

Walton collects requests for POW release

Over 375 letters asking for the release of American POWs in North Vietnam have been collected by Walton Hall as a public service project.

Each of the letters, most of them handwritten, will be paid for by Walton, hall president Leon Drozd said.

"We are trying to show that an effort has been made in this direction," he said.

Topics are releasing injured prisoners, publishing the names of the prisoners, allowing an exchange of mail, providing for impartial inspections of prisoners' facilities, and providing a proper diet and medical care, Drozd added.

Walton will be collecting letters — stamped and unstamped — at three different places Tuesday, Drozd said. They are the Corps guard room, the Memorial Student Center, and in front of the Academic Building and Sbsisa Dining Hall.



Mrs. Alton Myers, wife of a former student who has been missing in action for four years, looks over letters protesting the treatment of American POWs with Leon Drozd, president of Walton Hall. (Photo by Hayden Whitsett)

Centrex, Batt grieve CSC

By DOUGLAS GIBBS
Battalion Staff Writer

In two separate motions, the Civilian Student Council Monday night voted to send letters of grievance to the General Telephone Co. of the Southwest and The Battalion.

Other business included an investigation of the campus parking problem and the difficulty of gaining permits to live off campus.

Criticism was leveled against General Telephone, suppliers of the campus Centrex system, for its policies concerning long distance calls and method of bill collecting.

CSC President Mark Olson cited the company for "using A&M as an agent to collect bills for

phones they should not have hooked up in the first place."

"I received a letter that said I would not be admitted back to school if I didn't pay my phone bill," Council Secretary Shelton Wallace said.

The letter is being sent to the company's San Angelo office because "nothing would happen if we sent it to Bryan," Olson said.

The second letter will be sent to A&M's student-written newspaper The Battalion, to protest selection of content and problems in submitting articles.

Walton President Leon F. Drozd Jr. said, "I've submitted numerous articles, and I don't believe more than four were published."

Suggestions for improvement of news reporting ranged from Fernando Giannetti of Schuhmacher's call for a "change in emphasis," to Olson who said, "I wish I had the money to make our own. If we did, we'd tell it like it is."

Discussing the haphazard distribution of the paper, Keathley's John Shepard said, "We put ours in the trash can to stop them from blowing away. Maybe that's where they belong."

Battalion Editor David Middlebrooke later said he had no knowledge of "numerous articles" being submitted, and so far as he knew neither did his staff.

"Everything that we've gotten, we've printed," Middlebrooke said. "I'll grant we haven't always done it the way the CSC or the hall presidents would have liked us to, but we did what we thought was best."

"As far as the distribution goes," he continued, "that's an area not under the control of me or my staff."

That there is no parking problem on the A&M campus was the conclusion drawn by Larry Hansen, Mitchell Hall president, from a study he presented on campus parking. Hansen said most of the trouble about campus parking is the fault of the students.

"Some students would rather risk getting a ticket and parking near their class, than parking in a designated area," he said.

He claimed the cry that "there are more permits issued than spaces available" is true, but explained that the University Police take the following factors into account:

1. Most of the staff is not on campus at any one time, and several of them get duplicate permits put on more than one car, park just one on campus.

2. Many day students come in car pools and, due to class schedule staggering, are not all present at the same time.

3. Most veterinary students have day permits.

4. Not all dorm students have their cars here all the time.

5. Some students leave school after the first semester (268 left this semester), and their names are not dropped from the list.

In other business, Olson explained why it is so hard to obtain permission to house off-campus.

"I spoke with Dean of Students James P. Hannigan," he said, "and he would like to grant permission to all who desire to live off campus, but it is not possible at this time because of economic reasons."

He said the university must keep a certain number of people in the dormitories at all times, and the only way to do that is by selective issuing of off-campus permits.

"The time to apply for off-campus housing," Olson said, "is in the fall, when there is a 100 per cent dorm occupancy."

The council also voted to arrange a committee to amend the dress code regulation which frowns on the wearing of school jackets displaying awards.

Olson closed the meeting by commenting on the improved participation by members of the council.

"If we expect to accomplish anything, we'll have to do it in the next four meetings," he said.

The next meeting will be held Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. at the University Lutheran Chapel, 315 N. Main.

University National Bank
"On the side of Texas A&M."
—Adv.

GSC refuses to seat elected student

By GARY AVEN
Battalion Staff Writer

The Graduate Student Council voted nine to seven to refuse a seat to Carl Lahser (Biology Department representative) Thursday, who was elected to the GSC in the December election.

Vice President C. A. Bedinger, (Biology Dept.), election committee chairman, said Lahser was qualified last December when the election was held, but since then, he has become disqualified.

"To be a member (of the GSC)," Bedinger said, "according to the bylaws, you must be a bonafide graduate student with a grade point ratio not less than a 3.00. His is 2.86."

Graduate College Dean George Kunze said the Graduate College erases all previous grades in fig-

uring the GPR of a graduate student and only considers those courses applying to the degree program, but the Registrar's Office counts all courses taken at A&M in figuring the GPR.

Lahser said he would submit a degree plan that would make him qualified, if the GSC would seat him.

"I'll resign next week if I'm not eligible then," he said. Lahser said the whole difficulty was due to his failure to file a degree plan.

"I've got a degree plan ready to go in now that shows a 4.0," Lahser said.

Lahser claimed there is no fixed policy for graduate students figuring their GPR, and they are not required to show a GPR until after their second semester.

"It appears to me," President Larry McGill (Vet. Path.), said, "that some of the courses you took off were in your major field."

"If the laws of Texas apply," Lahser said, "and I've been elected, I must be seated."

"He was eligible at election," McGill said, "but if one of the members fell below a 3.0 GPR, he would be asked to resign."

"He would be on probation," Kunze added.

Herb Gersbach (Management), made a motion to table the question until the next meeting when Lahser said he would have things straightened out.

"We need to determine his eligibility today," Bedinger said.

"Tabling the question is just putting off the issue."

The motion to table the issue was defeated seven to nine.

"I know Carl personally," Bedinger said, "I hate to do this, but I know Carl and what courses he's had. I feel the courses he would drop would be a subterfuge to keep his seat."

The motion passed nine to seven to refuse Lahser a seat and he was asked to resign.

Bedinger apologized that this action was taken in open council and asked if Raymond Skowronski (Biology) who trailed Lahser in the election could be seated.

McGill said that would be decided by the Executive Council. Lahser read a letter to the GSC

asking them to ask for a point-by-point list of the policy toward graduate students. This list would be placed in the student handbook. He said he made this request in view of his own experience.

He was a graduate assistant, he said, but he was dropped from assistantship when he fell below a 3.00 GPR without getting any notice or severance pay.

"Students are not supposed to be responsible to anyone but a set of written rules," Lahser said. But the graduate student is supposed to know a number of things by instinct."

Lahser added that he is not asking for aid in regaining his own assistantship; he said he just wants to bridge a lot of muddy water.

Aggie Player tryouts Monday for spring production 'Ghosts'

Aggie Players tryouts for Henrik Ibsen's "Ghosts" will be held Monday.

Readings begin at 7:30 p. m. in Room 205 of Building "J" for five parts. The production is scheduled for March 29 to April 3, Director C. K. Esten said.

Bob Wenck, who will direct "Ghosts," said rehearsals will start Wednesday, Feb. 17.

Ibsen's play, written in retort to criticism of his "The Doll's House," deals with the story of a woman who gave in to social pressure, stayed with her immoral and promiscuous husband and is

forced to raise a son who is victim of his father's excesses.

Parts in Ibsen's play are Mrs. Alving, heroine who stuck with her now-dead husband; Regina Engstrand, maid to the widow who is fond of Oswald Alving, physically and mentally affected by conjunctival syphilis; Pastor Manders, minister who advised the widow to stay with her husband, and Jacob Engstrand, Regina's carpenter father.

Wenck said that personnel also are needed for sets, lights, costume, properties, house-publicity and sound crews.



C. A. Bedinger, vice president of the Graduate Student Council, calls for a vote which refused to seat Carl Lahser. Photos by Gary Aven

Internationals meet Monday

The International Student Association of Texas A&M University will hold its first meeting of the semester Monday night to vote on its new constitution.

The association will meet at 8 p. m. in the Assembly Room of the Memorial Student Center. Each country will send a delegate as a voting representative.

Under the constitution, membership would be open to all foreign students attending Texas A&M and other students who submit their names to the organization. Associate membership is offered to any non-student who requests membership.

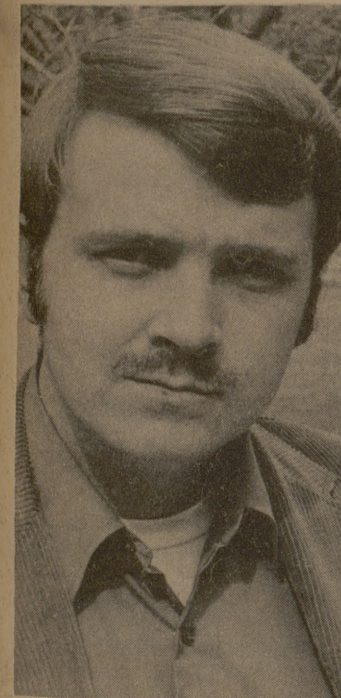
The purpose of the association is to strive for greater understanding among the students of all nations attending Texas A&M, without supporting any particular ethnic, religious or political cause, and to promote the participation of the International Students in university life.

The organization would provide services such as international student orientation at A&M, solutions of possible religious conflicts, provision of a medium for cultural exchange and a means of setting up social activities.

Fernando Giannetti of Argentina, will be the chairman of the association until the group elects officers.

The inquiring Battman

What's your opinion of the gay liberation movement?



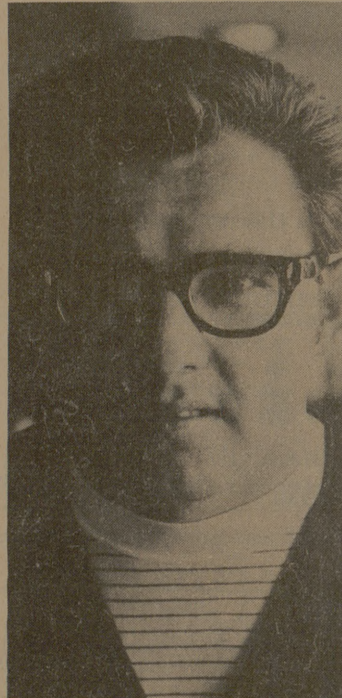
Tom Harrover senior

"I guess generally I'm in accord with their premise that what two people do together privately by mutual consent is their business and no one else's."



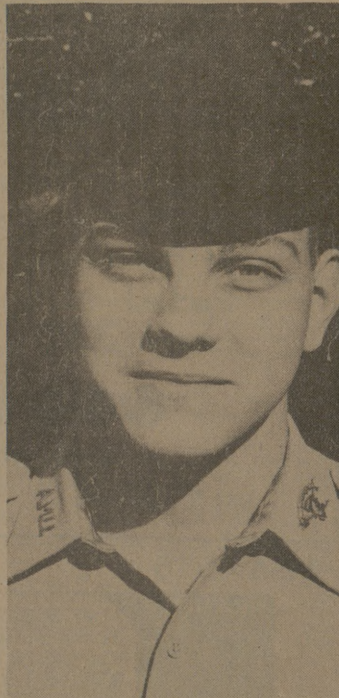
Terry Browning junior

"They're perverts. Homosexuality goes against the standard concepts of social life. It undermines the society! It's warped!"



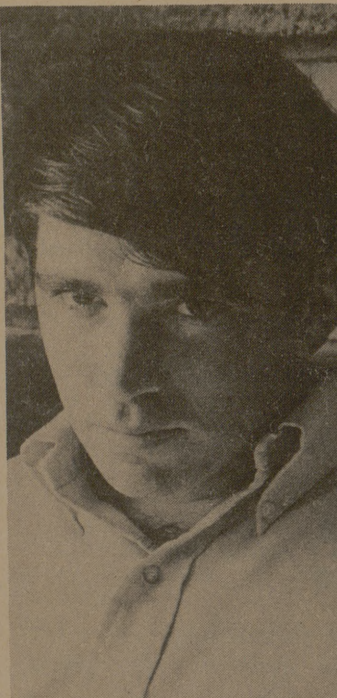
Charles Joachim senior

"I think it is abnormal, and I don't approve of it. But it is a free world and I guess a person can do whatever turns him on."



Skip Schleider freshman

"Gay Liberation Front should not be allowed at A&M because A&M has a reputation of putting out men, and I feel that this movement takes away from this reputation."



Gary Lewis senior

"The house my wife and I live in has too many windows for me to be a stone thrower. Different strokes for different folks — to each his own."



Joe Markham senior

"These people have problems and need help."



Eric Sampson freshman

"Live and let live." (Photos by Patrick Fontana)