

# THE BATTALION

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## Regents to study room, board increase

By LEE ROY LESCHPER JR.  
Battalion Staff

On-campus students can expect to pay more for room and board this fall. University officials will decide today on proposed room and board increases of 12 and 13 percent, respectively.

Texas A&M University business officials also recommended 10 percent rent increases for University married student apartments.

The increases, including the second rate hikes in two years, are scheduled for consideration by the University System Board of Regents during the board's regular meeting this morning.

In recommending the increases, Howard Vestal, University vice president for business affairs, blames federal and state-

ordered wage increases and utility price increases for making the increases necessary.

New federal minimum wage requirements will increase the base wage for all University employees this September, from \$2.47 to \$2.90 per hour. Student starting wages will go from \$2.30 to \$2.50 per hour.

Also, the Texas Legislature has ordered institutions to begin paying the 5.85 percent employee share of Social Security contributions withheld from salaries and wages. This is in addition to a mandatory 3.4 percent salary increase for all employees now earning less than \$12,000 per year.

Utilities, primarily used for heating and cooling dormitories, are expected by Uni-

versity officials to increase eight to ten percent over the next year.

The regents approved similar room fee increases of 7.2 to 8.8 percent in March 1977.

The present increases, if approved, will increase rates for the least expensive dorms on campus from \$147 to \$165 per semester and the most expensive dorms from \$418 to \$468 per semester.

The 13 percent board increase, if approved, will increase fees for the 5-day board plan from \$360 to \$407 per semester and for the 7-day board plan from \$403 to \$455 per semester.

Rent for married student apartments under recommended increases would rise from \$7 to \$41 per month, depending on the apartment unit.

The board of regents will also consider increases in form room deposits, late registration fees, Corps uniform rental fees and reinstatement fees for students dropped from the University rolls for writing hot checks.

The room deposit would be increased from \$65 to \$100 in an attempt to discourage students for reserving and then not claiming dorm rooms.

The present \$65 deposit is not a sufficient deterrent, John Koldus, vice president for student services, told the regents, because students forfeited over \$20,000 in deposits over the past year.

The late registration fee would be increased for the same reason, to impose a stiffer penalty for students failing to register on time.

The uniform rental fee, charged to drills and ceremonies (non-contract) junior and senior members of the Corps of Cadets, would be increased to reflect increasing cost for uniform replacement.

Students who pay fees to the University for "bad" checks and are subsequently dropped from the University rolls for failing to "make good" those checks will have to pay a \$50 reinstatement fee before being returned to the University rolls, if that fee is approved by the regents. The fee is aimed at reducing the number of bad checks the University receives from students. Since the beginning to the fall, 1977 semester, \$113,463 in unpaid checks have been returned to the University.

Two fee decreases have also been recommended to the board of regents.

Those recommendations are to reduce the Corps of Cadets uniform handling fee from \$8 to \$4 and to discontinue the \$1.50 bicycle registration fee.

### PROPOSED RENT AND ROOM FEE INCREASES

	PRESENT	PROPOSED	PERCENTAGE INCREASE
MARRIED STUDENT APARTMENTS			
Old College View (unfurnished)	\$ 70 per month	\$ 77	10%
Old College View (furnished)	\$ 84	\$ 93	10.7%
Southside (3 bedroom, furnished)	\$134	\$175	30.5%
Southside (furnished)	\$103	\$113	9.7%
Hensel (furnished)	\$120.50	\$133	10.4%
New College View (furnished)	\$166	\$183	10.25%
College Avenue (1 bedroom, furnished)	\$166	\$183	10.25%
College Avenue (2 bedroom, furnished)	\$190	\$209	10%
(All rates include basic utilities)			
GROUP I DORMS			
Hotard	\$147 per semester	\$165	12.25%
GROUP II DORMS			
Hart	\$168	\$188	11.9%
Law			
Puryear			
Walton			
GROUP III DORMS			
No. 1 thru 12 (Cadet Area)	\$270	\$303	12.2%
Crocker (North Area)			
Davis-Gary			
Moore			
Moses			
GROUP IV DORMS			
Fowler	\$298	\$334	12.1%
Hughes			
Keathley			
McInnis			
Schumacher			
GROUP V DORMS			
Krueger	\$418	\$468	11.9%
Dunn Aston			
Moshier			

Students enrolled in the professional College of Veterinary Medicine will pay pro rata room fees based on the trimester.

## Defense budget too high, Senator Proxmire says

By DEBBI PIGG

Senator William Proxmire (D.-Wis.) says the U.S. government is spending too much money on military defense.

In a speech to Texas A&M University students Monday night, Proxmire said the proposed 1979 defense budget, which has increased 2 percent since last year and is the first defense budget to increase in years, can be cut back. This can be accomplished through personnel selection, he said. Proxmire's speech was sponsored by Political Forum.

Proxmire contended that increased national defense spending is an inefficient way to supply jobs because "unskilled men, blacks and teenagers" are not capable of working at these technical jobs.

The military is the largest employer in the nation, he said. But of the two million people the military employs, only 6 percent are women, he said.

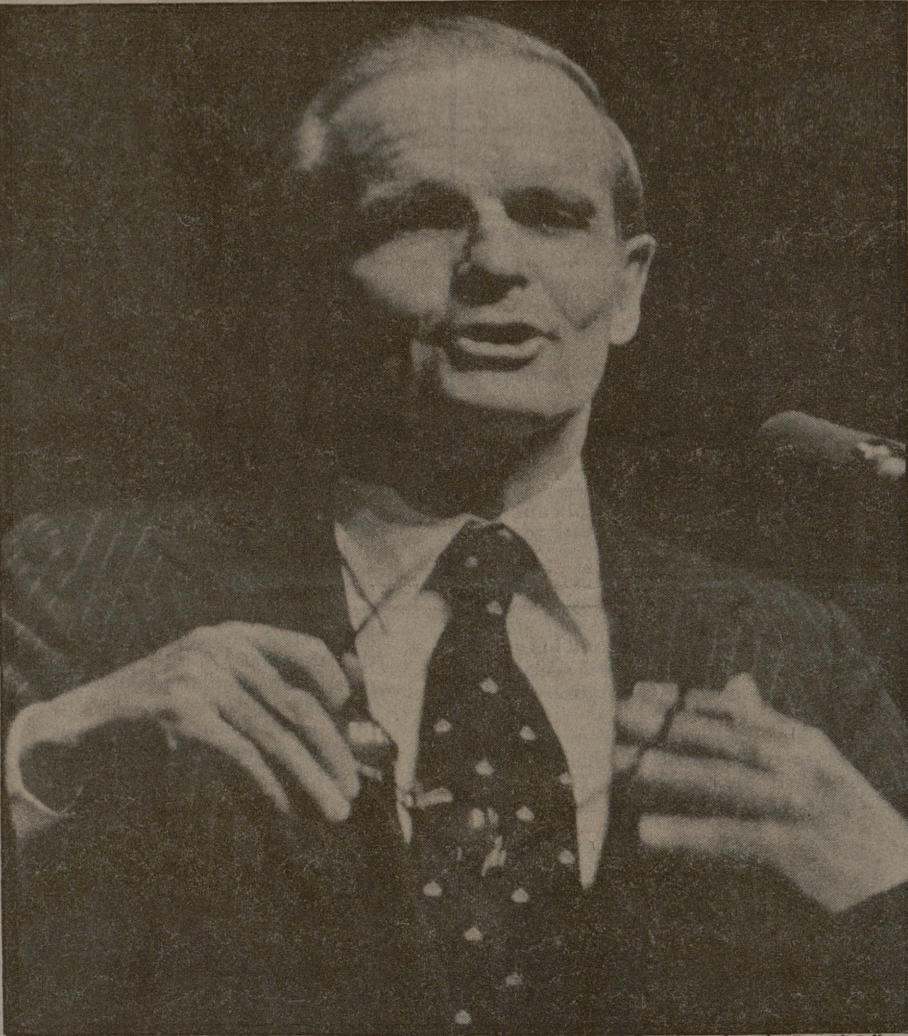
"When women are present, it makes an institution attractive," he said.

Proxmire also said the military could save money by enforcing its contracts so that contractors produce on time, follow specifications and adhere to predetermined budgets.

The military faces a declining force level problem, he said. The military spends more money on one aircraft carrier than it could on many ships or planes, he said.

It is assumed that the U.S. is up against the major potential tough enemy, the Soviet Union, Proxmire said. According to the Central Intelligence Agency, the Soviet Union is behind the U.S. technologically and economically, Proxmire said. Their hardware lacks quality control, he said.

The U.S. is far ahead of Russia when it comes to weapon readiness, the senator said. Fifty percent of U.S. submarines are at sea at all times, Proxmire said. Only 11 percent of Russian submarines are kept at sea, he said.



Sen. William Proxmire

Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

## Construction needed Commissioners discuss county jail inadequacies

By ANDREA VALLS

The need for major construction on the Brazos County Jail so it will comply with standards of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards was discussed at the County Commissioners meeting on Monday.

Presently, Brazos County Jail does not comply in 58 specified areas with the state jail codes, said Judge Bill Vance. The three major compliance problems are the ceiling height, the ventilation system, and the cell locking mechanism, he said.

The commissioners appointed a Bryan

architect, Jack Cumpston of Jack Cumpston and Associates, as consultant for the jail construction. Cumpston said he will soon submit approximately 9 to 11 variances, or authorizations to build contrary to the usual building code, to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards for approval.

The major problem will be maintaining a maximum security jail during the period of construction, said Cumpston. Vance said construction will not begin until the submitted variances are approved. He estimated that January 1979 will be the earliest date on beginning construction.

In an effort to reduce the number of false alarms in Precinct 3, Commissioner Bud Cargill suggested that Precinct 3 no longer pay the cities of Bryan and College Station for grass or trash fire calls unless the call has been authorized by a member of Precinct 3 Volunteer Fire Department.

Cargill said this would not affect the payment of calls made to structure fires, but payment for trash or grass fire calls

would be the responsibility of the property owner.

No action was taken on Cargill's proposal until the city of Bryan and the County Commissioners can discuss the problem of fire calls. Judge Vance said a contract exists only between Bryan and Brazos County for the payment of fire calls, not between Precinct 3 and Bryan.

In other business, the commissioners appointed a three-man steering committee to organize the Boonville Cemetery Association. Commissioners also appointed members to the Child Welfare Board and confirmed the status of existing board members.

The Commissioners also amended the Fee Schedule for facilities at the Brazos County Livestock Arena.

The Commissioners will meet Friday, March 31, at 10 a.m. to discuss the purchase of additional voting machines and to consider proposals for oil and gas leases on county property.

## Purchase date for license tags is March 31

It's that time of year again. The swallows have returned to Capistrano, the mud daubers to Luckenbach and now car owners are flocking to the tax assessor's office.

The deadline for purchasing automobile license tags is 5 p.m. Friday, March 31. The Brazos County Tax Assessor handles distribution from his office in the County Court house, E. 25th St., Bryan.

The staggered registration system is in effect this year. The next to the last number in the present license tag determines when the new sticker will expire. April is used as the base month. If, for example, the next to the last number on your tag is nine, the sticker will expire in December 1978.

The deadline for displaying the new stickers is midnight Saturday, April 1.

## Jury to be picked for Coleman trial

By KAY WALLACE

Jury selection began Monday in the 85th District Court for the trial of Walter Joe Coleman. Judge John M. Barron Sr. is presiding.

Coleman, 19, is charged with the Jan. 12, 1977 shooting death of Lawrence T. Baugh. Baugh was a lecturer in Texas A&M University's English Language Institute and a graduate student in English at the time of his death. Coleman lives at 105 Davis St., Apt. 6, College Station.

Baugh was reported missing by friends and co-workers Jan. 14, 1977. Coleman

was arrested by College Station police the same day.

Divers found Baugh's body in the Navasota River, and an autopsy revealed he died of a single gunshot wound to the back of the head.

The Brazos County grand jury indicted Coleman for the capital murder of Baugh. A pre-trial hearing was held last October to establish guidelines for the trial. Seventy-two motions, most of which dealt with admission of evidence in the case, were filed.

Jury selection will continue today in district court.

## Unidentified radio signals linked to health problems

United Press International

PORTLAND, Ore. — Engineers and state health officials investigating reports of mysterious and disturbing radio signals pulsing across Oregon say they could be coming from anywhere — even outer space.

The powerful shortwave radio pulses have been detected in Portland and Bend, but are as much as 100 times stronger in the Eugene-Springfield area, Kristine Gebbie, Oregon State Health Division administrator, said Monday.

"At the same time this electromagnetic source has been detected, people have reported noises in the head, stiffness and reddened skin. We are concerned with the health problems," Mrs. Gebbie said at a news conference.

She said a federal electromagnetic radia-

tion analysis van has been requested to check the source of the high-frequency impulses, but it is not known if or when the equipment will be assigned to the investigation.

The health division began monitoring the signals last week after receiving a report from Marshall Van Ert, a University of Oregon industrial hygienist, who said 25 people, including himself, had health problems in an area where the signals appeared strongest.

Van Ert said he has detected the signals in his apartment and believes they have caused a reddening of his skin.

Mrs. Gebbie said the signals were believed to be in the 4.74- to 4.75-megahertz range on the shortwave band. She said the Federal Communications Commission, the National Bureau of Standards and the

Environmental Protection Agency have been asked to help in the investigation.

Clifford Schrock, an electronic engineer with the Pacific Northwest Center for the Study of Non-Ionizing Radiation, was called in by Van Ert to monitor the signals.

He said the center had determined in two ground checks and an aerial flight since February that the signal source apparently was not within the Eugene area and could be coming from Asian points or outer space.

"I wouldn't throw it out," Schrock said when asked about the signals coming from outside the Earth. "We don't know yet."

The 4.75-megahertz frequency, far from the usual microwave-oven frequency, is in the range usually assigned to the federal government and for international overseas communications, he said.

## Sales total \$4.5 million

## Bookstore profits shared

By ANDY WILLIAMS

The student organization that benefits from the Memorial Student Center Bookstore profits may be your own.

This year, \$100,000 of this money was scheduled to be distributed to various campus groups and activities.

Another \$75,000 went to fund part of the Hensel Park project, which is expected to cost \$265,760 in all. The project will involve construction of a recreational area on fields on the north part of the campus.

Estimated bookstore sales for the 1977-78 school year amounted to \$4.5 million, of which \$407,293 is expected to be net profit, according to the income budget estimate for the bookstore in 1977-78.

Charles Cargill, director of the University Center, said the bookstore had a choice between selling items cheaper and making no profit, or distributing what profits it made to student organizations.

"We use the manufacturers' list prices," he said. He said that this means the MSC bookstore sells items other than textbooks at about the same prices as the private bookstores in the area.

Cargill said the publishers set the retail price of textbooks and sell them to bookstores at 80 percent of that price. Martha Camp, manager of the privately owned University Bookstore north of campus, said this is a nationwide practice.

Thus, the prices on texts are the same at virtually every store in the country, she said.

What is left of the MSC bookstore's profit after distribution to student organizations, activities, and special projects, will be placed in a reserve fund which will help support the inventory of the store.

Howard Vestal, vice president for business affairs, said the reserve fund generally amounts to about \$1 million.

Administrative funding, distributed to groups such as the Texas Aggie Band and the Aggie Players, accounted for \$44,555 of \$100,000 in profits to be used by students. Allocations to clubs took another \$46,286, with \$9,159 going into an emergency reserve fund.

An extra \$28,000 was added to these three areas by the Parents' Fund and money from the Former Students Association.

"The money from the bookstore is in no way intended to support student clubs," said Dr. Carolyn Adair, director of student activities. She explained that organizations can receive aid from these funds but are normally expected to be self-supporting.

Allocations of bookstore profits to clubs is made through the Student Organization Board, chaired by Adair. The board is composed of representatives from seven categories of clubs.

All of the funding recommendations are submitted to President Jarvis Miller for final approval.

Administrative funding is done by Adair, Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services, and Howard Perry, associate vice president for student services.

Only six of the seven club categories received bookstore funds this year. Sports clubs received money only from the Parents' Fund and the Former Students Association. This money also is distributed by the Student Organizations Board.

Military organizations received more bookstore money than any other club category. They were slated to receive \$12,971.

The next largest amounts went to academic clubs (\$11,000), recreational clubs (\$8,575), international student organizations (\$5,000), general student organizations (\$4,515) and general honor and service groups (4,225).

The largest portion of the money given to military organizations went to the Ross Volunteers and the Rifle Club, and was to be used mostly for travel.

Vocal music was the branch of administrative funding which was allotted the largest sum (\$11,000). The bulk of the money was expected to be used in traveling expenses for the Singing Cadets and the Century Singers.

The Aggie Players were given \$5,900 from administrative funding. Production of the MSC calendar (\$5,680) also came from this source.

Adair said she expects no changes in the groups which will receive bookstore money next year, but said that much more money probably will be given out. She blamed this on the increasing travel costs of many groups.

"I generally pitch for a large reserve," she said. The reserve fund is chiefly used in emergencies. Adair gave the example of the time the Symphonic Band was invited to play a concert after it had budgeted all its funds.

But she added that the reserve fund is occasionally used to make a purchase. The reviewing stand on the drill field was bought with this money.

Cargill said the bookstore is divided into two stores: one which sells gifts, supplies, and so on, and another which sells textbooks and related items such as study guides.

The bookstore buys used books at 50 percent of their new retail price and sells them at 75 percent of that price. Therefore, the bookstore prefers to sell used books, Cargill said. He pointed out that the bookstore makes a 33.3 percent profit on used books but only a 20 percent profit on new ones.

The markup on supplies is generally higher and it ranges from 20 to 50 percent, Cargill said. He said this is due to the higher handling costs of these items, which are usually packed in smaller cases than are books.

Cargill and the operators of three private bookstores agreed that the bulk of their profits comes not from textbooks but from the gifts and novelties they sell.

"You have to have the other stuff, or else you couldn't sell books," Camp said.