

When construction on Kyle began at the end of last semester, parking areas had to be fenced off. This area on the east side of Kyle Field was made off-limits, eliminating 146 day student spaces and 82 male dorm spaces.

Battalion photo by Steve Lee

Parking spaces steadily being lost

By DIANE BLAKE
Battalion Staff

Although there are few parking places on the main campus now, the outlook for day students and male dormitory residents is even worse. Tom Parsons, director of security and traffic, said that last semester about 550 spaces were lost, mostly due to construction. On the east side of Kyle Field, 146 day student and 82 male dorm student parking spaces were fenced off for construction. In lot 62 next to Wofford Cain Pool, 226 day student spaces were fenced. A barracks building was moved to lot 8, taking 98 parking places. Day students also lost 116 spaces in lot 5 near Zachry Engineering Center.

"Since I began this job July 1, 1977, there have been 1,120 spaces lost, mostly because of construction," Parsons said. Many of these spaces will not be restored, he said. The Kyle Field expansion will permanently take up some of the parking places in lots 48 and 62, and day students and male dorm residents will lose even more places when new women's dormitories are completed, he said.

"It is the University's policy to provide close-in parking for girls," Parsons said. He estimated that 400 spaces in lots 9 and 31 behind Law Hall will be reserved for residents of the new women's dorms.

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A&M \$s boost area's economy

Texas A&M University's economic impact on the Bryan-College Station area continues to increase at a multi-million dollar rate, totaling a record \$182.7 million for 1978. University President Jarvis E. Miller said an in-house study shows that campus-generated funds pumped into the local economy rose \$11.7 million during the past year.

Miller attributed the 1978 gain to the University's enrollment increases and expanded research activities. Texas A&M's 1,442-student increase for the 1978 fall semester shed total resident enrollment to 255. The University's volume of research also continued to rise, totaling \$60.1 million for fiscal year 1977-78, up about \$8.3 million over the previous year.

Texas A&M's 1978 economic impact figures include a payroll of more than \$107.1 million, up \$5.9 million from last year.

Permanent Texas A&M University System employees residing in College Station, Bryan and the surrounding area now total 7,929.

Some 250 additional staff, research and support personnel joined the institution during 1978, for a payroll equivalent of the addition of three medium-size industrial firms for the community.

Students contributed over \$56 million to the local economy, up nearly \$4.6 million. Food and housing account for the major expenditures, along with clothing, school supplies and recreation.

The University spent about \$11.1 million locally for utilities, services and supplies. Expenditures in this category rose about \$800,000.

Visitors attending athletic events, conferences and short courses at the University accounted for approximately \$8.5 million, an increase of about \$800,000. Most expenditures in this category were for food, lodging and entertainment.

The University paid about \$14 million to contractors for construction on campus. These payments also influence the local economy because of contractor purchases and employment of area residents, Miller said.

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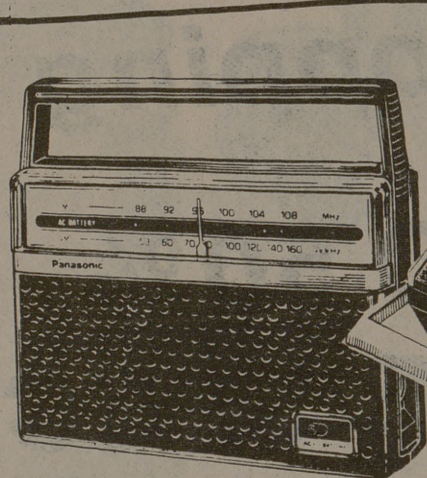
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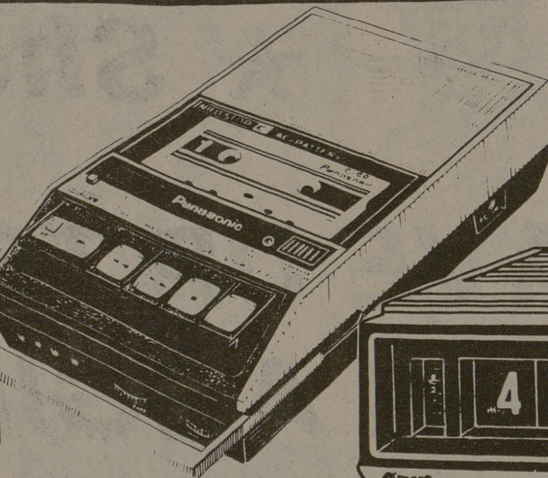
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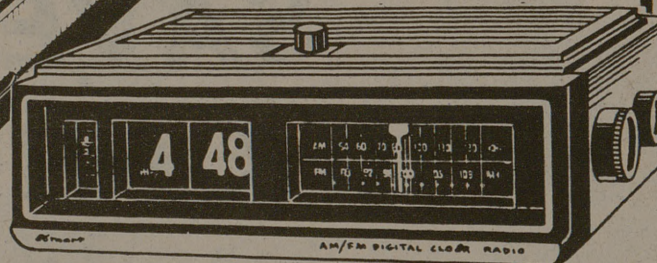
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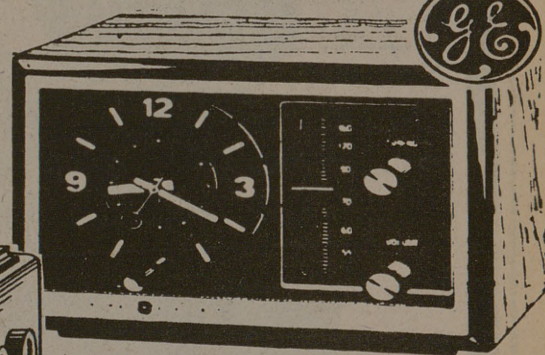
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