

Bill could change PE grading

CHARLES S. MOTT Foundation Fellowships for graduate studies in community education are now being offered at the Center for Community Education. The 12-month fellowships offer \$400 to \$600 a month with awards contingent on a candidate's degree status, professional experience and demonstrated community education leadership. Information may be obtained from the College of Education. Letters of interest are due Feb. 15.

TEXAS A&M's basketball team meets TCU tonight at 7:30 in G. Rolie White Coliseum. The A&M women's team will host Prairie View A&M at 5:15.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY students attending school on the GI Bill must present fee slips to campus Veterans Administration officials by Jan. 31 in order to continue receiving educational benefits. Slips should be presented to the VA representatives at Ramp B, Hart Hall to insure continued payment in the spring semester.

Texas

MORE TAPE RECORDINGS will be introduced into the federal trial of "Mama June" Bunch Mendoza and two other persons arrested for possessing \$10 million worth of heroin. Chief U.S. District Judge Adrian Spears overruled defense objections yesterday and allowed more than two hours of the scratchy recordings to be played for the jury at the trial. The recordings were made by an undercover agent who posed as a drug trafficker. Mrs. Mendoza, 45, who formerly operated a federal halfway house in Corpus Christi, her husband, Arturo Mendoza, and her brother-in-law, Oscar Mendoza were arrested Aug. 22 in connection with the trafficking of 26 pounds of heroin.

ALTHOUGH TEXAS has allocated more than \$38 million in federal funds for development of parks, Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby said yesterday that the state needs more park and recreation facilities. "Inflation and price escalation have hit land and water areas particularly hard," Hobby said at a University of Texas workshop on the future of the Texas parks system.

TEXAS PUBLIC UTILITY Commissioner Garrett Morris says he does not believe the commission should force utility firms into interstate commerce. Morris made his comments yesterday at a hearing on whether the commission has authority over an interconnected utility system which engages in interstate commerce. Another hearing on the issue will be held Feb. 7.

National

BILLIE SOL ESTES, jailed when his multimillion dollar empire of fictitious storage tanks ended in a nationally publicized collapse 15 years ago, today awaited the result of efforts to end his parole supervision. The U.S. Parole Commission was considering whether to remove parole supervision of the 51-year-old Texas farmer who built his \$150 million empire by mortgaging non-existent fertilizer storage tanks and other equipment.

FBI DIRECTOR Clarence Kelley has told Attorney General Griffin Bell he wishes to remain in his job the rest of this year and then retire Jan. 1. Bell indicated during his confirmation hearings that Kelley would be removed as FBI director soon after the change of administrations. Later Bell stated he would work out with Kelley the timing of his departure.

World

COUPLE who run a restaurant on the Monterrey Highway in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, believe they may have found a rare Stradivarius violin inside an old piano they bought from the Salvation Army. While cleaning the piano, Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Placentia removed the bottom and discovered a violin case tied with a string. The case contained a violin in good condition with one string broken. An inscription inside the instrument links it to the 18th-century violin maker.

weather

Mostly cloudy and mild today. Winds from the south 6-12 m.p.h. High today 61. Low tonight 46. High tomorrow 66. Ten per cent chance of rain today and tonight. Continued mostly cloudy and mild tomorrow.



Student Body President Fred McClure tells the Student Senate too much of its time is wasted with "housekeeping" procedures.

The option to grade required physical education classes on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis was part of a bill introduced to the Texas A&M University Student Senate at its meeting last night.

Another bill was read proposing that the College Station City Council install better lighting on University Drive next to the campus. Both bills will be acted upon in two weeks.

Action was taken on three bills written by Mike Gerst, Grad.—Ag., affecting conduct and operations of the Senate. Approved was a bill sending all bills except those on emergency action status to a standing committee of Student Senate for study. The committee would present various aspects of the bill before action at the next Student Senate meeting.

Jeb Hensarling, Undergrad.—off-camp., stated in the P.E. Revisionment bill

that grades in P.E. are based on "innate physical skill or dexterity, as opposed to the knowledge one acquires from hard work and study." In order to check unnecessary fluctuation of grade point ratios due to P.E. grades, the bill asks for optional grading on the satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. The bill was sent to Academic Affairs for consideration before the next meeting.

Another bill read last night proposes dropping one senator from the College of Science's current five and adding a senator to the College of Medical Education.

Student Body President Fred McClure updated the status of ongoing projects and recommended new directions for the Senate in his State of the Campus speech.

McClure commended Academic Affairs for success in Professor Information Surveys, Distinguished Achievement Awards

for faculty, and future discontinuation of evening exams in some daytime classes.

Ten of 21 bills last semester dealt with senate "housekeeping" which took up much of the senate's time, McClure said. "This has succeeded in providing a do-nothing image for student government," McClure continued. "This cannot and should not have to endure."

McClure concluded by suggesting removal of Student Government vice presidents from the Senate to the executive branch of Student Government.

Senate Speaker Lynn Gibson tightened discipline of the senate with a letter of five policies for operation. Gibson said they stemmed from "Robert's Rules of Order." The policies dealt with courtesies and details of recognition and speech in meetings.

Northgate problem for 20 years

Off-campus parking: a migraine

By **DARRELL LANFORD**
Battalion Staff Writer

With the influx of students after the Christmas break, the Northgate shopping area is once again feeling the strain of illegal and extended parking during school hours.

Car towing services and stepped-up police patrols have been used to discourage the students who park their cars in shopping center parking lots to escape on-campus parking fees.

"There's been a problem at Northgate for the last 20 years," said Marvin Byrd, College Station police chief. "The business area wants parking for their customers. The biggest problem is students parking in the street and remaining there all day long."

Other areas, such as the small shopping center south of the campus, do not have a parking problem, except during football games, he said.

Byrd estimated that College Station police issue 300 tickets every month. "One-half to two-thirds of the tickets are written at Northgate," he said.

The tires of cars suspected of staying in a parking space too long are marked, he said, with three or four trips around Northgate made each day, he said. One officer works exclusively giving parking tickets.

Police are not permitted to patrol private property such as Skaggs Albertsons, he said, and police do not generally tow-away cars.

Oliver Bishop, Skaggs store director, said, "The parking problem is not necessarily our own. The store leases the property. The misconception that a lot of people have is that we authorize towing. The towing service does not operate under our authority. The Texas A&M Wrecker Service has an agreement with the people who control the surrounding land."

"We're not necessarily against it, Bishop said, "because we do have a parking problem."

A spokesman for the Texas A&M Wrecker Service knows the problem well. "We never try to pull more than 10 cars

a day away from the Skaggs area," he said. "It's the students' fault. There are 16 warning signs on the Skaggs lot. People don't care. The students know the chances they are taking. Some people come back, see that their cars are gone and get really irate."

When asked if he thought the \$30 towing fee is too high he said, "It costs us \$23 to start a truck up."

He cited the high cost of various insurance policies as the major expense.

"We don't appreciate all the hell we get, and the students don't appreciate getting their cars towed away. I admit it's dirty, but it's got to be done," he said.

Regent appointment legality questioned

Confirmation hearings for the appointments to the Texas A&M Board of Regents have been delayed by a Texas subcommittee screening the candidates.

The delay will allow the committee more time to examine the legality of Gov. Dolph Briscoe's appointments. Possibly violated is a 1913 state law which requires the governor to select regents from different parts of the state.

Two of Briscoe's appointees, Dr. John B. Coleman and John Blocker, are from Houston. If they are approved by the Senate, the board will have three Houstonians serving on the board.

"It appears to me that the governor is in gross violation of the 1913 statute," Sen. William Moore, D-Bryan, told United Press International reporters.

Moore also said the governor is ignoring East Texas, the Panhandle and the Valley.

Coleman said he recognizes the statute as the law.

"But," he said, "it is just as important to have diversified experiences and input from different facets of life of the state as it is to come from different geographic locations."

Although Senate approval has been postponed, the two new members have assumed their posts.

Clyde Wells, chairman of the Board of Regents, said "We will go right on with the work." He said the delay will not affect the activities of the board.

Blocker said he is proud and honored to serve on the board. And Coleman said he will strive for continuing excellence in education.

"I strongly feel that good education can solve a lot of social problems that exist," Coleman said.

Legal requirements call for majority approval by the Senate. Once the procedure is carried out, the members may serve six year terms.

Carter to ask Congress for gas price deregulation

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Moving to ease a natural gas crisis so severe that supplies for homes are endangered, President Carter was ready today to ask Congress for authority to control distribution and deregulate gas prices.

A White House official said the main thrust of Carter's request was for standby power to make natural gas companies shift supplies to the most needy areas "in a crisis situation."

He said a second major aspect of the emergency proposal would enable interstate gas companies to buy supplies for the next six months at a higher price than they now are allowed to pay under Federal Power Commission rules.

That would increase gas prices to consumers, a spokesman said, but it also would result in increased supplies.

The natural gas shortage apparently is caused by heavy demands for heat in unusually severe winter weather and has forced some schools and industries to shut down.

White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said Carter considers it a "crisis" situation, and a high administration official said even gas supplies for homes are endangered.

"The really serious thing is the prospect of closing off gas to homes," the official said. "You run into serious safety threats

cutting gas off on a major scale" because of the possibility of explosions.

The official said concern over lack of gas for residences is serious enough that "it would be irresponsible for a government not to take action" to head it off.

While the final touches were put on the energy package Tuesday, Carter met with congressional leaders and discussed the economic stimulus plan he will unveil by Jan. 31.

Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus Tuesday attempted to "jawbone" natural gas producers into quick production increases. He urged operators of federal leases, which produced 24 per cent of all United States marketable gas last year, to step up production, and he urged suspension of a rule limiting production to the "maximum efficient rate" for more than 50 offshore oil operators in the Gulf of Mexico, Mexico.

Carter's legislative packet will seek clear emergency authority allowing government regulated interstate companies to buy natural gas from intrastate companies, which charge higher prices and are unregulated.

The authority to force companies to transfer supplies to needy areas if there is a "certification of crisis," the official said, covers contingencies such as a governor seeking gas on grounds of danger to "life, health or property."

In a related development, Sen. Howard

Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, asked the administration to investigate whether producers "are withholding substantial amounts of natural gas in their continuing effort to de-control the price of natural gas."

Dr. Herbert Roller is designated Distinguished Professor of Biology

Dr. Herbert A. Roller has been designated Distinguished Professor of Biology at Texas A&M University.

The highly coveted designation, held by only 12 other current members of the A&M faculty, was confirmed yesterday by the board of regents upon recommendation of the University's administration.

Distinguished Professor designation is a title reserved for faculty members whose teaching and research activities clearly place them foremost in their fields nationally or internationally.

Dr. Roller, director of A&M's Institute of Developmental Biology and a faculty member here since 1968, was recently elected to the Academy Leopoldina, one of the oldest and most prestigious scientific societies in the world. He is the first Texas scientist in residence to be elected a full member of this German-based academy, which presently includes 69 U.S. members.

Dr. Roller is a 1976 recipient of the Dis-

tinguished Achievement Award in Research, given jointly by the University and the Association of Former Students.

His research work deals with the control of developmental processes in hormones.

Part of this work has led to new concepts and strategies in insect controls. He was instrumental in the founding of the International Center for Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi, Kenya.



Dr. Herbert A. Roller

Part of Carter's economic stimulus

\$200 tax rebate possible for families

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Carter's economic stimulus program, if approved by Congress, would send a check for \$50 to \$200 dollars to almost every family making less than \$17,000 a year.

Budget Director Bert Lance yesterday revealed more details of Carter's tax-jobs plan, although he did not answer all the questions as to who would get what.

House Ways and Means chairman Al Ullman, D-Ore., promised to try to push the plan through the House by the end of February, but like other congressmen he did not promise to accept it without change. There have been numerous calls for a larger program, particularly in the job-creating area.

According to Lance, Carter's program

would include rebates plus a smaller permanent tax cut at the lower income level and a slightly larger stimulus for business than originally planned.

He said it would cost the treasury \$15.8 billion in fiscal 1977 and \$15.5 billion in fiscal 1978 after the jobs program was thrown in.

But what would one get out of it? Here is what is known:

— Each taxpayer making less than \$17,000 a year would get a rebate of \$50 for each family member up to a maximum \$200.

— For those making more than \$17,000 the picture is a little foggy, but usually such rebate plans do not end abruptly at some specific income level. They are "phased out" with the amount of the rebate decreasing as income increases.

— Very low income persons who pay little or no tax, social security and welfare recipients also may receive federal payments, but the details have not been worked out and this proposal might be dropped if costs become prohibitive.

— Lower income workers would have a few dollars a week more take-home pay as withholding is reduced and everyone is allowed to claim the maximum standard deduction.

— For business, Carter's original proposal for \$2 billion in incentives would be increased by another \$2.5 billion by allowing businesses a tax credit of either 4 per cent of the social security payroll taxes they pay or an additional 2 per cent investment tax credit on top of the current 10 per cent.