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The Weather

Today

Tomorrow

High 84 High 85
Low 64 Low 66
Chance of rain 20% Chance of rain 20%



We finally made it!

Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Houston native Randy Majors (right) and Scott Hennigar (left) spend Wednesday afternoon in front of the commons wishing good luck to all undergraduates taking finals next week. With them are their creature comforts — a small wading pool and liquid refresh-

ments (in baby bottles). Majors, a chemical engineering student and Hennigar, a range science student, will both be graduating Friday.

Student aid to be tighter

By KATHY O'CONNELL
Battalion Staff

With proposed federal cuts in student financial aid and probable delays in receiving aid, students may have to think twice this summer before planning a two-week vacation to the coast, or buying a new stereo.

Clair E. Fink, financial aid officer at Texas A&M University, said Reagan's proposed budget cuts are going to affect the overall student financial aid program at Texas A&M by reducing the total amount of money available.

The maximum basic grant (Pell Grant) a student can receive in the 1981-82 academic year is \$1,750 — a \$50 dollar reduction from last year's \$1,800 allowance, he said.

Fink said some students, particularly students from middle-income class families, may not receive grants at all. This is dependent on the changes Congress makes, however.

He also said students may not receive their grants at the beginning of the semester since the government halted processing on the Student Eligibility Report until April 11. The SER determines whether or not a student qualifies for financial aid and how much he can receive.

The new Eligibility Index, which determines financial need based on family income, the number of dependents and several other factors, will not be ready

until Congress votes on the proposed budget cuts. It is expected to vote on the proposals sometime next week.

For these reasons, many students' grants will not be available until sometime during September, Fink said.

Bob Pivonka, manager of student financial services, said students can delay fee payment until the first class day, but they must fill out a card at the Financial Aid Office stating they are receiving financial aid.

Students who are receiving financial aid must "be prepared" to supplement their finances some other way, he said.

Fink said students who want to secure a Guaranteed Student Loan, should submit their applications to the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible. But it is still the student's responsibility to find a lending institution that participates in the GSL program.

The proposed changes in the loan program should be effective on or about Oct. 1, he said. Some of the proposed changes include eliminating interest subsidies to lending institutions and requiring the student to establish financial need before securing a loan.

This would mean students would have to go through a process similar to applying for a basic grant. Right now, there are no requirements to secure a GSL loan, other than that the student be enrolled at least half-time in an educational institution.

3,187 degrees to be awarded at ceremonies this weekend

By CARLA SUTTER
Battalion Reporter

Texas A&M University diplomas will be presented to 2,807 undergraduate students and 380 graduate students this weekend.

This figure is tentative at the moment, however. Don Gardner, assistant registrar, said there is a probable variance of 20 or 30 because of either academic or financial reasons.

Too, some graduates don't show up for the ceremony, Gardner said.

The University will graduate 1,208 students at 2 p.m. Friday. This figure includes the 380 graduates receiving master's and doctorate degrees.

Also being graduated Friday are 532

students in the College of Agriculture, 166 in the College of Science and 130 in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Friday at 7:30 p.m., 1,027 students will receive their diplomas. The College of Engineering has the largest number of undergraduates with 745. Forty-seven students in the College of Geosciences and 235 in the College of Liberal Arts will also be graduated.

The last graduation ceremony will be Saturday at 9 a.m. with 952 students participating. There will be 143 students from the College of Architecture, 570 from the College of Business, 183 from the College of Education and 56 from Texas A&M University at Galveston.

Appoints University committee members

Student Government wraps up year

By TERRY DURAN
Battalion Staff

Elections, confirmations and some quick legislating were the order of business Wednesday night at the 1981-82 student senate's last meeting before summer.

One of the first actions of the newly elected legislative body was to elect a speaker of the senate to preside over regular meetings. The first ballot saw the position go to Jeff Anthony, a sophomore animal science and agricultural education double major from DeSoto.

Anthony served as the senate's speaker pro tempore during the 1980-81 school year.

It took two ballots, however, to select Mike Wolff, as the speaker pro tem for 1981-82. He is a sophomore agricultural engineering major from Alexandria, La. Nominees recommended by Student Government President Ken Johnson for

For more information on SG appointments to University committees, please see page 7.

executive branch positions were confirmed unanimously by the senate, as were 179 student appointments to 40 different University committees.

Nominees had to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the senate.

There were still vacancies on two cooperative education committees and the Sbis Dining Hall menu board.

Johnson had said earlier that "no great controversy" was expected in the confirmation proceedings.

Anthony, who was handed the gavel immediately upon election, told the confirmees, "Welcome to the family, folks," after the uneventful confirmation vote.

Academic Affairs Vice President Kathy Bartholomew drew interest when she announced tentative plans to increase achievement awards for instructors.

Bartholomew said an ad hoc committee of students, former students and faculty were considering increasing both the number and the size of awards given to professors for teaching excellence.

Six \$1,000 awards are currently given to instructors for teaching excellence. Bartholomew said that number would probably be increased to 30, as well as adding three awards a piece in the categories of student relations and research, which currently hand out two and three awards per year, respectively.

She said the two awards for those involved in continuing education and extension work, as well as two staff or administrator awards, would be continued without change.

Two bills before the senate on first reading were approved after being placed on emergency status, making them eligible for immediate action.

The first measure set aside \$300 for a new phone bank and tape delay system for cable radio station KANM, FM 99.5. The new equipment, said station manager Todd Gross, will be used to air a

weekly talk show.

Gross said the station, which currently broadcasts from Lounge B-1, between Moore and Crocker halls, hopes to have the system in operation by the first week of the fall semester.

The second bill passed Wednesday night recommended setting aside funds

for printing "Discovering Aggieland Guides," aimed at giving new students consumer tips, banking and eating information, etc.

Other bills appearing before the senate for the first time proposed:

— Separating KANM radio station from Student Government and making

it an autonomous student organization within the student activities office.

— "Encouraging" the use of "secular, nondenominational prayers" at events such as football games, Aggie Muster, etc.

— Recommending repair or replacement of carpets in the Memorial Student Center.

Vending machines often not appreciated

By MICHELLE OROZCO
Battalion Reporter

Vending machines — an 800-pound species which lurks around campus frequenting hallways and dorms of Texas A&M University, are frequently ignored, sometimes abused.

Some students may hardly notice the soft drink or candy machines, yet let an urge for a snack arise and the tempting treats dispensed by the coin-operated venders are only 30 cents to 40 cents away.

The machines are usually taken for granted and few people even stop to think about how much they actually cost or the maintenance they require.

For example, campus vending machines (the soft drink and snack variety) grossed approximately \$1.07 million in the fiscal year 1979-1980 according to Jim Ferguson of the Department of Business Affairs. Figures for 1981 have not been tallied.

At 35 cents a can with a recent boost to 40 cents a can, soft drinks brought in more money than any other type product dispensed in vending machines, said Russell Hanna, manager for the distribution of the vending machines on campus.

The three most popular soft drink items on campus are Coca-Cola, Dr Pepper and Sugar-Free Dr Pepper, he said.

With 120 soft-drink machines and 60 snack machines on campus, keeping the machines full might seem to be a problem. However, Hanna said only six workers, who work days and nights, are responsible for filling them. There are also two service men who service the machines for repairs and replacements.

How often the machines are refilled depends upon their locations which are determined by the Coca-Cola Company or by the University. Seventy-five percent of the machines are filled once a day, while others are filled on a Monday-Wednesday-Friday schedule, or a Tuesday-Thursday schedule.

Hanna said vending machines are installed upon the request of University personnel and are usually only removed if it doesn't make money.

Machines can be moved if noise from their use became annoying. Sometimes soft-drink machines are placed in halls outside of classrooms and they will have to be removed because their noise in-

terrupts classes, Hanna said.

"Students seem to congregate around Coke machines and it sometimes can be disturbing to classes," Hanna said.

Hanna said soft drink sales increased substantially in the 1950s when bottled drinks replaced those in cups, and even more profits were made when can drinks machines were installed at the University.

Sales are the highest in September and October due to students returning from summer vacation, Hanna said. April is the next biggest month, with the lunch break being the busiest time of the day on the average.

The vending machines were first installed at the University in the 1950s and on the average can hold 480 can drinks and 240 bottle drinks. Bottled drinks take up more space.

Vandalism of the machines is not as much of a problem on campus as it is in the industrialized sections of town, Hanna said.

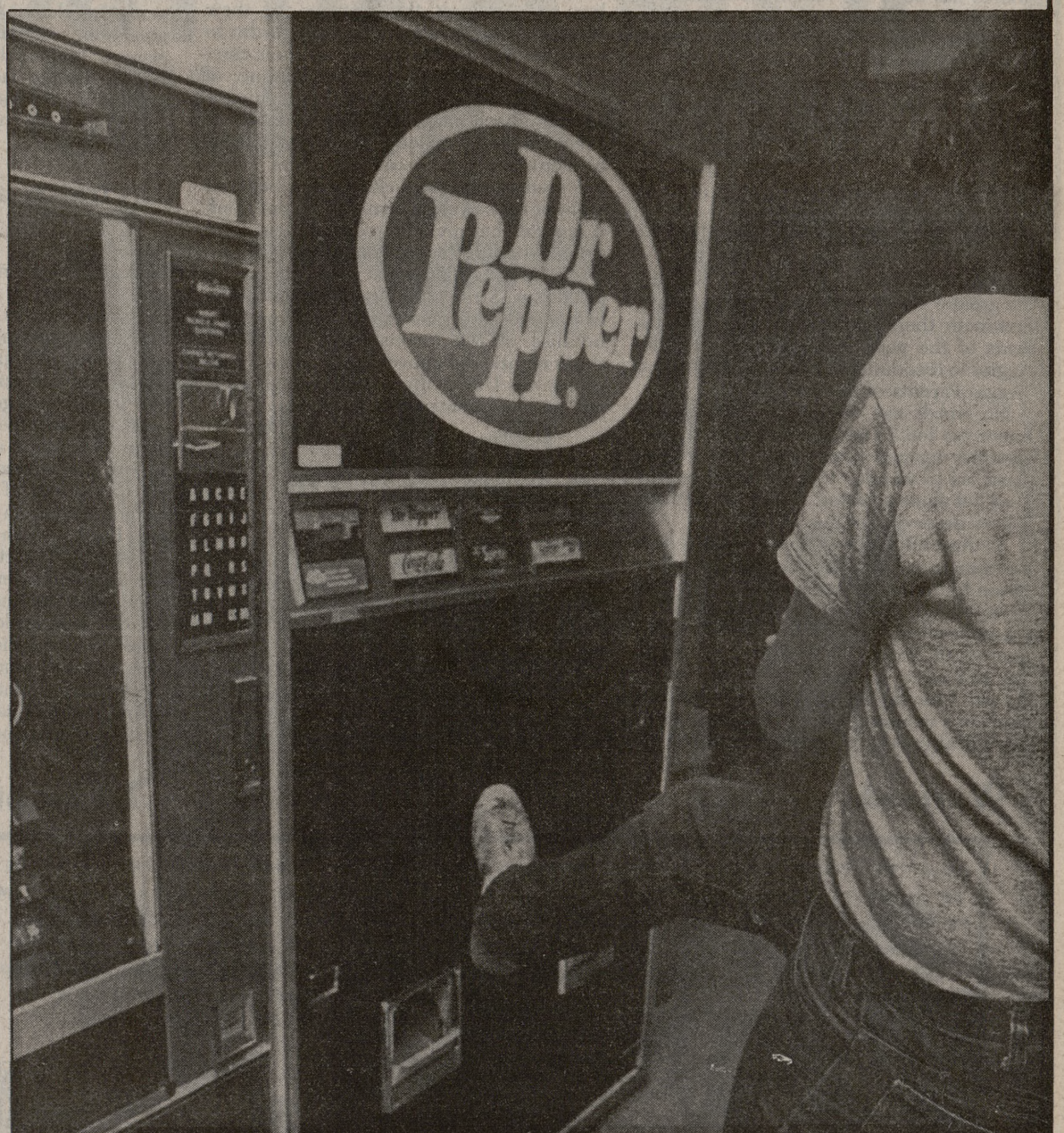
"Overall, I think the students are pretty good with them (the machines)," Hanna said. The most trouble with vandalism is in the dorms late at night. He said when people lose their money, they sometimes get mad and even beat on the machine if no one is around.

Hanna said the worst case of vandalism on campus was when the mechanical engineering shop was being remodeled and a soft drink machine disappeared. He said they later found it in someone's duplex.

Another problem with the machines is getting refunds for money lost in the machines. When this happens the customers are told to go to the refund centers on campus, with the MSC and the Academic Building the most used centers.

According to Jolinda Parker, secretary in the Academic Counseling Center who handles refunds, the Coca-Cola company gives the center a supply of money and they have a list for the students to sign, state their name, address, ID number or drivers license number, location of the refund and time of refund. The centers continue to give refunds until they run out of money, which is usually within a couple of days.

Parker said an average of 25 people a day go in for refunds at the Academic Counseling Center.



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

A swift kick in the belly may not necessarily be the way to get a vending machine to cough up a drink or

the money, but it sometimes makes a person feel better after having lost 40 cents.