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# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## A&M mails out midterm grades today

by Rebeca Zimmermann  
Battalion Staff

Midterm grades, what one college dean calls the signal of "mid-course correction time," will be mailed today. These grades are not recorded anywhere on a student's permanent record and are simply a way of letting the student know where he stands in his courses, explained Harold L. Pace, assistant registrar for admissions and records. Mid-semester grade reports are mailed to a student's local address. If the student's parents request a copy, the report will go to the student's home address. Final grades are mailed to a student's permanent address. Pace said midterm grades usually are processed and ready to mail by 2 p.m. on the day departments turn them in — in this case, today. The time-consuming part of the process is separating local and out-of-town mailing addresses, which takes about six hours, he said. Lorraine A. Kitchner, staff assistant for admissions and records, said many reports are returned because of incorrect addresses. Because of the

large volume of reports mailed, those returned are not mailed a second time.

After receiving the grade reports, Kitchner said, students should immediately check the classes and grades listed on the report. Sometimes a class that was dropped or added may not show up correctly on the report, she said.

If class errors are found, a student should check with the records department as soon as possible, Kitchner said. If an error is made on a grade, the student should see the instructor. If the student's academic college uses midterm grades for pre-registration, an instructor must notify the college of the change.

However, this is only for the academic college. Since midterm reports are not kept on file in the registrar's office, a grade change is not made there.

The registrar's office keeps copies of the grades for two weeks, in case a student does not get a copy. Copies will be available Friday in the records department of the registrar's office. Dr. Terry E. Shoup, assistant dean

ACADEMIC DEAN'S COPY		PRELIMINARY GRADE REPORT					
CLASS & COURSE	NAME OF STUDENT	SPRING SEMESTER 1982					
2ENGL	DOE, JOHN DON	COURSE NUMBER	INSTRUCTOR	GRADE	EXAMPTS	LABPTS	TOTALPTS
INTRO TO ANTHROPOLOGY		ANTH 201	3 0	C	3	6	0
INTRODUCTORY BIOLOGY		BIOL 113	3 0	B	3	9	3
INTRO BIOLOGY LAB		BIOL 123	0 3	A	1	4	1
TECHNICAL WRITING		ENGL 301	3 0	A	3	12	2
REQUIRED PHYSICAL EDUC		P E 199	0 2	C	1	2	6
STATE & LOCAL GOVT		POLS 207	3 0	F			9+
GPR 2.5000, HR 50, GP 125			14		11	33	
TOTAL HOURS 55							
		GPR THIS TERM			2.3571		

JOHN DON DOE  
123 MAIN STREET  
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77840

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77841

GRADING SYSTEM  
A Excellent, B Good, C Fair  
D Passing, F Failing, I Incomplete  
WP Withdrew Passing, WF Withdrew Failing  
S Satisfactory, U Unsatisfactory  
P Pass, Q Dropped With No Penalty

R. A. Lacey  
REGISTRAR

GPR - Includes mid-semester grades  
HR - Hours attempted at Texas A&M (including mid-term)  
GP - Grade points for courses taken at Texas A&M (including mid-term)  
TOTAL HOURS - Hours completed (not including this term) including transfer work and credit by examination

of engineering, said the most significant use of midterm grades is for pre-registration, which will be held the week of April 19.

For example, engineering students who have mid-semester grade point ratios below 2.0 are not allowed to pre-register. Shoup said he feels midterm grades are important because they let a student know when it is "mid-course correction time."

The grades also are used to determine if a student is qualified to order a senior ring, Pace said.

Some student organizations require certain midterm GPRs for membership. For example, the Corps of Cadets uses these grades for academic officers' reports, he said.

Mary J. Robertson, undergraduate adviser in the College of Liberal Arts,

said midterm grades are the only available indicator of a student's performance.

Grade reports for liberal arts students with a mid-semester GPR below 2.0 or liberal arts students on scholastic probation are separated from the other reports, she said. These students are sent letters advising them of their status for pre-registration, Robertson said.

## Report blasts Soviets

WASHINGTON — The United States charged Monday that savage Soviet artillery and air bombardment killed hundreds of civilians this year in attacks on Kandahar and Herat, two of Afghanistan's major cities.

Deputy Secretary of State Walter Stoessel also told the Senate reports from Afghan defectors and refugees indicate more than 3,000 people died in Soviet attacks with lethal chemical weapons between 1979 and 1981.

"Thousands of innocent civilians have been killed or maimed as the Soviets and the puppet Afghan army have destroyed villages and crops, strewn anti-personnel mines over trails and inhabited areas, employed lethal chemical weapons and forcibly impressed young Afghans in the armed forces," he said.

In briefing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the situation in Afghanistan, Stoessel said the Kremlin so far has rejected U.S. proposals for serious discussions in Geneva on a political settlement of the crisis.

Such a settlement would include terms for a Soviet withdrawal, he said.

## Auto workers prepare for contract talks

DETROIT — United Auto Workers leaders, who have given Ford Motor Co. up to \$1 billion in return for job security, say the attitude has changed about contract concessions and may reopen negotiations with two automakers this week.

American Motors officials and the union were scheduled to meet in Milwaukee Monday to discuss possible renegotiation. The UAW's 290-member General Motors Council will meet Thursday in suburban Dearborn to vote on whether to resume negotiations to reopen the contract with the No. 1 automaker.

UAW President Douglas Fraser has said that with council approval, negotiations with GM could begin as early as Friday — a day after the vote. He predicted the talks could be completed within a week.

Officials said the AMC discussions would center on what sort of benefits and job security the automaker will offer in return for employee acceptance of a proposal made by AMC last fall.

At that time, AMC asked workers to invest 10 percent of their wages for 22 months to raise \$150 million toward a \$1 billion product development plan. The firm said at the time it could start repayment to the workers at 10 percent annual interest as early as 1983.

Ray Majerus, UAW secretary-

treasurer, said the UAW's American Motors Council will decide after the meeting whether to reopen the existing contract.

Echoing Fraser's prediction about GM, he said negotiations with AMC could begin immediately after final approval was given.

Fraser is expected to attend the AMC talks.

Anticipated rank-and-file opposition to a new GM contract was blamed in part for the breakdown of talks in January. Seven Flint locals, which provided more than 13 percent of all the votes cast at the last GM Council meeting and were reluctant to accept concessions, already have guaranteed their support for new talks.

But faced with continued plant closings and an increasing number of layoffs, those workers and other opponents have softened.

"The attitude has changed drastically out here, just in the past couple of months," said Jim Osborne, president of UAW Local 1292 at the Flint Fisher Body plant.

Osborne was a foe of UAWGM talks who has changed his mind.

"I don't have any problem now in supporting a resolution to go back to the table."

Fraser has cautioned that GM should not expect employee concessions greater than those contained in the recent 31-month UAW-Ford settlement.

## A personal or Constitutional dilemma?

# Abortion perspectives offered

by Laura Williams  
Battalion Staff

Almost every one of the 150 persons gathered in Rudder Theater Monday night supported something heard in an in-depth discussion on abortion.

Janice Frieve, executive director of the Texas Action Rights Abortion League, received a standing ovation after discussing abortion as a personal dilemma. She said the issue of abortion is one of personal concern, rather than one of public concern.

In contrast, Dr. Joseph Witherspoon, director of the National Right to Life Committee Inc., presented his views on abortion as a public, legal dilemma, maintaining that personal beliefs are overridden by Constitutional intentions.

Abortion denies a human being the right to life, a right that the United States Constitution was founded on, said Witherspoon, a professor of law at the University of Texas.

"Abortion is a problem of paramount proportions for all people of our society," he said. "Abortion is a crime against the unborn child, the mother and society."

However, Roe v. Wade, a January 1973 Supreme Court case, states that a woman has the constitutional right to have an abortion.

"Americans should be terribly concerned about how the Supreme Court has used the Constitution to make a ruling such as in the case of Roe v. Wade," Witherspoon said.



Janice Frieve

He said that even pro-abortion law scholars say the case lacks support.

"This law says that the pregnant woman has the right to abort the unborn child at anytime during pregnancy, that the unborn child is not a person and does not possess the capability of meaningful life," he said.

Because of this gross misinterpretation of Constitutional rights, Witherspoon said, Right to Life groups have been seeking legislative measures to protect the unborn child who has reached seven months of age, unless it is necessary to protect the mother medically.

Witherspoon, who has been a

member of Right to Life groups for 11 years, said the formation of such groups in reaction to the court's decision supports beliefs that abortion is a big problem.

Right to Life groups have proposed to Congress a Human Life Amendment, which says the unborn child is a person and should have the appropriate rights.

The proposal cites the 10th and 14th Amendments to the Constitution and will prohibit any woman from having an abortion except to protect the life of the mother, Witherspoon said.

Taking another perspective, Frieve said the issue of abortion is not one of legality, but personal and private contemplation.

"The Abortion Rights League is not a pro-abortion organization," she said. "We do advocate that every woman have that choice."

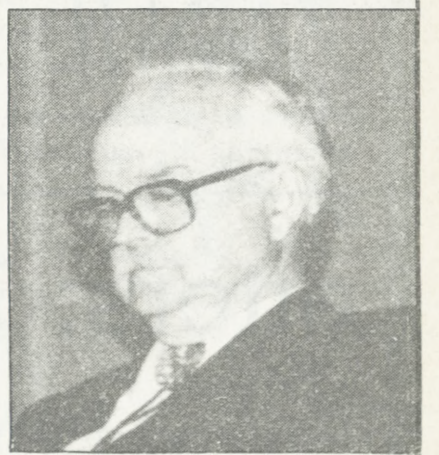
Noting that 22 percent of the women interviewed in the early 1940s had illegally aborted a child, Frieve said abortion has not become a problem in response to the Roe v. Wade case.

"Many think the case brought on the wave of abortion, but it has been an issue long before this," she said. "Outlawing abortion will not end it, but only make it more dangerous for the woman."

Interpretation of the Constitution becomes emotional and religious in the case of abortion because there is

no biological agreement, Frieve said, adding that such interpretations erode Constitutional rights.

"If you don't think abortion is right, don't have one," she said. "But don't impose those beliefs on other



Dr. Joseph Witherspoon

people whose entire futures are at stake.

"Abortion is not controversial. Abortion is personal. Abortion is made controversial by people who oppose it and insist on keeping it controversial."

The program entitled, "Abortion: Both Sides," was sponsored by the MSC Great Issues Committee.

## Judge orders Bell to give back money

AUSTIN — Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. must begin refunding \$23 million to Texas customers April 11 unless the company can get a court order delaying the action, a judge ruled.

Travis County District Judge Hume Cofer Monday rejected a Bell request to delay the refunds. The refunds were ordered because Bell implemented a \$246 million rate increase in October 1981 while the Public Utility Commission was considering the phone company's request for higher rates.

## University budget relating to faculty Vandiver's topic

University President Frank E. Vandiver will speak Wednesday to faculty members on "The Budget and Its Impact on the Faculty."

A discussion will follow Vandiver's address, which begins at 4 p.m. in 601 Rudder. The event is part of a meeting of the Texas Association of College Teachers.

Vandiver said Monday night that his speech will probably focus on the way the budget is formulated and on the effects of the present budget.

Just before Christmas, Vandiver ordered a hiring freeze and a cutback in some operating expenses. The austerity move also included a request that all departments submit plans for

dismissing employees if layoffs became necessary.

Vandiver said the austerity measures were necessary to make University procedures more efficient and economical. He added that the money saved would mainly go toward improving the University's computer systems.

The measures caused some controversy among faculty and staff members early this year, but Vandiver explained that the layoffs were only contingency plans. He said the hiring freeze was intended more to make administrators careful about their budgets than to stop hiring altogether.

## Study puts A&M's political science department 10th

The Texas A&M Department of Political Science has been ranked 10th in the nation by a Southern Illinois University study.

The study is based on the number of articles, written by professors at each school, which were published in seven political science journals from 1978 through 1981, said Dr. David Hill, assistant professor of political science.

Dr. Charles Johnson, associate professor of political science, said the national journal of the Professional Political Science Association, official journals of each region in the United States and the American Political Quarterly are the seven journals used

in the study.

Hill said the study is a measure of productivity and published research. It does not include international relations publications or the number of published books.

Although an earlier study, made by another group, ranked Texas A&M 44th in the nation, Hill said the studies are comparable.

Johnson said some of the previous studies included only schools with political science doctoral programs which Texas A&M does not have.

The University of Michigan, which has a doctoral program in the political science department, was ranked first in the nation.

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## forecast

Today's forecast: Partly cloudy and warm with a high in the mid-70s; low tonight in the mid-50s. Wednesday's forecast calls for a high in the upper 70s.