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Monday-Friday, Sept. 20-24, 1982
 To: Commons Lounge 9 AM-6 PM
 Health Center 9 AM-4 PM

Dr. John Quarles, 845-1313

local / state

Battalion/Page 6
 September 22, 1982

Telecommunications lost due to department change

by Stephanie Fondy
 Battalion Reporter
 The Department of Engineering Technology's telecommunications specialization program helped many students find jobs. Now, the six-year-old program is being phased out.
 Dr. Kenneth Gowdy, head of the engineering technology department, said the change is a part of the restructuring of the department's undergraduate program. He said the restructuring would give the students better preparation.
 Gowdy said the department is concentrating on the areas that draw the most students. These include electronic engineering technology, manufacturing, en-

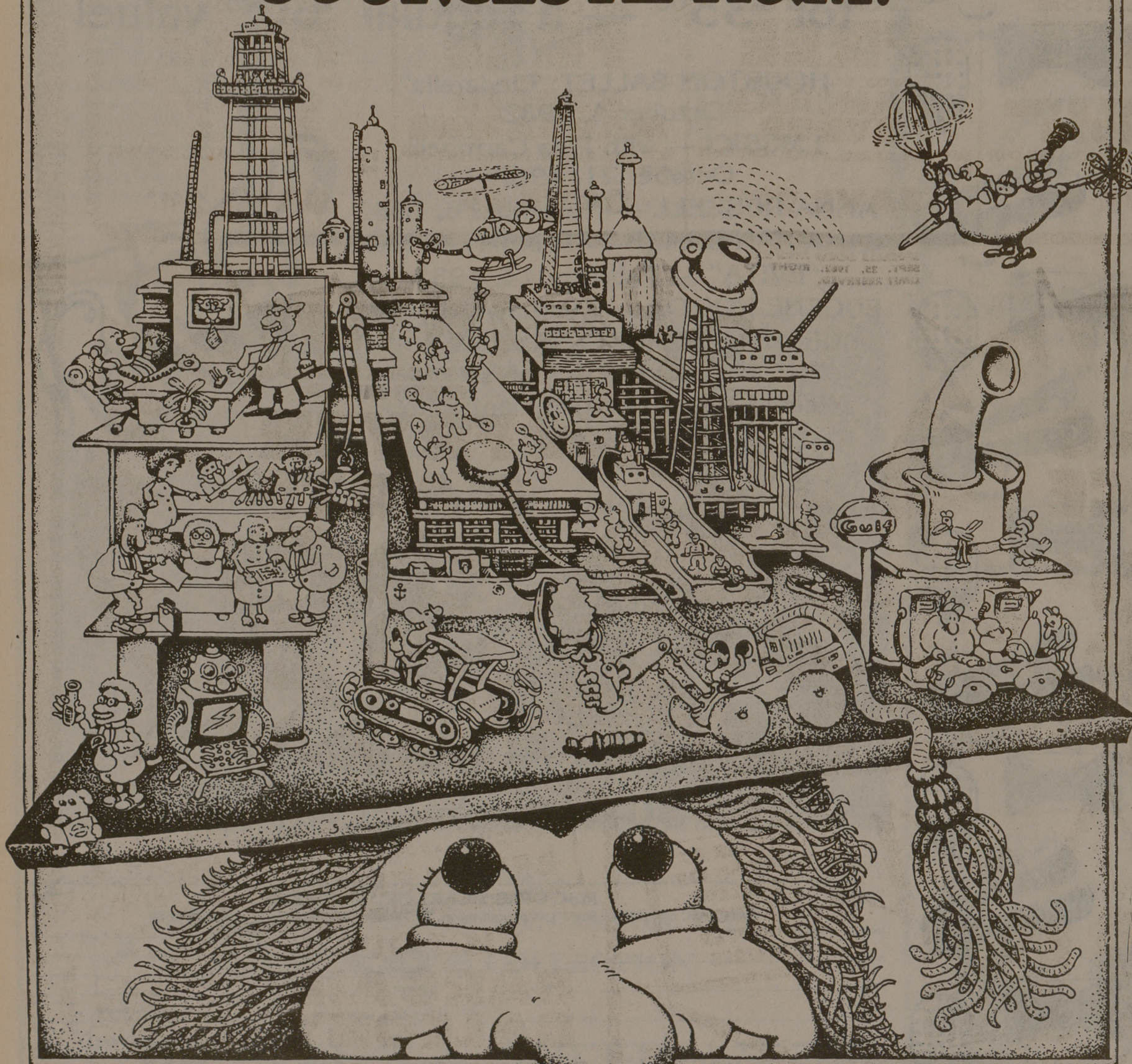
gineering technology, industrial distribution, and mechanical engineering technology.
 He said the department is waiting for approval of the restructuring plan by the Coordinating Board, Texas Colleges and Universities, and expects approval by the spring semester. The new programs will go into effect in the semester after its approval.
 The telecommunications courses will still be available for students interested in them, but the courses will be a part of the electronic engineering technology program after the approval of the restructuring," Gowdy said.
 The department offers five

courses in telecommunications for a total of 13 hours. Students in engineering technology are required to take 27 hours in their specialization. Students in the telecommunications program took their remaining 14 hours in electronic courses. About 50 students are in the specialization program.
 Gowdy said about a year ago there were plans to expand the telecommunications program, but the absence of a full-time instructor and the department's lack of funds to cover the expensive telecommunications equipment tabled the expansion.
 Habis Johnson, developer of the telecommunications program, taught the courses from their beginning in 1976 until 1980. Johnson left in 1980 to take a job with Continental Telephone in Georgia. The department began the search for a full-time instructor but could not find one. Jene Tebeaux, an employee of Houston's Southwestern Bell operator services staff, taught the courses in Fall 1980

on a part-time basis. Williams, a visiting professor, taught the courses from Spring 1981 until Spring 1982. Tebeaux is presently teaching the courses on a part-time basis.
 "The department would continue to seek a full-time instructor," Gowdy said. He said search has been long because industry salaries and there is a shortage of qualified instructors in telecommunications.
 One telecommunications student, who refused to be identified, said he entered the program when the plans for expansion were being made.
 "Now that the plans have been tabled I'm uncertain about my degree," the student said.
 Another student, who also refused to be identified, said he was dissatisfied with taking electronic courses to fulfill his degree requirement. He said he was not interested in electronics but had no choice since the electronics courses were part of telecommunications program.

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Bus. Anal., Comp. Sci., Fin., Econ., Acctg., Geol., Geophy., ME, EE, PE, ChE, Physics, Chem.

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Smugglers soak aliens for cash

United Press International — A woman who identified herself only as "Derta" says she and her cousin Emerita had been forced to pay smugglers and crooked officials \$4,000 in dollars, pesos and jewelry to obtain transport from Honduras to Texas, where another cousin lives in Corpus Christi.
 Police, who thought they were rescuing an abducted woman Monday, found they had discovered a plan to smuggle two Honduran women into the country illegally.
 Authorities got involved when the Corpus Christi cousin sent a neighbor and his son to pick up the women at a local motel. The men got into a skirmish with the smugglers, who wanted still more money, and finally left with Derta.
 Someone at the motel told police a woman had been abducted.
 When police sorted out the smuggling story, they took the two smuggling suspects into custody along with the Honduran women.
 Derta said the twisted tale be-

gan in Honduras Sept. 1 when she and Emerita decided to come to Texas to try to get work as maids in an office building hotel. They left four children behind.
 "We came to work here," Derta said. "There are no jobs in Honduras now."
 The women, along with several other refugees, were taken first to Guatemala then to Mexico City, where they stayed 10 days and had to pay bribes to various officials. Most of the group had to wire home more money.
 Five of the refugees then took the train to Nuevo Laredo where smugglers forced them to surrender their jewelry.
 "I gave them my necklace, earrings and a ring — jewelry which has taken me years to save. It was probably all worth several hundred dollars," Emerita said.
 At Nuevo Laredo, another smuggler offered to take them to Houston for \$700 and said they could pay when they arrived. The women then contacted their cousin in Corpus Christi and asked for money.

H-E-B

There will be a meeting of the Hurst-Eules-Bedford Hometown Club on Wednesday, September 22 at 8:30 p.m. in Room #302 Rudder.

The meeting will last about 40 minutes and will be followed by a get-together at Bennigan's.



The Laredo
 A&M Hometown Club
 1st Organizational Meeting
 and election of officers

Thursday, Sept. 23 1982
 501 Rudder 7:00 p.m.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED