

Foreign students lobby against increase

By ALAN KILLINGSWORTH
Staff Writer

The bill to increase foreign student tuition passed the House Higher Education Committee Wednesday night by a vote of 7-1. It now returns to the floor for the vote. The bill calls for an increase in

foreign student tuition from \$14 to \$40 per hour. Its author is Senator Bill Moore of Bryan.

Representative R.B. McAlister of Lubbock, who cast the one no vote, said he feels the entire approach in handling the foreign students and encouraging them is not designed

for today. He plans to set up an interim study to find a more feasible way of dealing with the situation.

"We need to set up a program like M.I.T.," McAlister said. "They have scholarships available for the students which encourage them instead of hindering them."

Most of the representatives on the committee felt it unfair for the out-of-state students to pay more than the foreign students. The high oil prices were also mentioned several times and this might have caused bias, McAlister said.

"It is very hard to believe that

these few students have little if any effect on the foreign policy of their native countries," McAlister said. "We can expect some lively discussion on the floor."

Several international student groups have been lobbying in Austin and McAlister said it did have

an effect on him. They have a hard product to sell because of the current international situation. People are uptight, he said.

McAlister expects to vote no on the house floor but he also expects the bill to pass by 15 or 20 votes. He attributes this to Sen. Moore's push-

ing the bill in the Senate.

TAMU's foreign students were represented by Fathallah M. Ben-Ali, president of the Foreign Student Association, who presented the 700 American students' signatures which were collected oppos-

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Public monies used for food

By JIM CRAWLEY
Staff Writer

Some departments within the university have spent small amounts of state funds for the purchase of food during the last 18 months.

The departments making the illegal purchases are the Dean of Men (now called the Student Affairs Department), the Registrar's Office and the Vice President for Student Services.

A ten-year-old Attorney General's opinion concluded that state funds could not be used for the purchase of food unless specifically appropriated by the legislature.

The opinion states, "A State agency or department may purchase consumable supplies or materials to be used in the care and maintenance of such items as re-

This is the final installment in a three part series on university expenditures of state funds to purchase food.

frigerators, ranges, sinks, percolators and cups. However, a State agency or department is prohibited by Section 51 of Article III of the Constitution of Texas and Section 6 of Article XVI of the Constitution of Texas from purchasing with State funds such items as food, coffee, cream and sugar which would ultimately be consumed by employees or visitors to the State agency or department."

All the questioned purchases were placed in the 10,000 and 11,000 series accounts in the Fiscal office.

"All accounts in the 10,000, 11,000 series are state appropriated fund accounts," said Howard Vestal, assistant vice president of business affairs.

The recently discovered purch-

ases were all made on Interdepartmental Transfers, which transfer funds from one department or area to another. The transfers were all made to the Department of Food Services at TAMU. No actual cash changed hands, as all the transaction between departments are "paper" transactions, said Clark Diebel, university controller.

These are the possibly illegal food purchases.

• Registrar's Office, account number 10400; Bill number 802177; date, May 22, 1974. Description: "Four buffets as per invoice." Amount: \$10.00

• Office of the Vice President of Student Services, account number 10500; Bill number 796813; date, September 5 and 12, 1973. Description: "doughnuts, coffee, Cokes. . . staff meeting." Amount: \$16.40.

• Office of the Vice President of Student Services; account number 10,500; Bill number 797000; date, December 20, 1973. Description: "meals charged at Peniston. . . Dec. 5, 6, 12 & 13, 1973." Amount: \$67.13.

• Dean of Men; account number 10501; Bill number 822540; date, July 31, 1974. Description: "for Individual Sanka Coffee-freeze dried." Amount, \$41.93.

"If it's been used for food it's been without my knowledge," said Howard Perry, associate vice president for student services, who is in charge of finances for Student Services.

Perry was surprised when the purchases were revealed to him during an interview with The Battalion. Perry said later, "I don't remember any Interdepartment Transfers between us and Food Services on our 10000 accounts (10496, 10500 and 10501)."

"Our money comes from 'General Administration' funds," said Perry. The Legislative Appropriations Act distributes a portion of the state funds to the university as "General Administration" funds.

"I've never signed any voucher or transfer slip for the purchase of food," said Perry. Diebel said that Interdepartmental Transfers don't need signatures on them.

Perry allowed The Battalion to examine the present purchase ledger for the current fiscal year. The ledger records indicate that no food purchases have been made by his department this year.

Vice President for Student Services Dr. John Koldus was asked why he had purchased meals at Peniston. He replied that the meals were bought when he meets with student leaders. He added that he had reimbursed the university for the meals. In addition, he said that he spends approximately \$15 each month to buy coffee and Cokes for visitors to his office. Koldus didn't remember any food purchases for staff meetings.

Present laws authorize the purchase of meals when state employees make business trips. It does not authorize the buying of food unless the legislature specifies the purchase in the biennium appropriations bill.

The present Appropriations Act does not specify that food can be purchased with state monies held by TAMU. State funds cannot be used to purchase alcoholic beverages by any state agency, according to this Act.

Koldus told The Battalion he would try to get an Attorney General's opinion on this issue and on the use of Student Service fees to buy food.



Great Issues Speaker

Dr. Gordon Tullock suggests certain punishment for deterring crime. (see story, p. 3)

Photo by David McCarroll

Tuition bill shows experience lack

By ALAN KILLINGSWORTH
Staff Writer

There's a lot of action and reaction in Austin to the bill which was sponsored by Bryan's Bill Moore supporting an increase in foreign student tuition. Moore says his reason for the bill is to strengthen the Texas economy. He also feels, like many Americans, that foreign countries are robbing his money with high oil cost. It seems that our legislators don't look farther than their noses.

No one can really appreciate the value of educating foreign students until they have lived in a country similar to the one they're from. By

This is a news analysis. It is an interpretive article.

this I mean the same governmental and social conditions in which a foreign student was raised. I base my knowledge on the fact that I lived in Iran for seven years.

Americans expect their freedoms. For as long as can be remembered, we've been taught that this country is "of, by and for the people." In developing countries it's not that way.

In Iran, the entire country is run by a select few. They have elections but often there is only one name on the ballot. They have a parliament but if the shah (hereditary king) doesn't agree with the measures, they are not adopted. A member of the parliament virtually has no power except the prestige which comes with office. The newspapers are put together under the constant eye of a censor and nothing derogatory to the regime is printed. The people are flooded with propaganda.

One may say, "Why do they stand for it." For one simple reason. They

don't know any better.

The United States has been in constant growth for more than 200 years. Until the 1930s, the developing oil nations hadn't changed for centuries. The city of Tehran, now with a population of three million, was surrounded by a moat. The outlook for progress was slim and the chances of an education nil.

This is what it comes to. A select few of the educated make all the policies for the people. They are the ones with the education, so they are the ones with the power. But is this absolute authority bad?

If one were to take a Bedouin tribesman out of the Sahara, put him in downtown New York and say make it on your own, chances are he would be totally lost. The same applies for the people of developing nations.

Growth in these nations has been so rapid in the last 30 years that the people haven't been able to keep up. Despite massive education programs, they still have a long way to go. The people see the economy as well as their social structure moving so quickly they can't keep up.

By restricting foreign student education, Bill Moore is also restricting future U. S. foreign policy. If students are educated in the United States, they tend to pick up some of the ideas of freedom that we take for granted. As said before, if people don't know any better they will continue to accept censorship and absolute rule. If they are educated they will begin to realize the needs of their country as well as the needs of the world. Through education, the United States is putting its foot in the front door of the nations whose government and policies will eventually be run by the masses.

Silence hinders reporter

By JIM CRAWLEY
Staff Writer

There are two essential parts to an investigative newspaper report. The investigation for finding the basic information and checking the findings' validity. This second step had been greatly hindered during the past few days.

For the past six weeks The Battalion has been investigating the use of Student Service Fees and state

monies to purchase food. This could be a violation of the present state laws.

Last Wednesday, March 12, TAMU University Controller Clark Diebel told this reporter that all his statements would be "off-the-record." This precluded their use in the paper.

After answering some Budget questions, Diebel was asked if he would go "off-the-record" to the

Houston Chronicle or Post. His answer: "yes."

Later that day I sent a list of the same questions to Howard Vestal, assistant vice-president for business affairs. Vestal, after conferring with Diebel, refused to answer my questions on the grounds that Diebel had already answered them. During the entire day, Vestal communicated with The Battalion through his secretary and never directly,

either by phone or in person.

In past interviews, Diebel has only gone "off-the-record" when explaining his personal beliefs and opinions. Up to Wednesday, Diebel has freely offered information to The Battalion concerning food purchases and the MSC decorating costs.

At present, the situation stands: Diebel won't go on record and Vestal won't answer a few questions.

Bob Bell

Old council lacks responsiveness

An over-aged, unresponsive city council has prompted Bob Bell, station manager of KTAM-KORA radio, to seek election, Bell said Thursday.

Bell cited the present average age of the council (55-60) as one of the primary reasons for its lack of consideration for citizen feelings. Bell's

opponent in the April 1 election will be incumbent Don Dale.

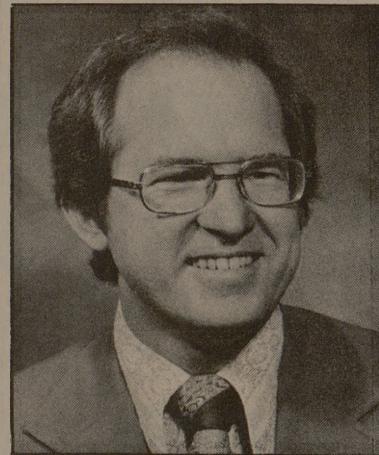
Dale voted for the controversial Harry Seaback rezoning request behind Dominik Drive last fall. Seaback requested a change from single-family zoning to apartment building district. The request was contested by Dominik homeowners. Bell cites this vote as one example of Dale's disregard for citizen interests.

"Two hundred and eighty College Station residents were denied their requests in that vote," Bell said referring to a petition containing 280 names submitted to the council denouncing Seaback's request.

Bell has no previous political experience. He says experience is not, however, an important qualification.

"If we elected people on the basis

of experience," Bell said, "we would return Richard Nixon to the presidency. He has more experience as



Bob Bell

President than any other living American."

Bell feels he has been successful in his chosen business, he said. Viewing city government as a business, Bell contends his experience in broadcasting qualifies him for the position.

Bell's platform is basically simple. He is running on the issue of responsiveness to citizen input.

"I would put community interest before self-interest or the interest of an outside party," Bell said.

The Dominik rezoning is one example of an outside interest (Seaback is based in Houston) being preferred by the council to the people of College Station, Bell said.

"I am willing to explore almost any possibility which might benefit College Station," Bell said. He includes in this list the possibility of consolidating some city services between Bryan and College Station.

Larry Bravenec

Control of growth needed in CS

The booming, rapid development of College Station is going to call for effective control to insure orderly growth of the city, incumbent Councilman Larry Bravenec said Thursday.

Bravenec, candidate for Place 5,

opposes A&M student Greg Magruder in the April 1 city elections.

One of the growth problems facing the city, Bravenec said, is the few number of good parks.

"I think we need to acquire more park land but at the same time make use of what we have. Right now, we've utilized, roughly, only 10 per cent of our park land," he said.

Bee Creek Park, Bravenec said, is about the only sizable park the city has. The park encompasses about 44 acres.

"Bee Creek Park is a high-density park and we have used just about every inch of it," he said.

Bravenec said previous city councils have been rather passive in enforcing some of the city's ordinances.

"We have had a sign ordinance for some time now that specifies how far from streets signs may be erected and whether or not they can

have flashing lights and things like that," he said. "The ordinance is just not being enforced."

He said he would also like to see some type of ordinance passed regulating the breeding of animals for sale.

"I believe an ordinance of this type would help insure that certain health standards are observed for the benefit of the buyer and seller," Bravenec said.

Bravenec is a member of the city's Development Controls Review Committee that was recently established to check on the effectiveness of ordinances that influence the city's growth pattern.

"I'm going to be primarily concerned with working on that committee as well as pushing for more parks," he said, "but I'm also very interested in seeing that the zoning ordinance is fairly implemented."

Bravenec, an associate professor of accounting at Texas A&M, is a

local attorney and certified public accountant. He and his family reside at 1211 S. Boswell.

Today

Inside

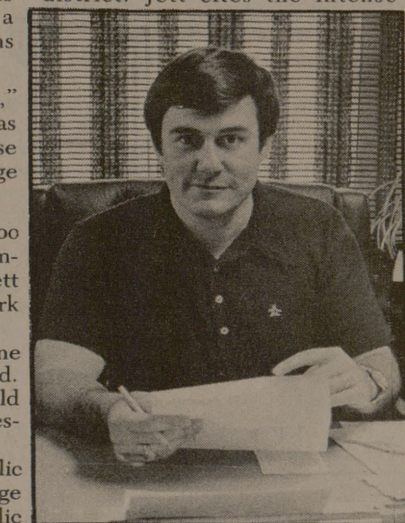
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Weather

Fair and mild Friday. Increasing cloudiness and warmer Saturday. High today 64; low tonight 40; high tomorrow 72.



Larry Bravenec



Jim Jett

An attempt to bring the business approach to city government has prompted Jim Jett to run for the College Station city council, Jett said Thursday.

Jett is a candidate for Councilman Place 1 against Gary Halter, TAMU political science professor, in the April 1 city elections.

Jett, a 1967 TAMU graduate in business administration, and immediate past president of the College Station Apartment Owners' Association, said he feels his business experience will enable him to add a different insight to some problems of the city.

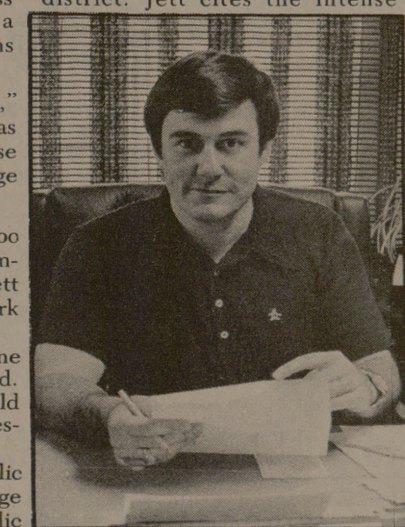
"After all, the city is a business," Jett said. He believes his position as a realtor allows him to keep in close touch with the growth of College Station.

The current council spends too much time arguing among themselves over unimportant issues, Jett said. He cites the question of park land acquisition as one example.

This amount would not buy one half an acre of park land, Jett said. He said he feels the money would be better spent on improving present parks.

Jett has never served in public office, but is active in the College Station Lion's Club and other public service organizations.

have voted against the Harry Seaback request for zoning land behind Dominik Drive from single family residence to apartment building district. Jett cites the intense



homeowner protest as the reason for that decision.

The interest of the community as a whole have to be weighed against the feelings of those most directly involved in any council decision, Jett said.