

# State and Local

## Ringer, McIlhaney square off in CS mayoral race

By Wendy Jackson,  
Steve Thomas  
and  
Jill Galarneau  
Reporters

Both candidates for College Station mayor say they are not running for what they can get out of the job but for what they can give the community.

Larry Ringer says he wants to be mayor of College Station because he enjoys life and wants to give something back by serving his community.

He moved to College Station in 1963 to help establish Texas A&M's statistics department. He says he became attached to the area and stayed longer than he had planned.

"When they offered me a faculty position, I told my wife we'd stay for five years," he says. "We've been here for 20 years."

He says the combination of the good schools and the general friendliness of the area have made it a perfect place to raise children.

*"I tend to be results-oriented. If this way isn't effective, let's change it and make it effective."*

— Mayoral candidate  
Lynn McIlhaney.

Ringer, 48, has held positions in several city organizations.

He served on the College Station City Council from 1976 to 1983, the Zoning Board of Adjustments, the Franchise Advisory Committee and other community organizations.

He says that problems developed while he was president of the Recreational Council 10 years ago. He says the limitations placed on him by the position in dealing with these problems gave him the idea to run for a higher position in city government.

He says that after serving on the Council for seven years, he decided to run for mayor the next year, 1984. But he says his plans changed

when Gary Halter decided to run for re-election.

Ringer says he stayed out of the race because he didn't want to run against a friend and had just made other long-term commitments. But he says circumstances are perfect for him to run this year.

Because his positions at the University — assistant head of the statistics department and a professor of statistics — keep him busy, he says his wife is working hard to gather volunteers and support for his campaign.

He says he isn't able to go door-to-door and get as much of the personal interaction with the public because of his work schedule.

He says he wants to continue working with the City of Bryan and to encourage industry to locate here. The city must plan for future development and growth so streets and utilities will be adequate, he says.

"I'm trying to get as many people as possible to know who I am and what I stand for," he says. "I've been active in the community for some time and hope there are a large

number of people who know me and support me."

Throughout the years the student vote has been low, he says. He says he hopes to get as many student votes as possible but isn't counting on them to win the election.

Lynn McIlhaney, 37, Ringer's opponent, says, "I'm not running for mayor just because I want to get elected. I'm running because I care about this community and I think I can get things done."

She says she decided to run for mayor because the Council has changed over the last four years for the better, and she was a part of that change.

McIlhaney says she first became involved in politics when she was living in the Raintree subdivision and the residents wanted a park there.

She organized the Raintree Homeowners Association and says she dealt with the City Council many times.

She says she was treated rudely. She says a city council shouldn't be

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— Mayoral candidate  
Larry Ringer.

run that way, so she decided to run for a Council seat. In April 1982, she says she defeated an incumbent with 54 percent of the vote, and she won the next election with 65 percent of the vote.

McIlhaney says that her strength in communication is one reason she has won in the past.

If she wins the election, she says her goals would be to:

- Achieve better communication within the Council.
- Renegotiate the Gulf States Utilities contract.
- Work with the College Station

Industrial Development Foundation to bring more industries to the area.

McIlhaney says the Council and the mayor need to work better together to give the city manager clear directives.

She says the utilities contract needs to be renegotiated since College Station is now a part of the Lone Star Municipality Power Agency along with Kirbyville, Newton and Caldwell.

"I tend to be results-oriented," she says. "If this way isn't effective, let's change it and make it effective."

McIlhaney says she is concentrating on personal contact to get support, and she is depending on the general community vote rather than interest groups.

Born in New York, she first moved to Bryan with her family when she was 18 months old. Her family lived in Houston for several years where she attended the University of Houston for one year.

The McIlhaney's are active members of Peace Lutheran Church, she says. She has four children between the ages of 11 and 17.

### In Advance

#### Senators propose addition to core curriculum proposal

A category may be added to the core curriculum at a special Faculty Senate meeting at 3:15 p.m. Monday in 701 Rudder.

A "Technology and Renewable Resources" section was proposed by senators Don Russell and Tom Kozik of the College of Engineering, who say they think students should be informed about the connection between technology and renewable resources and the health and success of society.

If the category is added, all students would be required to take two or more courses to develop

an understanding of technology and renewable resources and how they affect our society. The proposal calls for one course to be taken from course offerings in the College of Engineering and one from the College of Agriculture.

Kozik introduced the proposal at the last meeting but, because time ran out, no vote could be taken.

The Senate hopes to finish debate on the core curriculum proposal at this meeting, but a final vote on the complete document will not be taken until April 14.

### Last 10 years have shown contrasts

## Makeup of Bryan, CS councils vary

By Bobby Foster  
and  
Anthony S. Casper  
Reporters

Over the past 10 years, Bryan City Council members have differed greatly from their College Station counterparts.

While College Station council members tended to have some connection with Texas A&M, the Bryan council has tended to be comprised of community natives.

Both councils, however, have shown similarities in composition. Elected council members in both cities have tended to be white males, married, in their mid-40s and incumbents.

Although the ages of the council members varied the most diversity between the two councils was seen in occupations.

Most of the College Station City Council mem-

bers have worked for Texas A&M as faculty or staff. Doctors, bankers, and housewives have also held council positions.

Gary Halter, outgoing College Station mayor, said the first city council in College Station was formed by A&M faculty members and have dominated it since then.

"The first council meeting was held on campus," Halter said. "The first city offices were in the Agriculture Building."

The typical winners in the Bryan City Council elections, however, have held a variety of jobs.

Realtors, doctors, a mail carrier, a grocery store clerk and a rancher have served on the Bryan council in the past. But most of the council members have been self-employed businessmen.

Bryan also has had the majority of "home-grown" council members, people born and reared in the community.

College Station council members tended to be

"transplants," drawn to the area by the University. They had been residents an average of 12 years.

Minority representation on the College Station City Council has been scarce since 1975. Although the city has a smaller minority population than Bryan, none of the candidates elected in the past 10 years have been from a minority group. Bryan, however, has had one black and two Hispanics serve full terms on its city council.

Bryan, however, has had one black and two hispanics serve full terms on the City Council. The black, Ples Turner, has previously served two terms and is now completing his third. One of the hispanics, Daniel Hernandez, was elected in 1976 and completed his full two-year term. The other, Helen Chavarria, was elected in 1983.

See Composition, page 5

# AGGIECON 17 APRIL 3-6

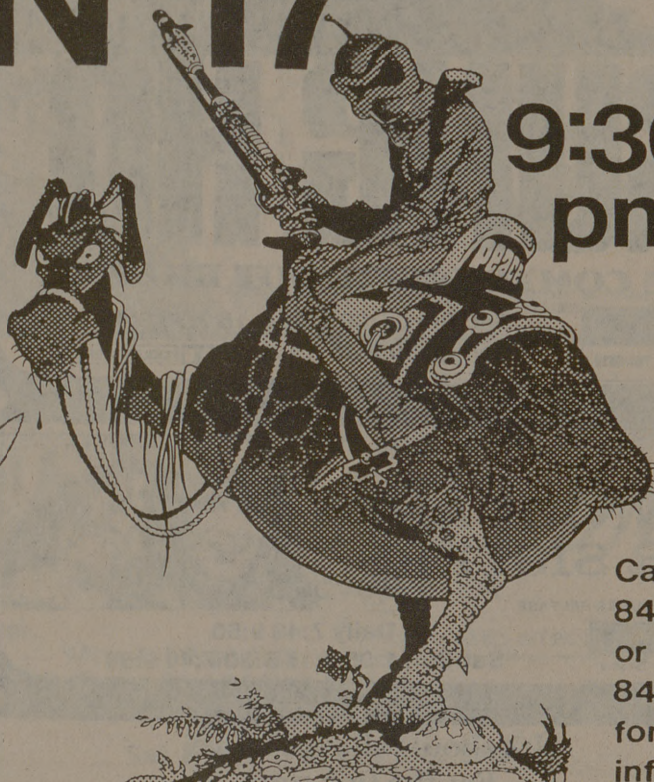
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9:30 pm

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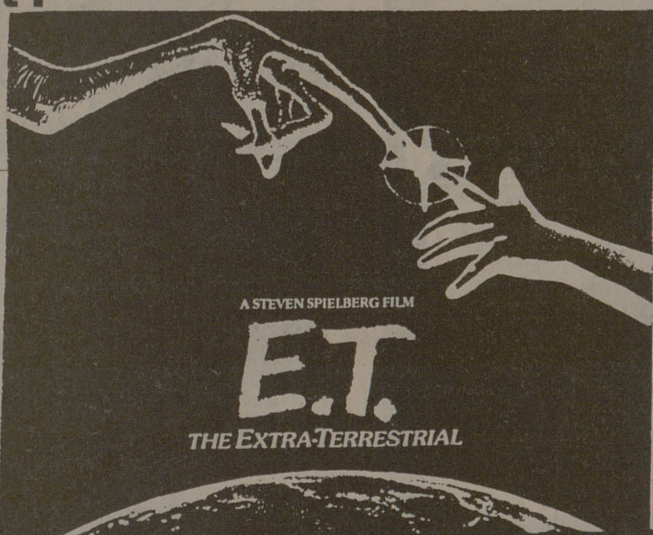
- Live Lovecraftian Quest
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- 3 Dances
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- 3 Guest Receptions
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### Tomorrow Night!

There will be a special showing of COCOON Sun., Apr. 6 at 2pm. Cost is \$2.

The profit will be donated to Twin Cities Mission.



7:30pm



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