

## WEATHER

FORECAST for TUESDAY:  
Mostly cloudy and warm with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms.

HIGH:84

LOW:64

# Papers say George Smith changes story again

By Stephen Masters

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

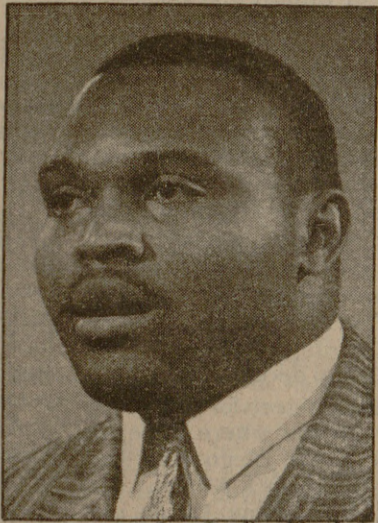
The saga continues.

Former Texas A&M fullback George Smith resurfaced over the weekend by being quoted in two published accounts. One account has a new version of his recantation; another has Smith recanting this new version.

In a copyrighted story Saturday, the *Dallas Morning News* reported that Smith reversed his original story about "hush money" in November after he was offered \$30,000 to do so by an A&M source he would not name.

"And you know, I had to get something pretty good to do what I did," Smith said in the *Morning News* story. "They promised me enough to finish my education, which is all I ever really wanted to do — \$30,000. In that neighborhood."

Then a report in Sunday's *Bryan-College Station Eagle* quoted Smith as saying he never spoke with anyone from the *Morning News* on the matter.



George Smith

"I don't know nothing about that," he said in the *Eagle* story. "I didn't talk to nobody."

Citing anonymous sources, the *Morning News* story also alleged

that the NCAA has been given information confirming a newspaper report last year that Smith was allowed to move into Cain Hall, A&M's athletic dormitory, during Summer 1982, prior to his freshman year.

The story also said Smith's aunt, Elizabeth Jordan, has told NCAA investigators she heard Smith threatening to tell about A&M rules violations if Athletic Department officials did not send him money.

Jordan confirmed Sunday that she spoke with NCAA investigators "around March," but when asked if she told the NCAA she heard Smith threaten to expose the Athletic Department, she said, "Not really. I ain't heard him say nothing about sending money. Not sending money."

When asked what she told the NCAA, she said, "I don't remember."

Jordan said she "heard Smith talking to somebody," but she "didn't know what all he was saying."

Jordan said she hasn't seen Smith in person since he was living with her this past summer in Atlanta. It was during this time that she said she

overheard Smith's call about which she allegedly told investigators. She said Smith lived with her for four or five months.

A Dec. 7 *Morning News* story quoted Larry Wilson, director of Parks Department in Douglasville, Ga. and Smith's former boss, as saying he had overheard another threatening call by Smith. Wilson said in the *Morning News* story that he overheard Smith yelling at former A&M receivers coach George Pugh telling him to "send him some money or he would tell what he knows."

In more than eight hours of taped interviews with the *Morning News*, Smith said former A&M athletic director and football coach Jackie Sherrill paid him \$4,400 over a two-year period in return for silence over alleged recruiting violations during Smith's tenure with the Aggies.

The fullback played for A&M for the 1982 and 1983 seasons before transferring to Clemson.

The *Morning News* story broke Nov. 18 and the Texas sports media descended on A&M. At a hastily

called news conference the following day, Smith recanted his accusations. Smith said the money he had received from Sherrill was a loan.

Smith was quoted in the story saying Sherrill arranged for Smith to enroll in classes and move into Cain Hall during the summer of 1982, prior to beginning his freshman year, an apparent NCAA violation.

Smith also said in the story that Sherrill paid for this room, board and tuition during Summer 1982. Smith said all statements he made about A&M recruiting violations were false and that he had made them up to help the saleability of a book he and *Morning News* reporter Doug Bedell were working on.

Smith appeared before NCAA investigators with A&M officials Nov. 20 to reiterate that he his previous statements were lies.

Saturday's story, also by Bedell, alleges that Smith had documentation on "what had transpired before his recantation" and that this information would be turned over to the NCAA in March. The story said Smith was to meet with NCAA enforcement representative Charles

Smith in March to recant his previous recantation.

Smith told the *Eagle* he could not comment on whether Smith had been interviewed because the inquiry is still incomplete.

The *Morning News* story said Smith was planning to leave the country after discussions with Smith. The story reported that Smith's phone was disconnected "within days" of the session with Smith.

A&M released the findings of a two-month internal investigation into the allegations that payments by Sherrill to Smith constituted "hush money." The summary of the report indicates that "there is no evidence to support the charge alleged to have been made by George Smith that these payments constituted 'hush money,'" the report says.

Several paragraphs of the report and five pages of Sherrill's 16-page affidavit have been withheld with University public information officials citing the "Buckley Amendment" as the principal exception. The amendment exempts student records and other information from Texas Open Records Laws.

## OCA president announced incorrectly

By Kelly S. Brown

STAFF WRITER

The position of Off-Campus Aggies president was incorrectly announced Thursday when Student Government election results were given. The office will be decided along with seven other positions in a run-off election Tuesday.

Candidates for OCA president are Curtis Rick, the 1988-89 OCA president and a junior biology major, and Shawn Knight, a sophomore political science major. Rick received 251 votes, while Knight garnered 248 votes.

The error occurred during the evaluation of election returns by election commissioners, Kristin Hay, co-chairman of the election commission, said.

Organizations within Student Government use different methods to decide elections — some use a plurality method, by which the winner is the candidate who receives the most votes, while other organizations use a majority method, by which a candidate must receive more than half of all votes cast.

OCA uses a majority vote system, but the election commissioners thought OCA offices required only a plurality, Hay said.

Run-off elections will begin at 9 a.m. tomorrow. Polling places include the Academic Building, Blocker Building, Kleberg and the MSC. All polling sites except the MSC will be open until 6 p.m. Students may vote at the MSC until 8 p.m.

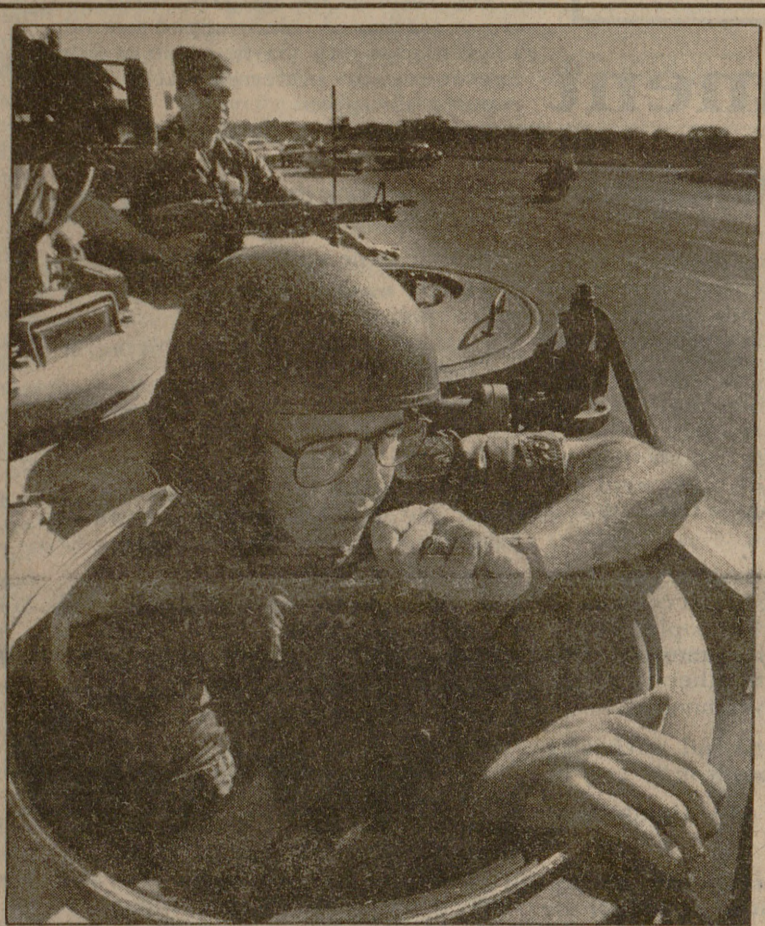


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

## March to the Brazos

Senior Corps of Cadets member William Montgomery, peering out of an M113 armored personnel carrier, leads about 2,000 cadets down University Drive Saturday morning during the annual March to the Brazos. The event, which consists of military excercises and athletic activities, raises funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association through pledges.

# Predominantly black universities experience increased enrollment

HOUSTON (AP) — A generation after blacks fought for the right to attend white universities, many black parents are encouraging their children to enroll in Texas' predominantly black schools to get more personal attention and camaraderie.

Officials say enrollments at Texas Southern University and Prairie View A&M University are following a nationwide upward trend. It comes as parents look for an affordable, competitive education for their children and students look for smaller classes and a reprieve from the resurgence of racism at many predominantly white colleges, the *Houston Post* reported.

"For one thing, this is your own race," said Karen Shaw, 25, a black University of Texas graduate who enrolled at TSU pharmacy college in 1987.

"We (blacks) have a common bond," Shaw told the *Post*. "We have a common interest to try and succeed in the white man's world."

Donald Hill, chairman of the TSU Faculty Assembly Council, said when black parents saw white universities beginning to integrate in the 1960s and early 1970s, they urged their children to attend those schools, thinking that was the best track to mainstream American society.

Now, as predominantly black schools have become more competitive in their offerings and more sophisticated, parents are urging stu-

dents to return to them.

Enrollments at two-thirds of the 42 colleges supported by the United Negro College Fund have increased this year, said Alan Kirschner, a vice president for the fund.

In Texas, meanwhile, fall enrollment at Prairie View A&M hit a record high of 5,640, and TSU reported 8,554 students, up from 7,319 in 1987.

Kirschner said part of the reason for black colleges' growth is costs are about half that at private predominantly white universities and students have taken advantage of more financial aid opportunities in recent years.

Also, the schools are more competitive in recruiting top students away from Ivy League schools by offering honors and mentor programs, such as the Banneker Honors College at Prairie View A&M.

"My parents realized it's a good experience having black teachers who understand where you're coming from and who may be more sympathetic," said Judith Whitmire, who turned down an offer from Massachusetts' exclusive Wellesley College to attend Prairie View A&M, her parents' alma mater.

Still, the schools continue having problems attracting black male students and acquiring substantial endowments and other funding.

Black male college enrollment nationwide dropped from 470,000 in

1976 to 436,000 in 1986, according to an American Council on Education study released in January.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board reports that black male enrollment at state public universities reached a peak in 1984 of 13,010 and declined to 11,912 in 1987.

"My god, it's absolutely frightening," TSU President William Harris said. "This is a male-dominated society. If one group (black men) is not participating in the interest of the population, the whole group will suffer."

At TSU, the number of females applying for next fall is more than

double the number of males: 1,226 to 597. Currently, female students account for 54 percent of TSU's spring enrollment. At Prairie View, women outnumber men 2,999 to 2,641.

Glenn Terrell, 17, a high school junior, said he thinks Yale University's law school still will offer him more than would an education from the predominantly-black colleges.

"When it comes down to finding a job, I'll have a better opportunity of finding a better job at Yale than at TSU," said Terrell, who is ranked No. 1 in his class at Houston's Jones High School.

## Student killed by truck while videotaping tower

A Texas A&M student died Saturday morning after a pickup hit her at the intersection of Wellborn Road and West Main Drive on the west side of campus.

Karen E. Miller, 34, of College Station, stepped backward into the roadway while videotaping the Albritton Tower at about 6 a.m., College Station police said.

The driver of the pickup, who was travelling north on Wellborn Road

in the outside lane, told police he did not see the student in time to avoid the collision.

Miller, a senior health education major, died before reaching Humana Hospital.

Her two children and a friend were with her at the time of the accident, but they did not see it happen.

No charges have been filed in connection with the accident.

# Report shows no evidence Sherrill paid 'hush money'

By Stephen Masters

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

An internal investigation released Friday shows no evidence to support allegations that Jackie Sherrill paid a former Texas A&M football player "hush money."

In his summary of the report, Vice President for Finance and Administration Robert Smith said although payments were made to former running back George Smith (no relation to Robert) by Jackie Sherrill, A&M's former athletic director and football coach, there is no evidence to support the "hush money" allegations of the Nov. 18 *Dallas Morning News* story.

Robert Smith was put in charge of the internal investigation by University President William Mobley after the original *Morning News* story broke.

The Nov. 18 story quoted George Smith as saying Sherrill paid him \$4,400 from 1986 to September 1988 in return for keeping quiet about alleged recruiting violations during Smith's time at A&M. Smith was a fullback with the Aggies for the 1982 and 1983 seasons.

The summary says the report examined each of Smith's original allegations, including five confirmed payments made to Smith via overnight mail. No record was found of an alleged July 10, 1987 payment. The six alleged payments covered in the summary total \$3,000.

The report quotes Sherrill saying he "can neither admit nor deny that money or anything else was sent to

George Smith" in November 1986 and January 1988. Sherrill has admitted payments to Smith on June 6, Sept. 13 and Sept. 26, 1988.

In Sherrill's sworn affidavit, he says he sent Smith \$500 on three separate occasions in 1988 to set Smith up in an apartment. Sherrill's statement says he sent the money separately because he thought Smith would "make better use of it if it did not come all at one time."

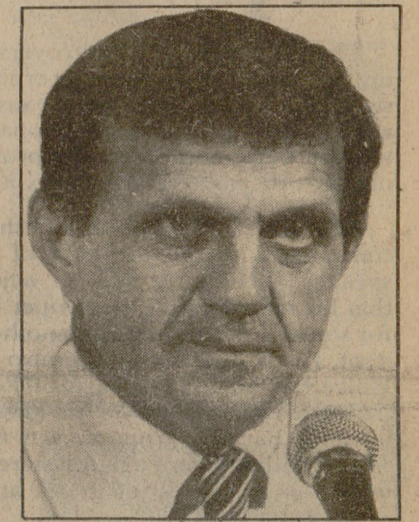
An explanation for the reason Sherrill sent cash rather than checks to Smith is offered in a section titled "Informal Response to Additional Inquiries."

"Sherrill carries cash," the response says. "No cash money is kept in or around the Athletic Department, whether in the private office of Jackie Sherrill or otherwise. . . . Sherrill routinely pays cash for things that do not require a record or that do not have income tax implications. Simply stated, it is his habit to carry and pay in cash."

There is no speaker identified for the statement, labelled only "Not a Statement of Jackie Sherrill."

In a sworn affidavit, Bob Matey, director of Athletic Video Services, said that on two occasions in September 1988 Sherrill asked him to mail envelopes to Smith by overnight mail.

In the first instance, Matey says he put his name on the return address. The second time, he said he "didn't feel comfortable about" mailing the letter with his name on it. Because of this, the statement said, he used the name of an acquaintance, Mark Paulson, a Brazos County deputy



Jackie Sherrill

sheriff, on the return address. Matey said he used his own former address, 800 Marion Pugh, because he did not know Paulson's address.

Matey's statement said he informed Paulson of using his name "a few days later."

Paulson confirmed in an affidavit that Matey informed him of the information, but said he was not told until Nov. 18 when the *Morning News* story broke.

Paulson's statement says Matey told him "Coach Sherrill was known to help students who have been players after they are gone."

Smith's affidavit says the only

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## Bill calls for professor on state regents boards

By Alan Sembera

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Testimony begins today in the state House Committee on Higher Education concerning a bill that would add a non-voting faculty member to university boards of regents.

One of the faculty representatives who will testify in support of the bill said Friday he supports the faculty-regent idea because of a need to facilitate communication between governing boards and faculties.

Dr. Kenneth Margerison, president of the 1,200-member Texas Faculty Association, said the current system that relies on administrators to represent faculty concerns falls short because university administrators don't have a full knowledge of what happens in the classrooms.

"We're interested in trying to alert the boards as to what we see as the educational needs of the universities," he said.

One of the educational concerns of faculties, he said, is the deterioration of university library resources.

"University administrations don't seem very interested in this problem," Margerison said.

Claudine Hunting, president of the TFA's newly formed Texas A&M chapter, agreed with Margerison that there is a need for more faculty input to the boards

of regents.

One of the problems at A&M, she said, is the professional situation women face as a minority in the faculty.

"In many cases among tenured faculty, especially among middle-level professors, women are looked down upon by their peers if they state opinions favoring equity between the sexes," Hunting said. "They're interrupted, and aren't allowed to speak."

Hunting said she wants cooperation with the administration on this and many other issues. Having a faculty regent would lessen the feeling that professors are treated like numbers, she said, and would contribute toward a more productive University.

Gary Hart, president of A&M's Faculty Senate, said the Senate has not taken a stance on the faculty regent bill, but said a committee had been formed to investigate it.

Under the bill, which was introduced to the House by Rep. Wilhelmina Delco, D-Austin, the governor would choose the faculty regent from a list of nominees provided by faculty bodies.

Three nominees would be selected for each university system by a council of faculty senators comprised of one senator from each member school.

An identical bill has been filed in the Senate by Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin.