

The weather

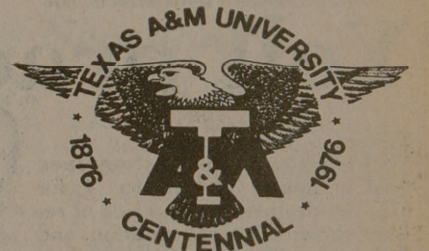
Partly cloudy and warm with chances of afternoon and early evening showers and thunder-showers through tomorrow. High today in upper 80s, low tonight, in low 70s. High tomorrow in low 90s. Precipitation probability 20 per cent today and tomorrow.

# The Battalion

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## SG leaders seek policy revision

By LEE ROY LESCHPER Jr.  
Student Government officials yesterday passed a policy statement calling for revision of the present University attendance policy. The statement said the present policy requires compulsory attendance in direct conflict with Student Senate action supporting non-compulsory attendance. University regulations have included a non-compulsory attendance policy the last two academic years, the statement said. The policy this fall specifically gives each professor the authority to require attendance at his discretion except for specific university-recognized absences. In effect, it is compulsory attendance, Stanfield, Student Government president for academic affairs, said yesterday. Dr. Diane Strommer, associate dean for the College of Liberal Arts, said last night the policy revision for this fall was not intended as a major change. Strommer was the University Academic Operations Rules and Regulations Committee member who originated the revision.

said. "Our intent was only to clarify the policy and also make it clear to each student what his rights of appeal are concerning attendance." Stanfield and Fred McClure, student body president, drafted the Student Government policy statement released yesterday, Stanfield said. The statement was directed in Stanfield's name to Student Government members and students on university committees. The statement said, "Student Government has not proposed nor recommended any changes regarding class attendance since 1974 when the earlier non-compulsory attendance policy was instituted." Before 1974 the University had always had a compulsory attendance policy. The policy statement urged Student Government members and students on University committees to adhere to (advocate) the earlier non-compulsory policy and support a return to non-compulsory attendance for lecture classes. Any change in the policy could not be put into effect before Fall, 1977, Stanfield said. "We were caught by surprise by this policy change," he said. "It came out the first day of school in the rules and regulations

booklet without our knowing anything about it." The new policy went through several University committees including some with student representation before becoming a part of present University regulations. Stanfield said the policy change originated in the all-faculty Academic Operations Committee, then went through the student-faculty Rules and Regulations Committee. Students on the Rules and Regs Committee were not able to muster enough votes to defeat the change, he said. Stanfield was not on the Rules and Regs Committee last year. He said the student committee members did amend the recommendation so that it requires a professor to announce the first week of classes if attendance will be counted in grading for the course. Duane Thompson, Student Government vice-president for rules and regulations last year, said he didn't remember the attendance policy change coming before that committee. "I was surprised myself when it appeared in the regulations," Thompson said. "There wasn't much student discussion in the Rules and Regulations Committee

on the attendance change," Dr. Strommer said. "As I remember it, it was presented simply as a change of wording and was treated in the committee as such." From the Rules and Regs Committee the policy change was approved by the Academic Council and then University President Jack Williams. "Possibly part of the reason students feel there has been a great change in the policy is because of the ambiguous wording in last year's policy," Dr. Strommer said. "Professors have always had the authority to count attendance as a part of students' grade," she said. "Some students and professors may have thought, because the old policy was ambiguous, that attendance was non-compulsory." "But it has always been at the discretion of the faculty member. It's always been a matter between the student and his prof," she said. Strommer said she had not noticed professors paying any special attention to attendance because of the policy revision. "As far as I know, in our college (Liberal Arts) it hasn't been a big deal," she said. "Some profs are always going to place a great deal of emphasis on attendance no matter what."

## TOP OF THE NEWS

### Texas

Consumer advocate Ralph Nader told students at the University of Arlington yesterday that he is supporting the formation of independent groups to represent citizens in utility rate cases. He said these groups which he calls Residential Utility Consumer Action Groups are necessary since users cannot depend on state regulatory agencies. He said he feels that any government regulatory group that is exposed to the one-sided advocacy of utility companies will be weak and unresponsive to citizens. Nader expects the Texas Legislature to weigh the idea in 1977. The Harris County district attorney's office says a county criminal court jury has sentenced a woman to jail for the first time on a welfare fraud conviction. Aline Robinson, 45, was assessed 18 months in jail and \$100 by a jury. She was convicted of falsely claiming \$1,684 in food stamps benefits during 1975. Prosecutor Matt Leeper said yesterday it was the first jail sentence assessed since the office began prosecuting cases under the welfare fraud statute 18 months ago. The University of Houston says enrollment in their four-campus system has reached a record 39,032 students. Central campus enrollment for the fall term is 29,753, about the same as last year. The first shipment of swine flu vaccine which was due to arrive this month will not arrive until around the middle of October in Dallas, Dr. Lowell Berry, the city's health director said yesterday. The late and reduced quantities of swine flu vaccine could cause an epidemic if an outbreak of the flu hits Dallas this fall, Berry said. He said that federal health officials had predicted in June that 100 million doses would be available, but that number has been sharply cut. With 170,000 United Workers on strike against Ford Motor Co. in 22 states, the key question is how long the walkout will last. There is almost no chance the strike will be settled quickly, be-

cause neither side expects contract talks to resume before next week. Officials for both sides say a repeat of 1967's 66-day strike would hurt the nation's economic recovery. The new 1976 tax bill moving through Congress could mean a savings of hundreds of dollars a year for the elderly Americans with modest incomes and provide an extra break for persons over 65 who sell their homes. Other sections of the bill contain some good news and some bad news for those concerned about capital gains. The biggest change in capital gains is a lengthening of the time period required for an asset to be owned. A gas well fire that had burned for two days in Hamilton, Miss., was smothered in mud and sea water yesterday by workmen summoned from Houston. Workmen said the sea water was heavier than fresh water and blended better with mud to resist pressures within the well and snuff out the fire. Early yesterday morning the water finally extinguished the flames which had flared up to 60 feet in the air and were powerful enough to blow away a chemical foam used by the first wave of fire fighters.

### World

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger meets today with President Julius Nyerere, forewarned that Tanzania's leader wants quick, effective American action to end the rule of the white minority in southern Africa. Nyerere's government, in a commentary issued on the eve of the meeting, said Americans who fought for their own independence must concede the same right to black guerrillas who have taken up arms for freedom. The three-day strike by black workers in Johannesburg eased slightly today on its last day, but many of Cape Town's 200,000 non-white workers began a two-day work boycott despite leaflets postponing it a week. Three more blacks were killed by police gunfire last night in Johannesburg's Soweto township, raising the toll to at least 16 dead since the start Monday of the job protest.

## Steelman criticizes Congress

By JAMIE AITKEN  
Battalion City Editor

Texas Rep. Alan Steelman, R-Dallas, said yesterday that the average law-abiding citizen of the United States is being ignored by a Congress bought off by big business, big labor and big government. Steelman, opposing incumbent Lloyd Bentsen for United States Senator, said it was time to give Congress back to the people. In a speech before some 300 students in Rudder Tower, Steelman asserted that "large, elite special interests, who have the clout, power and campaign contributions to buy their way into tax bills" are the reason that "the majority does not rule." Steelman based his address on the reforms necessary to "put the people back in charge." He first emphasized a need to reform the way in which taxes are spent by government. His proposed Sunset Bill would require government agencies to prove their usefulness every four years. Steelman said this zero-based budgeting would eliminate obsolete agencies and needless increases in agency funding.



Battalion photo by Jane Child

Alan Steelman

ment, and offered legislation to preserve that integrity. He proposes a financial disclosure act that would require every elected and appointed official making more than \$25,000 a year to make public their sources of income, assets and liabilities. Steelman, himself, has made such information available in his own campaign. Steelman is sponsoring the Lobby Disclosure Act, legislation that would make public the intentions, backers and financiers of lobbyists. Steelman said he opposes the proposed Humphrey-Hawkins Bill, a full-employment bill. He said that full employment could not be considered without also realizing the inflation it might bring. Steelman said inflation would increase drastically as a result of the bill, and that solutions for both unemployment and inflation were needed. He proposes a \$28 billion tax cut, coupled with a \$28 billion spending cut. He predicts more jobs and curbed inflation resulting from such a reform. Steelman said the defense program required the strength to command foreign

respect. He said the U.S. should examine the moral issues and strategic interests at stake before taking military action. He said he voted against aid to Angola, but favored U.S. intervention in the Mid-East and South Korea. Steelman said he envisions a massive social security reform that would eliminate earnings limitations and require citizens to invest a portion of their income. He said Social Security would then become an asset that could be passed on to heirs. He admitted, however, that it would cost \$80 billion to institute the program. Steelman criticized Bentsen as being unreliable on the issues. He said Bentsen betrayed his constituency by approving the New York City bail-out, reversing his favor of right-to-work laws in light of his Presidential race, and ignoring the "voice of the people" during his Presidential campaign. Steelman praised his audience for the large turnout and said that his optimism for a victory in November was based on a renewed interest of the people in government. Steelman said the A&M crowd was the largest he has encountered so far on a 16-campus campaign swing.

## House may authorize assassinations inquiry

WASHINGTON — The House is expected to vote on whether there should be a new investigation into the slayings of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy. A resolution authorizing the probe has drawn much interest from the House Rules Committee, which must approve it for action on the floor by the full House. The measure now has support from among the Democratic leadership. The Rules Committee, which had postponed an earlier, more limited measure, put the resolution on its agenda today. However, controversial legislation ahead of it and it was uncertain when the committee would act.

The resolution would set up a special House investigating committee, limited to the life of the present Congress, which goes out of office in January. But if preliminary inquiries showed cause for a full investigation, the investigative committee would presumably be recreated in the new Congress. The House leadership had been cool to an earlier proposal for a special committee to reinvestigate President Kennedy's death. But it yielded to requests from the Congressional Black Caucus for establishment of a committee empowered to also go into the King case. Coretta King, widow of the civil rights leader, reportedly has pressed for an evaluation of alleged new information.

## Schorr refuses appeal to reveal House source

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Television reporter Daniel Schorr today refused to tell the House Ethics committee who leaked him a copy of a secret House intelligence committee report. The CBS correspondent said in testimony prepared for an appearance before the committee that "in some 40 years of practicing journalism, I have never yielded to a demand for the disclosure of a source that I had promised to protect. I cannot do so now." Schorr, who was subpoenaed to appear before the panel, has said he would prefer to go to jail under a possible congressional contempt citation rather than compromise what he considers his constitutional rights to freedom of the press. Latham testified he did not know Schorr's source. But he refused to answer the broader question of whether he had any knowledge whatsoever about the circumstances of how Schorr got the report. Clay Felker, publisher of the Village Voice, testified he never talked with Schorr about publishing the intelligence report. Instead, he said, he dealt with New York attorney Peter Tufo, who was a go-between for the Reporters Committee for Freedom

as a reporter to protect his confidential sources. The congressional confrontation with Schorr over the rights of the news media to gather and publish news has been building for five months since Schorr acknowledged he gave a copy of the House intelligence report to the Village Voice, a New York weekly newspaper. The paper printed the secret report in full. Aaron Latham, a senior editor of New York magazine and the author of a foreword to the Village Voice's publication of the report, also testified before the committee and refused to answer one of the panel's questions. Ethics Committee Chairman John J. Flynn Jr. warned Latham he could be subject to a contempt of Congress citation and a prison sentence. Latham still refused to answer the question. Latham testified he did not know Schorr's source. But he refused to answer the broader question of whether he had any knowledge whatsoever about the circumstances of how Schorr got the report. Clay Felker, publisher of the Village Voice, testified he never talked with Schorr about publishing the intelligence report. Instead, he said, he dealt with New York attorney Peter Tufo, who was a go-between for the Reporters Committee for Freedom

## Brazos council OKs funds to build meal facility for aged

By KARLA TIMMONS

Federal and local funds are expected to finance the construction of a catering facility in Bryan, to be used in a lunch program for the elderly in Brazos Valley. The funding was approved Friday in the executive session of the Brazos Valley Development Council (BVDC). BVDC officials considered the action to aid the "Years for Profit Nutrition Program," a service used to cater lunches to the elderly five days a week. Pending federal approval, \$246,220 will come from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) to subsidize the construction of the food preparation facility. An additional \$24,622 in local funds will also be supplied for the project. "It is the only meal all day for some of the people," council member Kathy Morgan said. She explained that the participants are too poor or handicapped to cook for themselves. In past years, the "Years for Profit Nutrition Program" has operated out of Allen Academy in Bryan and a cafe in Caldwell. But BVDC officials reasoned that the new facility would prove less expensive for the program. The facility is to be built at West 30th and Bryant streets. Program planners say the

facility will cut the \$1.24 per person meal cost, but no revised fee has been projected. Meal programs are currently serving seven surrounding counties: Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Robertson and Washington. In other action, the BVDC also approved application for continuing action funds for the Community Referral Service of the Brazos Valley Mental Health-Mental Retardation Council. This program utilizes trained volunteer counselors to help disturbed juveniles. Available funds are \$26,525. Approval of an application for a \$137,259 continuation grant for the Brazos Valley Community Action Agency was also made by the council. This agency grant from the HEW and \$35,819 in local funds will be used for the Head Start program in Bryan and College Station. Head Start, located in the Southgate Village apartments, serves 135 children of low-income families. From September to May it provides medical, dental and psychological screening. A request by the City of Bryan for \$650,000 from the Economic Development Administration was also approved. This grant and local matching funds will provide Bryan with a new two-million gallon elevated water tank.



## Youth enjoys program job

Home football games mean extra earnings for sixteen-year-old Mark Williams of College Station. Mark has been working at Kyle Field since he was eight, selling programs to Aggie football fans and earning about \$37 a day. There are several benefits to Mark's job: free tickets to every game (he arrives in the middle of the first quarter), a pay rate of \$15 per hour, and an occasional tip from a customer. "One time someone gave me a \$20 bill and walked off," Williams said. But there are bad days, like the rainy Baylor game last fall when he earned only two dollars. "People would try to steal our programs and sell 'em themselves," he said. Program salesmen get eight cents for each copy of the \$1 publication, and Mark works for three hours to sell his 950 copies. Mark is a linebacker on the A&M Consolidated football team, and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Williams.

## Relocation would cost \$842 million

HOUSTON — A study presented to a congressional subcommittee says relocation of crew training and mission control functions from the Johnson Space Center to Cape Canaveral could cost as much as \$842 million. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) report also said "no management, technical or budgetary advantages" would be realized in such moves. It said the moves could cause a two-year delay in the space shuttle program. "The relocation would seriously affect a smoothly functioning, highly efficient organization at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center and would cause either an unacceptable scheduled gap in the space shuttle program or require duplicate facilities and personnel to eliminate the gap," the report said. Rep. Donald Fuqua, (D-Fla.), a member of the House Committee on Space, Science and Technology's subcommittee on manned space flights, requested that NASA do the study last June.

## Students can check out art prints at library

The Sterling Evans Library will circulate approximately 90 framed art reproductions to Texas A&M University students for their personal use Thursday, Sept. 16, at 1:30 p.m. "This is a service we (the library) provide the students," Mel Dodd, who is in charge of circulations, said. Each spring and fall semester, one day is set aside for checking out the prints. Students may keep the prints until the end of the semester. The computer is set up with a special due date and for that reason, the prints must be checked out on a "one-shot deal," Dodd said. The service began in January 1966 with the purchase of 80 fine art reproductions of paintings by old and modern masters. Recent purchases from book sales as well as donations, from friends of the library have brought the number to 90. Reproductions include works by old-world artists Degas, Gauguin, Cogh, Matisse and Rembrandt and by American artists Rockwell, Wyeth and Hurd. In addition to lending art reproductions this week, the library will begin a new system of paperback book distribution Sept. 20. Under the present system, paperback books must be checked out at the circulation desk. The new system will feature a trading post where students will bring a paperback book of their own in exchange for one on the book rack. Changing to this system, Dodd said, will eliminate the cost of processing by the library staff. Paperback books are "one of the most popular things we deal with," Dodd said, as he expressed the hope that the new system will work. Dodd added that anyone wishing to dispose of his paperback books can bring them to the circulations desk on the first floor of the library.

What could be better than watching A&M play football? Try earning \$37 in two hours and getting to see the game free. Mark Williams, a program seller since the age of eight, works from the back of his truck at home football games.