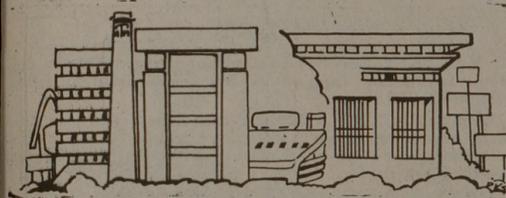


Around town



Accounting department gets chair

The Houston office of the national accounting firm of Ernst and Whinney has turned over the first installment of a gift to endow a prestigious academic chair in accounting at Texas A&M.

During the 1983 Granada Gala in Houston, Ernst and Whinney successfully bid \$39,000 for a cow and then offered the cow for resale, with the entire proceeds being donated to the Department of Accounting. The \$42,000 gift from the resale represents the first installment in the pledge by the company to establish an endowed faculty position in the department. The pledged gift, for a minimum of \$75,000 and a maximum of \$150,000, will be provided in total by the end of 1987.

The purpose of the endowment is to support scholarly pursuits and teaching enrichment activities in accounting. The principal sum of the endowment will be maintained in perpetuity and the income will be used to support designated faculty members.

Free University gets its new name

MSC Free University, long known as Free U, has been renamed After Hours. The After Hours Committee will continue to offer short courses in subjects ranging from bartending to foreign languages to students and faculty of Texas A&M.

Professor named to endowed chair

Dr. Peter S. Rose, professor of finance and a Graduate Faculty Research Fellow, has been named the first holder of the Jeanne and John Blocker Chair in Business Administration.

Rose earned an international reputation for his work in banking and other financial institutions, money and capital markets, financial forecasting and energy economic research. He is an active bank consultant and frequent lecturer at various professional schools of banking.

Rose earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from Arizona State University and his doctorate in economics from the University of Arizona. He was formerly a financial economist for the Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas.

He joined the Texas A&M faculty in 1971, and in 1973 was a Ayre's Faculty Fellow at the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University.

From 1975 to 1978 he served as resident scholar in the Center for Energy and Mineral Resources at Texas A&M. He also has served as Alumni Professor of Business Administration at Texas A&M.

Blocker is a 1954 graduate of Texas A&M and president of the Blocker Energy Corp., Houston. He served on the Texas A&M University Board of Regents from 1977 to 1983, including a term as vice chairman.

The academic chair, named for Blocker and his wife, was the second in less than four months which was established with two endowments by Blocker. The first was the Blocker Chair of Finance.

University Press holds book sale

More than 150 new and backlist titles published by the Texas A&M University Press will be sold at a discount of 20 percent to 80 percent at the Press' Christmas Warehouse Sale through Saturday. Damaged copies also will be available at greater reductions.

Sale hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The sale will be held at the Press' new location on Lewis Street, adjacent to the bonfire site.

To submit an item for this column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed McDonald.

UTEP solar project curtailed

United Press International
EL PASO — A solar experiment with the potential to solve West Texas' water problems will have to be scaled down because the Legislature shut down a state agency, officials said Thursday.

The discontinuation of the Texas Energy and Natural Resources Advisory Council will leave University of Texas at El Paso researchers \$80,000 short of the funds needed to complete the five-year study of the feasibility of solar salt ponds for providing heat, electricity, and fresh water.

Project Coordinator Robert L. Reid said part of the experiment deals with converting salt water to fresh water — and could help provide a long-term solution to impending water shortage problems.

"This (TENRAC's demise) is not going to kill the project but we've had to reduce the scope somewhat," Reid said.

The project got under way in July with the help of a \$23,659 grant from TENRAC.

Reid, chairman of UTEP's mechanical and industrial engineering department, said he had expected TENRAC to contribute more than \$100,000 to the project through 1988.

TENRAC is being phased out because the Texas Legislature didn't fund its operation in this year's budget. Many lawmakers had been critical of the agency,

contending it merely duplicated the efforts of other energy-related agencies.

As originally conceived, the research project was a joint effort between UTEP, TENRAC, the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, El Paso Electric Co., and Bruce Foods Corp.

Reid is setting up a salt gradient solar pond for the experiments, using an existing pond at the Bruce Foods cannery.

The first phase of the project — which produces energy when the sun heats the salt water in the pond — will provide heat to the cannery.

The second phase will produce electricity to help run the cannery and the third phase will use both thermal and electrical energy to run a desalination unit to produce fresh water from nearby salty groundwater supplies.

Riots in Juarez spark crackdown

United Press International
JUAREZ, Mexico — Community leaders will be asked their opinions on a plan to control violent street demonstrations that have resulted in thousands of dollars in damage to private businesses and public property, Mayor Francisco Barrio Terrazas said Thursday.

The mayor wants all protesters to notify City Hall in advance if they intend to demonstrate. Members of the new conservative city council voted unanimously to conduct a public forum on the issue.

But a city spokesman said the members of the Juarez City Council are expected to pass the new regulations at their Dec. 15 meeting regardless of the leaders' opinions.

"We are not trying to prohibit demonstrations, which are guaranteed by the constitution," Barrio said. "Every Mexican has a right to demonstrate peacefully, without arms. We are merely trying to get the demonstrators to advise us beforehand."

The border city has been plagued with street demonstrations

by groups opposing the government.

The mayor, a member of the conservative opposition, Partido Accion Nacional, which swept to victory in municipalities throughout the state of Chihuahua, told members of the council he was not trying to suppress liberty.

"There is a precedent for this proposal," Barrio said. "This idea was adopted in 1943 by the city administration of Antonio Bermudez so no one can say that regulating demonstrations is a

tactic of the opposition party to remain in power."

But opposition to the mayor's plan has been expressed by officials of the ruling party, the government-backed Partido Revolucionario Institucional, as well as leftwing groups.

The mayor did not single out any specific demonstrators when he presented his plan to the city council. But officials at

City Hall indicated the measure was aimed at curbing vandalism by the Comite de la Defensa Popular, an organization of squatters who have been labeled by police as the most radical group on the border.

About 1,000 members of the CDP vandalized the offices of the federal secretariat of education Wednesday night and have announced a massive public demonstration for Dec. 10.

Brown trial gets okay by judge

United Press International
AUSTIN — A federal court judge refused Thursday to block the state's efforts to try Eroy Brown for murder for the third time.

U.S. District Judge James Nowlin of Austin said in a three-page order that it would be improper for a federal judge to interfere in the criminal prosecution of an ongoing state proceeding.

Brown's attorneys asked Nowlin to prevent the state from giving financial aid to the prosecution. Brown is charged with killing a prison warden.

Nowlin said the issue might be more properly addressed in a state court.

"An order by this court would have a substantially disruptive effect upon the contemporary state criminal proceedings," he said.

Nowlin also noted that a state court had postponed Brown's trial until next year. Brown had originally been scheduled to go on trial Monday in Edinburg for the 1981 slaying in Walker County of Billy Max Moore, a farm manager for the Ellis Unit prison.

Earlier, Nowlin had granted a temporary restraining order against the state, preventing it from awarding a \$45,000 grant to the prosecution. But his order Thursday dissolved that injunction.

State Sen. Craig Washington, D-Houston, one of two lawyers appointed to defend Brown, had argued the state grant was unfair since the defense was owed more than \$184,000 in fees from Brown's two earlier trials.

Washington contended the state grant denied Brown his constitutional right to full legal representation.

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