent of precinct 20's 4,000 registered voters turned out to vote before the polls closed at 7 p.m.

In precinct 34, a central College Station precinct with large student registration, 2,019 of the precinct's 3,071 voters, 64 percent, voted in Tuesday's election.

Douglas Jones, precinct 34 election judge, said voter registration in the precinct has doubled in the last six months.

"Ninety percent of the increase in this precinct is students," he said.

Jones attributed increased voter registration to the completion of nine sorority houses in precinct 34. "President Reagan was the main driver of voters this year," he said.

Voters in precinct 35, students living on the north side of campus and in Northgate area apartments, also turned out to vote in large numbers, Scott Brooks, precinct 35 election judge said.

Seventy-seven percent, 2,410, of the precinct's 3,110 registered voters voted before the polls closed.

Precinct 10 election judge, Ruby Freeman, was under orders not to speak to the media. Her only comment was, "We've had a big turnout." Precinct 10, in

southeast College Station, also has many registered student voters.

"Student voter turnout was high this year because students have finally been told they really make a difference," Stokes said. "They're realizing that if they do go vote, it can change an election."

Absentee voting also was high in Brazos County this year — voters cast 3,790 absentee ballots before the Nov. 2 deadline.

Some confusion reigned among students who had not received their voter registration cards and did not know they could vote, Stokes said.

"Hundreds and hundreds (of students) didn't get their cards and didn't know they could vote," she said.

Stokes said so many students registered to vote that Voter Registrar Buddy Winn's office didn't have time to get registration cards mailed to every student who applied.

Stokes said students without registration cards could vote by affidavit at any precinct.

"Students have to be allowed to vote as long as they swear that they filled out a voter registration card," she said.

Many precinct 35 voters living in north-side dormitories were confused about which precinct to vote in because their voter registration cards said to vote in precinct 20, Chris Bowers, precinct 35 pollwatcher said.

Election judge Brooks said, "There are too many people ... not enough machines, and people are confused about where to vote."

**Texas voters pass six amendments**

United Press International

AUSTIN — Texas voters added six amendments to the 108-year-old state constitution Tuesday, with approval of the establishment of a \$100 million a year college construction fund heading the list but rejecting a proposal for an average \$8,300 annual pay hike for legislators.

The Texas Constitution has been laden with 263 amendments since it was drafted in 1876, systematically altered by voters every two years since 1879.

Proposition 2 was easily approved by a 3-to-2 margin and sets up a \$100 million a year building fund to be shared by 26 state colleges and universities.

Voters rejected Amendment No. 8, which would have raised legislators' pay by more than \$8,000 a year by a 2-to-1 margin.

Also nixed was by a 2-to-1 margin was Amendment No. 6, which would have allowed cities, counties or school districts to invest public funds in premiums for mutual insurance contracts.

A lawsuit against the state by Midwestern University prompted a 1982 constitutional amendment that repealed the state property tax, which had been set up to fund college construction but was unequally assessed.

That left the schools that do not share in the oil-rich Permanent University Fund, which benefits the University of Texas and Texas A&M, without a dedicated source of funding for construction projects.

Since 1881, state lawmakers have sought voter approval of higher legislative pay 20 times but were successful only four times: in 1930, 1954, 1960 and 1975.

The 1975 amendment set monthly salaries at \$600 for House

members and senators and also established a \$30 per day stipend each day the Legislature is in regular session (140 days every two years) and special session.

In odd-numbered years when the Legislature meets, a lawmaker earns a minimum of \$11,400 a year. Office expenses such as staff salaries, postage, etc., are paid from a separate fund.

Amendment No. 8 would have eliminated the \$30 per diem and made it a floating amount tied to the maximum allowable federal tax deduction for legislative expenses. That amount currently is \$75 a day, meaning the minimum year-in-session pay would have risen to \$17,700.

Other amendments approved Tuesday included:

No. 1, winning by a 3-to-1 margin, giving state-chartered banks the same rights and privileges enjoyed by federally-chartered banks.

No. 3, winning by a 3-to-2 margin, allowing parents, brothers and sisters who are dependents of a police officer to collect state aid if the officer is killed while on hazardous duty.

No. 4, winning by a 2-to-1 margin, abolishing the county treasurer's offices in Bexar and Collin counties.

No. 5, winning by a 3-to-2 margin, permitting the Senate to elect a successor to the lieutenant governor (who presides over the Senate) in the case the lieutenant governor becomes incapacitated or dies.

No. 7, winning by a 4-to-1 margin, changing the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and altering the ways in which the commission disciplines judges.

**Brazos Valley United Way nears goal**

By **CAMILLE BROWN**  
Staff Writer

With two weeks to go in the fund drive, the Brazos County United Way has reached 68 percent of its goal. Reports on fifth week of the campaign showed pledges at \$289,789.

"Admittedly the next 28 or 29 thousand (dollars) is going to be a lot tougher to get," said Robert Fleischer, executive director of the Brazos County United Way. "But I think we can still get close to the goal."

Ceila Stallings, drive chairman,

said: "There are several promising returns, but there is still a lot of work to accomplish to reach the \$425,000 goal."

A&M had contributed the most money to the total, but this week the pilot division took the lead with \$98,638. A&M is next with \$81,950.

Of A&M's three divisions, the University has given \$51,154, the System has given \$30,791 and the student contribution, now officially at \$24, will be totalled at the end of the eight week drive.

Because the student campaign is based on activity-related fund

drives, students do not enter the eight-week race to raise money.

Donations collected by A&M students are handed in to the United Way throughout the year.

C.R. "Chuck" Cargill, vice president for operations at A&M and coordinator of the University's drive, is enthusiastic about A&M's showing this year.

"We have a chance to be the heroes of the campaign," Cargill said. "I think we can exceed our goal by a significant amount. It should be

a very successful campaign."

So far this year's campaign has easily beat last year's figures. This year's weekly totals have consistently exceeded last year's weekly totals. The pledges received as of the fifth week of this year's drive are ready close to last year's final total. A&M donated a little more than \$96,000 last year.

"The response we've had reflecting caring and a sense of responsibility for the community," said Cargill. "Most people give because they want to give, not because they have to."

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