(continued from page 1) of the deductibles.

by, an assistant professor of En-glish, said it will cost \$100 more a Most employees have selected glish, said it will cost \$100 more a Most employees have selected month to insure his 11-year-old the basic plan, he said. But Hon-

said. "I don't want to take my son off of the plan because I trust the University's backing, but for that amount of money I will."

Busby said he will remain on the plan because the state contri-

bution pays for his insurance.
But Honea said the Texas
A&M plan really can't be compared with other plans because of basic differences in coverage. Honea said newspaper ads say other companies offer com-

"But they're not comparing comparable policies," he said. And if an employee leaves the

Mynar isn't the only employee University plan, he or she may who looked off campus for alter-nate insurance plans. Mark Bus-surability before being allowed

And he's healthy," Busby said. "I don't expect anything to happen to him."

Busby said he priced other insurance plans.

Busby said he priced other insurance plans.

"At most places, I can get insurance for \$30 a month," he penses paid. The deluxe plan includes the PCS card, a \$100 deductible and 80 percent of the first \$2,500 of covered expenses paid. The economy plan does not include the PCS card, has a \$500 deductible and pays 80 percent of the first \$5,000 of covered expenses. All three plans pay 100 percent of the benefits after the first amount.

Facts and figures were stu-

and staff were just as worried about the shock of the increase

to unprepared employees.

Parrish said faculty members were unhappy because they were not consulted in the de-

have to offer," he said. "Some say we got off as well as we could. But there will continue to be suspicion ... there will continue to be rumors, founded or unfounded. More information should be provided to reduce that as much as possible.

"Someone knew about it quite really in order two years ago.

some time ago. Administrators somewhere must have realized what was in the offing. I don't think it sits well with some of the faculty to be told in August (when a lot of the faculty are

Honea said his office prosay other companies offer com-parable coverage at a lower cost. crease was announced. But the announcement of the in-used to hold down insurance

many members of the faculty crease. He said the distribution costs. of information this year was no different than last year.

The process to select an insurance company began last October with the System Personnel Policy and Employee Benefits Committee, an advisory group to the chancellor, Honea said. "It is our money after all, and we deserve to be told what is possible — competitor's rates, what they had to offer and what we surance Co. and the chancellor approved its decision. The System contacted 489 carriers and six bidders participated — Lone Star Life, Prudential, Metropoli-

However, up to that point, there were more premiums than claims, he said, which resulted in reserves for the plan. But to keep a recently approved 5.1 percent salary increase from being swallowed by insurance rate hikes, the committee de-

"We would have been in the same situation then as we are now," Honea said. "One consolation, if you could call it that, is that we could have been paying higher rates for a longer period of time."

must be paid off within a shorter period of time."

It seems no relief is in sight

Another factor in the increase, Honea said, is the litigous attitude of society today. Doctors are ordering more tests, and people want better treat-ment because they know what

"In the past, a sprained ankle would cost \$8 or \$10 because the doctor would check it over and send you home with an Ace bandage," Honea said. "Now it could cost up to \$300 because you may have to go to get X-rays, pay the radiologist to read the X-rays and maybe make a trip to above receivity." a bone specialist.'

Increases in technology also have raised costs, Honea said. "You used to be able to pay for a new piece of medical diag-

years," he said. "Now new machines become obsolete within two years because of quick advances in technology. So they

for employees paying higher in-surance rates. But several organizations are working to keep the costs down.

Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen told the Legislative Budget Board on Sept. 1 that requests for an increased state contribution made by the Texas Public Employees Association may be more realistic than the current state contribution.

Billye Tate, president of the local chapter of the Texas Public Employees Association, said the chapter has sent petitions to the Legislature asking for a larger state contribution. These petitions to the petitions to the local facility of the petitions of the tions recommend full funding of the deluxe insurance plan for employees, both active and retired, for both years of the bien-

nium, in the amount of \$91 the first year of the bienning and \$109 for the second year

Honea said he has been we ing with other institutions the employee retirement system on a legislative package of quests for cost containment the insurance program. Heather requests include limits some items being misused in

program. Dr. Jane Armstrong, chaman of the Personnel and ployee Benefits committee, the committee will need fur input as to what the emplo want to see in their coverage

"I'm sure the committee look at what people want, who used and what it all costs," said. "Our main problem year has been that the cost dependent coverage went One of the things that is vial consider is to look at a de dent coverage that is less the employee coverage. I'm sure how popular it will be, it's a possibility."

Nuclear researchers charge adviser with ignoring break

United Press International NEW YORK — Fusion ener-gy researchers say a laboratory breakthrough last summer could bring one source of unlimited clean nuclear energy into use at least five years sooner than had been thought possible.

The Fusion Energy Foundation also said President Reagan's science adviser, Dr. George Keyworth, is ignoring the impli-cations of the breakthrough. The foundation says Keyworth insists successful fusion energy is 70 years away when, in fact, the Japanese expect to have a

prototype commercial fusion reactor in operation by 1993. Last summer's breakthrough was the conclusion by R.H. Kulsrud, H.P. Furth and E.J. Valeo of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory and M. Goldhaber of Brookhaven National Laboratory that "polarized" fusion fuel can be used for a successful commercial reaction.

This was, at one time, be-lieved impossible. The founda-tion said if this conclusion is verified in sustained testing, the problem of producing commer-

The foundation's magazine said the greatest promise of the breakthrough is "to accelerate the beginning of the plasma age." This could lead to the direct conversion of fuels into energy without dynamos and to funds necessary for testing are more economical processing of available under the energy

Polarized fuels for fusion reactions already are being tested in several countries and

Los Alamos Laboratory, told the Fusion Energy Foundation he considers the polarized fuel breakthrough worthy of research priority. He said the program passed by Congress in 1980 under President Carter.

Paul B. Gallagher, executive director of the Fusion Energy were the subject of extensive dis-cussion at the recent Interna-Keyworth's policy direction, the concept.

cial fusion will be vastly simplified.

The foundation's magazine

tional Conference on Plasma fusion budget is \$125 million lower than the 1980 act pro-

Gallagher said that instead of serving as a true science adviser to President Reagan, Keyworth insists the United States won't have a need for a new source of energy in the remainder of this

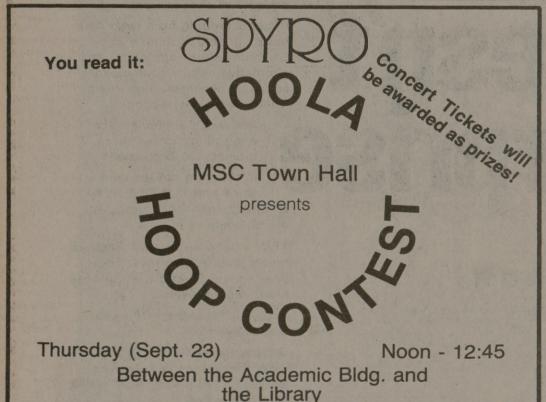
Gallagher said it would be a wrong to drop other fusion re-search and divert the funds to testing out the polarized fuel





If you're ever arrested for a misdemeanor crime (or if you have a child age 17 or younger who is accused of a crime) that case will eventually be heard in the Brazos County Court at Law. This court was established by the Legislature in 1975 to meet the increasing needs of Brazos County. The work of the court in criminal and juvenile areas directly affects each of us who live here. The Committee to Elect Steve Smith wanted you to know about this important part of Brazos County government.





A promotion for:

Friday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. Rudder Auditorium

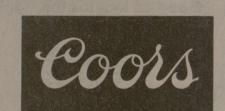
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you to all the Coors beer you need to ensure it's a hit. Call Don, your Coors Rep at 696-6818.



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