

In Advance

RHA Casino '86 activities commence Friday in MSC

By Amy Bensinger
Reporter

The Memorial Student Center will become a lively gaming hall in the tropics Friday from 7 p.m. to midnight.

"Caribbean Dreams" is the theme for Casino '86, the annual fund-raiser sponsored by the Residence Hall Association.

Steve Carter, chairman for Casino '86, said gaming tables will be set up on the first and second floors of the MSC.

"Our games this year include blackjack, craps, baccarat, wheel of fortune, beat the dealer, horse races and other games of chance," Carter said. "We rent the authentic gaming tables from a company in Houston."

Carter said tickets will be exchanged at the door for \$3,000 in fake money. Players can try their luck at the tables, save their money or pool it with other people's money.

Players can "spend" their winnings on prizes at an auction, which will be held four times during the evening, Carter said.

"We always have a few surprises up our sleeves at the auc-

tions, and it's always fun to see what happens," Carter said. "This is a really exciting part of Casino, and sometimes the crowd can get pretty wild."

Merchants from the Bryan-College Station area have donated the auction prizes.

Prizes will include diamonds for men's and women's senior rings, a weekend at the Holiday Inn, jewelry, gift certificates for dinners, clothes, tanning salon sessions and haircuts.

"We try to have a variety of prizes, from large to small, because we want everyone to be able to come away with something," Carter said.

Casino started as a dorm mixer but was so successful that it was taken over by the RHA. Since then, it has become RHA's largest moneymaker.

"Last year, we grossed over \$16,000," Carter said, "and this year, since we're expanding the operation, we're hoping to bring in even more money."

Tickets are available for \$3.50 at Sbis Dining Hall, the Commons and inside the MSC, and for \$4 at the door.

Two Texas justices served subpoenas by state ranger

AUSTIN (AP) — A Texas Ranger served legislative subpoenas Tuesday on the Supreme Court, an action one of two summoned justices called a "grave" constitutional dilemma.

The subpoenas from the House Committee on Judicial Affairs were delivered for Justice C. L. Ray, Justice William Kilgarlin and two court staffers about 11:30 a.m., while all nine justices were in conference.

The subpoenas summoned the four to testify before a committee hearing on Friday.

Committee Chairman Frank Tejada says his panel is investigating requests for transfer of two multimillion-dollar cases from a San Antonio appeals court to other appellate courts.

The requests were made of Ray by San Antonio lawyer and campaign contributor Pat Maloney Sr. The high court twice annually moves cases from backlogged appellate courts.

After seeing the subpoenas, Chief Justice John Hill reiterated his belief that they are improper and shouldn't be obeyed.

While promising to cooperate with the investigation, Hill said the subpoenas violate the constitutional principle that separates the powers of government's three branches — legislative, judicial and executive.

"I'm not aware of any precedent for the subpoenaing of a sitting justice before a legislative committee," Hill said.

The House committee called on Ray to testify about the transfer of cases, communications between court members with attorneys having cases before the court and the conduct of court members or its employees involving pending cases.

Kilgarlin was subpoenaed to testify about transfers, communications and acceptance of gifts by the court or its employees from attorneys with cases pending before the court.

Kilgarlin said he was eager to answer the committee's questions, but he also said the subpoenas violate constitutional principles.

"I've got nothing to hide about all this . . ." Kilgarlin said. "However, to me there is a grave constitutional issue involved on separation of powers."

"I have to balance on the one hand the (public impression) of not appearing before the committee even when I have nothing to hide with what to me is a more important obligation — and that's the independence of the judicial branch," he added.

Both Kilgarlin and Ray said they have hired Austin lawyer Randall "Buck" Wood to represent them in the dispute.

Ray said the possible showdown with the Legislature violates constitutional provisions. He also said it wasn't possible for him alone to have ordered cases transferred.

"The one thing that needs to be clear . . . is that the action taken on the transfer of the cases was done by all nine members of the court in conference," Ray said. "C.L. Ray does not transfer cases by himself. I think the chairman (Tejada) knows that."

Subpoenas also were served Tuesday for Scott Alan Ozmun and Jennifer Bruch, briefing attorneys for Kilgarlin. They were called to answer questions about a trip to Las Vegas, Nev., taken by the briefing attorneys and allegedly paid for by Pat Maloney Jr.

Trying to head off a showdown between the high court and the Legislature, the chief justice has proposed that the House committee question Ray and Kilgarlin in the Supreme Court conference room.

Tejada, D-San Antonio, did not return three phone calls from The Associated Press on Tuesday. Hill said he hadn't heard whether Tejada would agree to that procedure.

CS council will consider creating preservation group

The College Station City Council will hold its workshop meeting today at 5 p.m. The newly elected mayor and council members will be sworn in at Thursday's regular meeting at 7 p.m.

In outgoing-mayor Gary Haller's last workshop, the council will consider an ordinance establishing a College Station Historic Preservation Committee. At its March 26 meeting, the council

discussed establishing the committee to aid in the collection and preservation of the history of College Station.

The council also will consider a contract for a management study of the city. The study, submitted by City Manager William Cole, will review the city's organizational structure and make recommendations on improving the city's management efficiency.

A&M researchers develop new robotic eye

By Robbyn L. Lister
Reporter

Texas A&M researchers have developed a new robotic eye that they may revolutionize the tasks and maneuverability of robots used in space and industry.

Although a prototype has not yet been built, computer test results of a newly developed stereo vision process for robotics are promising, says Norman Griswold, an A&M associate professor of electrical engineering.

Griswold says he expects the process to propel the robotics industry forward because of its many applications, especially in the space program.

Robots with stereo vision can be used to repair malfunctioning satellites, help vehicles dock in space and

perform hazardous tasks so that humans are not exposed to dangers such as radiation, he says.

Stereo vision also can be used in repetitive manufacturing processes, such as assembly lines, to speed production and free humans for other tasks, he says.

The system was developed by Griswold and engineering graduate students, who began the project in January 1985.

Griswold received a grant after submitting a proposal to NASA, one of five accepted from the engineering college, examining the problem of docking vehicles in space.

Griswold says the opportunity to contribute to robotics and push the industry into further expansion influenced him to submit his proposal to NASA.

He says the stereo vision system allows robots to see 3-D images as humans do.

Images are brought together for a 3-D effect by two separate cameras, designated as left and right, he says.

"The general idea is that you have to determine some feature in the left image and find out where it is in the right image," he says. "The same feature in the right image will be displaced some angular amount, and that's what we call disparity."

Although the stereo vision system cannot measure distances as accurately as the human eye, Griswold says, it is precise to within 2 inches every 10 feet.

Griswold says he took his idea for stereo vision robotics from the way human eyes view objects.

"We got the idea of observing how the human system sees and from that we decided we could build a stereo model that was based on human mechanisms," he says.

Griswold says he has tested his idea by setting up cameras and using computer simulations to visualize the effects of stereo robotics.

He says an autonomous vehicle will be built, beginning in Fall 1986, containing a model of the system.

Griswold says that a lot of effort, more funding, and better equipment is necessary for further development in robotics.

In addition, the future of robotics depends on innovations in vision processes, he says.

Apprehension of illegal aliens up 42 percent, official says

DALLAS (AP) — Economic problems in Mexico and Central America are pushing a record number of illegal aliens into the United States, an immigration and Naturalization Service official said Tuesday.

Acting INS southern region director David Vandersall, basing his projection on field reports compiled for the first half of fiscal year 1986, said

more than 337,000 illegal aliens were apprehended over a six-month period.

The figure for the 13-state area, from New Mexico to Florida and along the Eastern seaboard to North Carolina, represents a 42 percent increase over the same period during fiscal year 1985, he said.

"The economy is suffering in

those areas (primarily Mexico and Central America)," Vandersall said. "There is a real push factor to leave and also a real pull factor for people to come here."

The influx is preventing the unemployed in the United States from getting potential jobs, he said.

"Illegal aliens don't complain about lower wages, and he can be

taken advantage of more than the U.S. citizen," Vandersall said. "The only way to control our borders is to eliminate the illegal alien's motivation to come to this country."

"It's illegal for (aliens) to work here, but not for employers to hire them," Vandersall said. "That's why we are pushing for employer sanctions."

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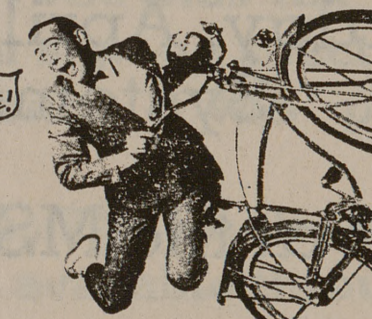
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