

# Tower

## Dining Room



Serving Luncheon Buffet  
Sunday through Friday  
11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.  
\$3.00

Top Floor of Tower Dining Room  
Sandwich & Soup Mon. thru Fri.  
\$1.75 plus drink extra

Open to the Public

"QUALITY FIRST"

## Carter signs wage bill

United Press International  
—WASHINGTON— President Carter today signed legislation raising the minimum wage to \$3.35 an hour by 1981—a \$1.05 increase representing the biggest pay hike for low-wage workers in history.

Government officials estimate the bill, providing an initial raise to \$2.65 next Jan. 1, will put an additional \$9 billion into the pockets of some 5.3 million American workers over the next four years.

It represented a major victory for organized labor. Never before has Congress approved a minimum wage increase as big as \$1.05 an hour. Big business strenuously fought the increase, warning it would contribute to inflation and unemployment.

Labor Department analysts predicted 4.3 million persons would enjoy increased wages totaling \$2.6 billion from the initial 35-cent-an-hour increase provided in the bill next year.

Subsequent increases promise \$2.90 an hour in 1979, \$3.10 in 1980 and \$3.35 in 1981—affecting another 1 million workers at a cost of \$6.3 billion over a three-year period.

The measure also provides a better deal for workers who depend on tips. Hotel and restaurant workers also would get better overtime coverage. But an estimated 800,000 jobs in small businesses will be removed from minimum wage protection.

Tipped employees—including restaurant workers, porters and other service employees—cur-

rently receive only 50 percent of the minimum wage. The new law provides them with at least 55 percent by Jan. 1, 1979, and 60 percent by 1980.

Some 2.4 million hotel and restaurant workers currently must work 46 hours in one week to get overtime rates. The limit would be reduced to 44 hours next Jan. 1 and 40 hours in 1979.

Employers with annual sales under \$250,000 currently are not required to pay the minimum wage. That exemption will be increased to \$275,000 by July 1, 1978, and \$325,000 on July 1, 1979, and \$362,500 on Dec. 31, 1981.

The current minimum wage is \$2.30 for non-agricultural workers and \$2.20 for farm workers. The new bill provides an identical minimum wage for both farm and non-farm workers.

## Girl, 19, can see again

United Press International  
PHILADELPHIA—A 19-year-old Mexican girl blinded by disease 10 years ago has regained her sight thanks to a fairly new suction instrument used by doctors at Wills Eye Hospital.

Marie de Jesus Rodriguez Hernandez, who was flown to Philadelphia with funds raised by residents in her hometown of Guzman, told doctors she can see "lights, shadows and movement" for the first time since she contacted uveitis and lost her sight at age 9.

The surgery performed on the woman was a success, said Dr. Jay Federman of Wills' Retina Service. But it is not known how much sight she will regain. Federman said it would take months of care and special training.

"If we're lucky, we might be able to get her to the stage where she can walk through a room using her eyes

without bumping into things," he said. "The only thing preventing her seeing is the functional state of her own tissue."

"I doubt the time will come when she can read, print or anything like that, but for a person who has been blind, just to be able to see someone in front—that represents a whole new world to that person," he said.

Federman developed the suction infusion tissue extractor, or SITE instrument, which was used in the surgery to suck the vitreous "debris" from the delicate retina surfaces.

Federman said the eye disease formed cataracts and clouded the colored part of Rodriguez' eye.

"The disease had caused the vitreous, which is the jelly part of the eye, to become opaque, completely white like a frosted window," he said.



Scott Farthing, a biochemistry major, relaxes after a Halloween night.

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Texas A&M University  
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of the  
Southwestern Philosophical Society  
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Rudder Conference Center

Thursday, November 3  
Papers on Kant, Peirce, Dewey,  
Heidegger  
Friday, November 4  
Papers on Logic, Hume, Plato, Leibniz  
Saturday, November 5  
Papers on Aesthetics and Rationalism

The Public is Invited

Full Schedule available at the Philosophy Department  
219 Academic Building  
or at Registration Desk, 2nd Floor Rudder Tower



The band gets its news from the Battalion