

The Battalion

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Top of the News Campus

Free enterprise program awaits decision

Texas A&M University may soon provide new insight into America's economic system if A&M's regents approve a new program aimed at research and education in the free enterprise system.

The new program must be approved by A&M's Board of Regents in their meeting next Tuesday before going into effect.

Under the program A&M would establish a center for education and research in free enterprise under the College of Liberal Arts. It would be administered by an independent director and be staffed by University faculty members.

The center would be funded by gifts and grants from sources outside the University as well as by industrial and government research projects.

The A&M regents will consider a number of construction projects in addition to deciding on the free enterprise program in their Tuesday morning meeting.

One agenda item the regents are to consider is a recommended \$300,000 appropriation to renovate a number of A&M's residence halls this summer. The renovation program is scheduled each summer to re-

pair damage from normal use in the residence halls.

Other recommendations include funds for preliminary work for renovations of A&M's Agronomy Building; construction of a clinical sciences building at A&M's veterinary science school, and conversion of Legett Hall from a residence hall to university office space.

The regents may take action on bids for improvements in Duncan Dining Hall and replacement of the A&M's Horse Barn and Arena on A&M's west campus.

The board will also review appropriations for construction made by W. C. Freeman, A&M system executive officer, since the board's last meeting in November. These appropriations include funds for a storage building at the swimming pool, an animal science hay barn, a set of campus fire safety guidelines and campus landscaping repairs for A&M.

Two fees which A&M graduate students have been paying since November 30, 1970 will receive official sanction if approved by the board. These are a \$27.50

fee for microfilming graduate dissertations and \$15 charged for binding graduate theses and dissertations. Those fees are required as part of A&M's graduate degree program.

The board is also expected to accept gifts to A&M of \$147,398.40; grants of \$534,461.14, and loans of \$21,950.

The board meeting, in the Regents' Board Room adjoining the Memorial Student Center, will come to order at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and will be open to the public.

P.E. vague about concepts as graduation requirement

By JOHN W. TYNES
Battalion Staff

Texas A&M University offers a physical education course known as P.E. concepts. Since its introduction into the P.E. program, many students have taken it assuming that it was a required course.

It may not be. Dr. C. W. Landiss, head of the department of health and physical education, said the purpose of concepts is to "give the student a knowledge and understanding of why physical education is important."

He said concepts offers education on some subjects that are not offered elsewhere at A&M, such as cancer and artificial respiration and circulation.

"I have determined this is important and that's why it's in there," he added.

The A&M catalog states that all students must take P.E. 101, 102, 201 and 202 and fulfill a swimming requirement. It does not state that a student must take concepts as part of the P.E. requirement.

Every student who takes P.E., however, finds himself in concepts sooner or later. The department of health and physi-

cal education makes certain that everyone in required P.E. takes the course.

Dr. Landiss said he wasn't sure if a student is legally required to take the course. "The question hasn't arisen before," he said. "I have made a note to insert it (the requirement) in the catalog."

A plan to allow students to place out of the course by taking and passing a test may be offered, he said.

"It (concepts) is one of the required courses that all the people who come into the required program are channeled into," Charles Riggs, concepts instructor, said.

Riggs, who lectures all concepts classes, had 3,200 students in the course last semester and 1,750 this semester.

Registrar Robert Lacey said that before a student is allowed to graduate, his record is checked to see if he has taken four semesters of P.E.

The man responsible for clearing students for graduation by checking completion of degree requirements is Assistant Registrar Robert Baine.

"I have no way of knowing when I clear you for graduation, whether you've taken concepts," Baine said, adding that P.E. is

listed on a student's permanent record only as P.E. 101, 102, 201 or 202. There is no indication of whether a student has taken concepts.

Landiss said the P.E. department does crosscheck its records to make sure a student has taken the course. He admitted that some students might slip by without taking concepts, but only occasionally.

Ken Robison, student legal adviser, said that as long as the department of health and physical education is meeting the course goals specified in the A&M catalog, they can ask the students to meet any departmental requirements they want.

He was unsure, however, if the University could legally keep a student from graduating merely because he has not taken concepts.

"The catalog and the rules and regulations handbook constitute a contract," he said. He added that the catalog description of P.E. 101 through 202 is very general and unspecific as it pertains to actual course activities, perhaps general enough to allow the department to require concepts.

Biofeedback relieves tension

For students who cannot seem to relax or who have an annoying headache from too much studying, bio-feedback may be the answer.

Bio-feedback has successfully helped people control headaches and relax. Dr. Leslie Bagnall, mechanical engineering professor at Texas A&M University, said last night during a meeting of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

"Bio-feedback is literally a feedback of a function," Bagnall said. The technique helps people become aware of their bodily functions.

"Once people are aware of these functions, whatever they may be, most people can learn to control them, to one degree or another," he said.

"Bio-feedback consists simply of electronically picking up physiological functions and mirroring them back to the individual who are picking them up from," Bagnall said.

He explained that the idea behind bio-feedback is to teach people to control these functions. Bagnall added, however, that bio-feedback is not a cure at all, but is becoming a "powerful tool in the armory of medicine and psychology."

"One of the most effective and useful things that bio-feedback does is teach people to relax," Bagnall said.

Relaxation training can also help to control headaches by lowering their frequency and intensity, he said. "If people learn to relax, they can control simple tension headaches."

Bagnall reported a 75 per cent success rate in reducing headache pain. The technique is 80 to 85 per cent successful in reducing the pain of migraine headaches.

Once people learn to relax, they are

taken away from the machine. They practice at home and are soon able to relax without using the machine, Bagnall said.

Bio-feedback also is being used to control high blood pressure, epilepsy, stuttering, ulcers and insomnia. It has been found to help relieve chronic pain, such as low back pain. Pain clinics across the

country are using this technique successfully, Bagnall said.

Bagnall said that bio-feedback offers a potentially effective alternative to the increasing reliance on medicine.

Bagnall is currently working to develop a bio-feedback center at Texas A&M in association with the medical school.

Carter is President, White House pomp dead

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Jimmy Carter of Plains, Ga., is now the nation's 39th President and he has let it be known that White House formality is dead.

Thousands of plain folks had a great time celebrating his Inauguration.

The 52-year old President and his wife Rosalynn, who chose a 6-year-old gown for the occasion, danced until the early hours today to climax an inaugural festival that at every turn discarded the formal trappings that previously made the transition of power in America almost a royal ceremony.

Carter took the oath of office in a constitutionally required style, then walked to work.

In an inaugural address that echoed the populist tones of his two-year campaign for the White House, Carter promised nothing but asked Americans for a "fresh faith in the old dream."

Carter dumped formality every time he got the chance during the daylong celebration. He wore a business suit instead of top hat and tails to the swearing-in, but he gave in and wore a tuxedo — with clip-on bow tie — to the jammed parties.

He was sworn in as Jimmy — not James Earle Jr., his baptismal name.

He had decided weeks ago that what history has always known as inaugural balls would be called parties.

Whatever they were called, protocol dictated that "Hail to the Chief" be played when the new President and his lady came to dance — but formality met its match in the peanut farmer who now lives in the White House.

Carter, who plans to wear blue jeans on weekends because they're comfortable, dictated the folk-rock tune "Why Not the Best" — which also happened to be his campaign theme song — be played when he entered.

"I love every one of you," he said with a big smile and a wave at each crowded ballroom as he traveled from party to party. "I don't claim I know all the answers. I'm going to try and do a good job."

Vice President Mondale and his wife Joan also made the rounds of the inaugural parties. He moved into office assuming one new formality — moving into the new vice president's mansion that was completed during the Nelson Rockefeller tenure but has never been lived in by a vice presidential family.

Carter stuck to the formalities to the extent of making sure as much of his Cabinet as possible was confirmed quickly by Congress. In an unusual session on the afternoon of a presidential Inauguration, all but three of Carter's 11 Cabinet nominees were approved by the Senate and they are expected to be confirmed next week.

Inauguration day was a chilly affair for the Carters and the 350,000 lining the parade route. The temperature never rose above freezing.

Letterbombs meant for Carter, Ford found by police

United Press International
NEW YORK — Five small letterbombs, one addressed to President Carter and another to former President Ford, were found yesterday at various post offices in Midtown Manhattan, police reported.

Police said four of the incendiary devices smoldered but none caused any damage or injuries.

In addition to Carter and Ford, the bombs were addressed to Carlos Romero Barcelo, the newly elected governor of Puerto Rico, and the FBI, police said. The address of the fifth was obliterated when the device detonated.

All the bombs but the one sent to the FBI went off, police said.

Local coffee prices follow national trend

By DEBBIE KILLOUGH
Battalion Staff Writer

Coffee lovers may be looking for a substitute drink when they discover coffee prices have risen as much as \$1.30 per pound.

In College Station, Safeway leads with the biggest price hike, as major brands which recently sold for \$1.69 per pound now sell for \$2.99 per pound. Figgly Wiggly and Weingarten's have maintained the lowest price increases on major coffee brands which sold for \$2.39 per pound, but are now selling for \$2.69 per pound. Lewis & Coker and Skaggs-Albertsons, while they have not raised prices as much as some local grocery stores, certainly rate among the highest price increases.

Lewis & Coker has raised coffee prices from \$2.39 per pound to \$2.69 per pound, while Skaggs-Albertsons is now selling their major coffee brands for \$2.99 per pound.

Local grocery store managers say they have had to increase retail coffee prices because the wholesale cost of coffee has risen to over \$3.00 per pound.

The grocery stores aren't the only ones that increased prices, many major restaurants have had to raise the price of a cup of coffee or lower the number of free refills.

Shipley's Donut Shop recently raised a cup of coffee from 20 cents a cup to 25 cents, plus 11 cents for each refill.

Denny's, once popular for their unlimited number of refills has now set a limit of two free refills. They have also raised their coffee to 30 cents a cup.

International House of Pancakes seems to have maintained the best price charging 30 cents for the first cup of coffee, but retaining unlimited refills.



Coffee prices up; boycott won't work

United Press International
The president of the Brazilian Coffee Institute, the manager of New York City's 21 Club and several disheartened American food wholesalers were in accord — the coffee boycott simply won't work.

General Foods Corp., the nation's largest coffee wholesaler, appeared to agree yesterday. They boosted the price of ground coffee another 20 cents a pound, to a record high of \$3.11, in the second round of increases in a month.

A group of 25 American supermarket executives and consumer representatives wrapped up a tour of Brazil's frost-damaged plantations and returned to the United States with explanations — but no solutions — for coffee prices, which they said are likely to go right on accelerating for the next two years.

All agreed, lack of supplies — not a conspiracy on the part of Brazilian producers — is the villain of the scenario in which America's favorite beverage rapidly is becoming an exotic delicacy.

"I don't think a boycott will do a lot because we have to reduce consumption by about 12 per cent, and

that surely is a lot," said Sue Ann Ritchko, director of consumer services at Price Chopper Discount Foods in Schenectady, N.Y.

Jorge Wolney Atalla, chairman of Hills Brothers, defended his country's 285 per cent increase in coffee beans since the 1975 frost that wiped out 73.5 per cent of Brazil's coffee trees.

Camilo Calazans, president of the Brazilian Coffee Institute, was blunt in his assessment of the American boycott.

"It's picturesque," he said. "Back in New York City, at the fashionable 21 Club where coffee and tea alike always have sold for \$1.50 a pot — with unlimited refills — Manager Jerry Berns was inclined to agree with Calazans."

He said the 21 Club joined the boycott — offering free tea for about two weeks.

To the Brazilian man in the street, the American boycott is an affront to national honor — one requiring an economic counterpunch.

"Americans are boycotting our coffee," a sign in a bar and restaurant in the city of Salvador proclaimed. "Don't drink Coca Cola."



Old Masters Paintings

This painting and others were viewed yesterday when works from the University of Houston's Blaffer Collection began its exhibition in the Rudder Exhibit Hall. The paintings will be on display through Feb. 18.

World

FOUR NON-COMMUNIST opposition parties in New Delhi, India, began a joint campaign under the label "Janta People's Party" to oppose Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress party in the March national elections—the first to be held since a state of emergency was imposed 19 months ago.

RETIREE SCHOOLMASTER Ernest Digweek, who died last September at Portsmouth, southern England, left more than \$44,000 for Jesus Christ in his will published yesterday in London. If within 80 years the money is not claimed, the money will go to the crown.

weather

Partly cloudy today with increasing cloudiness tonight and tomorrow. Winds southeasterly at 10 m.p.h. High today in the mid 60s. Low tonight in the mid 40s and high tomorrow in the mid 60s. No precipitation expected.