Roof repair bids taken

The A&M Consolidated school rd accepted two bids for reiring the roof at A&M Con-lidated High School Monday

Olie C. Grauke, Assistant perintendent of Finance for school district, reported he received a bid over the tele-phone Monday from All-American Enterprises of Phoenix, Arizona for \$133,466.

On April 19, the board rered a bid of \$136,500 from neral Coatings, Inc. of Hous-

Crauke recommended the ncil accept the bid of Allerican Enterprises.

But trustee Ann Jones quesned Grauke's method of ac-

ting bids. Is this the way we normally ept bids?" she asked. "It ms to give the late bidder an

Grauke said there is usually a addine for accepting bids. The aled bids are opened at one e, giving all bidders the opunity to be present.

Grauke said this procedure not followed because he had uble contacting All-American

They were behind through no of their own," he said.

suggested the firms be allowed to rebid through sealed bids in the usual manner. The suggestion was voted on and it passed unanimously.

In other action, a letter from Joseph U. LeBlanc, a College Station resident, was presented to the school board.

According to the letter, people attending board meetings some-times leave confused because they do not understand the issues on the agenda.

The letter listed poor acoustics in the meeting room and a lack of background data on current issues as reasons for the public's

Several trustees spoke out against the public address system in the meeting room, located in the Special Services Building at 1300 Jersey St., College Station.

"Since I've been on the board we have continually struggled with the speaker system," said trustee Bill Wasson.

"We have the responsibility that if the public takes the time to come, they should be able to hear what we say," he said.

Wasson said a way to give the public more understanding of issues would be to include background information on current issues as part of the agenda.

Trustee Bruce Robeck

suggested setting up a question and answer period for both the board and the public to clear up confusion over board matters.

"If the board ceases to com-municate with the public," Wasson said, "there is no point in being here.

Robeck suggested the board look for another place to meet. One possibility, he said, could be the Oakwood Elementary

Board president John Reagor suggested putting these suggestions on a future agenda.

As the board was about to re-

cess, newly elected trustee Herman Brown, who had been silent for the entire meeting, made a sudden outburst.

He said he had been on the school board for a month and he still does not know what is going

"I feel very inadequate," he said. "I do not have a feel for the problems.

Fitch suggested that he wait it

'You're smarter than I am," he said. "By the end of summer you may figure out what's going on. It took me six months.

On the serious side, Fitch said this lack of communication and understanding of problems is the reason it took so long to get the roof on the high school repaired.

Racquetball boom draws 8 million

College students and senior citizens are doing it. So are housewives and professional football players. But the majority of those doing it are 25 to 45 year-old middle-income

What these approximately 8 million people are doing is playing racquetball, America's fastest growing

The game was developed by a self-made millionaire and avid handball player named Robert Ken-dler. He took the game of paddle racquets, changed the name, applied the rules of handball and

began promoting it.

And it has caught on. One reason is because it is that it has few rules and can be learned in just one les-

Basically, the goal is to hit the ball with the racquet before it bounces twice and to prevent the opponent from doing so.

The game is played on an enclosed, box-like court, which is 40-by-20 feet and has a 20-foot ceiling. With the exception of the serve, the ball does not have to hit the front wall first, so often the ball bounces wildly off the side walls and

The racquets look like a squaredoff, sawed-off tennis racquet with a string attached. The string prevents the racquet from flying out of a player's hand. Prices for racquets range from \$13.95 to \$75, and they are usually made of light-weight aluminum. For the more affluent player, a new graphite racquet which sells for \$150 has just been

The balls are pressurized and hollow, are usually green or blue and cost from \$2.95 to \$4.39 a pair. Last year alone, an estimated 18 million were sold

Most of this activity is taking place on courts on college campuses, in YMCAs and in about 900 privately racqetball clubs. These clubs have sprung up in the last few

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years and are making profits despite the initial \$60,000 to \$70,000 cost for a court. This price includes everything from the land to the elec-

Sports Illustrated magazine has started its own chain of clubs. Memberships costs vary, but a local club runs \$50 a year plus court fees. The fees run from \$4 to \$7 an hour, depending on the time of day. Lessons are also available and cost \$5 plus the court fee.

According to an instructor, beginners are plagued by a lack of anticipation and an inability of keeping out of their opponent's way. This makes them run more. Also, it sometimes leads to clobbering an opponent with a racquet or running

Because of the fast pace and constant activity, a complete physical workout can be had in just an hour. On an aerobic scale from one to 10, racquetball rates a nine, only topped by jogging and swimming. Tennis rates only a four.

Besides enthusiastic amatuers, there is now a professional tourna-ment circuit with prize money for this year at an estimated \$500,000. Sponsors include Colgate-Palmolive, and Coors sponsors tournaments for professional athletes who compete in other sports.

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planes hit again were "terrorist concentrations" with

United Press International raeli warplanes attacked Palestargets in southern Lebanon uesday in their second raid of ay and the fourth air strike into on in three days, the Israeli

y command said. raeli planes struck the same vil-Rihan, during similar strikes day. The command again said killed and thre that the targets of the strike day's first raid.

no further details.

The new Israeli attack came after Lebanon rejected an Israeli peace proposal as "blackmail" and Egypt vowed to go ahead with the peace

process with Israel. Initial reports by Beirut radio indicated at least one Palestinian was

A Nice Place To Live

In the Lebanese capital of Beirut, Lebanon rejected Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's offer of peace talks in Jerusalem, Beirut or a neutral place as "blackmail.

In Fez, Morocco, the Islamic Congress moved today to suspend Egypt's membership in the 44member organization to punish Cairo for signing a peace treaty with

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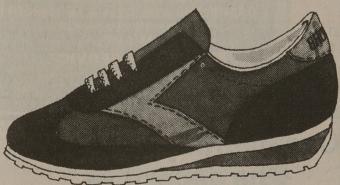
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