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On the dotted line, please

staff photo by John Ryan

Colonel Joe T. Haney, director of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band assists trombone player Don Fleitman, from Denison, as he signs

up to join the marching fleet. Fleitman will enter Texas A&M in the fall as a freshman.

Israel says time running out for PLO

United Press International
Israel warned it will wait only "one to two weeks" before attacking PLO guerrillas trapped in west Beirut and shelled the city's southern suburbs in retaliation for one of its worst days of troop losses since the siege began.

Five Israeli soldiers died and six were wounded in clashes along cease-fire lines Wednesday, and Israel reported a Palestinian rocket hit northern Galilee for the first time since the Lebanese invasion began nearly seven weeks ago.

"The government is determined to set in motion a military plan to take Beirut unless an agreement to dislodge the terrorists from West Beirut is reached within one to two weeks," said Israeli Cabinet minister Yitzhak Modai.

Modai, Prime Minister Menachem Begin's minister without portfolio, said the plan "takes into account house-to-house fighting."

Begin gave peace efforts slightly longer — two to three weeks — to avert a bloody confrontation between the 6,000 Palestine Liberation Organization fighters trapped in west Beirut and 35,000 Israeli troops encircling the city.

Moslem clergymen marched in west Beirut Wednesday to protest Israel's blockade of fresh fruit, veget-

ables and meat from the Palestinian-controlled sector. The march to protest the three-week-old siege came on the Fitr holiday marking the end of the month-long Moslem fast of Ramadan.

The PLO continued to press its willingness for a mutual recognition agreement that would acknowledge Israel's right to exist as a nation in return for similar concessions from the Israelis.

Wafa, the Palestinian news agency, said the PLO was ready to "consider anything, as long as it helps the Palestinians to obtain their rights, including their independent state within the context of a just settlement."

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis briefed Begin on President Reagan's Tuesday meeting with Saudi and Syrian foreign ministers and apparently handed the prime minister a personal message from the U.S. leader, Israel Radio said.

Speaking to U.S. Jewish leaders in Jerusalem later, Begin said Israel has hesitated to attack Beirut for "humanitarian reasons" and for the sake of its friendship with the United States.

"But we will have to take care that all the terrorists leave Beirut and Lebanon," he said. "None of them will be left, I can assure you. None of them."

Beauticians evicted from White House

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration has scrubbed plans to build a \$9,000 beauty shop and instead decided to evict the beauticians from the White House entirely.

Yves and Nancy Graux, a husband-wife team of beauticians who have worked in the White House two days a week for almost five years, were abruptly ordered to pack up and leave Wednesday.

The decision will leave Milton Pitts, a barber, as the lone official tonorial occupant in the White House. Pitts and the Graux couple had shared the small salon in the basement of the White House in a stormy relationship.

It was reported last week that the administration planned to separate the two facilities, moving the Graux' operation into a new \$9,000 facility in the Executive Office Building across

the street from the White House. Nancy Graux said the news that they must leave came in a sudden meeting with John Rodgers, a presidential assistant. She said that when she and her husband arrived at the White House Wednesday for their usual work, they found all of their appointments had been canceled.

Rodgers met with them and went over the content of a letter that stated that since the president and Vice President George Bush prefer a different barber "and the alternate facilities will not be established," the services of the Graux couple were no longer required.

Mrs. Graux said the president was not involved in the decision, but that the order came from chief of staff James Baker. It was Baker who commented during a press club speech last week that the new beauty shop would be built.

Watt to sell more offshore land

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Interior Secretary James Watt's plan to release nearly a billion acres of the nation's outer continental shelf to oil and gas development by 1987 brought cries of protest from Congress.

Watt said the plan "will enhance the national security, provide jobs, and protect the environment, while making America less dependent on foreign oil sources."

But Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass., planned to introduce resolutions of protest against the plan in Congress on grounds it violates laws protecting the outer shelf.

"I'm introducing this resolution because the secretary's plan lacks any sense of compromise," Markey said in

a statement. "It lacks any concern for our environment, and it has a potentially devastating impact on our coastal states."

An aide to Kennedy said the senator would introduce a similar resolution.

The new program calls for 41 lease sales through June 1987. About a billion acres of OCS lands will be considered for leasing during this period, but only a small percentage of the area is expected to actually be leased.

"The scope and emphasis of the new five-year plan is a significant change from the past programs that allowed leasing of only two and one half percent of the OCS over the past 28 years," Watt said Wednesday.

Watt said 85 percent of America's

untapped oil wealth is on publicly owned land, two thirds of which is offshore. He said much of the new oil is expected to be found off Alaska's coast. He noted the 20,000 wells drilled in the federal outer continental shelf area, 19,000 are off Louisiana and only 70 are in frontier areas.

The program calls for 12 offerings in the Gulf of Mexico, 16 off the Alaska coast, four off California, eight off the Atlantic coast, and one reoffering sale. Five of the offerings are scheduled for 1982, beginning in August, eight in 1984, seven in 1983, nine in 1985, eight in 1986 and four in the first half of 1987.

Of the 28,000 wells drilled in federal and state waters, many have been dry holes, and less than one third are producing today.

Watt said lease processing time in frontier areas will be cut by one-half.

"The market will select lease tracts instead of the government," he said. "Fair market value of the resources sold will be based on competition, not solely on government economic models."

Drilling in federal waters began in 1954 under the outer continental shelf Lands Act, with only about 50 million acres of the area offered for leasing to date. About 22 million acres have been leased and about 13 million currently are under lease, almost all in the Gulf of Mexico.

The program announced today replaces a 1980-1985 program approved in June 1980. Its adoption was delayed by court litigation.

CSISD names new principal

by Hope E. Paasch

Battalion Staff

During Wednesday night's emergency session of the College Station school board, trustees voted to offer the principalship at A&M Consolidated High School to assistant principal Sandra Parker.

Parker, who has served as assistant principal for the last four years, was offered the one-year contract by a unanimous vote of the trustees.

Before becoming assistant principal in charge of scheduling, Parker was an English teacher at the high school.

Also during the emergency meeting of the board, trustees directed the superintendent to hire a local engineering firm to investigate new information for a possible suit over expansion work at A&M Consolidated.

The firm, Walton & Associates in Bryan, will also inspect all other school buildings in the College Station Independent School District to determine if they meet city building and fire safety codes.

Earlier this summer, an inspection of the vocational wing at the high school, which was added in 1979, showed that the building did not meet city fire codes. The CSISD school board hired a law firm to investigate whether or not grounds exist for a suit against either the contractor or architect for the failure to meet fire codes.

Board president Bruce Robeck said a report from the lawyers should be complete within a month. After reviewing the report, the board will

decide whether or not to file a suit.

The board has spent \$650,000 so far to bring the addition up to city standards. At Wednesday's session, Jim Ratcliff, a representative of the architect firm that is handling the revisions, recommended spending \$112,310 more to put the addition within fire code specifications.

Ratcliff said \$92,000 would be used to put in new ceilings. A sprinkler system is being installed at the high school and the installation procedure may require replacement of ceilings.

Installation or replacement of door closers and replacement of glass panels next to corridor doors is expected to cost \$20,310. This figure is significantly less than the \$186,250 previously quoted to the board. Rat-

cliff said the original recommendation had been to replace all doors, closers and frames.

Cost of modifying windows in the library, gymnasium and office area is estimated at \$31,950. Again, this figure is down from the \$57,600 given in the original estimate, when replacement of the windows was thought to be needed.

Action on Ratcliff's recommendations was delayed until the board could discuss the plans in detail.

The next session of the board will be Monday at 7 p.m. in the Oakwood Middle School library. During the meeting, trustees will discuss the search for a new superintendent. Current superintendent Bruce R. Anderson has resigned effective Jan. 1.

Area growth creates traffic problems

by Rosemary Griffith

Battalion Reporter

As Brazos County continues to grow, residents are faced with increased traffic congestion. Carol D. Zeigler, district engineer for the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, lives with this problem every day.

"It has become very difficult for the transportation business to keep up with the rapid growth we are experiencing here in Brazos County," he said.

Public transportation in Texas is administered through 24 districts across the state. Each district is responsible for designing, building and maintaining highways and farm roads.

The district office in Brazos County is responsible for 10 counties. Boundaries extend to Harris,

Waller, Washington, Walker and Freestone Counties. The district has about 2,800 miles of roadway.

Two major problems have occurred because of the increased population in Brazos County. First, there have been tremendous increases in load weights and in the number of vehicles.

"These increases have created structural difficulties," Zeigler said. "The last general highway system in Texas was constructed in 1950 and the roads are reaching the end of their structural life."

The second problem for Brazos County is rapid industrial growth. The oil industry alone has experienced phenomenal growth during the past four to five years.

"The highway system is not capable of carrying the heavy loads of oil trucks," Zeigler said. "These

trucks are doing much of the damage to the highways here in the area. Each new industry is a traffic congestor of its own."

"It is impossible to repair highways at the rate necessary to keep them in good condition."

Although no new routes are being considered, Zeigler said there are plans to expand existing roads, including major improvements on U.S. Highway 290 and State Highways 21, 6, 36 and 79 in this district.

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation receives its funding from the state gasoline tax and from the Federal Highway Trust Fund.

The principal source of revenue is the state gasoline tax, currently 5 cents on the gallon — the same as it was in 1955.

"That 5 cents a gallon tax is a con-

stitutional item," Zeigler said. "Approximately one-fourth of the gasoline tax collected by the state goes to the public school fund. This means that out of the 5 cents a gallon tax collected, the highway department receives only 3.75 cents a gallon from the state gasoline tax."

Some federal aid comes to Texas from the Federal Highway Trust Fund, which is mainly derived from a 4 cent federal gasoline tax.

"For every dollar that the federal gas tax generates in Texas, 76 cents comes back to Texas," Zeigler said. "That means that the other 24 cents goes to finance drivers in other states."

"Texas is a major contributor to the Federal Highway Trust Fund, but half the states receive more money than they pay in."

Transportation takes up less of

the state budget than it once did. In 1967 approximately 27 percent of state appropriations went for public highways, but in 1981 the share fell to only 10 percent.

"There are many demands for increased budgets before the state Legislature from various public groups," Zeigler said. "The Legislature faces an increasing problem with balancing state funds to these different groups."

He suggested that one possible solution would be for the Legislature to look at increased vehicle registration rates or higher sales taxes on cars and accessories, such as tires.

"Another solution could be for the Legislature to raise the sales tax on gasoline," he said. "This would increase our funds for improvement, but politicians seem reluctant to raise taxes."

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forecast

Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain today and tonight. Highs in the mid-90s; lows in the 70s.