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The Weather

Today	Tomorrow
High 67	High 68
Low 52	Low 53
Chance of rain . . 98%	Chance of rain . . 50%

UH board blasts teachers' 'sick out'

United Press International
HOUSTON — The University of Houston Board of Regents Monday passed a resolution condemning the "sick out" of approximately 175 teaching assistants and said it assumed those who do not meet their teaching assignments had submitted their resignations.

The "sick out" Monday was the second in less than a month for the teaching assistants, who make \$350 a month and want a salary increase to \$800 a month.

In its resolution, the board also said it would not try to get money from any discretionary accounts to "solve the problem."

The resolution, which passed unanimously, said the board: "Deplores the action of those graduate students who reject their part-time instruction assignments and responsibilities, and ignore the interests of their undergraduate students."

The resolution also bars any further discussion by the administration of the issue with those who have abandoned their present teaching commitments.

While saying it continued to respect faculty rights, the resolution also strongly criticized some faculty members, hinting that in a "political confrontation" some faculty had "mislead their graduate students and jeopardized those students' careers."

The board said it supports administration efforts to get other people to teach the classes, and it urged full-time faculty members to help meet "critical educational requirements."

The "sick out" Monday affected nine university departments.

Bonnie White, the university's student body president, said if and when the teaching assistants were notified of termination, numerous other teaching assistants would join the "sick out."

The sick out by teaching assistants has forced cancellation of a number of classes at the school — the assistants say 200 but UH officials say 68.

University spokeswoman Wendy Adair said the college is not shutting down and is asking students to attend their scheduled classes.

University official George Magner, who is representing the administration in negotiations with the teaching assistants, said UH could exist without the assistants.

But he acknowledged "it would be hard times in some areas," because the teaching assistants grade papers, conduct discussion groups and teach basic courses.

Magner said salaries of striking instructors will be docked for sick time this week and they will be terminated unless they return to work by the end of the week. He also said the school will not return to the negotiation table until the assistants go back to work.

The assistants, represented by English professor John McNamara, have said the sick out probably would continue as long as the school refuses to pay adequate wages.

"They are determined to stay out as long as it takes, until the university negotiates in a specific and satisfactory manner," McNamara said.



Pretty kitty

Photo by Stuart Hinchey

Maxine, a four-month-old bobcat, calmly stares at her owner, Hector Gomez, an agriculture education major from San Juan, Texas. Gomez caught Maxine on his ranch where she had been orphaned at the age of 2 weeks by the drought

that plagued South Texas. When she is full-grown, Maxine will be twice her present size and weigh about 60 pounds. Maxine was seen walking Gomez by the MSC last week.

Legislator, educator clash over Praire View bill

By DILLARD STONE

Battalion Staff

Comparing the Prairie View A&M University president's beliefs with those of former Alabama governor George Wallace, a state legislator has responded to attacks on his bill to close Prairie View.

In a letter to Prairie View A&M President Dr. A.I. Thomas, a copy of which was received by The Battalion, Rep. Foster Whaley, D-Pampa, maintains his bill, H.B. 471, has "many lucrative benefits" for black people. Whaley was responding to a letter from Thomas which vigorously protested the bill.

H.B. 471 calls for no new admissions to the predominantly black Prairie View A&M after Summer 1981, with a cessation of operations on Aug. 31, 1984. Prairie View A&M students and faculty would be absorbed throughout the other state colleges and universities.

The bill's purpose, according to Section 1, is remedying past discrimination and eliminating a dual system of higher education in the state.

In a Battalion interview earlier this year, Thomas accused Whaley of having a "racist mentality" behind the bill. Now, however, it is Whaley who has accused Thomas of bigotry.

Thomas said a predominantly black institution is "essential to the progress of Texas. It's essential to the democratic pluralism that we want to have."

The Battalion also has received a copy of Thomas' original letter of protest to Whaley. In the letter, Thomas wrote, "Texas has a place for Black-operated universities, White-operated universities, private-operated universities and public-operated universities."

Whaley replied that Thomas' references to democratic and cultural pluralism were a throwback to the "separate but equal" laws upheld in the Supreme Court's 1896 Plessy vs. Ferguson decision. Those laws were in effect until the mid-1950s.

"Now, 27 years later, Dr. Alvin Thomas and certain other black leaders are saying 'There is a place for white universities and black universi-

ties and let's keep them separate but make them equal,'" Whaley wrote.

Governor George Wallace would have been very elated if you could have been on camera with him making these pluralistic statements when he stood in the doorway of the Alabama University in 1956 in his effort to block the entry of Atherine Lucy," Whaley continued.

Thomas' letter said, "Integration and desegregation does not mean eliminating black people, black churches . . . or black universities."

"It means the free access and entry into black, white or brown, public or private . . . universities by anyone without regard to race, religion, sex and personal handicap," the letter continued.

The Prairie View bill was met with immediate opposition from the Coordinating Board, Education Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth and Gov. Bill Clements.

That opposition doesn't deter Whaley, who claims to have many supporters for the bill.

"You would not believe the favorable response," Whaley said last week. Many of his

fellow legislators support the bill, he said, though he admitted they might be reluctant to support it publicly now.

Those feelings may change should Texas lose its bout with the federal Education Department over racial integration in Texas public colleges and universities.

The state has been found in provisional compliance with the federal government's Title VI desegregation requirements. Gov. Clements has until June 15 to submit an entirely acceptable plan to Washington. The penalty for non-compliance is partial or total loss of some \$300 million in federal funding to state schools.

Whaley views his bill as one with enough advantages to merit passage on its own.

But he's also very aware of the bill's chances as a contingency measure, to be used if a letter of noncompliance is issued.

"If they say we haven't got any trouble with the civil rights, my bill won't pass," he said. "If the courts say 'You will do this, or else,' my bill

will sail, because there's never been a desegregation bill."

Whaley's bill specifically calls for:
— Cessation of operations in August 1984, with no new students permitted to enroll after Summer 1981.

— Transfer of enrolled Prairie View students and faculty members to schools other than Texas Southern University, the state's other primarily black school.

— A \$1,000 grant to each school recruiting and receiving a transferring student, and a grant of \$5,000 to each school recruiting and receiving a transferring faculty member.

— Use of the funds accrued from the sale of the university's land and facilities in a special grant fund to be used solely for Negro students.

While some think Whaley is a "kook" and others say he's a racist, Whaley, who is a Class of '49 former student, says he feels he's doing something to help Texas.

"I don't give a damn if I get defeated if I feel like I'm doing the right thing," he said.

B-CS has a taste of the Orient

Grocery is truly 'Universal'

By BETH GIBSON

Battalion Reporter

Pungent, spicy scents of Oriental foods drift out as the door opens. Strains of clicking Chinese conversations tickle the ears of customers munching on eggrolls, fried wonton and sweet and sour pork.

Sound like a typical Chinese food market in the middle of Hong Kong?

The scene might seem like Hong Kong, but it's College Station and the customers are mostly Texas A&M University students, studying as they snack at the Universal Grocery Store and Snack Bar at the corner of University Drive and Nagle Street.

The small grocery store, looking much like a renovated U-Tote-Em sporting Chinese symbols on the outside wall, is owned by Helen Liu.

Liu and her husband Nelson came from their native Taiwan to College Station in 1978. Her husband is studying political science at Texas A&M.

"The store opened about two years ago. I needed the business to help my husband and family," she said.

Liu, a short, plump woman with shining black hair and a constant smile, shifts easily from conversations in her native Chinese to a smooth "May I help you?" for an American customer.

She said she longs for a few more Chinese conversations, though.

"About 80 percent of my customers are Americans," she said. "There are just a few Chinese people who shop here."

This fact is evident in looking over the wares offered in the store. Distinctly American products are nonchalantly mixed in with the more exotic Oriental groceries.

Sitting around the store next to the cases of Pepsi Light are boxes of fortune cookies, instant Osumuna and Tempura batter mix.

For anyone with a sweet tooth, the yellow rock sugar, sesame seed candy and preserved plums are found right beneath the Tang and Folger's Instant Coffee.

Beside the ice cream freezer sit 25-pound bags of rice with mysterious Chinese writing on the cloth bags (even though the rice is produced in San Francisco, California and

Beaumont, Texas).

Most of the Oriental goods are displayed on the inside of the two rows of groceries in the store. A walk down this center aisle reveals more culinary mysteries for American eaters.

Natural black fungus from Taiwan sells for \$2.89 for a four-ounce package. Itowakome and Kombu, two varieties of dried seaweed, are priced at \$1.79 for two ounces.

Adventurous Americans may buy a 12-ounce can of fresh lotus root for \$1.19, six ounces of pickled leeks for 79 cents or a 19-ounce can of sliced sour bamboo shoots for 99 cents.

Consumers must beware, however — most of the cooking and serving directions are in Chinese.

Some of the products do have directions in English.

The label on a can of grass jelly says to serve the jelly diced and covered with syrup.

A box of Tomoshiraga Somen — Oriental noodles — says to cook the noodles in water and to serve with sauce.

While the inside rows of foods display the Oriental groceries, the outside of the rows hold products more familiar to American shoppers — cat-soup, popcorn, barbecue sauce, Campbell's soups.

The snack bar, a collection of bordering-on-rickety folding tables, is set up beside one of these American rows and some of the patrons have never seen the Oriental goods.

Karen Williams, a Texas A&M student, says she comes to the Universal Grocery once a week to study and snack, though she said she never knew about the unusual groceries.

"I come for the eggrolls," she said. "The food is good, and Mrs. Liu is really a nice lady. I never knew about any natural black fungus, though."

Williams said the store is usually not crowded and is quiet for studying, relaxation and snacking.

Patrons of the snack bar can eat eggrolls, fried rice with chicken or fried wonton with sweet and sour pork. Then, to keep in touch with College Station, they can wash it down with their favorite domestic beer or cola.

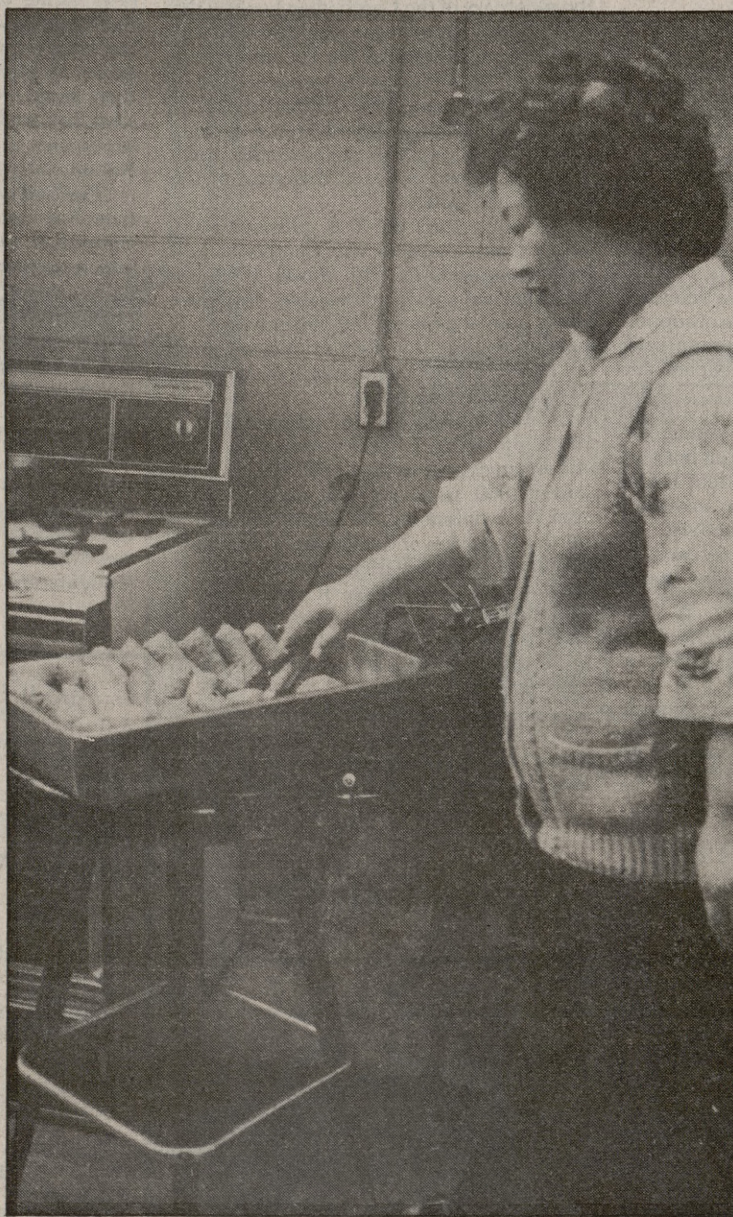


Photo by Beth Gibson

Helen Liu, owner of the Universal Grocery Store, arranges fresh eggrolls to take to the customers at the store's snack bar.

Council to decide committees' futures

By KATHY O'CONNELL

Battalion Staff

The MSC Council heard a progress report from the Program Study Committee concerning the effectiveness of four directorate committees Monday night.

Recommendations from future Program Study Committee meetings will be presented to the Council at the March 30 meeting.

The four committees involved are Arts Committee, Black Awareness Committee, Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture and Recreation Committee.

Vice President of Programs Sara Morse said members of the four committees met with the Program Study Committee last week to discuss the problems of each committee.

Morse said the study committee will recommend that CAMAC remain as it is now, with an elected chairman and control of its budget. The only stipulation is that the committee prepare a program-by-program budget, which is subject to approval by the vice president of programs and the adviser.

Morse said these recommendations were unanimously approved by the three CAMAC members.

She said CAMAC agreed to do four things:

- define goals of the committee so the members would understand them;
- set criteria for membership;
- define job descriptions for officers.

— devise a system of active program planning and a formal communication system within the committee for program "idea generation" and program approval.

It will be recommended that the Arts Committee's budget be placed under administration of the Council; however, there will be a committee chairman. A program-by-program budget approval will have to be submitted to the Council, since they have direct control of funds.

Morse said the main problem with the Arts Committee is a lack of membership.

The questions surrounding the Recreation Committee are in the area of programming, Morse said.

Recreation Committee is comprised of several "special interest" activities, such as billiards, chess and bowling. She said these sub-groups were more interested in special activities rather than programming as a group.

Morse said a major restructuring of the committee's officers will be recommended. The number of officers will be expanded and they will be responsible for coordinating activities between the different interest groups.

A member of Black Awareness Committee said, "They needed to bring the situation to the attention of the other committee members, so that they can provide input to help the Program Study Committee make informed recommendations about the future of BAC."

Filing for Spring '80 elections starts today

Filing for Student Government and organization positions opens today in the S.C. office, 216A MSC.

Officers to be filled include: student senators and student body officers; yell leaders; class councils and the graduate student council; Off-Campus Aggies and the Residence Halls Association.

Filing will run from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday through Monday.

Government position must turn in a petition of signatures from their constituency by 5:30 p.m. on the last day of filing.

Candidates for student body president must have an overall grade point ratio of 2.5, while student senate vice presidents and college and living area senators must have a 2.25 overall.

Election dates are March 31 and April 1.