

The Battalion

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Senate considering bill to endorse ward system

By DEBBIE KILOUGH and LILLIAN FOREMAN
 The A&M Student Senate is considering a bill that would endorse the ward system for the April 3 College Station municipal election. The ward system would divide the city into wards, each with a council seat. A ward system would permit residents to vote on only one seat, representing the district in which they reside.

ment in the decision-making process of city government.
 The senate will vote on the bill March 24. In other action, a University System Student Board proposal was passed unanimously by the senate.
 The Texas A&M University System comprises A&M, Prairie View A&M, Moody College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources and Tarleton State University. Each school will have two representatives except for Moody which will have only one.
 The seven delegates will represent their respective student bodies before the A&M Board of Regents to voice student opinions and views. Every student senate of the respective schools will have to approve the proposal.
 Also approved was a Departmental Honors Program for undergraduate students, subject to the approval of the Academic Affairs Council.
 Accelerated students making a grade of B

or above would be eligible for the program. A student's curriculum will change under the Honors Program. There will be an additional essay that will be submitted to his department.
 The Honors Program will also be designated on the student's transcript and diploma.
 The Football Distribution Resolution was discussed by the senate, but because of

reason, no guarantee of spouse or date tickets can be made.
 The seniority system will be based on the first two numbers of a student's ID number. For example, tickets for a student with an ID number beginning with 73 (seniors) will be distributed on Monday prior to the game. Tickets for students with an ID number beginning with 74 (juniors) will be distributed on Tuesday.
 In another proposed change, transfer students, including graduate students, would be classified as freshmen under the ticket distribution system.
 The senate unanimously passed the Radio Board Revision Proposal which will allow the broadcasting of paid political advertisements and student editorials on student radio.
 Scott Sherman, former station manager of the student radio said the advertisements would bring extra revenue for the station, and a greater involvement of students in politics. Editorials will not be given by the station, but by students only.



Photo courtesy of Lynn Rossi

Sidewalk music

The Bryan-College Station Chamber Orchestra entertained passersby Tuesday by the MSC fountain. The group was practicing for its performance that evening in the Rudder Auditorium.

Students allowed in Regents' meeting

The Texas A&M System Board of Regents will meet March 23. The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Regents' Quarters, adjacent to the Memorial Student Center.
 Students may attend and speak at Board meetings unless the Board goes into executive session. The Board can call an executive session only to discuss personnel or certain contractual matters.
 The agenda for the meeting, which will be held the day after students return from spring break, has not yet been released.

Phil Gramm . . .

'Inflation, like pregnancy, dependent on only one cause'

By DENISE EDMONDS
 The problems threatening the U.S. free enterprise system are inflation, unemployment, and the energy crisis said Dr. Phil Gramm, U. S. Senate candidate.
 A conservative Democrat, Gramm took a leave-of-absence from teaching economics at Texas A&M last May to challenge incumbent Lloyd Bentsen. Bentsen is up for re-election in the May Democratic primary.
 Speaking to a capacity crowd last night, 33-year-old Gramm explained the problem of inflation. "The occurrence of inflation, like the occurrence of pregnancy, is dependent upon numerous factors but has only one cause," he said.
 Gramm also said that inflation occurs when the demand of goods and services grows faster than the supply of goods and

services can grow.
 Gramm has been teaching economics at A&M since receiving his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia in 1967. He has taught courses such as money and banking, and a graduate course in national income analysis.
 Consumers are suffering from high prices because the federal government has printed new money to make up for abundant governmental spending, Gramm said.
 "We can stop inflation," Gramm said. He said that if we can reduce federal growth and spending 3 per cent each year from the present 9 per cent annual rate of increase, we could reach a balanced budget by 1980.
 Decreasing federal growth and spending means some things will have to be cut—like foreign aid, Gramm said.
 The time has come, he said, for the U.S.

to call on its allies to help halt spreading communism.
 The President's program dealing with unemployment has not been very effective, he said.
 With 7.6 per cent of the labor force unemployed, Gramm said that welfare and unemployment should be combined. Those who are not eligible for welfare should work, and those on welfare should work if a job is found for them.
 "When someone's got something for nothing, some poor tax payer is getting nothing for something."
 Gramm said the need for new jobs is in the private sector, for public consumption needs. "You don't put a man to work by spending, you must invest," said Gramm referring to the federal government not investing in industry.

Gramm said that balancing the budget, and putting the Americans back to work can be accomplished by lowering interest rates, slowing federal growth and spending, and freeing capital. "If we've learned anything in the '70's, it's that big business doesn't work," said Gramm.
 Gramm said that big business should be controlled by lessening the government regulations which will allow the small efficient businesses to compete.
 The problems the U.S. have had with the Arabs concerning oil should be solved by more production of domestic oil, Gramm said.
 Gramm's answer for increasing domestic oil production is to open the continental shelf for drilling in Louisiana and California, to strip mine, and to extract petroleum from sand among the many possibilities.

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THE FORECAST for Thursday and Friday is mostly cloudy, warm and windy. 20 per cent chance rain today increasing to 40 per cent Friday. High Thursday 76; low tonight 62; high tomorrow 74.

Northgate parking lots resembles junkyard

By CE COWART
 Off-campus parking in Northgate looks like a junkyard.
 Cars are packed in vacant lots, in alleys behind buildings, even in residents' yards. The entire Northgate area north of University Drive, between Wellborn Road and College Avenue, is a prime parking lot for Texas A&M students and faculty.
 This is creating a problem for businessmen, churchgoers, and Northgate shoppers.
 The people who seem to be causing the inconvenience are dorm students who leave their cars in the same spot for days at a time, students who have all-day classes and don't wish to park on campus, or apartment dwellers who weren't provided enough parking spaces by their complex.
 The parking problem at Northgate has become a sore point to the businessmen, residents, churches, apartment complexes, and the College Station Police Department.
 One businessman said it was inconsiderate of students to hinder businesses with illegal parking.
 One realtor said, "The City Council is afraid to anger the students or

the University, so they'd rather dump the problem on we businessmen." Nearly all of the businessmen refused to be identified.
 Many suggest, the city should pass more ordinances controlling on-street parking and that violators should be towed away. It took three years to get one area street changed to one-way traffic.
 One man commented, "Students would park in Skaggs front door if they could."
 Skaggs-Albertsons in fact has hired an off-duty officer to patrol its parking lot.
 Residents are concerned that the parked cars are damaging private property and endangering their lives.
 Residents have complained to the police about cars parked up off the curbs and in someone's yard. Since it is illegal to park on certain streets most cars park in vacant lots where they can't be ticketed. Private owners of the lots may have the cars towed away at the owner's expense (\$25-\$30).
 One 12-year resident of the Northgate area recalled an incident that happened about three years ago.

The street she lived on permitted parking on both sides and it remained full all day. One day a small trash fire started in the backyard of a neighbor. The police and firemen arrived at the scene at the same time. The police were coming from one direction and the fire trucks from the other, but there was only enough room for one vehicle to get to the fire because of the parked cars.
 The police solved the problem by backing down the street and letting the fire trucks through. The fire was put out with a minimum of damage to the yard, but precious time had been wasted. The neighbor commented that if the house had been on fire, someone probably would have died by the time help arrived.
 The Northgate businessmen and residents generally think the University has a parking problem and consequently, the students are forced to park in the streets. Policemen say the parking problem at Northgate is caused by the University but that it was falling into the laps of the police department.
 The police department has a full time officer, Kathy Black, who patrols the Northgate area, specifically to check parking violators.
 She said, "I give out an average of 30 to 40 tickets a day," Black said. In January alone, 556 tickets were collected from the in Northgate area alone. The month of February brought in 643 tickets from the same area. The fines are \$3 for each violation.
 Some students have used their CB radios to spot the officer giving out the tickets or to find parking places in the crowded on-campus lots.
 "It is possible to get a ticket every hour or two during a day or over a period of days," said Officer Black. She noted that a number of students had asked her where they could park, or complained that they thought they had parked on University property. Black said the only areas she does not ticket are the private lots that belong to the residents and churches.
 The churches notify violators that they are on private property by giving them warning notices. The

churches have the right to tow off anyone who is not on business with the church or who has a special sticker. Most of the church lots have signs posted or are in the process of putting up signs.
 The churches are asking students to refrain from parking in the designated lots during Sunday services or on days when special meetings are held. The church officials say they sympathize with the students. But one official made the comment that the problem is beginning to look like a monster—it's getting out of hand.
 The Campus Theatre is offering the Circle Drive-In as a parking lot

for \$5 a month. Stickers will be provided for students who wish to purchase the permits. The Drive-In has 375 spaces that are marked but is able to accommodate more cars.
 Some reasons given by students for parking in the Northgate area are:
 —The charge for on-campus parking is too high. It costs \$27 for a dorm or day student parking for the academic year or \$15 for either fall or spring semester.
 —There aren't enough parking spaces on campus.
 —The parking in the Northgate area is closer to classes.
 —The tickets given by the College

Station Police are cheaper (\$2) than those given by the University Police (\$5).
 "There are 500 to 600 available parking spaces on campus any given day at any given time," said Virgil Stover, University Traffic Panel Chairman. Most of the lots are the same distance to class as from the Northgate area.
 He attributes the parking problem to the many vehicles unregistered with A&M and to the rapid growth rate.
 "We have the problems of a large city, but our thinking is still small city."



VACANT LOT PARKING Cars are often parked haphazardly on empty lots. Staff photo by David McCarroll



OFF STREET PARKING Police can't ticket cars not parked in street. Staff photo by David McCarroll