

"Dog Day Afternoon"

The balmy, unseasonal weather of the past few days gave Bruce Woodin, a graduate biology student, and his dog Useless a day to play in the sun. Woodin summarized the situation by saying, "He's not my dog, I'm his."

Photos by Kevin Venner



The Battalion

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Human rights is main concern

Carter pledges aid to dissident

United Press International
MOSCOW—In an unprecedented break with protocol, President Carter sent personal letters to dissident Andrei Sakharov, pledging to fight for human rights in the Soviet Union and other foreign countries.
Carter's letter, sent through diplomatic channels and handed over by an officer of the American Embassy, appears likely to further strain relations already cooled by

the State Department's public defense of dissidents.
Proudly displaying the White House stationery at a news conference Thursday, the Nobel Peace Prize-winner said the letter was a "great honor" and the first he has received from an American president.
Describing human rights as "a central concern of my administration," Carter wrote Sakharov:
"You may rest assured that the Am-

erican people and our government will continue our firm commitment to promote respect for human rights not only in our own country but also abroad."
Carter also pledged to use his "good offices" to seek the release of what he called "prisoners of conscience."
In the past the Soviets have denied keeping political prisoners and have labeled similar statements directed at

CONA discusses corporate action

Oilman says firms affect life

Corporate actions affect the quality of lives and livelihood of millions of people, a Continental Oil Co. (Conoco) executive said in a speech sponsored by the Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) in Rudder Theatre yesterday.
Dr. M.L. Sharrah, senior vice president of research and engineering of Conoco, spoke on "The Individual in the Working World." He emphasized the role of business in world affairs.
"Philosophers and theologians can give us the vision of a better world," he said. "Politicians and government leaders can organize national effort. The military and the police can maintain law and order. But it is the job of business to provide goods and services that enhance the quality of life."
Sharrah expounded on topics concerning individuals and the corporate environment.
Profits and growth by big business are enjoyed by many people, he said.

"Profits in America have been too low, rather than too high," Sharrah said. "They have not even kept pace with inflation, with the net result that business has not been able to spend enough in new plants and equipment."
"The profit motive also is a very efficient way of distributing goods and services, the most efficient way we know of," he said.
Attitudes towards science, he said, have changed in recent years.
"Science no longer commands the unquestioning respect it did in the past," he said. "Only a few decades ago scientists were considered miracle workers."
"The achievements of science now are taken for granted. The end result is that the public becomes suspicious of our institutions when they cannot immediately deliver the expected technology," Sharrah said.
Because of the complexity of modern technology, "high technology has created a feeling of helplessness and resentment on

Committee to review appeals procedure

A committee on student review and appeals procedures has been formed at Texas A&M to determine whether the academic, disciplinary, fiscal and traffic appeals panels are adequately doing their job.
The committee began its investigation Tuesday when Dr. Thomas Adair appointed four subcommittees to study each area of appeals.
"The purpose of the committee is to review present student appeals procedures and make recommendations for changes in their process," said Adair, chairman of the committee.
Adair said yesterday that the subcommittees will try to find out what happens when a student wants to make an appeal in one of the four categories.
"Our real purpose is to find out if these appeals panels are accomplishing what we

want them to," said Ron Blatchley, associate director of student affairs and chairman of the disciplinary subcommittee. "We want to find out if the present procedures need changing or need additions made to them."
The subcommittees are to report their findings to Adair by next Friday, Feb. 25.
"The committee is just gathering information right now," Adair said. It will be several months before the committee will be ready to make any recommendations, he added.
W. C. Freeman, executive vice president for administration, has asked Adair to submit a final committee report before the end of the semester.
"I doubt if we'll beat that deadline by very much," Adair said.

—Susie Williams

Top officials get pay increases

United Press International
WASHINGTON — In the end, it was a vote to adjourn the House for a three-day weekend that finally ensured a \$13,000-a-year raise for Congress and top government executives that will take effect Sunday.
Recommended by Gerald Ford before he left office, the increase will raise annual pay for an estimated 2,496 top-level government employees including federal judges, Cabinet members, the vice presi-

dent, congressmen and two former presidents by an average 28 per cent.
The raise takes effect automatically Sunday because neither the Senate nor the House voted against it.
The Senate, recessed all week, earlier tabled a resolution disapproving the pay hike, thereby avoiding an up or down vote on the raise. The House completed business yesterday and adjourned until Monday without bringing up the disapproval resolution.

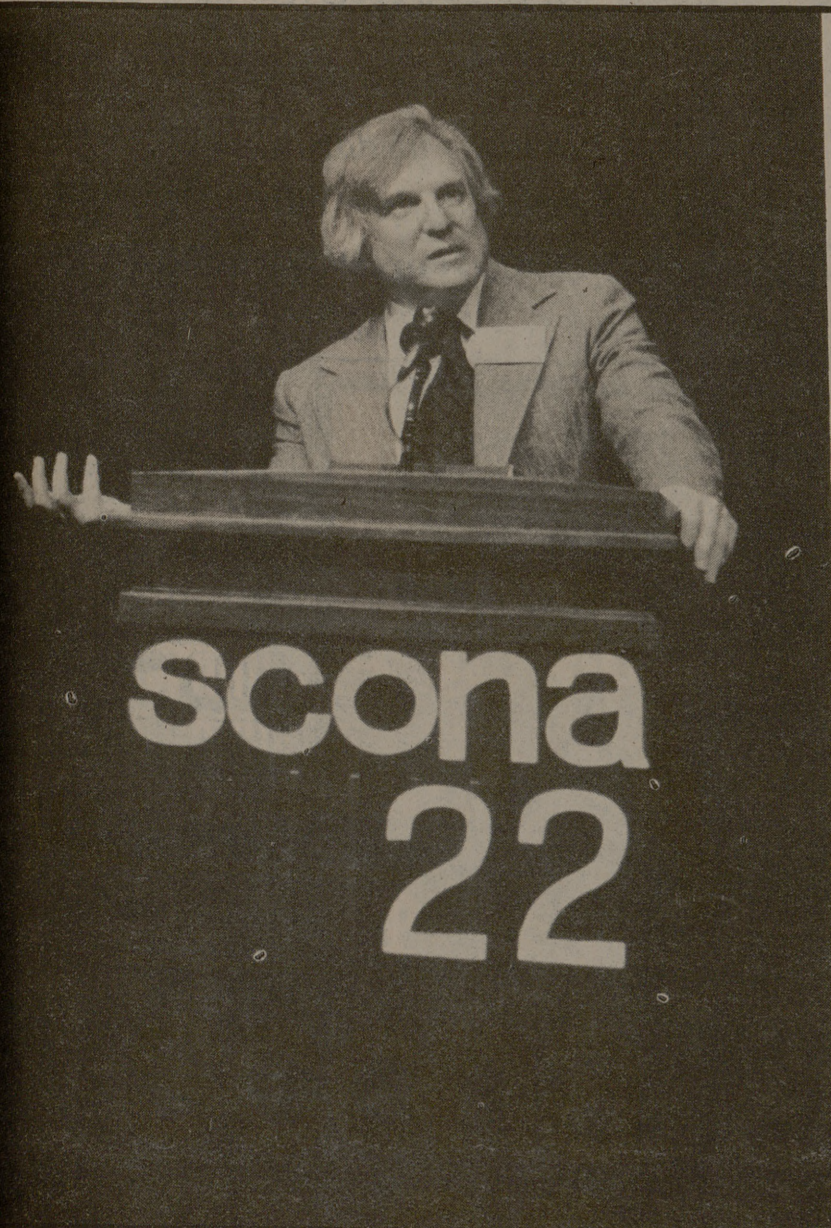
Salaries for the vice president, chief justice, speaker and Senate president program will be increased from \$65,600 to \$74,000; Cabinet members and Supreme Court justices from \$63,000 to \$66,000; majority and minority leaders of Congress from \$52,000 to \$65,000; members of Congress, deputy and assistant secretaries and appeals court judges from \$44,600 to \$57,500; federal judges and level-3 executives from \$42,000 to \$52,500.

Students would get larger refunds for class drops if senate passes bill

Students at Texas A&M University will get more money back when they withdraw from a class if a bill before the Texas legislature is passed.
The bill, introduced in the Senate by Jack Ogg, D-Houston, provides for the full refund of applicable tuition and fees to a student who withdraws from a class within the first two weeks of the semester. How-

ever, the student must remain enrolled at the university.
The bill also sets a schedule for the refund of tuition and fees to students who withdraw from the school completely. The proposed schedule allows a greater refund than the present A&M policy.
The present schedule allows a 60 per cent refund if a student withdraws within

the second five class days of any Spring or Fall semester. The new schedule would allow an 80 per cent refund for the same period.
"It seems only fair that a student should not have to pay tuition for a course he does not take, if he chooses not to take that course early enough in the semester," Ogg said in a press release issued Tuesday.
An almost identical bill was vetoed by the governor after being passed by both houses in the last session of the legislature.
Ogg said he thought the governor's main objections had been eliminated with the addition of a special provision. The provision states that if a student received his tuition through a scholarship, the tuition would be refunded to the source of the money rather than to the student.



Emotional Expression

Americans believe it is wrong to express their emotions, Dr. Nathaniel Branden told a SCONA 22 audience in the Rudder Theatre yesterday.
Our culture finds virtue in ignoring pain or fatigue, but that repression only succeeds in damaging one's health, Branden said. Repressed anger, hatred or fear causes tension, he said, which results in body signals such as headache or indigestion.
If you ignore these symptoms, it's suicide," Branden said.
He explained that people constantly view themselves from either a positive or negative viewpoint. Powerful self-esteem depends upon one's sense of reality.
"What goes on under our skin is what life's about and when we don't pay attention to that, we are not living," Branden said.
Branden is executive director of the Biocentric Institute of Los Angeles.

Battalion photo by Tracie Nordheim

Holleman Drive scheduled for major improvements

Residents of Holleman Drive may soon find heavy machinery working along the street as the result of a major road improvements program by the City of College Station and the state highway department.
Holleman Drive will be widened beginning at the intersection of Wellborn Road and extend eastward for almost a mile.
A 40-foot curb and gutter section is part of the planned improvements. Additional improvements include upgrading the existing two-lane street, storm sewers and sidewalks.
The project was established by the 1977-78 urban system of the State Department of Highways and Public Trans-

portation on Jan. 20. College Station accepted the recommended provisions Feb. 10.
Nick Turnham, public affairs director with the state highway department, said he does not know when construction on the project will begin.
"It depends on how long it takes the highway department to determine the necessary rights-of-way and how quickly College Station acquires those rights-of-way," Turnham said.
Funds for the project total \$373,300. The Federal Highway Administration will provide \$278,300. College Station will provide the remainder to finance the curb and gutter section, storm sewers, sidewalks and rights-of-way.

Weather

Fair and warm today. High today near 80, low tonight near 50. Continued partly cloudy and slightly cooler tomorrow, with high in low 70s. Winds: Southerly today, 10-15 m.p.h.; northerly tomorrow, 12-18 m.p.h.