### Gas bill decreases planned in four southwestern states

#### **United Press International**

EL PASO - Gas bills will be decreasing in at least four southwes- Gas since 1973. As of Oct. 1, 1984, tern states, thanks to a \$100 million the firm will receive a reduction of annual reduction in the price of natural gas, it was announced Thursday.

The rate reduction was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, said John McFall, pub-lic relations director of El Paso Natu-

McFall said the reduction is the largest sought by El Paso Natural Gas since 1973. As of Oct. 1, 1984, 11.5 cents per thousand BTUs, or \$100 million a year. Quimby said he did not yet know how much the average home gas bill will decrease. Southern Union's portion "is tiny, compared to what El Paso Natural

ral Gas Co. Bud Quimby, spokesman for the Southern Union Gas Co., said his firm will pass on the reduction to do-mestic customers in West Texas.and there McFall said the reduction reflects El Paso Natural's "continuing pro-gram to reduce overall costs, includ-ing the cost of gas purchased by the company from producers for even-

tual sale to its customers

"El Paso Natural has exercised 'market-out' options contained in its purchase contracts and has other-wise renegotiated certain high-priced gas purchase contracts, all of which have contributed to the announced rate reduction," McFall said.

El Paso Natural sells gas wholesale to distribution companies that serve El Paso, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Phoenix and Tucson, as well as other areas in California, southern Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and West Texas.

## Ft. Bliss to move from the pencil to computers

### **United Press International**

EL PASO - The pencil, once the mainstay of tedious office work, is on the way out at Fort Bliss, Army officials reported Thursday.

The change is due to the new "information center" established by the Directorate of Automation Information Management to increase use of computers at the Army's Air De-fense Center, said Ralph Woodbridge, chief of the information resources division.

On Wednesday, computer experts at the center made the first official presentation of their services. Representatives of the civilian personnel personnel computers to help relieve them of tedious work they once had to do by pencil, were the first cus-

The new center came about as a result of a study last year of prob-lems presented by the numerous computer systems at Fort Bliss, Woodbridge said.

The study grew from the recognition that "the functions of data collection, processing and reporting across Fort Bliss were fragmented,

often redundant, and not being cen-trally managed," according to the preface of the study.

The report offered a program to bring centralized management of information to the post, and established a list of offices which should be automated in the future.

Because of the great variety of sys-tems, the lack of coordination between existing systems and poor planning in adding new ones, managers often did not have timely information to use in making decisions and had trouble getting the current status on projects, according to the report.

Also, managers often lacked valid information for planning purposes, sometimes had conflicting information from different sources and incurred excessive costs because of multiple data processing activities, the report indicated.

Woodbridge said the new information system plan at Fort Bliss will take about five years to solve all the problems.

Lt. Col. Charles Raney will direct the new data center.

## Old 'footprints' questioned

### **United Press International**

GLEN ROSE — A rancher who worked for biblical researchers seeking to debunk the theory of evolution now insists that, contrary to their claims, no ancient human footprints were found alongside dinosaur tracks in a Texas riverbed.

The footprints have long been used by literal believers of the Bible as evidence that humans coexisted with the dinosaurs whose prints litter the Paluxy River bottom south of -Fort Worth.

Creationist Carl Baugh has re-peatedly claimed 47 different "man tracks" were found along the river-

bank But rancher Alfred West, who sold Baugh and his associates the site where they built their Creation Evidences Museum and then helped with the excavation, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram Thursday the\_ prints were contrived from Baugh's imagination.

"I can safely say I have seen no science in their (creationist research) activities," West said. "The facts have flat been dismissed.

"In the face of all this evidence he (Baugh) has continued on telling the public he has man tracks when they're not," said West.

Most scientists believe dinosaurs existed long before man and have long disputed Baugh's findings. When wetted they (Baugh's 'man

tracks') show they are much larger prints (than those of humans) and have the familiar three toes of a dinosaur," said Kyle Davies, who studied the region. Davies holds a master's degree in paleontology.

Baugh, who was unavailable for comment Thursday, reported the human tracks ranged from 16 inches to 25 inches. He said that probably meant giants and normal-sized people coexisted 4,800 years ago, roughly the time at which he placed the great flood described in Genesis.

# office, who will be getting three new

THE RICHAR SMITH STORY Last Spring, Bill Press our former State Representative resign from office in order to: to work for Texas AN This allowed Gov. Man

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Special Election to fill vacancy. Would you believe he set the election during ACM Spring Break? He at Why? To keep the Agga from voting. He knewn could make a differente There are only 45,00 registered voters Brazos County (whit alone makes up this State Representative District.) There an 37,000 students at AM so obviously if we

register to vote and w

White (Dem.) to call

we can makes difference. As it turns out, many Aggies di register to vote and vote absentee for Aggie Richard Smith '59. Hei the only experiencei conservative,

independent candidate who can go to Austin and get the job done. I Richard Smith A&M isn just a part of the distri A&M is a commitme and a concern that a Aggies share. It ended that over 13,000 peop voted last March. candidate, Richard Smith, lost by 29 vot (to force a runoff). two tenths of one perce of all the votes cast la March our candidate lo The conservative Republican lost to Man White's chosen Democrat, Neeley Lewis That was the Special

Election. The Battalion Editoria Board called the scheduling of the Special Election by the Democrats "an attack Texas A&M students, staff and faculty members." The Stud Senate passed a resolution in opposit to the setting of th election date when Aggies could not vote Governor White (Den refused to even see the student governmen leaders concerning t issue. The Bryan-College Station Eagle Editor Board said, "Let's face this whole thing smack of partisan politics at 1 most petty level. ...Democrat Party offic had described March as a 'convenient day'i the election." Conve to keep the Aggies from voting. Convenient for the Democrats to unfait help Neeley Lewis. On Nov. 6, we have a chance to prove that we won't be pushed around again. Richard Smith and Neeley Lewis are on the ballot again-thi time in a fair fight. We will determine the winner, if we register vote (the deadline is 00 6) and then vote on Nor 6. Mark White and the Democrats can't set th election when the Aggie can't vote. It's up tous!

# To every roommate about to become a friend.

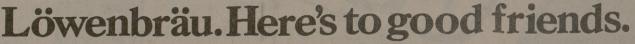


Right now, about the only thing you have in common is the same room. But you and those strangers who moved in with you are going to crack a lot of books and burn a lot of midnight oil together.

You're going to discover the people behind the nametags, the ones inside

the roommates. And who knows? Before the term is over, your roommates may very well turn out to be good friends.

To each of you we say, let it be Löwenbräu.



MORAL: **TOGETHERWE** CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

If you want to help make a difference, join Aggie GOP or call the Smith headquarters at 846-0047.