

State and Local

Regents appropriate \$3.7 million to programs

By MARYBETH ROHSNER
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M Board of Regents appropriated \$3.7 million to enhance Texas A&M's programs in engineering, humanities and natural science in a late session Wednesday.

The board also authorized the establishment of the Texas Veterinary Medical Center and the Hydrogen Research Center.

Of the \$3.7 million appropriated from the Available University Fund, engineering will receive \$3.2 million. The Available University Fund is derived from investment returns from the Permanent University Fund.

Humanities and social sciences will receive \$400,000 and the Institute of Natural Archaeology will receive \$100,000.

President Frank E. Vandiver told

the board in a written recommendation that the money will be used to replace outdated equipment, recruit new faculty and support research.

"The Engineering Program is continuing in its quest to achieve... pre-eminence based on outstanding stature of faculty and staff, excellence of educational programs, performance of graduates, importance of research accomplishments..." Vandiver said.

He said the liberal arts program must also pursue "scholarly eminence."

"Most major research universities have found that the enhanced role of science and technology requires an enhanced role for the humanities and liberal arts," Vandiver added.

The regents also authorized establishment of the Texas Veterinary Medical Center, which University officials compare to the Texas Med-

ical Center in Houston. The Veterinary Center includes the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

In other business, Board Chairman David Eller appointed regents Henry Cisneros, John Mobley and William McKenzie to a chancellor search committee.

The committee will screen applications for the chancellorship of the Texas A&M University System. The search is the result of Chancellor Arthur Hansen's October announcement of retirement plans.

The regents also approved a rules revision for the tuition and fees emergency loan program. Students on conduct probation, who could not previously qualify for the loans, will now be allowed to apply for the financial aid.

Eller concluded the meeting by distributing "Twelfth Man" towels to the nine-member board.

Cotton Queen

A&M woman to represent Aggies at bowl game

By JEAN MANSABAVE
Reporter

When Texas A&M clashes with Auburn in the Cotton Bowl on New Year's Day, Donna Banfield will represent A&M as the 1986 Cotton Queen.

The Cotton Bowl features a Cotton Queen from each of the Southwest Conference schools, except for the host team of the bowl, which sends a Cotton Queen.

Banfield, a senior chemical engineering major from Arkansas, was chosen from 62 applicants to represent the University. Because A&M is the Southwest Conference title holder, Banfield becomes the Cotton Queen.

Being the Cotton Queen is similar to being a Cotton Princess, except more attention is paid to the Cotton Queen, says Jan Paterson, Students Activities adviser.

As Cotton Queen, Banfield is responsible for creating a positive image of A&M.

"The impression I want to give of Texas A&M is that of a very strong school," Banfield says. "I want to make people aware of the high academic level at A&M and of the overall quality of people at this school."

"I want others to know that A&M, even with 36,000 students, has amazing unity. There is a great sense of belonging for students at A&M."

During the four days of Cotton Bowl festivities, Dec. 29 through Jan. 2, Banfield will be busy promoting those images.

"I will attend the football game, ride on a float in the Cotton Parade, attend a ball and mingle at cocktail parties," she says.

Banfield says she also hopes to make other gains.

"I want to learn about the other Southwest Conference schools and share my knowledge of A&M with other representatives," she says. "It is a great experience to be placed in a crowd of people you don't know. It makes you assert yourself and be friendly."

Banfield says being Cotton Queen also will give her the chance to show off the "people skills" she has learned at A&M.

"I am just as excited about this school as a senior as I was three years ago as a freshman," she says. "The University has taught me skills in other areas than academics and I'd like to share them."

The five member selection panel, made up of faculty and students, selected Banfield to represent A&M because she best met the Cotton Queen qualifications, Paterson says.

Her leadership experience, ability to communicate and knowledge of the University made her the best woman for the job, Paterson says.

"On sensitive issues Donna didn't allow the panel to back her into a corner," Paterson says. "She stated her opinions and stood up for them."

Banfield says she has researched controversial issues at A&M and is prepared to present them in a factual manner.

"People want to know the truth and I want to be ready to tell them the actual situation," Banfield says.

"I strongly believe in Texas A&M, and if someone challenges me about the University I am eager to give them an answer and I won't back down."

Banfield's eagerness to answer questions was the main reason she was selected, Paterson says.

Dr. Carolyn Adair, director of Student Activities, says she also is pleased with the panel's selection of Banfield.

"What a neat choice," Adair says.

Free lighting ceremony in CS Central Park tonight

By JOHN MCCARTER
Reporter

With Thanksgiving behind us and turkey sandwiches remaining, it's time to think about Christmas and Santa Claus.

The College Station Parks and Recreation Department is doing its part to fill the community with Christmas cheer by sponsoring a Christmas tree lighting ceremony at Central Park tonight.

The ceremony is the first of many activities planned for the residents of College Station.

The evening will be highlighted by lighting of the 25,000 ornaments in the park. This is the second year that the department has sponsored this ceremony.

This year the event will be dedicated to Jack Lester Jr., says department spokeswoman Susan O'Connor.

Lester has financed the Christmas lights both years and has spent about \$12,000 over the two year period, O'Connor says.

Lester's son, Lance, 7, will have the honor of turning the lights on.

The lights will burn every evening in December from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Christmas music will be played throughout the park from 6:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. before the lights are turned on.

Winners of a Christmas card coloring contest, sponsored by the Bryan-College Station Eagle, also will be announced. The contest was for children under 10 years old.

To wrap up the evening's festivities, Christmas carols will be sung by local Girl Scout and Brownie troops.

But the Christmas season for area residents has only begun.

Bryan and A&M Consolidated high schools' choirs will give their annual Christmas Concert at the park at 7 p.m. The concert will last about an hour.

On Dec. 11 and Dec. 12 the parks and recreation department will sponsor "Christmas in the Park," featuring a live manger scene and a Santa's workshop, where children can talk to elves and watch them make toys, O'Connor says.

The Stage Center acting plans to perform one-act plays with Christmas themes on both days.

State judge to decide Texaco case

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO—The fate of the company that "Buckskin Joe" Cullen founded in Houston more than 40 years ago falls squarely into the hands of a San Antonio judge this week.

State District Judge Solomon Casseb Jr. must decide whether to uphold, reduce or reverse a jury's judgment that Texaco Inc. should pay \$5.5 billion to Pennzoil Co. for improperly taking Getty Oil Co. away from Pennzoil during a takeover last year.

If Casseb upholds the jury's verdict, he also must decide whether to award or reduce a bond that could be as much as \$12 billion — the amount of the jury award plus interest — that Texaco would have to post under state law before it could appeal the case.

There is no way Texaco can pay \$5.5 billion — the highest civil judgment in history — or make a \$12 billion bond, company Vice Chairman Charles Kinnear said in San Antonio Tuesday. The company only has a market value of \$8.5 billion, he said.

If he had to pay the judgment, it would mean the destruction of the company, Kinnear told the San Antonio Light. "If we had to post (of \$12 billion), we would have to seek all legal remedies available to including bankruptcy proceedings," he said, is the continued

existence of the nation's third-largest oil company and the future of its 55,000 employees worldwide, including 15,000 Texans.

Although its headquarters were moved to New York in 1915, almost half of Texaco's U.S. employees work in Houston, Port Arthur and other Texas locations.

Kinnear said that any judgment against Texaco in the case would "severely hamper" the company's ability to raise capital for exploration and to attract business partners. Investments such as the planned \$77 million upgrading of its Port Arthur refineries would be dropped, he said. Industry analysts say the company likely would have to sell some assets.

While their attorneys prepare for hearings before Casseb, top executives of Texaco are taking their case to newspapers across the state in an effort to convince the public there has been a grave injustice.

In Kinnear's words, the jury's judgment "is absolute economic nonsense" and "out of whack" with market values set by the oil industry. Furthermore, he said, Texaco is being punished for the "actions of outside agencies" — namely Getty's major shareholders and their financial advisers who approached Texaco about a merger when they already had an agreement with Pennzoil.

Early last year, in a deal struck with Gordon P. Getty, Pennzoil announced an agreement in princi-

ple to acquire 40.2 percent of Getty for \$5.3 billion. Within days, Texaco made a \$10 billion bid for all of Getty's stock.

After Getty accepted the offer, Pennzoil almost immediately filed suit in Houston, where it is headquartered, seeking \$14 billion in damages and alleging that Texaco had prompted Getty to break its agreement with Pennzoil even though no contract had been signed.

In its search for public support to help convince the judge to reverse the jury's verdict or at least to lower the company's bond so it can appeal, Texaco is relying on two arguments.

The first — the one that was at issue in the trial — is its assertion that Pennzoil's agreement with Getty was not binding. No contract between Pennzoil and Getty could be produced during the trial, and the news release announcing their agreement in principle stated that the transaction was conditional on reaching a definitive agreement and approval by shareholders and directors of both companies.

Texaco's second argument — which was not brought out in the trial, insiders say, because Texaco's attorneys were so confident they would win — is its claim that the jury award far exceeds Pennzoil's real loss in not getting Getty.

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<p>14 Kt. Solid Gold DIAMOND EARRINGS</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>.20 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$295</td><td>\$155</td></tr> <tr><td>.50 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$895</td><td>\$425</td></tr> <tr><td>.75 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$1500</td><td>\$750</td></tr> <tr><td>1 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$2900</td><td>\$1650</td></tr> <tr><td>1.80 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$4500</td><td>\$2795</td></tr> </table>			.20 Carat	Compare at \$295	\$155	.50 Carat	Compare at \$895	\$425	.75 Carat	Compare at \$1500	\$750	1 Carat	Compare at \$2900	\$1650	1.80 Carat	Compare at \$4500	\$2795	<p>14 Kt. Solid Gold DIAMOND PENDANTS</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>.20 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$375</td><td>\$225</td></tr> <tr><td>.55 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$1300</td><td>\$700</td></tr> <tr><td>.75 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$1750</td><td>\$995</td></tr> <tr><td>.81 Carat</td><td>Compare at \$1950</td><td>\$1030</td></tr> </table>	.20 Carat	Compare at \$375	\$225	.55 Carat	Compare at \$1300	\$700	.75 Carat	Compare at \$1750	\$995	.81 Carat	Compare at \$1950	\$1030
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<p>We also have Diamond Earring Jackets and other styles of diamond earrings.</p>																														
 <p>14 Kt. Solid Gold CHAINS & BRACELETS</p>	<p>HERRINGBONE</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>18" Med. Weight</td><td>Compare at \$125</td><td>\$60</td></tr> <tr><td>20" Med. Heavy Weight</td><td>Compare at \$495</td><td>\$262</td></tr> <tr><td>24" Heavy Weight</td><td>Compare at \$975</td><td>\$576</td></tr> </table>	18" Med. Weight	Compare at \$125	\$60	20" Med. Heavy Weight	Compare at \$495	\$262	24" Heavy Weight	Compare at \$975	\$576	<p>SOLID ROPE</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>21/2mm 20" Rope Chain</td><td>Compare at \$350</td><td>\$174.42</td></tr> <tr><td>21/2mm 22" Rope Chain</td><td>Compare at \$395</td><td>\$190.47</td></tr> <tr><td>4mm 20" Rope Chain</td><td>Compare at \$895</td><td>\$417.64</td></tr> <tr><td>4mm 24" Rope Chain</td><td>Compare at \$950</td><td>\$454.41</td></tr> </table>	21/2mm 20" Rope Chain	Compare at \$350	\$174.42	21/2mm 22" Rope Chain	Compare at \$395	\$190.47	4mm 20" Rope Chain	Compare at \$895	\$417.64	4mm 24" Rope Chain	Compare at \$950	\$454.41							
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1.46	Marquise	\$4000	3,750.00	7,500.00	1.03	Round	\$2000	1,950.00
3.00	Round	\$15,000	14,925.00	23,000.00	1.02	Round	\$2000	2,695.00
1.24	Round	\$3000	2,675.00	5,600.00	1.01	Round	\$1900	2,750.00
2.16	Round	\$5000	5,225.00	9,500.00	1.01	Round	\$2000	1,950.00
2.02	Round	\$8000	8,095.00	15,700.00	1.00	Round	\$2000	2,095.00
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