

A touch of class?

The Sbis Dining Club added a fleeting touch of class to the rushed, noisy, Aggie atmosphere of Sbis Dining Hall Thursday evening. A reserved table awaited them along with a waiter who seated them and served the supper cuisine of chicken fried steak and cream gravy (no seconds), potato gems, buttered cauliflower and green english peas with onions. The club provided its own wine and guitar music, substituting for soft drinks, milk and piped-in radio. (Photos by Jack Holm)

Magruder testifies

Mitchell questioned Liddy payoffs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jeb Stuart Magruder testified Thursday that although John N. Mitchell gave his unenthusiastic approval for the

Watergate burglary he asked a week later why so much money was required by the man who was planning it.

Testifying at the Watergate cover-up trial for the third day, Magruder said he got a telephone call from the former attorney gen-

eral in the first week of April 1972 asking why G. Gordon Liddy needed "this much money."

Magruder said that he went to Mitchell's office and reviewed for him the \$250,000 proposal that he said Mitchell approved on March 30 and explained that what Liddy was asking "was in effect front money" to purchase equipment and hire men.

"Mr. Mitchell understood," Magruder said, and later authorized Hugh Sloan, the treasurer of Richard M. Nixon's re-election committee, to give Liddy what he asked.

Magruder had testified earlier that the approval for the Liddy plan was given at a meeting in Key Biscayne, Fla., on March 30.

There had been previous testimony in other forums that Liddy originally asked for \$82,000.

Mitchell is charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice, along with H. R. Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman, Robert C. Mardian and Kenneth W. Parkinson.

Magruder is serving a 10-month to four-year prison sentence on his plea of guilty to obstructing justice in the case.

As he testified, the courtroom was rife with reports that Ehrlichman's lawyers would ask for a delay in the trial, a move to California, or a mistrial in case Nixon is unable to testify.

The former president has been subpoenaed by Ehrlichman, and his current critical illness has cast doubts on whether he will recover in time to appear when it is the defense's turn some five to six weeks from now.

"It would be our position that if Mr. Nixon could not appear, Mr. Ehrlichman would not be able to get a fair trial," said a source close to the defense.

The various speculations were heightened by closed door meetings, first among defense lawyers, then among all lawyers and U. S. District Judge John J. Sirica, that delayed the day's session for nearly an hour.

The Battalion

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Weather
Mostly cloudy mornings becoming partly cloudy in the afternoons both today and tomorrow. Light, variable winds. High both days low 80's. Tonite's low 66°.

1975 county budget hike due mainly to salary raises

By STEVE GRAY
Staff Writer

An increase of \$32,000 in the salaries of top county officials accounts for the bulk of proposed increases in the 1975 county budget that will be presented to commissioners court at 2 p.m. Monday.

The proposed \$3,396,809 budget, filed Oct. 22 by County Judge William R. Vance, represents an increase of \$148,161 over the 1974 budget.

Vance said the salary increases were made because the county's workload is increasing each year.

"My job is getting to the point where I'm spending close to 85 to 90 per cent of my time with county business and less to my private practice," Vance said.

"Several years ago I used to devote about half my time to my law practice but that's all changed now,"

he said.

Vance said if commissioners court approves the budget he will eventually leave his private practice and become a full-time county judge. The budget allocates \$18,000 full-time pay for his position.

However, Vance said he anticipates the commissioners will adopt a part-time salary as was done last year.

"I hope to wind up my practice by the middle of next year and continue to receive the part-time salary as county judge. However, I will ask for an increase in my pay in the 1976 county budget when the county judgeship becomes a full-time job," he said.

"I never really considered the job as part-time, even though I'm being paid a part-time salary."

Eight county officers will get a \$3,000 pay boost from their present

\$12,000 salaries.

They are the county tax assessor-collector, the county clerk, the four county commissioners, the sheriff and the county auditor.

Under the proposal the county treasurer will receive \$12,000 instead of \$10,200 a year and the county attorney will get a \$6,000 increase for an \$18,000 annual salary.

The proposed budget will be submitted in a different form than it has been in recent years.

"We've broken down the various expenses into categories for the different county offices. These funds will be listed under the general fund. Actual and estimated figures from the 1973 and 1974 budgets will also be listed in the proposed budget," Vance said.

Previous budget proposals have not listed such figures.

Vance said the reason for the format change is because the county is expected to convert to a new computerized accounting system in the county auditor's office beginning Jan. 1.

"The auditing system we are operating under now was established around 1932 and it simply has become outdated. There's just so much paperwork involved," Vance said.

"The new system will allow us to compare the county budget on a month-by-month basis rather than from year to year," he said.

Vance said a computer printout of county expenditures and receipts would be available at future commissioners court meetings.

"This will allow the court to make better decisions on just how much we can spend because we will have

the exact figures in front of us," he said.

A certified public accountant firm in Sinton, Harris, Robinson & Co., will assist the county in the system switchover. Vance said they are under contract for \$35 an hour during the conversion.

Vance pointed out that the present county budget has fared well this year.

"The ending balance for this year's budget on Dec. 31 should be around \$1,482,000 as we predicted," he said.

He said the ending balance for the proposed budget will be \$967,537, about \$515,000 less than the 1974 balance.

"However, I think we'll end up with more than the proposed balance because we probably won't spend all of the proposed money," Vance said.

Food wasted Cafeterias losing \$175,000; saving program underway

By JUDY BAGGETT
Staff Writer

AN ESTIMATED \$175,000 A YEAR is lost by students leaving food on plates in the campus cafeterias, said Ed Davis, affirmative action officer.

Students have been urged to take only what they need by posters in the dining halls, Davis said. Plate waste has dropped to five percent or below, he said.

To eliminate waste caused through family style dining in Duncan, cadets must sign a list stating whether or not they will eat in Duncan for the next day's evening meal and the following breakfast. The program was started during the first week of school.

In some outfits, the cadets cannot change the decision. If they have signed to eat, they have to eat or find someone to take their place. In other outfits, the estimates only

have to be reasonably accurate, Bill Flores, administrative sgt., said.

It was disliked at first because it's another hassle to go through, Flores said. He said the program is working effectively to eliminate food waste.

EXPERIENCE IN PLANNING the amount of food to cook is a major factor in eliminating waste, Davis said. "Certain days of the week have more people." Various activities, such as football games, may increase the number of people who eat in the cafeterias.

The food budget for 1974-75 is \$7,601,779. Canned goods and staple items are bought twice a year in can cuttings. During can cuttings, manufacturers present two cans and bid on each item.

A can is opened to be inspected by food service officials. The officials compare quality and price of each item, before the final decision is made.

MEAT IS PURCHASED once a week. Bids are given at each of the

weekly meetings. The meat is choice, all USDA inspected, Davis said.

In computing board rate for on-campus students three categories are used. Personnel services is the first category, which includes salaries and wages of the employees. Second is capital expenditures such as equipment. All other expenses fall into the third category, which includes food, payroll expenses, utilities, postage and physical plant charges.

CAFETERIAS ON CAMPUS are auxiliary enterprises, which means they receive no state funds. The money comes from board students and cash sales, Davis said.

The missed meal factor is used in computing board rate. This theory assumes a student misses 30 percent of the meals he is entitled to eat. The average cost per meal is estimated to be \$1.66.

ALSO, ABOUT \$36,000 a year is lost through theft of plates and silverware from the cafeterias, Davis said.

Two named in murder indictments

Two charges of murder were among the 20 indictments handed down by the 85th District Court Grand Jury on the last day of its term Wednesday.

Thomas Terry was charged with the murder of his wife Oct. 3 while she was walking down 20th Street. According to police records Terry and his wife were having an argument when the shooting occurred.

Charise Laws was also charged for murder in the shooting of her husband, England, Sept. 17 in the 1200 block of Ridgedale.

England Laws was running down the stairs of the apartment and was shot three times in the back, according to police reports.

Jerry Frank Rhea is charged with having sexual conduct with an 8-year old child.

Other indictments include three for felony theft, four for driving while intoxicated, five for burglary, three for carrying unlawful weapons and two on forgery charges.

Nixon still on critical list 'Dangers lurking in background'

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Former President Richard M. Nixon's internal bleeding apparently has stopped, but "there are dangers lurking in the background" and more blood transfusions were started, Nixon's team of doctors said Thursday.

Nixon probably will remain on the critical list for 24 to 72 more hours, the doctors said.

The doctors said they were still working to replace the blood Nixon lost in internal hemorrhaging that followed his phlebitis surgery.

The former president could have died from the bleeding that sent him into shock for three hours after the operation Tuesday, "if proper measures had not been taken," said Dr. John C. Lungren.

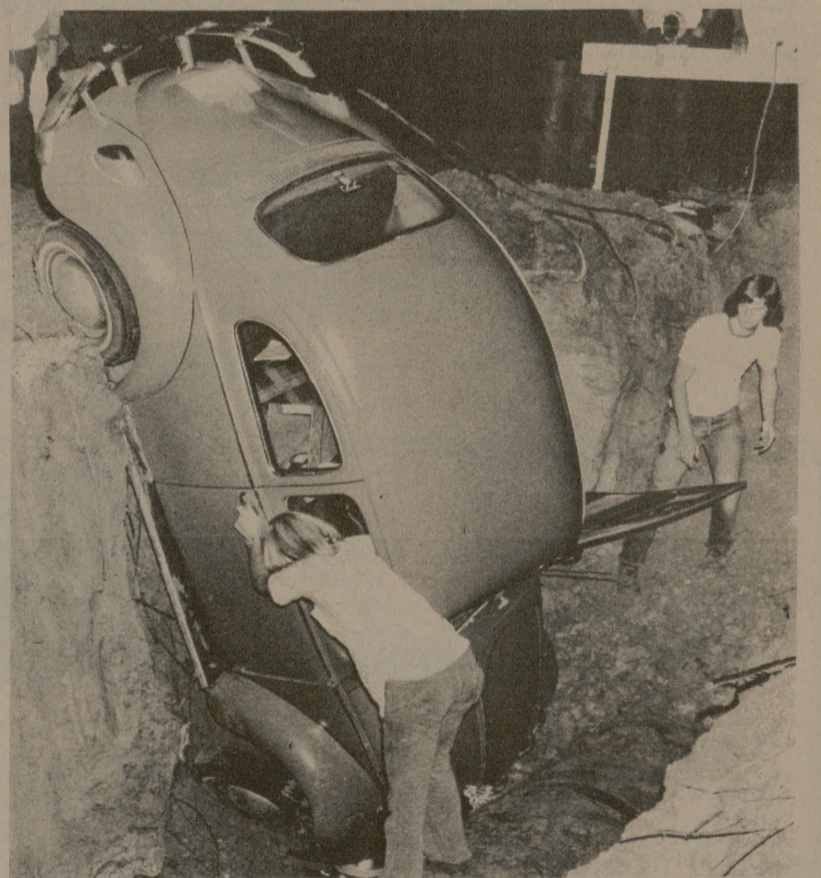
Nixon's former press secretary, Ron Ziegler, made a similar statement Wednesday.

Lungren, Nixon's longtime doctor, and two surgeons who operated on Nixon, did not specify when the apparent let-up in bleeding took place.

The three held a 10-minute news conference at the hospital where the 61-year-old former president is being treated.

Earlier in the day, Lungren and Dr. Eldon Hickman said that because of a slight decrease in Nixon's hemoglobin level they believed Nixon may have been bleeding again.

The doctors said they would continue to watch Nixon's condition to determine whether it had stopped



Bug takes nosedive

A VW Bug slipped into the diggings for pipe line construction along W. Main last night. No one was injured.

altogether.

Lungren said Nixon's vital signs had "pretty much returned to normal," but he added, "There are dangers lurking in the background, imminent dangers, real dangers. . . Lungren did not say what the dangers were.

Earlier in the day, Lungren and Hickman said in a statement that Nixon's vital signs — blood pressure, pulse and heart beat — were stable. But the two said a prognosis was not possible because "the possibility still exists for further complications."

However, Lungren seemed to indicate Nixon had made some slight gains, saying, "His spirits and mental attitude are excellent. He is alert, oriented to everything going

around him, and cooperative."

At the news conference later, Hickman said Nixon was "handling it well" although he was "somewhat annoyed" by the constant bedside monitoring of his condition.

Lungren said the transfusions Nixon was receiving would replace the post-surgical blood loss and combat the low hemoglobin and low platelet counts. He did not say how much blood Nixon would receive.

Hemoglobin carries oxygen to the tissues while platelets promote blood clotting.

Hickman said the hemoglobin drop was probably due to "hemodilution from increased urinary output."

