

Local

# Final examination schedule

Date	Hour	Series
Dec. 15, Monday	8-10 a.m.	Classes meeting MWF 8 or MWF 7:30-8:30
Dec. 15, Monday	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Classes meeting MWF 1 or MWF 12:30-1:30
Dec. 15, Monday	2-4 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 8-9:15 or TTh 7:30-8:30
Dec. 15, Monday	5-7 p.m.	Classes meeting MW 5-6:15 or MW 4:30-5:45
Dec. 16, Tuesday	8-10 a.m.	Classes meeting MWF 9 or MWF 8:30-9:30
Dec. 16, Tuesday	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Classes meeting MWF 2 or MWF 1:30-2:30
Dec. 16, Tuesday	2-4 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 9:30-10:45 or TTh 8:30-9:45
Dec. 16, Tuesday	5-7 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 5-6:15 or TTh 4-5:15
Dec. 17, Wednesday	8-10 a.m.	Classes meeting MWF 10 or MWF 9:30-10:30
Dec. 17, Wednesday	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Classes meeting MWF 3 or MWF 2:30-3:30
Dec. 17, Wednesday	2-4 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 11-12:15 or TTh 10-11:15
Dec. 17, Wednesday	5-7 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 3:30-4:45 or TTh 2:30-3:45
Dec. 18, Thursday	8-10 a.m.	Classes meeting MWF 11 or MWF 10:30-11:30
Dec. 18, Thursday	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Classes meeting MWF 4 or MWF 3:30-4:30
Dec. 18, Thursday	2-4 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 12:30-1:45 or TTh 11:30-12:45
Dec. 19, Friday	8-10 a.m.	Classes meeting MWF 12 or MWF 11:30-12:30
Dec. 19, Friday	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Classes meeting TTh 2-3:15 or TTh 1-2:15

## Philosophy talk today in MSC

Dr. Joseph Bien, visiting professor at Texas A&M University from the University of Missouri-Columbia, will speak at 4 p.m. today on "Machiavelli and Humanism." The speech, sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, will be in room 137 in the Memorial Student Center.

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### Wages, benefits to rise 31%

## GTE strike had its effects

**By WILEY GILMORE**  
Battalion Reporter

There was no great paralysis of commerce and industry in the area as a result of the strike. There was no violence and little vandalism. But the strike of the Communications Workers of America Local 12171 against General Telephone Co. of Southwest had its effects.

The walkout lasted from May 16 to June 11, 1980, and affected GTE operations in five states. Approximately 100 workers were involved. Over 500 of these union workers were in the area served by GTE's Bryan division, which serves 90,000 customers.

The issue was wages and benefits. The dispute ended with a new contract calling for a 31 percent increase in wages and benefits over three years.

The effect on pocketbooks can be reasonably estimated in terms of salaries lost as opposed to wages earned in the new contract. (The average hourly wage of craft workers was \$6.25 system-wide, according to Erwin, 43, the Bryan Division Manager.)

The Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce said the strike had no significant impact on area businesses.

One area bank executive said the strike caused no defaulting of loan payments.

Striking workers had access to a strike defense fund which a local strike leader said was funded by each member's dues.

But in the proliferation of dollars-and-cents statistics, there were also human factors and human relations which will survive the contracts, strikes and salaries.

Mary Wharton is a CWA steward in Bryan. She works for GTE as a service representative, and was the union's strike coordinator.

"It was very difficult for me," Wharton said, describing how she stretched her budget during the strike. "I worked as a maid and part-time at night in a convenience store."

Wharton eventually quit those jobs and worked full-time on the strike, she said, with her expenses being paid by the union.

Wharton is articulate, speaks in a rapid-fire manner and when appropriate, swears eloquently. She has worked for GTE in Bryan, she said, for more than five years and became active in the union because, she said, "I guess I have a big mouth."

Wharton said that there were very few local employees who had experienced a strike.

"A strike is a sacrifice and each employee needs to be motivated," she said.

"You have to beg and plead and encourage," she said.

Wharton said strike participation in the Bryan division peaked at 512 employees, but that some began turning to work. She said that 48 people either stayed

on the job or returned before the strike ended. She called them "scabs" and said they succumbed to company fear tactics.

"Absolutely incorrect," Erwin said. "We would be very foolish to apply pressure. Anybody that wanted to come back, we made them aware (of the consequences)."

Workers who returned while the strike was in progress could be fined by the union, one local strike leader said.

"My personal preference would be to work with a union," Erwin continued. He said that this was mainly because he had worked with the CWA throughout his 20-year career with General Telephone and was used to it.

"My main concern was not being able to do our job," the Denison native continued.

When the new contract was signed, GTE phased the employees back into their jobs gradually.

"We brought them back gradually so that we could talk to them," Erwin said.

"You tend to have some of those feelings carry over," he continued, referring to feelings between workers and management, between strikers and non-strikers.

"We didn't just talk to craft (labor), but to management," he said. "You had to talk to both sides equally. You had to say 'don't say things, don't hold grudges.'"

He added, "If there is (any animosity), I'm not aware of it."

But the experience has not been forgotten. Erwin said that, for whatever reasons, some workers who crossed the picket lines have quit the company.

"One employee who did not quit admitted feeling the pressure."

"They don't talk unless it's business," the worker said. "But that's all right. I get more work done."

Kay Hubert honored the strike. She works in the GTE business office. Unlike most local employees, Hubert had experienced a strike several years before in Houston.

"People that went on strike were resentful of the people who didn't," she said, "because of all the overtime they made."

One person honored the strike until its end but said, "I wish I hadn't. I didn't feel it was worth it."

Another, who returned to work, said of unions, "They have lost their usefulness."

And Mary Wharton, who claims to be a cousin of the real life heroine of the movie "Norma Rae," said, "I sure don't want to do it again."

But, if an issue were to arise a year from now which called for a strike?

"I'd be right out there beatin' the sticks," she said without hesitation.

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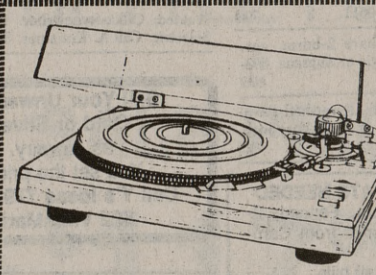
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