

Shadow cast on Clements' Army award

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Bill Clements declined to comment Thursday on reports that Army officials are debating whether to withhold an award issued annually in his name because of Clements' role in the Southern Methodist University football scandal.

The announcement of the award at West Point "is tied up just with the discomfort about SMU," Maj. Bruce Bell, a spokesman for the Department of the Army in Washington, told the *Dallas Times Herald*.

Clements' press secretary Reggie Bashur said the governor wouldn't comment and declined to discuss the matter.

The award, financed by Dallas billionaire H. Ross Perot, is designed to reward teaching excellence at all three military academies.

Some officials at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point said that Clements' acknowledged role in payoffs to SMU athletes violates the school's revered "Code of Honor."

Unlike West Point officials, leaders at the Naval Academy and the Air Force Academy have decided to award the Clements prize this year, as scheduled.

Clements served as a deputy secretary of defense in the Ford administration. The Clements award has been given to faculty members at the three military academies annually since 1977.

The governor has admitted that he knew about payments to athletes at SMU, a violation of NCAA rules.

Perot said he hoped any decision reached by the Army would be considered carefully and not be "just a knee-jerk reaction... based on what they may have read" about the SMU scandal.

Perot said he had not been involved in the debate about the awarding of the Clements prize at West Point.

"That's something they'll have to decide," he said.

Tricksters con illegal aliens

HOUSTON (AP) — Bogus agencies that prey on illegal aliens anxiously seeking help in getting amnesty are cropping up across the city, federal officials said.

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service is investigating several cases where people or organizations represented themselves as experts on the new law granting amnesty to illegal aliens who have lived in the United States since 1981, Assistant District Director Mike McMahon said.

"We have a lot of agencies that have sprung up overnight," McMahon said. "Anytime we receive complaints on those kinds of people, we open up an investigation. Unfortunately, we find that after the fees are collected, the agency closes down and sets up somewhere else and starts all over again."

Tuesday was the first day of the nationwide amnesty program, and many illegal aliens are still seeking information and completing forms.

The INS provides a list of approved agencies, which generally charge \$60 to \$150 for assistance in the application process.

What's up

Friday

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY: will host a peanut-butter fellowship at 11:30 a.m. at Rudder Fountain and a Bible study at 6:30 p.m. in A&M Presbyterian Church.

CHI ALPHA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: will meet for an alumni picnic at 5 p.m. in 156 Blocker.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three working days before desired publication date.

Dean receives surprise honor at faculty event

By Clark Miller
Staff Writer

When Dr. Clinton A. Phillips, associate provost and dean of faculties at Texas A&M, said the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Awards ceremony would "honor our finest," he didn't realize he was including himself.

After what Phillips thought was the conclusion of the ceremony, A&M President Frank E. Vandiver asked to make a final statement.

Vandiver then called upon John McDermott, distinguished professor of philosophy, to take the stage and McDermott announced Phillips as the winner of one of the 19 awards that were distributed.

Phillips, master of ceremonies at the event Thursday in Rudder Theater, was responsible for announcing the winners of the Association of Former Students distinguished faculty awards.

In other developments, Dr. Sam Black, speaker of the Faculty Senate, announced that a faculty club is expected to open in early 1988 on the top two floors of Rudder Tower.

Black said that a faculty club interim board has analyzed the results of a questionnaire that faculty members were asked to fill out.

The response was overwhelmingly in support of the club, using the Rudder Tower facilities rather than moving off campus.

Black's announcement brought applause from the more than 250 people at the program.

Vandiver also had encouraging words about the level of government funds he expects the Texas Legislature to provide.

"If someone would have asked last week what are the chances of getting more money from the Legislature," Vandiver told the audience, "my answer would have been very pessimistic."

"But with the rally of support (a pro-education rally in Austin on Tuesday) and the increased involvement of Ross Perot, an impact has been made."

Dr. Donald McDonald, provost and vice president of academic affairs, addressed the problem of the expected increase in enrollment at A&M.

McDonald called it a "high-class problem," because attracting a greater number of new students speaks well for the University, while

at the same time it creates a strain on A&M faculty and facilities.

"We're working on several alternative plans," McDonald said in regard to the predicted student population problem.

McDonald said that with current increases in enrollment, the student population of A&M would reach 50,000 by 1997.

He also said that kind of growth may not be in the best interest of the quality of education at A&M.

Another surprised winner at the ceremony was Mary Helen Bowers, who works for the education information services and received one of the distinguished staff awards.

Bowers wrote the biographies of the award recipients that were read by Phillips as the winners picked up their prizes. Phillips confessed to telling a "white lie" to keep Bowers from becoming suspicious.

Six awards were given for teaching, six for research, two for student relations, two for continuing education/extension, and three for staff/administration.

The awards came with a \$4,000 check from the Association of Former Students to the winners.

Black said that 28 of the 86 Faculty Senators have been winners of the faculty awards.

Black also said that a membership drive for the faculty club would begin this fall.

The club, which will offer dining facilities and a bar, will receive no subsidy from A&M, although the subsidies are the only way faculty clubs at some universities, such as Rice University and the University of Texas, get by.

Dr. David Chapman, an assistant professor of history and a member on the faculty club interim board, said that the idea of a faculty club has been around for several years but has really been pushed in the last year and a half.

Chapman said that the 11th and 12th floors of Rudder Tower, where the club will be located, were originally built to house a faculty club that was never finished.

Chapman said that the kitchen and bar areas need to be revamped, but there is a good starting point.

He also said that it is important for the club to succeed, because if it fails it is unlikely that another one would ever be started.

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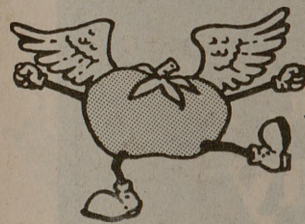
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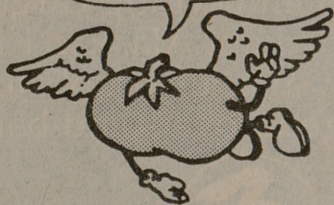
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