

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1989

## Voters say yes to 'Alamodome,' no to voting on casino gambling Professor helps Americans visualize life in U.S.S.R.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Antonio voters easily approved financing for the proposed Alamodome, while Galveston residents took a stand on casino gambling as local elections were held throughout Texas.

next five years to pay for stadium construction on the east edge of downtown.

Galveston residents decided Saturday to ban future non-binding referendums on the legalization of casino gambling. By a 2-to-1 margin, voters approved Proposition 6, which bans all straw polls on casino gambling until the issue is approved by the state Legislature.

In the last five years, residents have voted down casino gambling three times. After the most recent attempt last August, Galveston's anti-

casino movement mounted a petition drive to place Proposition 6 on Saturday's ballot.

In Amarillo, voters defeated a proposal to establish single-member voting districts by a vote of 9,406-to-4,957.

The plan called for dividing Amarillo into four quadrants, with voters living in each section choosing a city commissioner from among the residents in their district. Also, the plan called for two commissioners

See election/Page 7

By Kelly S. Brown  
STAFF WRITER

The Soviet Union has been called a country without a smile — an opulent land filled with three million people, watered-down hopes and very little toilet paper.

Some Americans view the U.S.S.R. as a cold prison where the life of the inmate is hard to understand. Assisting in bridging the gap of mystery between the two countries is Dr. Steve Pejovich, a Texas A&M economics professor who does research on the economics of socialism.

Pejovich, who is director of the Center for Free Enterprise, has made four fact-finding missions to the Soviet Union, the latest visit being for two weeks in November with a group consisting mainly of members of the media. Traveling by bus, plane and train, the group visited Leningrad, Kiev and Moscow.

"With Russia, no matter how often I go, it's always a first impression," said Pejovich, who is originally from Yugoslavia. "It's like being married three or four times — always a new marriage."

"During my trip in November I found Russia to be in worse economic shape than when I visited in 1983."

Pejovich said all the talk about the Soviets becoming westernized with their programs of perestroika and glasnost is a farce.

"Gorbachev is trying to make changes with perestroika and glasnost," he said. "With perestroika, Gorbachev means major institutional changes primarily in the sphere of economics, while glasnost is about political and social changes that could be accomplished with the existing system."

Pejovich said even with the new reforms, there is no way out of socialism.

"I think Gorbachev is finally getting around to realizing that he's not getting anywhere," he said.

Especially with perestroika. A high-level journalist told him the future of perestroika hangs in the bal-

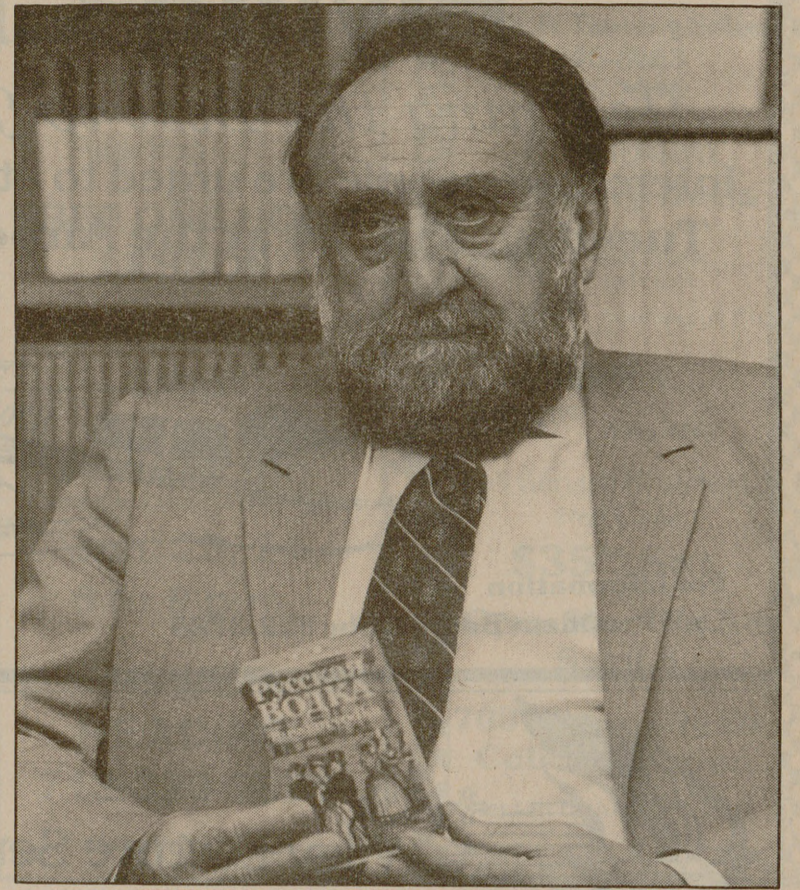


Photo by Dean Saito

Dr. Steve Pejovich, a Texas A&M professor who researches the economics of socialism in the Soviet Union, holds a box which contains a small bottle of vodka that he brought back from one of his trips to the U.S.S.R.

ance and Pejovich agrees. "Gorbachev is opposed by a large segment of the Soviet population, including blue collar workers," he said. "They do not believe that harder work will result in more consumer goods for themselves. They do not have much, but they do not have to work for it either."

Pejovich said glasnost, on the other hand, is a reality.

"Issues that used to be suppressed

are being aired openly," Pejovich said. "The people are less reluctant to talk to a foreigner. An instance of this was when a tourist guide was openly critical of Mrs. Gorbachev. Also, the unrest in Estonia and Armenia are predictable consequences of glasnost."

"What is going on in the Soviet Union right now is something I had

See Soviet/Page 7

## Committee postpones decision on proposed center for cadets

By Stephen Masters

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Planning and Building Committee Sunday postponed a decision on a preliminary design for the Corps of Cadets Center until the Board's March meeting.

After some argument over proposed sites for the center, the committee approved allocation of funds to contract an architect to advise the committee of the possible site feasibility. The architect will be charged to work within the guidelines for "green space" in A&M's Master Plan.

The committee, chaired by Royce Wisenbaker of Tyler, originally tied 2-2 on whether to postpone the decision without action after Douglas DeCluitt of Waco voiced his opposition to the site recommended by Moffatt Adams, chief architect for the System's facilities planning division, and Corps Commandant Tom Darling. Both Adams and Darling recommended the proposed Spence Park South site because it would leave a recreational "green space" area between the Corps quadrangle, the MSC, Rudder Complex, the Center and two other proposed construction sites.

Other proposed sites were at the north end of Spence Park and at the northwest corner of Duncan Field.

The 10,000 square foot center would take up approximately 18,000 square feet with landscaping if constructed one-story tall as proposed. The center would house a Hall of Honor, a Corps Recruiting Office and offices for Corps Staff.

DeCluitt moved for postponing the vote, saying the Board needs to consider leaving Spence Park as a park.

Board Chairman David Eller said the need for the Corps Center outweighed other considerations.

"If it comes down to a decision between green space and benefitting the Corps, I don't think there's any question of what we should do," Eller said.

University President William Mobley agreed with the need for the Corps center, but cautioned against a rushed decision, recommending postponing the decision while looking into alternative sites.

Regent Lowry Mays of San Antonio agreed with DeCluitt's belief in the need for "green space."

"I think if we were the planners of New York City, there wouldn't be a Central Park," he said. "We'd whittle away at it and use the last of it for a Corps Center."

The committee also took action on bids to begin Phase III of the renovation of Corps-Style residence halls, approving a bid of just over \$6.4 million for Dorms 5, 7, 9 and 11 in the Corps quadrangle. The bid, submitted by Paul Pogue Inc. of Sherman, was about \$86,000 below the estimate given for the project, said Gen. Wesley Peel, vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction.

Phase I, the renovation of Dorms 6, 8, 10 and 12 in the Corps quadrangle, was completed in Summer 1988, Peel said. Phase II began last fall with the closing of Crocker and Davis-Gary halls, which were completed earlier this month, he said. Moore Hall and Moses Hall are also included in Phase II.

Phase IV will renovate Dorms 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the Corps quadrangle.

All actions taken by the committee must be approved at the Board's regularly scheduled meeting today at 3 p.m.

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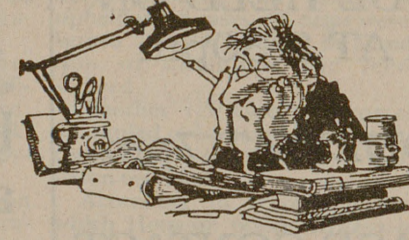
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**224 MSC 8:30**

**Phi Delta Theta Spring Rush '89**



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<b>U2 Can Rattle and Hum w/Xit</b> Date: January 19 Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Lodge	<b>Comedy Club +*</b> Date: January 26 Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Lodge Date Optional
<b>Barbecue at the Lodge*</b> Date: January 21 Time: 2:00 p.m. Place: Lodge	<b>Barn Dance w/ KKG*</b> Date: January 28 Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Lodge
<b>Smoker +</b> Date: January 24 Time: 6:00 p.m. Place: MSC Rm 201	<b>An Added Attraction*</b> Date: January 30 Time: 8:00 p.m. Place: Lodge

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**Monday January 23 5:00 p.m. Rm. 268 Read (E. Kyle)**

**ALL MEETING**

**ARRIVAL**