

Leaders introduced at council meeting

by Karen Wallace
Battalion Staff
 Student leaders from Texas A&M were introduced at the Bryan City Council meeting Monday night at 6:30. Battalion editor Hope Paasch, RHA President Kelli Kiesling, Student Body President Joe Jordon, Off Campus Aggie President Kevin Goodwin, Corps Commander Preston Abbott, Executive Vice President of Student Government Melissa Cosper, and Memorial Student Center President Greg Hawkins were

invited by Bryan Mayor Ron Blatchley to dinner and to the meeting afterwards. Blatchley said the students were invited as an opportunity for the members of the council to get acquainted with the student leaders and so the leaders on campus could see how things work in the city of Bryan. "One of the things that is most important to me is that we have as good a relationship as possible with those people who live on campus and are

part of our community, in the form of students primarily," Blatchley said. "We recognize the importance of them to our economy, our community, and to us as fellow citizens." Joe Jordon, student body president, said on campus students have never really been involved with the city of Bryan. "This was the first time they have actually asked us to come and asked for student input as to what is going on in Bryan," said Jordon.

NRC issues opinion favoring OSU prof

United Press International
DALLAS — Nuclear Regulatory Commission officials said they will issue a formal opinion this week dismissing charges of a conflict of interest against an engineering professor who doubles as a member of the NRC's licensing board overseeing the Comanche Peak project near Glen Rose. Kenneth McCollom, an 11-year veteran of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, has come under fire by opponents of Comanche Peak for his administration of a \$20,000 annual Halliburton Foundation grant to other faculty members at Oklahoma State University's engineering school. Although no one is quarreling with the purpose of the grant money is used for at OSU's school of engineering, architecture and technology, a citizens' group is concerned because one of Halliburton's subsidiaries is Brown & Root — the general contractor for Texas Utilities Generating Co.'s Comanche Peak plant. The president of Citizens' Association for Sound Energy believes the Brown & Root funds may influence McCollom's thinking when it comes time for the board to vote on licensing Comanche Peak. CASE has complained to the NRC board and demanded that

McCollom, who is dean of the school, give a fuller explanation of how he administers the Halliburton funds. But McCollom and his colleagues with the NRC scoff at the suggestion that the relatively small amount of grant money presents a conflict of interest. Peter Bloch, chairman of the licensing board in Washington D.C., said the board will issue a formal opinion Monday or Tuesday clearing McCollom of allegations of a conflict of interest. "I don't think it's a very serious problem," Bloch said. "Dr. McCollom receives no direct benefits from the money." McCollom will not be asked by the board to excuse himself from further proceedings involving Brown & Root projects, he added. At issue is Brown & Root's portion of the Halliburton grant which, at roughly \$1,500, is less than 1 percent of the total budget of the engineering school administered by McCollom. "I don't think that's a conflict of interest," McCollom said. "I don't plan to withdraw from the board." Juanita Ellis, president of CARE, said, however, McCollom's situation warrants a thorough investigation and a closer

look at how companies like Brown & Root may be influencing faculty at other public universities. "We don't think that there's any conscious motivation on his part or that he's being deliberately influenced by the money from Brown & Root," she said. "But there are other questions that need to be looked at. Things like if money has been received by his department over a long period of time, if this is subconsciously coloring his viewpoint," Ellis said. Sebastian Aloom, a senior attorney with the NRC in Washington D.C. who investigated the charges, said McCollom was not obligated to report the Halliburton grant on his annual financial disclosure statement. Aloom also said similar kinds of grants are given by the Halliburton Foundation to other engineering schools in the Southwest and that department heads generally have little direct control over the money. Ellis acknowledged the amount of money at stake is small but said administration by McCollom of the Brown & Root grant points to a more serious problem.

Airline interviews pilots

United Press International
HOUSTON — Continental Airlines, trying to become a scaled-down, lower-cost carrier under bankruptcy supervision, began interviewing pilots nationwide Monday for vacancies created by a 10-day-old pilots strike. The Air Line Pilots Association struck Continental after the airline filed for bankruptcy Sept. 24, cut its payroll from 12,000 to 4,200 and on Sept. 27 started flying to 25 of the 78 U.S. cities it once served. Continental has been flying with pilots willing to cross picket lines, but the strike forced cancellation of some flights and, last Thursday, Continental cut its schedule an additional 8 percent to "improve reliability." Continental, which has managed to maintain all but two of its international routes, decided to go outside for pilots because of the strike.

Interviews for pilot applicants were to be conducted in 11 cities on a staggered schedule this week. Hicks said "hundreds" of pilots had contacted Continental after last week's newspaper advertisements. "In each of the cities, where we've advertised, we will be holding two days worth of interviews and they're all scheduled interviews based on response to the ads," Hicks said. Three days of talks with ALPA last week adjourned Friday without agreement on ending the strike. Continental said Continental, which has managed to maintain all but two of its international routes, decided to go outside for pilots because of the strike.

Spokesman Bruce Hicks said 100 percent of Continental's flights operated Sunday. He said the percentage full was "in the 70s." Continental temporarily is wooing passengers and travel agents with \$75 non-stop U.S. fares. ALPA spokesmen said the union considers its existing contract, which was not due to expire until 1984, a proposal and that the company should be making counterproposals. ALPA said Continental pilots gave the airline \$100 million in concessions last fall and offered to give "whatever it took" to keep Continental flying before the airline filed for Chapter 11 reorganization. Joining the pilots in a walkout Oct. 1 was the Union of Flight Attendants. The International Association of Machinists struck Continental Aug. 13, before the bankruptcy. The unions and some legal experts have questioned about Continental's use of the bankruptcy laws to void labor contracts and unilaterally cut labor costs.

The cities where Continental planned interviews on a staggered schedule this week were Houston, Dallas, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami, Atlanta, New York and Chicago. ALPA spokesmen said Monday the union was preparing to oppose Continental's bankruptcy petition in court and ALPA's Denver unit Sunday urged ALPA national officials to impose \$10,000 fines on pilots who cross Continental picket line.

Dallas pollution lawsuit sets national precedent

United Press International
AUSTIN — Attorney General Jim Mattox said Monday a proposed settlement between the state and a Dallas lead smelter suspected of polluting the air and soil in nearby neighborhoods has caught the eye of federal officials. Mattox and a team of his attorneys presented testimony Monday on the proposed settlement before state district Judge Nathan Hecht.

Hecht was expected to sign an agreed interim order between the state and RSR Corp., the owner of the lead plant, that called for a cleanup of contaminated soil around the smelter. In addition, RSR would pay for a program to monitor the health of children and pregnant women living near the smelter and install more efficient air pollution control devices at the plant.

Mattox said officials with the Environmental Protection Agency told him the suit against RSR had prompted them to develop a nationwide program calling for similar procedures at as many as 40 other plants. "This case against RSR Corporation is precedent-setting," Mattox said. "Upon signing of the order, the smelter in west Dallas will come under the most rigid controls of any lead smelter in the state."

Two questioned about murders

United Press International
KILGORE — Police questioned and released two Tyler men about the abduction and slayings of five people from a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant last month, officials said Monday. The two had been named last week in a flyer along with a friend of theirs, a 22-year-old man wanted in a Tyler armed robbery that occurred Sept. 29. The pair, who were not considered suspects, were picked up by officers during the weekend, said Kilgore police spokesman Jerdy Wolverton. The third man, Darnell Hartford, was still at large. Asked if the pair had been cleared altogether of involvement in the slayings, Wolverton said, "At this particular time they have been cleared." He also said an information hotline set up after the killings had produced some leads, but he would not elaborate.

The five victims were abducted and taken to an isolated road where they were each shot more than once in the head or upper body.

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 Photos being taken 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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| Seniors, grads, Vet., Med., Oct. 10-14, 17-21, 24-28, Oct. 31- Nov. 4 | Juniors Nov. 7-11, 14-18, Nov. 28-Dec. 2, Dec. 5-9 | Photographs will be taken at the Yearbook Associates office at 1700 S. Kyle behind Culpepper plaza. For more information call Yearbook Associates office, 693-6756. |
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