

A&M's new student legal adviser excited about working with students

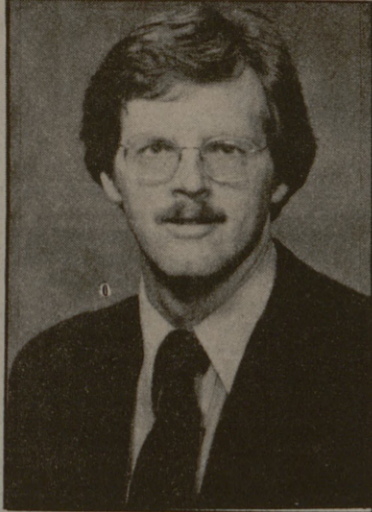
By FLAVIA KRONE
Battalion Staff
Texas A&M University's new student legal adviser has arrived. Gaines West, a 31-year-old Sherman, Texas, attorney fills the position vacated by former attorney Eugene "Sonny" Lyles who left the University in mid-August for a private law practice in College Station. West graduated from the Baylor University School of Law in 1973. Since that time he has served in a variety of positions including assistant director of elections under former Texas Secretary of State Mark White, hearings officer for the Texas Health Facilities Commission and practicing attorney with a 12-man law firm in Sherman. As assistant director of elections West administered all state, district and local elections from Sept. 1973 to Aug. 1975. In his capacity as hearings officer for the Texas Health Facilities Commission, he wrote many of the rules governing the construction and equipment acquisition by hospitals, nursing homes and home health agencies in the state.

As a private attorney West specialized in administrative law before state agencies.

While the past three student legal advisers at Texas A&M have left the University for private practice, West may be reversing that trend by leaving his private practice in Sherman to come to Texas A&M. "Private practice left little time for my family," said West, who will bring his wife and two children to the Bryan-College Station area. "I examined my priorities and decided that my family is most important to me."

West said he is "genuinely excited" to be working with students at Texas A&M. He added that he has plans to extend the scope of the student legal adviser's office to include an outreach program that will increase student awareness with respect to the legal services available on campus.

Currently, the student legal adviser counsels students and recognized student organizations in all legal matters including:



Gaines West

Contracts, criminal, consumer protection, landlord-tenant, domestic relations, auto accidents, traffic accidents and insurance.

For an individual case the action taken by the office of the student legal adviser will vary with the legal matter in question, Eugene Lyles, former student attorney, said.

The Texas A&M System Board of Regents has ruled that student attorneys must limit courtroom representation to consumer protection cases only.

"The Board of Regents decided that this was in the best interests of the students," Lyles said. "It varies with the university. Attorneys at the University of Texas have represented students in almost every court in the state while at Texas Tech they can't go to court at all."

In the past, Texas A&M student legal advisers have defined "consumer protection cases" to include legal problems which involve consumer fraud and deceptive trade practices, Lyles said.

"Let's say a student buys a used car and then discovers that the odometer has been rolled back," Lyles said. "This is the type of case that we would classify under consumer protection."

Office attorneys went to trial once last year, settling the case before it went to a jury, Lyles said.

The student's legal adviser cannot represent a student against the University or one student against another student under any circumstances.

For legal problems outside the consumer protection definition the office of the student's legal adviser can give the student advice, provide legal counseling and, if it is deemed necessary, refer the student to an attorney who is a member of the Brazos County Bar Association, Lyles said.

The student's legal adviser is located in the Y.M.C.A. Building 306.

Petition asks water heaters reach no higher than 130

United Press International
WASHINGTON — One young girl was standing in her bathtub when a playmate turned the hot water on all the way, scalding her.

A woman taking a shower accidentally turned on the hot water tap full blast. She fainted and suffered second and third degree burns on 18 percent of her body.

Both victims recovered, painfully and with scars.

They are among an estimated 3,000 persons scalded by hot water each year. Most victims are children, some the object of deliberate abuse by adults.

The case of the woman who fainted in her shower and the young girl burned by a playmate were cited in a petition to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which is investigating the problem.

The petition was filed by Seattle City Light, that city's electric utility, and signed by the two victims, among others. The petition asks that all water heaters be built with thermostats that will go no higher than 130 degrees. Currently, both gas and electric hot water heaters are set at the factory at 150 degrees.

An adult's skin scalds in about 30 seconds in 130-degree water. At 150 degrees it takes only two seconds.

Commission experts are studying ways to regulate hot water heaters better and the economic impact any such changes would have. They hope to have a recommendation for the commission this fall.

One study already on file at the commission was prepared for the agency by Arthur D. Little Inc., a Cambridge, Mass., research firm. It says a net saving of 8 to 9 percent would result in gas or electric consumption if all hot water heaters were set at 130 degrees instead of 150.

The Seattle petition says hot water heaters use the energy equivalent of 1.1 million barrels of oil per day, so an 8 percent reduction would result in a daily reduction in energy consumption of 88,000 barrels of oil.

The Little study concludes that the majority of scald incidents would be prevented if water heaters were set no higher than 130 degrees.

But two problem areas exist:

—The proposed 130 degree setting would result in less hot water being available for consumers who have smaller heaters. A unit that now produces an average of 75 gallons of hot water per hour would be reduced to 55 gallons per hour by the lower temperature setting.

The Little study estimates that setting thermostats back to 130 degrees would have no noticeable impact for about 26 million dwellings, but the change would probably require an additional 17 million households to buy larger hot water heaters.

—Automatic dishwashers are de-

signed to operate at temperatures higher than 130 degrees unless they are equipped with an internal device to raise water temperature once they are operating.

One manufacturer, Whirlpool Corp., says the dishwasher question is particularly tough because a heater setting of at least 140 degrees is needed to insure that the water in the dishwasher is hot enough — roughly 130 degrees — to remove food particles and leave dishes spotless.

Another manufacturer, Maytag, agrees, adding that animal fat is a real problem in dishwashers and that waste build-up occurs when the water temperature is too low. The Maytag spokesman said he could only speculate on the safety factor, but thought waste build-up might harbor bacteria.

He said his company's safety recommendation is water temperature of 140-150 degrees at the point where the water enters the dishwasher.

A lower temperature could also create problems with clothes washing machines, he added. He said many newer fabrics attract oil from the skin and other soils that are best cleaned with hot water. He said a lower temperature would require consumers to pre-scrub and pre-treat clothing, destroying much of the convenience that automatic washers now provide.

Stapling stomachs shuts aids in weight control

United Press International
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Surgeons at Ohio State University Hospitals are turning a technique developed by the Russians into a weight-control measure for grossly fat people — they are stapling their stomachs shut.

Since July 1977, doctors have performed about 30 gastric staplings, preferred over bypass and other surgery because it doesn't entail the same serious risks and side effects.

Dr. Larry Carey, chairman of the OSU Department of Surgery, said, "No serious complications have resulted from the surgery and patients are losing an average of 10 pounds per month for the first six months."

He emphasized that the doctors will wield their staple guns only on patients who weigh more than 100 pounds over their ideal weight and have failed on other weight-loss plans like Weight Watchers or psychiatry.

He said most candidates seen so far are women, many of them des-

perate and unable to get a job because of their weight.

Carey explained that a double row of staples is placed near the top of the stomach, creating a small pouch below the esophagus. Then, three staples are removed to allow a small opening through which food passes into the stomach and intestinal tract.

Once healed, the stomach can hold only two to three ounces of food, Carey said, and the patient is forced to change his eating habits.

Surgeon William Pace is credited with pioneering gastric stapling. "We've been using staples in surgery here for the last five years," he said. "Each row consists of several quarter-inch staples which are inserted into the body via a stapler-gun device."

The stainless steel staples mesh together parts of the intestinal tract in less than a minute so that stapling is less time-consuming and less expensive than bypass surgery.

INTEREST COMPOUNDED NIGHTLY

LAST NATIONAL BANK

PRIME RATE 29 1/2%

This will definitely draw interest!
A 12 oz. burger with lettuce & tomato.
Add 26¢ for cheese, chili or bacon.

INSUFFICIENT FUNDS 19 1/2%

Somewhat smaller than the prime rate ...
A 6 oz. burger with lettuce & tomato.
Add 26¢ for cheese, chili or bacon.

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE 49 1/2%

For the highest yield!
A delicious 10 oz. top sirloin
cooked to your liking served with dinner salad.

NEW ACCOUNTS 39 1/2%

Open our new!
Texas chicken fried steak w. gravy & fries and Texas toast. Order 223¢

FEDERAL RESERVE 49 1/2%

As good as gold!
Golden fried shrimp served with french fries & Texas toast.

OPEN NOTE 21 7/8%

An excellent endorsement ...
Chicken fried steak sandwich with lettuce & tomato.

1977 *Thomas J. Nelson Jr.*

NIGHT DEPOSIT 18 1/2%

Ultimate nachos for
lunch or late night snack.

TAX SHELTER 22 3/4%

A great investment!
A huge chef salad you won't forget.

WITHDRAWALS 22 3/4%

For those reducing their count
A bell pepper stuffed with chicken salad.

BANKRUPTCY 12 1/2%

Overextend your budget!
Ask your waitress for the dessert of the day.

OVERDRAWN 7 1/2%

Extend yourself into something extra.
French Fries 71¢
Baked Potato 89¢
Crispy Zucchini 1.11¢
Onion Rings 1.23¢

BANKERS HOURS:

Open daily at 11 a.m. Attitude Adjustment Hour: 5-8 p.m.
5 drinks for 1. chips and chili con queso.
Open Sundays 5-midnight.
To insure speed of service, it is our policy to request one check per table.
1¢ gratuity added on parties of eight or more.
We accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express.
We do not accept personal checks.

PHONE V.I. MONEY

411 TEXAS AVE. S.

THE

DRAFTING BOARD

108 COLLEGE MAIN 846-2522

NORTHGATE SUPPLIER FOR YOUR DRAFTING EXCELLENCE

10% OFF \$5 or more

PLUS IN-STORE SPECIALS

EDG kits and...

Drawing Aids, Model Supplies, Pressure Graphics

Drafting Tables, Chairs, Lamps, Storage

Paper, Pads, Boards, Pens, Pencils, Markers