

Your Man at Batt

by Greg Moses

Harold Pettit paid \$11.50 for running a stop sign in College Station and found the penalty for the same offense in Bryan was \$7.50. "I realize that the city officials set the rates between some minimum and maximum issued by the state. Why is College Station so much higher?" asked Pettit.

There are limits set by the legislature. The fines for running a stop sign may legally range from \$1 to \$200. The reviewing judge is at liberty to set the fine within these limits at his discretion.

The judge one sees depends on who the arresting officer is. A citation from the Department of Public Safety, a Justice of the Peace Constable or sometimes a University Police officer will usually be referred to the Justice of the Peace Mike Callahan, says his clerk Glenda Chaney.

Citations from College Station Police will come before Judge Phillip Goode (a management professor). Bryan tickets are reviewed by Judge Bill Langford.

Each has a printed list of the fines he will assess for moving violations. (Moving violations on campus are a flat \$5. Repeaters are charged \$10, then \$15 and \$20. After \$20 other measures, such as license revocation are taken.)

As it turns out, Pettit's question has good timing. The difference in fines will soon be rectified. "We are in the process of updating our fines to conform better with those assessed in this area," said Judge Langford. Sometime this month, the cost of running a stop sign in Bryan will be changed from \$7.50 to \$12.50.

Lab fees

A student taking Psychology 624 questioned the validity of the \$5 lab fee charged for that course. "They say we have to pay the fee because of the tests we use in the course," he said. "There are 19 people but only eight tests. Why should the other 11 have to pay for someone else's test?"

Psyc. 624 is a course in individual testing, designed to teach testing techniques. The testing kits referred to are out with repeated usage, said Dr. Clessen J. Martin, head of the Psychology Department. An example is the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Test which a student would take and administer to 15 or 20 others (usually children).

Dr. Martin estimates that this test costs \$300, paid for from the departmental operating expenses. "I would like to offer a larger range and number of tests," he said. "But the budget makes this unfeasible."

The student also said, "I have heard that sometimes the department does not receive money from the lab fees, but that it goes into the general university fund." He is almost right. Departments never directly receive the lab fees assessed the student. Departmental operating budgets are fed by the Texas Legislature which takes into account the cost of labs. This year the legislature appropriated to TAMU \$5.605 million to cover departmental operating expenses. The university then supplemented that budget with \$138,000.

Lab fees are paid to the Fiscal Department and go into the university operating budget. "Lab fees between \$2 and \$5 are authorized by law," said Controller of Accounts Clark Diebel. Every June the lab fees are rechecked by department heads to reconsider old fees and perhaps suggest new ones. The fees are finally approved by the president.

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CADET SLOUCH



"Th' note says that he'll be held until all those in dorm 12 are given A's in all courses!"

NSL delegates disappointed after talk with number two

By VICKIE ASHWILL
Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D C — Nine National Student Lobby delegates left Senator John Tower's office here Wednesday expressing disappointment after meeting with his legislative aide.

The delegates met with Gary L. Lieber when Tower was retained on the floor of the Senate after they spent two days getting an appointment.

Lieber said he suspected the senator could support some increase in educational funding. Lieber also said Tower generally supported stand-by discount fares on air, bus and train transportation.

TEXAS DELEGATES brought up the Big Thicket issue. The Legislative aide noted that the House had already passed a bill concerning the Thicket and the Senate expected a bill in March.

"Although I don't like the term 'legislative taking,' the senator (Tower) is in favor of it," said Lieber.

Legislative taking refers to the government buying lands with immediate possession at the legislature's whim.

"The committee (for the Big Thicket bill) is against taking, and I understand the House Interior Committee is also against it," Lieber said.

HE SAID HE HAD been told the Senate committee decided to take one last trip down to the Thicket before making any decision.

"We do support the youth sub-minimum wage, particularly for those under 22 years of age who are out of school," said Lieber.

"I think there is a tremendous support within the Senate," said Lieber. "Unfortunately the AFL-CIO doesn't support it (the sub-minimum wage), and right now they control the Senate."

News analysis

Congress may defeat own raise in salary

By WALTER R. MEARS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—On paper it looked fine: a system of regular congressional pay raises, with no need for politically troublesome Senate and House votes to boost the salaries of members.

But that plan has come apart. As a result, congressional pay may stay at \$42,500 a year, even though most members would like more. While the outcome is not yet clear, a similar raise for judges and top administration officials may be blocked, too.

If there is one thing a politician can do without, it is an election-year vote to increase his own salary. It can be a made-to-order issue for a November election rival, particularly with the economy troubled and with signs that this may be a difficult year for incumbents.

PRESIDENT NIXON proposed the pay raise, 7.5 per cent a year, to boost congressional pay to \$52,800 in 1976. The package includes similar 22.5 per cent, three-year raises for the judiciary and for executive branch appointees, some 10,000 people in all.

It is all part of a system created in 1967. Under that law, a nine-member advisory commission examines the congressional, executive and judicial pay structure every four years, and recommends

any changes it deems warranted.

In turn, the President makes his recommendation, effective in 30 days unless either branch of Congress votes to reject it. In this case, the deadline is March 6 of a congressional election year, and a rejection vote appears likely.

When the commission plan was enacted, everybody seemed insulated, Congress by the presidential judgment as to what its salary level should be, and the President by the guidance of the salary commission recommendations.

ACTUALLY, THE CURRENT commission voted 7 to 2 for an immediate 25 per cent pay raise, emphasizing the need for higher pay to attract and keep federal judges and top civil servants. Nixon recommended somewhat less and spread it over three years, noting that the government has been asking private industry employees to forego big increases.

All Congress had to do was nothing, and the raise would have taken effect. But there was pressure for a vote, particularly among senators who are going to be candidates in November. The result could be rejection of the whole package, although a formula awaiting Senate motion would drop only the congressional raise.

Statistically, if not politically, there are strong arguments the increase. The official salary ed have not had a raise since 1969. In that period, as a member noted, civil servants employes have had raises of 36.5 per cent, average comparable private employes have gone up 28 per cent, and cost of living has increased 10 per cent. Having offered figures, the congressman announced his opposition to the raise.

The package pay plan created another problem under law, the top civil service cannot exceed the bottom rung for appointed officials. has stalled salaries for government executives at \$10 a year, and has some lower subordinates at the same pay el.

Aggie coed on NSL board

TAMU OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR Carol Moore was elected to the 1974-75 NSL Board of rectors in one of six at-large positions for the U. S. At-large rectors were chosen by the 74 board.



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