

Students can use Q-huts for storage in summer

But U.S. gas problems continue

Iran meets peak oil export quota

By JEAN LONGSERRE
Battalion Reporter

If summer storage is a problem, the department of student affairs has an answer: Students can store belongings at the Quonset Hut.

"We don't use one of the Q-Huts during the summer so we allow students to store their belongings there for a small charge," said Nolen Mears, residence education coordinator.

"The idea got started last year when we (the department of student affairs) found out there was a need for this type of service."

Mears said the price for storing

goods will be "on a one piece basis. We will charge \$1 per small box, \$3 per large box, and \$5 for things like carpets, furniture, bikes, and that price is for the entire summer," he said.

Small storage rooms at warehouses cost from \$15 to \$30 a month. "Last year we had one girl store all the furniture she had in her apartment and it only cost her around \$25 or \$30 total," Mears said.

Mears said all reasonable security measures will be taken at the Q-Hut, but that the University will not be held responsible for any

damage to property due to vandalism, theft, fire, water or heat.

"We require everyone wishing to store items to sign a release statement in case something does happen to their belongings," Mears said. "But as far as we know there were not any problems of that kind last year."

Mears said extra security measures, including the installation of new locks, are being taken this year.

The storage items will be taken until the 4000-square-foot Q-Hut is full.

Storage will begin on Sunday and continue until Thursday. Students may bring their items to the Q-Hut during those days from 1 to 6 p.m. Items can be claimed beginning Aug. 26, for a 5-day period. All unclaimed items will be given to charity.

United Press International

Iran says it has reached the revolutionary government's mandated peak export rate of 3.5 million barrels a day, but the stabilization has not eased American gasoline woes.

Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan announced the leveling off in an interview on Tehran Radio Wednesday.

Iran, the United States' second largest source of foreign crude oil prior to the fall of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi's fall, exported about 5.5 million barrels of oil a day and provided about 10 percent of the total U.S. petroleum imports.

The American Petroleum Institute reported Wednesday U.S. crude oil imports dropped sharply

last week to 5.8 million barrels daily from 6.5 million barrels the previous week.

In its weekly bulletin, the API, an oil industry trade association, also said U.S. gasoline stocks declined last week to 231.8 million barrels from 233.3 million barrels the week before.

But the institute said the U.S. import level last week was slightly higher than the 5.5 million barrels a day at the same time last year.

In Washington, the Energy Department accused seven major oil companies of overcharging customers nearly \$1.7 billion during the past six years.

Paul Bloom, the department's special attorney for compliance, said

the oil was priced at about \$12 per barrel instead of \$4 to \$5 per barrel in violation of price controls established after the 1973 Arab oil embargo.

The seven companies and the amounts they were accused of overcharging were: Texaco, \$888.3 million; Gulf Oil Co., \$578 million; Standard Oil of California, \$101.6 million; Atlantic Richfield, \$42 million; Marathon Oil, \$29 million; Standard Oil of Indiana, \$24 million, and Standard Oil of Ohio, \$1.7 million.

The violations, uncovered in audits of the oil companies' books, occurred from August 1973 through March 1979. Bloom said the listed

amounts included a substantial amount of interest.

President Carter's proposal to begin phasing out price controls on domestic crude oil June 1 narrowly escaped defeat in a vote by the House Commerce Committee. Carter's plan to eliminate controls by late 1981 is designed to lessen the nation's dependence on foreign oil by spurring U.S. exploration and oil production.

The Senate approved Carter's plan to order public and commercial buildings to set their thermostats no lower than 80 degrees in summer and no higher than 65 degrees in winter, but refused to authorize restrictions on outdoor advertising lights.

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House passes utilities bill City rate-setting may stop

United Press International

AUSTIN — Although critics referred to it as a cow chip masquerading as a rose, House members have approved a bill to deflower city councils' power to regulate electric utility rates and give the duty to the Public Utility Commission. The move was one of several passed by the House.

"I'm satisfied this bill remains no more than a cow chip in an open field," said Rep. Bob McFarland, R-Arlington.

"You can paint it red and shape it like a rose, but you can't change what it is."

Critics argued the bill will result in higher rates and loss of local input in setting electric rates. Under the bill's provisions, the PUC would have original and exclusive rate-setting jurisdiction, except in cities served by municipally owned electric companies.

Rep. Craig Washington, D-Houston, also expressed concern about taking away local control but contended cities actually are ineffective in setting the rates under current law.

City councils usually are forced to defend their rate decisions before the PUC because electric companies appeal virtually all the local rulings. The PUC has final jurisdiction.

"There is something good that can come of a cow patty," Washington said in answer to McFarland's criticism.

The bill, which passed 74-65 Wednesday and now goes to the Senate, was strongly supported by utility companies.

A bill by Rep. Gene Green, D-Houston, requiring Texas drivers to acquire windshield stickers showing they have liability insurance before they are allowed to drive in the

state also passed the House and was sent to the Senate.

The mandatory liability insurance bill may face a tougher time in the Senate, though Texas motorists continue to complain about uninsured drivers who do not pay after accidents.

The bill was tentatively approved a plumber licensing bill, also sponsored by Green, which passed the Senate earlier in the session. Some legislators had fought the proposal to require licensing of plumbers in counties of 80,000 or more population.

The bill was modified to apply only to Harris County where Green said he had received numerous complaints about plumbing work done outside the city limits. Under current law, plumbers in cities of more than 5,000 people are required to be licensed but there is no licensing law for those who work in unincorporated areas.

Health Department officials looking for wandering elephant

United Press International

NEW YORK — After spending a fruitless day stalking a wandering elephant through the streets of Brooklyn, city officials Thursday took their search underground, contacting informants who wanted to remain anonymous.

The big game hunt through Brooklyn's Bay Ridge district — the neighborhood where John Travolta boogied to "Saturday Night Fever" fame — began Wednesday with some leg work by Health Department officials checking on a tip from "reliable informants" that an elephant was being harbored behind a warehouse.

City officials followed by scores of reporters created a circus atmosphere in the vicinity, but no elephant was found.

Thursday, officials decided to give up the street safari temporarily and

check interagency records. "We have to speak to some people who won't talk when they have all the press around," an official said.

Marvin Bogner, a spokesman for the Health Department, admitted

he hadn't seen the elephant, but said two governmental agencies, including the Department of Environmental Conservation, had phoned in independent reports, as well as several citizens.

Burger's conditions accepted by ABA

United Press International

WASHINGTON — American Bar Association officials have taken steps to make sure Chief Justice Warren Burger doesn't get into any more battles with television reporters at future lawyers' conventions.

And the silver-haired chief justice has indicated he will comply, and allow his future speeches before the ABA to be filmed — under certain conditions.

Burger's dislike for TV cameras flared at the ABA's annual midyear meeting in Atlanta last February, where he sought to evade film crews preparing to do a broadcast profile of him for CBS' "60 Minutes" program.

He agreed to make his annual address on the judiciary at the ABA meeting only if the 250,000-member organization accepted his ban on electronic coverage, said President S. Shepherd Tate.

That led to some criticism of the ABA for accepting Burger's conditions. In apparent response, the

group's Board of Governors adopted a resolution April 6 concluding: "The country is best served by the broad distribution of information about the legal system and the role of lawyers and the courts."

"General membership meetings of the ABA are open to the registered representatives of all news media unless specific exceptions or limitations are made by the Board of Governors," it said.

He said under the present rules, Burger could ask to speak without cameras, "but he probably wouldn't get it."

He noted, however, there have been "indications" the chief justice intends to accept future invitations and "will permit television provided lighting conditions are controlled and the cameras are stationary."

Supreme Court spokesman Barrett McGurn confirmed Burger has laid down three conditions for television coverage of future appearances — no "glaring lights," no "roving cameras" and no "spot interviews."

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