

The Battalion

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Panelists may resist Carter's economic plan

By DONALD H. MAY
United Press International

WASHINGTON — Congress has given the first solid clue as to what it may do with President Carter's tax cut and jobs plan.

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President Carter's tax rebate and tax cut proposals unchanged, but some of them are under attack in other committees, which still are considering the package.

The President had proposed \$1.8 billion for spending for jobs this fiscal year as part of his \$31.2 billion, two-year package. By the end of 14-10 and 15-8 the committee approved an additional \$1.8 billion in the

form of job-creating programs for youth, minorities, state and local governments and public works construction.

That still was not as much as the AFL-CIO and the Conference of Mayors wanted for jobs, and there were certain to be new fights when the bill reaches the full House, reaches the full House.

Budget Committee Chairman Robert Giacomini, D-Conn., said heavy pressure from constituents and mayors to reduce unemployment and fears about the economic impact of the cold winter prompted the panel's action.

Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve, told the House Banking Committee the adverse weather would have no "large or lasting" effect on the economy.

He said "further good gains in economic activity" are likely during 1977.

Burns said Carter's proposed \$50 per person tax rebate is an "inefficient" way to stimulate the economy. He said the administration "has not proved any stimulation is needed. I would have preferred to wait a little."

The rebate also was criticized in the House Ways and Means Committee but many said they would learn to live with it because by now the American people have come to expect it.

The Senate Banking Committee urged that \$5 billion be added to Carter's package for low-interest mortgage purchasing to encourage housing and that \$20 billion be committed for housing programs over the next several decades.

There were moves in several committees to compress Carter's proposed \$2 billion authorization for public works this year and \$2 billion next into \$4 billion this year.

The House Budget panel concurred in that, although it included only \$500 million of this in its spending estimate for this year. It said the rest would be spent later.



Battalion photo by Kevin Venner

Ski Aggie land in any type of weather

Even though an Aggie may not be able to make a trip to Colorado or New Mexico for some snow skiing, he can always utilize the slope on the Texas A&M University campus. Bill Gregory (second from right), a ski instructor with the Physical Edu-

cation department, instructs a class on fundamentals of skiing. The artificial snow used on the slope near C. Rollie White Coliseum resembles a thick form of Astro-turf, the synthetic grass that is used to cover many football fields.



Battalion photo by Pat McAuliff

Roots

Frank Matta, a floriculture greenhouse technician, doesn't expect to find his ancestral history in these roots as did Alex Haley in his novel, *Roots*, produced for television. Actually, the graduate student is inspecting this dumb cane (*dieffenbachia* plant) for diseased and rotting roots. Matta says that if the juice of the plant is taken orally, temporary paralysis of the vocal cords occurs. Matta also said that he enjoyed the *Roots* series, shown last week on ABC.

"Dolphinese" presented to crowd

Scientist studies dolphin speech

By DEBBIE PARSONS

A tape recording of "dolphinese" was played last night by Dr. John C. Lilly during his lecture on "Interspecies Communications."

There was standing room only in Rudder Theatre to hear the first lecture sponsored by the Great Issues Committee.

Lilly restarted his research in dolphin communication and dolphin-human relations two years ago. He had taken a vacation from the research in 1968, but since he first began there have been many changes.

Lilly said the apparatus and computers had improved 100 per cent when he returned to do research.

"This encouraged me to go back and work with the dolphins and to try to communicate with them at a level that humans can understand," he said.

"What we need is an understanding of them (dolphins)," he added, "based upon our understanding of one another. This is difficult."

Lilly first started working with dolphins at the California Institute of Technology, where he said he looked upon dolphins as animals, as opposed to humans. He then realized that he was prejudiced, that we are all animals.

"I then went to medical school and realized that man is indeed an animal," Lilly said. "I found man, without knowing, treats those who have been damaged mentally or physically in ways that are hardly special."

"Sometimes I'm a little worried about the medical profession and its attitudes towards its own species."

Lilly became interested in dolphin brain functions, structure, and the relation of the dolphin brain to the human brain. "These basic questions took up my whole life," he said.

"As I began working with dolphins, I began to be very deeply disturbed by the reactions of the dolphins to our training program," Lilly said.

In their dolphin brain research, Lilly and his colleagues used electrodes.

"I was startled to find that the animal was pleading, not fighting, against what we were doing," he said. "It was pleading that we stop the electrodes, and it even went so far as to mimic my voice."

At first Lilly said he thought it was his imagination, but tapes of the dolphin were recorded and played back, and the pleading dolphin could be heard.

Lilly played a tape of what he called, "dolphinese" to the audience. "I'd like you to see how different and alienated their language is from ours," he said.

The audience listened to a dolphin putting out single pulses of sound at 150,000 cycles per second. The tape had been slowed down 100 times from the original tape, so the audience could hear it properly.

Dolphins transmit a beam of ultrasound

that goes out from the larynx, through their bones and teeth, hits an object, and bounces back to the dolphin, to let it know where the object is.

Dolphins are totally dependent on this beam, in order to find fish to eat and to communicate with one another.

Lilly then played another tape of the two other voices that dolphins have, a sound he termed "very peculiar."

"We tend to interpret these voices in terms of our own acoustic knowledge, and we're caught in the confines of our own language and our own treatment of other species," he said. "I hope to be able to convert these sounds and interpret them."

"I feel humble. Dolphins have been around longer than we have, they've

adapted to their environment better, and they have a survival record that we might not match. Their ancestry goes back, unbroken, 15 million to 50 million years ago, so I would like to talk to an old whale or dolphin."

Lilly's previous research was funded by government grants, grants from foundations, and individual contributions. Lilly would rather not be backed by the government. He said he would rather be backed by people who are really interested in his research with dolphins.

"We are asking friends to contribute: friends of dolphins, friends of ours; people who are really interested," Lilly said. "We don't accept contributions unless the person is really interested."

New meal plan offers \$50 coupon books

By RAY DANIELS

There is now a board plan allowing you to eat anywhere on campus except the athletic dorms.

The new plan is a system of \$50 Coupon books, redeemable in the dining halls, snack bars and Memorial Student Center facilities. It is the result of efforts by the Student Services committee of Student Government.

The advantage of the plan is convenience. Students can pay for a number of meals in advance, avoid carrying large amounts of cash, and eat in a variety of places. The principle objection is that no account is given.

T.P. Awbrey, administrative assistant of Food Services, explained the cost of the plan. "The seven-day board plan is based on 30 per cent of the meals being missed," he said. This allows the price to be less than the actual cost of 20 meals a week.

With the coupons there are no missed meals so no discount can be offered.

Troie Pruett, chairman of the Student Services committee, said they had originally requested a one or two meal a day plan.

Pruett contacted Ed Davis of Business Administration about the program. He explained several ideas were discussed but the coupon book plan was agreed upon.

Student Government is currently promoting the coupons.

"We said we would be willing to do the promotion if they took the program," said

Student Body President Fred McClure. He said the promotion is being done with inexpensive flyers.

The books themselves are about football ticket size with tear-out stamps of \$1, 50 cents, 25 cents, 10 cents and five cents. They are available in the Food Services offices in the basement of Sbis Dining Hall.

If the program becomes widely used,

several things could happen said Davis. First, Student Government would try to have the coupons put on fee slips to make it more convenient. Second, large sales or a switch from board plans to coupons by board students could upset the financial system of food services. The results of this would probably be higher board prices, he added.

Only 14 of the books have been sold

since the beginning of the semester, and Davis said he didn't know of anyone trying to switch from the board plan.

"I don't foresee any volume sales," said Awbrey, "since there is no discount."

McClure said he considered the program a step toward a one meal board plan, and did not seem to think the coupons would sell widely.

Consumers can expect price stability

Florida resumes citrus fruit shipments

United Press International

WESLACO — Consumers can expect citrus prices to stabilize now that Florida has resumed shipments, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture marketing specialist.

John Engle said that yesterday prices for ruby red grapefruit had increased about \$1.25 a 48-piece carton (medium size fruit) since a Jan. 21 freeze caused a 10-day embargo of Florida fruit, but that oranges increased only about 25 cents a

carton for all sizes.

"Now that Florida has resumed shipments, we don't anticipate any further increase. Prices already have begun to stabilize," said Engle, who heads the department's crop reporting service in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Engle said the stabilizing market had reduced demand for Texas citrus fruits.

The Florida embargo caused shipments of grapefruit from semitropical South Texas to zoom above 100 carloads of 1,000

cartons each at the end of January, Engle said, but by yesterday demand had tapers off to 31 carloads. Orange shipments also increased to at least 90 carloads during the same period, but fell to 42 carloads by yesterday.

Besides slow demand preceding the Florida freeze, the wettest winter in years has hampered the harvest of Texas citrus this winter.

Despite the lack of sunshine, Dr. Richard Hensz of the Texas A&I citrus center said Texas fruit is of excellent quality.

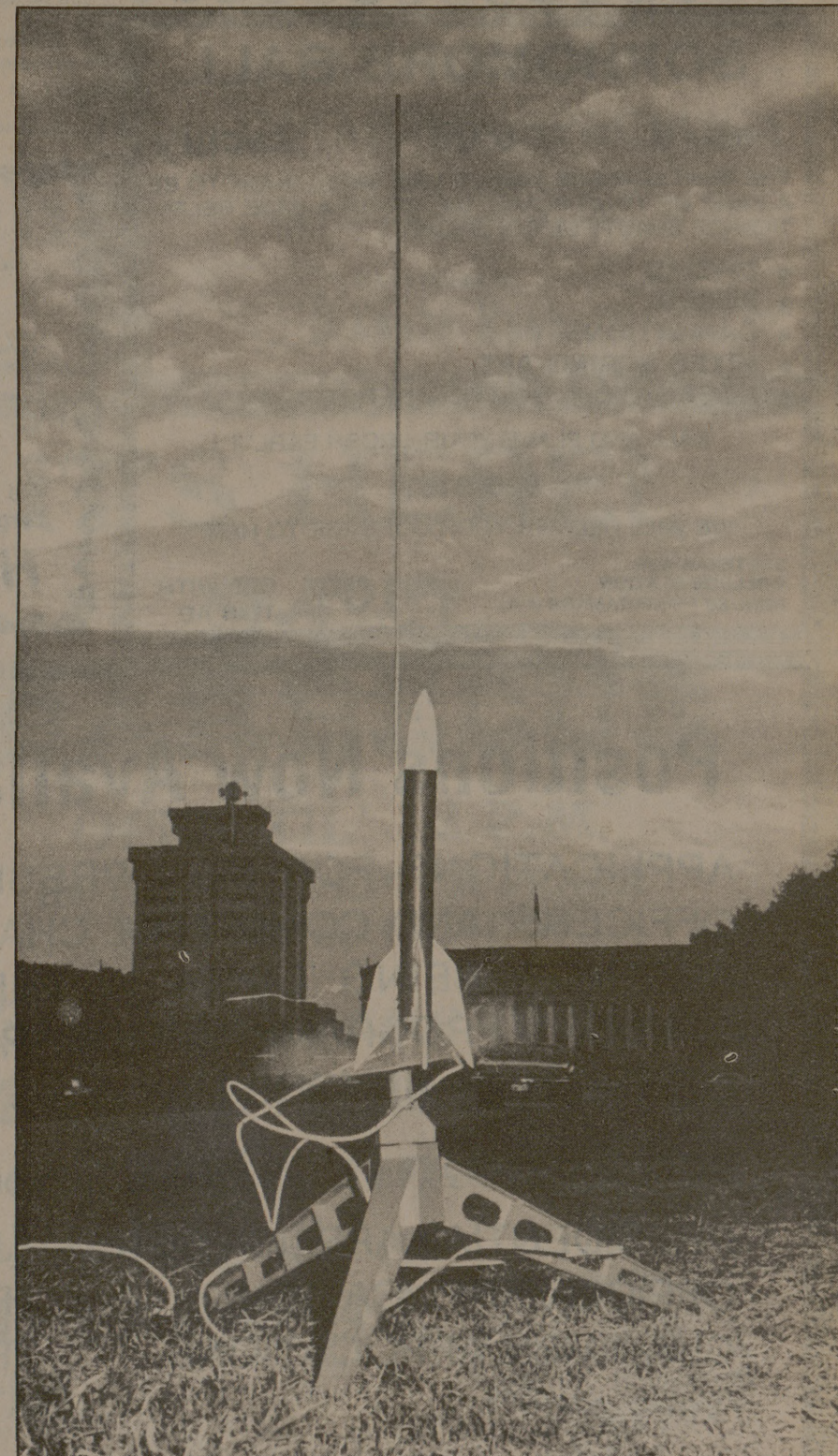
"It's in good condition, good quality. There's nothing wrong with the fruit," Hensz said.

"There's no trouble with the fruit ripening. It's really at its peak. The trouble is getting in there to harvest it. We've been plagued this whole season, going way back to the fall, from getting in there to harvest."

"You can see the fruit on the tree and you can't get in there to pick it."

Engle said Texas producers enjoyed the biggest price increases in grapefruit because the state's production of 12.5 million boxes compares favorably with Florida's crop of 14 million boxes of pink seedless and ruby reds.

However, he said Texas' output of 7.3 million boxes of oranges is almost insignificant when measured against Florida's projected 142 million boxes in a bumper crop before the freeze.



Battalion photo by Pat McAuliff

Ten...nine...eight...seven...

An alpha model rocket is launched at sunset by Bill Jackson and Jimmy Bell, freshmen political science majors. The rocket and its equipment cost about \$20 and will fly up to 2,000 ft. before a parachute automatically opens and eases the rocket safely back to earth.

weather

Fair and mild today, continued fair tomorrow. High today in upper 50s. Low tonight in upper 30s. High tomorrow in low 60s. Winds light and variable. No chance of precipitation.