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Movin' Mav fee exemption possible

• *Building-use fee affects attendance and number of home games; bill states.*

by April Flanary

THE SHORTHORN

A resolution that would exempt the Movin' Mavs, the wheelchair basketball team, from the Texas Hall building-use fee was submitted Tuesday to Student Congress.

The bill's author, science representative Son Dinh, said paying the fee forces the team to charge students admission, which discourages students from attending. The fee also reduces the number of Movin' Mavs home games, according to the resolution.

Movin' Mavs coach Jim Hayes, handicapped student services director, agrees with Dinh and supports the resolution.

"I'd like to get to the point where we're exempt so the students can come, show their IDs and get in free," he said. "A lot of students don't come (currently, to home games) because they don't think it's right that they have to pay a fee."

The team would prefer more Texas Hall dates, but it is more profitable financially to play on the road, Hayes said. The cost of each home game is about \$500 with the fee accounting for \$300.

"We would like to play 30 games on campus (a season), but it's cheaper for us to play away," he said.

In addition, the Movin' Mavs are responsible for all expenses, other than scholarships — which are awarded by the university — and travel cost for three away games (approximately \$17,000 allotted by Student Service Fee Advisory Committee). Those expenses are paid through fund-raisers and donations.

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Exemption

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The Maverick basketball team and the Lady Mavs volleyball team are not required to pay the fee. The reason, Texas Hall assistant events manager Kathryn Beeler said, is because the wheelchair basketball team is not funded by the athletics department. They are under the direction of the students with disabilities office.

Beeler said non-academic and non-athletic organizations are required to pay a \$65 hourly rate. Athletic and academic organizations are responsible for utilities and labor for each event. The wheelchair basketball team is not in either category.

In other SC action, Program Coordinator Tammy Bell authored Resolution 94-35, which asks "UTA (to) implement and enforce a university-wide policy about dead week."

Bell in her bill argues that students need the last week of classes, which the bill states is termed as dead week, to study for finals. However, it says, "many instructors use this week to cram in all information from the syllabus they have not yet

covered, (and) this promotes memorization instead of learning."

Bell said this action causes students to "get angry when the professors shove everything in their face, and then they give exams. It kills your (studying time) for the final."

The policy would take affect in spring 1995, according to the resolution.

The resolutions will be reviewed at Tuesday's SC committee meeting.