



Brad Baylis, a sophomore building construction major from Dallas, plays a little "easy listening" music in the Basement Coffeehouse. Thursday's performance was the last Basement presentation of the spring semester. Battalion photo by Steve Lee



Battalion photo by Debbie Parsons
Clay Jarvis and Steve Henry played together as "Dustin Shadows" for the last time Thursday at the Basement Coffeehouse. After this semester, Jarvis is transferring to another school to study sculpture.

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Basement season ends for spring semester

Brad Baylis and "Dustin Shadows" performed outside the MSC Thursday for the last outdoor concert sponsored by the Basement Coffeehouse. The Basement sponsors many outdoor concerts each semester, depending on the

weather. Each person or group plays for a selection committee that decides who plays in the Basement. Performers such as Bob French and Mile Lovett got their start at the Basement Coffeehouse.

Space exploration seen becoming big enterprise

NEW YORK — The exploration of space already is a multibillion dollar enterprise but some well-informed persons are starting to believe it soon will become a huge and viable commercial industry.

Gerald E. Frick, a vice president of Marsh & McLennan, Inc., a major insurance brokerage, predicted in a recent speech in London that outer space exploitation might become a \$30 billion a year industry by the end of this century.

Frick said this figure would be the total for military and governmental uses of outer space facilities and commercial uses such as data and television and radio transmission.

Frick was addressing an audience of insurance people including more than 100 prominent European underwriters.

Frick said the space shuttle, or Space Transportation System program may include missions with a high proportion of commercial users on board that will require as much as \$100 million in insurance coverage for the shuttle portion of the mission. At present, the total insurance coverage available in the world market for a space launch is limited to about \$50 million.

Frick said if business for commercial and government account does reach a global volume of \$30 billion a year, "this would require a lot of insurance, much of it probably in types of policies not yet developed."

Space operation insurance already has come a long way, Frick said. When the first telecommunications satellite, the Early Bird, was launched in 1965, insurance was available only for the pre-launch operations from companies engaged in writing aviation policies.

Marsh & McLennan got into the

space insurance business early, working with various companies to provide coverage for the Intelsat III series in 1968. In 1975, the company wrote a three-year policy to insure the active life of three RCA satellites orbiting the earth.

In addition to the military and communications operations of space satellites that could produce profitable insurable commercial operations, Frick sees satellites becoming important in solar energy, in advance geological exploration for oil and other resources, and to create "space hospitals" with conditions especially favorable for some kinds of surgery such as spinal cord fusion.

Most exciting of all, Frick envisions the possibility of substantial space industry early in the next century.

Asked why he believes space travel might become popular, Frick said curiosity could cause people to take "space vacations" even by the end of this century.

And taking a cue from the science fiction writers, he said "the earth has a finite amount of living space, so if science finds a way to make the surface of some of the planets habitable for man, it is quite possible full-time living colonies will be established there to exploit mineral and other potential wealth."

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