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Around town

Mediation service needs volunteers

Student Mediation Service, a new conflict resolution service provided by the division of Student Service, a new conflict resolution service pro-vided by the division of Student Services, is accepting applications through Nov. 30. This program will utilize student volunteers to help resolve conflicts involving other students. For more informa-tion, contact Student Mediation Service, 108 YMCA or call 845-1228.

Defensive driving class begins Friday

The TAMU After Hours Program will sponsor a driver safety course Friday and Saturday. This course may be used to have certain traffic violations dismissed and to receive a 10 percent discount on automobile insurance. Registration is held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in 216 MSC. For more information call 845-1515

Organizations can participate in fair

All student organizations are invited to participate in this year's MSC All-Night County Fair. Organizations may sponsor a game booth by filling out an application in the Student Finance Center of Student Programs Office anad returning it with a \$20 deposit (\$10 refundable). This is a great chance to have fun and raise money for your organization. Call the Student Programs Office at 845-1515 or Mike at 260-7053 for more information.

Problems

(continued from page 1)

placed the proposals, programs and recommendations. Those were: (1) accepted and plan in development, (2) partially implemented as part of a continuing process, (3) under study, (4) implemented, and (5) un-feasible at this time.

The first two categories include recommendations that pertain to goals the subcommittee felt were obrange planning operation within the prescribed period of 1985 to 2000. The last three categories, however, do not show suggestions for goals obtainable during that period. These goals have either been reached, will not be attempted, or require more study.

The bulk of the proposals fell un-

der the first two categories. These included a streamlining of the University administrative system and a call for more basic research, two of the more controversial recommendations that came from the Target 2000 report. Both were stressed within Vandiver's world university concept as necessities. In regard to the administrative

structure, the subcommittee wrote, A constant examination of the administrative structure of the institution with regard to efficient manage ment methods, resulting in the creation of new posts and the phasing out of extant ones, is necessary. Stability and continuity are of the highest importance to the success of Texas A&M University's achievement of genuine distinction among the institutions of higher learning in America and the world."

As for basic research, the subcommittee recognized that "Historically, the balance between the two (applied research and basic research) has fa-vored applied research because of social sororities and fraternities. Both were deemed as requiring more study and placed out of the 1985 to 2000 possibility range.

The major problem cited with im-mediate installation of a fine arts

program was expense. In regard to sororities and frater-nities, the subcommittee demanded more study because recognition "is not universally accepted among the University community as an impor-

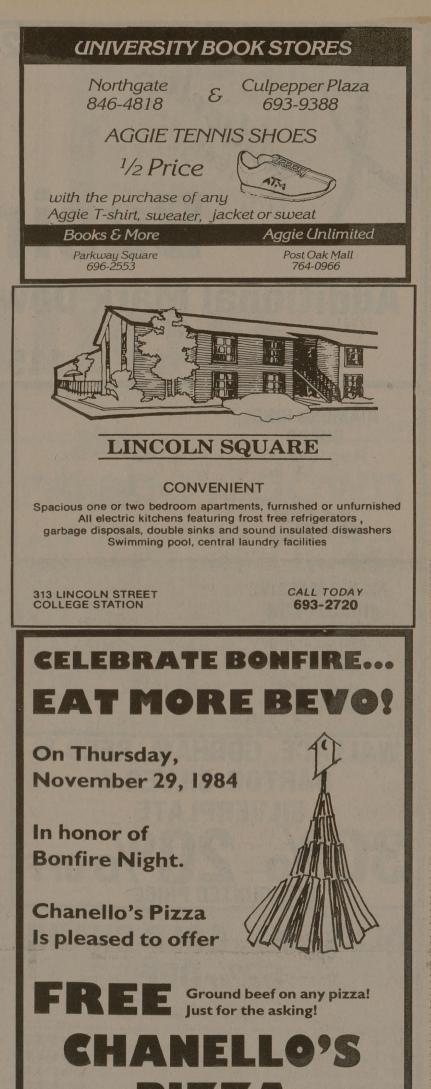
tant goal." Only three proposals were deemed entirely unfeasible by the subcommittee — all three because of expense. These were the construction of a major arts center, the establishment of a college of law and the removal of the railroad tracks along Wellborn Road that bisect the cam-

The last recommendation, however, has now been moved to a spe-cial committee for more study by the Board of Regents because of the death of two students who were involved in train-car collisions this semester

"The low priority on the railroad was based on the fact that it cost so much money that we couldn't do anything else if we did that," Phillips says. "But two deaths cause you to look again. It's a matter of perception.

That example brings up a point that Phillips stresses is inherent within the subcommittee's plan: flexibility

"Our plan was perturbed very considerably by the hiring of the new engineering dean," he says. "He said he'd come if he got certain re-sources. That sent us back to the drawing board. Those things come along all the time and you've got to have a plan that's flexible, that will accept change.



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Texas A&M's land-grant origin and mission-oriented philosophy. To be a preeminent university, however, Texas A&M must be in the forefront of undertaking basic research.

Also listed as attainable goals before 2000 were greater use of the Available University Fund for endowed chairs (at this time, \$6 million of the AUF is committed to endowments), the use of funds in areas other than building construction and the provision for faculty study leaves

"We're already enhancing that program (faculty study leaves) with the aid of the former students and we're using Available Fund money,' Phillips says. "Now we're trying to get to the point that we can offer the opportunity for 100 people to go on leave each year. That takes a lot of money — about a million dollars."

Two other proposals the subcommittee considered were the establishing of a baccalaureate program in the fine arts and the recognizing of

TAMU

and Spence St.

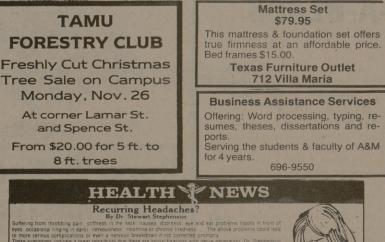
8 ft. trees

And Phillips says the current long range plan is not only flexible, but is a necessity

'It's the kind of thing that any organization should do on a regular basis," he says. "And it's being done the right way. That is, by the line officers of the institution rather than by a set of outside planners. The people running the organization have to be involved. Otherwise, the planning isn't going to amount to much and it isn't going to be accepted.

"My thought is that a university becomes a world university simply through striving for excellence," he says. "And I think the long range plan is focusing on identifying areas in which we are seeking national and international preeminence. I don't think we're there yet. You can't come in one day and tack up a sign on your door that says, 'We are now a world university'.

"But this is where the action is and our time will come."



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