

Sophomores M-Z
registering today

Staff help program
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Faculty Senate tables civil rights resolution

By ROBIN BLACK
Senior Staff Writer

A resolution favoring civil rights for Texas A&M students was tabled Monday afternoon for revision in a 30 to 26 vote by the Faculty Senate.

The resolution, a generic statement for civil rights, met with decidedly mixed reaction in the Senate during its monthly meeting.

The disagreement was not over the issue of civil rights, however, but over the content of the resolution. One argument held that the statement — which stemmed from two lawsuits against the University — was too general and did not address both cases.

One case involves Melanie Zentgraf, who filed suit against A&M in 1979 when she was denied admission into the Corps of Cadets band because she is a woman. An out-of-court settlement on the case is pending. The settlement will force the University to encourage women to join the band and other Corps organizations.

The other case concerns a recent decision by the 5th district Court of Appeals requiring the University to recognize a gay students organization. That case has been in and out of court for about seven years, and the University may appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The only statement in the resolution that gave any clue to what, specifically, the Senate was referring to was:

"In particular, the Faculty Senate favors prompt acceptance of recent court decisions and agreements involving issues of civil rights of students at Texas A&M University."

The Senate voted to strike that statement from the resolution just before the whole issue was tabled.

Other senators argued that if the resolution touched specifically on the Zentgraf and GSS cases, the issue would become too emotional and divisive for the Senate to vote on.

One senator argued that specific issues did not matter in the resolution.

It isn't important, he said, that the Senate comes out against whatever discrimination is going on at the

University this year, and cited past incidents of discrimination at A&M. What matters, he said, is that the Senate speaks out against all forms of discrimination within the University.

A&M's Director of Affirmative Action Annette Lopez was at the meeting to discuss the resolution.

"I had hoped for more specificity in the resolution," she said, "and if we're not going to be specific as far as which issues we're talking about, then we're probably going to defeat our purpose."

In other business, Clinton Phillips, dean of faculties at A&M, addressed the Senate on tenure and promotion policy.

Phillips explained the process to the Senators and discussed improvements in the policy over the last few years.

Not including the tenure cases currently being reviewed, he said, 54 percent of the University's faculty is tenured.

The University has been granting tenure only since 1968, when it adopted a basic tenure policy set up by the state Coordinating Board.

Nicaragua still fearful, declaring national alert

United Press International

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Nicaragua declared a national alert Monday against a feared U.S. invasion, ordering all members of the army, reserves and militia to mobilize and deploying tanks and armored vehicles throughout the capital.

The state of alert was ordered "given the gravity of the threats of military aggression against our country," said a Defense Ministry spokesman read hourly over official Voice of Nicaragua radio.

The ministry "has ordered in all national territory a state of alert to all permanent combat units of land,

sea, and air, and to the units of the reserves and to those of the Popular Sandinista Militia," the communique said.

The United States has denied it is preparing an invasion of Nicaragua.

The crisis exploded last Tuesday, when Washington reported that a Soviet freighter that could be carrying MiG 21 jets had docked in Nicaragua.

The Reagan administration repeated warnings it has made since 1981 that it would not tolerate delivery of advanced combat jets to the leftist government in Managua. The Soviet freighter's cargo still has not been verified.

Most estimates say the Nicaraguan army has 50,000 regular members and another 50,000 in the reserves, making it the largest land army in Central America. The government, for reasons of security, has refused to disclose the numbers of air force and naval personnel but said they were "small."

The government says it has enrolled another 400,000 people, out of Nicaragua's 3 million population, in the militia but the U.S. Embassy puts the figure at 50,000.

Managua residents, told a U.S. attack on the country would concentrate on the capital, have been digging trenches



Photo by KIM NORRIS

Mud pack

Confronted with mud and water the entire weekend, juniors of Squadron 16 finish their afternoon at bonfire cutting site with a

mud bath. Sixteen sit-ups later, everyone was covered from short hair to shoe strings with oozing, slimy mud.

States pressed to up drinking age

By SARAH OATES
Staff Writer

In an effort to reduce alcohol-related traffic accidents and fatalities, federal legislation may force states to adopt a 21-year-old drinking age or risk losing five percent of their federal highway tax money.

The 27 states that do not yet have a minimum drinking age of 21 could lose five percent of federal highway funds, an estimated 260 million in fiscal 1987. Legislators have two years in which to make a decision.

Some analysts say the projected losses in taxes and fees associated

with liquor sales may be greater than the highway funds states stand to lose if they refuse to comply with the bill.

But for some angry college students, the issue in question is justice, not losing money.

"We oppose the 21-year-old drinking law for a number of reasons," Bob Bingaman, spokesman for the United States Student Association in Washington, D.C., told The Battalion in a phone interview Friday.

"For one thing, it's a civil rights violation," he said. "This age group can vote, marry and serve in the mil-

itary. It's ridiculous to say they can't drink."

He said the USSA is part of a coalition of organizations who are challenging the constitutionality of the law.

"This is also a states' rights issue," Bingaman said. "The Attorney General of South Dakota filed the suit in September. A decision will be made on it in February."

He said South Dakota was chosen because states rights arguments work best in midwestern states.

Bingaman said his group's strategies for fighting the law include lobbying, efforts to educate the public

and pointing out alternative laws.

"Minnesota's alcohol-related traffic accidents and fatalities increased after it raised its drinking age to 19," he said. "That's the basic illogic of the law. Kids still got the liquor and didn't have a controlled place like a campus or bar to drink in, so their cars became bars."

Minnesota's traffic fatalities decreased after it passed tougher driving-while-intoxicated laws.

Rodney Schlosser, University of Texas student body president, said the Texas Student Lobby has been

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Library needs innovative funding

Editor's note: this is the second of a three part series on The Sterling C. Evans Library.

By DONN FRIEDMAN
Staff Writer

You can buy a used '71 Ford Pinto with auto transmission and a/c for \$995 or you can buy a maroon '82 Lincoln Continental, loaded, for \$12,095 or you can buy a 1984 Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine for \$26,000.

Excellence is expensive. Texas A&M University spent \$5.2 million on the Sterling C. Evans Library in 1981-82, the University of Texas-Austin spent \$13.9 million on its library and Harvard University spent \$21.1 million on its library.

The 1971 self-study of the Sterling Evans library says the major cause of inadequacies in the library's collection is insufficient budgeting.

A little over a decade later, the same conclusion was reached.

"The problems that exist, and they are significant, are almost entirely due to underbudgeting," the 1982 Institutional Self-Study of the Sterling C. Evans Library says. "This is not to say that the collection is inadequate; indeed it is quite adequate for undergraduate purposes.

"But mere adequacy is not excellence, and the collection is not sufficient for a university that aspires to a major position in graduate teaching and in research."

The director of the library agrees. "Money cures a lot of problems," says Irene Hoadley, director of the library.

Though Texas A&M may never be able to support a Cadillac of a library like Harvard, how is it that another school supported by the Texas legislature, the University of Texas,

invests \$13.9 million in its library while Texas A&M invests \$5.2 million that same year?

Well, first, in order to understand anything about the funding of the two largest institutes of higher education in the state of Texas — Texas A&M and the University of Texas — you must understand the Permanent University Fund.

The PUF is a constitutionally endowed stockpile of money set aside to support higher education in Texas. The fund receives proceeds from the leasing of 2.1 million acres of West Texas land, much of it used for oil exploration. The fund itself is permanent; that is, it cannot be used to build or buy anything, but a certain percentage of it can be used as collateral to issue bonds to pay for construction at Texas A&M or the University of Texas.

So, the use of the PUF as collateral

aids the construction programs at these two campuses. The Texas Constitution provides that the interest from the PUF be placed in another fund: the Available University Fund. The AUF is earmarked as a source for the enrichment of programs at the University of Texas and Texas A&M.

The PUF and the AUF originally were designated as a way to make the University of Texas a "university of the first class."

In the 1930's Texas A&M was added as a beneficiary of the funds. UT now receives a two-thirds cut of the AUF pie and Texas A&M receives the remaining third. Both schools may use a percentage of the PUF as collateral to float bonds.

Now, why do the libraries of the

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Local mayors aid annual smokeout

By KAREN BLOCH
Reporter

Why did Bryan Mayor Ron Blatchley adopt College Station Mayor Gary Halter Monday at a ceremony at the College Station Ramada Inn?

The adoption, which will be official for 24 hours beginning at 12:01 a.m. Thursday, was a prelude to the American Cancer Society's Eighth Annual Great American Smokeout.

Both mayors signed the Adopt-a-Smoker-Adoption Papers, making it non-smoker Blatchley's responsibility to assist Halter make it through a day of smokelessness.

By signing the adoption papers, Blatchley has pledged to be responsible for providing "constant encouragement, fruit and peanuts if need be, and a shoulder to cry on." Blatchley presented Halter with a survival kit containing gum, candy, nuts and other snacks.

"We want smokers to have fun with the smokeout," Roy Munse, Brazos County GAS chairman said. "This isn't a day when we show pictures of rotting lungs and try to scare smokers into quitting. We're trying to reverse the cigarette advertising trend that shows people having fun while smoking. We want to let smokers have a fun day without smoking."

KORA, a local radio station, will have a drawing for a hot-air balloon ride, Munse said. Smokers can register for the drawing



by turning in a package of cigarettes to the KORA booth at Post Oak Mall on Thursday between noon and 6 p.m.

Another radio station, KKYS, and Keathley Hall will be distributing "Kiss Me I Don't Smoke" stickers by Rudder fountain on Thursday. People wearing stickers will be "showered with roses and kisses" by KKYS disc jockeys, said Suzie Hixson, Texas A&M smokeout representative.

Munse said four area restaurants — Jubilation's, Fort Shiloh, Carboes and Swenson's — will be smokeless on Thursday. Smoking will be discouraged and "cold turkey" specials will be offered.

While there are special smokeout activities in many communities, the Great American Smokeout is a nationwide campaign sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

National programs include a quitters hotline. Would-be quit-

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