

Silver Taps honors fallen Ags tonight

Aggie spikers sweep Baylor in SWC match

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Sully's symposium features Rollins today

Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol 80 No.24 USPS 045360 12 pages

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, October 2, 1984



Congratulations

Photo by MIKE SANCHEZ

Junior cadets, while in the leaning-rest position, read their letters of acceptance into the Ross Volunteers, an honor organization

within the Corps of Cadets. The RV's, the honor guard for the governor of Texas, are chosen by the senior cadets each year.

Taxes increase 1/8 of cent today

By ROBIN BLACK
Senior Staff Writer

Starting today, Texans are going to feel the first effects of the education reforms the State Legislature passed this July — today Texans are going to start paying for a better education.

Consumers will be paying because a tax package created to support the reforms, as well as highway repairs, goes into effect.

What starts today is actually the second part of the comprehensive package. The first part — an increase in the state gasoline tax and license plate fees — started Aug. 1.

The second part of the package includes a 1/8-cent-per-dollar increase in the sales tax plus a loss of exemption for many services and products that were not taxed at all up to now.

Since the sales tax is increasing only a fraction of a cent, a local spokesman for the state tax office said stores may take the addition to the tax out of total earnings rather than from each individual sale.

The difference would be minimal, he said, so stores will probably just take the loss instead of passing it on to the buyer.

Just how consumers feel the new increase is up to the merchant in many cases, the spokesman said.

Movie tickets, for example, have lost their tax-exempt status. Most theaters, though, are not simply adding the straight sales tax to the price of a movie ticket.

Schulman and Plitt theaters in the Bryan-College Station area are upping their ticket prices by a rough amount. Adult tickets are going to cost movie-goers \$4.50 starting today instead of \$4.

The tax office spokesman said the theaters are probably figuring in the extra bookkeeping costs the taxes will require along with a little extra profit.

Although almost all products and services — with the exception of some repair services and plants and fertilizers used for agricultural purposes — will now be subject to the state sales tax, the products and services of non-profit organizations will remain tax exempt.

What this means locally is that although the sales tax will be applied to tickets for professional sporting events and other entertainment events, tickets to University events such as football games or MSC Town

Hall events will not have the tax added on.

However, this does not mean that goods purchased in the University's bookstores will be tax-free. The University always has and always will add a sales tax in its stores.

Nightclubs will have to start adding a sales tax to their cover charges starting tonight.

Willie Bennett, booking agent for Dr. G's in Bryan, said he's undecided as to how he'll figure the new tax into the cover charge.

"I don't see increasing the cover," Bennett said. "At least not that much. I'll probably just take it out of the straight cover of \$5 or whatever the price happens to be that night."

The state comptroller's office has been running a series of ads in state newspapers — the series here appeared in the Bryan-College Station Eagle — to educate the public on some of the specific effects. One of the ads has the caption "Let it slide, Clyde," and tells readers that the admission to waterside parks will also include the state sales tax.

MSC Council debates computers, concert

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

The Memorial Student Center Council discussed the MSC computer system, the possibility of a Chicago concert, a joint MSC/Student Senate committee to discuss MSC financing, career development and MSC OPAS activities at the council's meeting Monday night.

Council members received a report on the state of the MSC computer systems from Phillip Shiffrin, computer programmer for the MSC. The MSC presently uses four com-

puters with 12 terminals divided between the director's office, the Student Programs Office, the accounting office and the Student Finance Center. The computer systems eventually will be expanded to include 20 terminals.

"I see this as a key element in doing what the MSC has historically done," Jim Reynolds, MSC Council secretary-treasurer, said.

Council members also discussed the possible scheduling of a Chicago concert. The Entertainment Programs Study Committee submitted a

report to the council, first rejecting Nov. 13 as a possible date for a Chicago concert and then later, at a special meeting, accepting the date.

Some council members were concerned that a Tuesday night concert would not break even financially. After discussion, the council, by a 7-4 vote, accepted the report which allows negotiations for the concert to continue.

Negotiations with Chicago have not been completed. The council's approval does not insure that the program will be presented.

Executive Vice President for Administration Cory Courtney reported on the formation of a joint MSC/Student Senate committee to investigate student services funding.

The committee, to be co-chaired by Courtney and Student Senate Vice President of Finance Mike Kelley, will research ways to make the student center a self-supporting organization. The 10-member committee will be selected, and the research will begin by the end of October, Courtney said.

The council also discussed career

development programs. In the past, career development sponsored the MBA/Law Day, a day when students interested in master of business administration and law programs receive career information.

This year, career development programs will be expanded to include a resume workshop, a dress for success seminar and separate MBA and Law Days.

Tad Pruitt, chairman of MSC OPAS, reported on new OPAS activities to supplement the regular season. Such activities, to include a

mini-concert series and spontaneous exposure experiences, are designed to raise the cultural awareness of the student body.

The mini-concert series will be shows designed to provide original programming — such as symphonic band and choral groups — not scheduled for the regular OPAS series. Spontaneous exposure experiences are short programs in active campus areas between classes. These programs may include mimes and string quartets, Pruitt said.

Campus preacher fights apathy with Christianity

By ANN BRIMBERRY
Reporter

Ron Tewson is fighting apathy. Tewson is the man seen regularly — almost every weekday around noon — preaching outside the Academic Building.

As pastor of the Fellowship Community Church and an off-campus advisor for A&M Christian Fellowship, Tewson says that his biggest challenge in preaching at Texas A&M is dealing with the apathy of the students.

"I would actually rather speak to a crowd that is jeering and throwing stuff because I know they are taking a stand on something," Tewson said. "Out here I think one of the biggest problems is that everyone thinks he is a Christian because he is a Texan and goes to the Baptist, Methodist or Catholic church."

Tewson says A&M is fortunate to have the freedom to bring issues out in the open which never arise in the classroom.

"One of the reasons I am at a college campus is because this is supposed to be where thinking people

are," he said, "but you would be surprised how many unthinking people there are that have never even examined the thing that has molded the world."

Tewson said he has heard many misconceptions about Jesus Christ as a result of classroom lectures.

"I can give you many examples from students who come to me saying things their professors have said," Tewson said. "In the classroom, frequently a one-sided approach is being presented and the people don't get the other side."

"As I became more and more aware of this, I thought we should have a forum out in the open where people can come and hear another side that they probably are not getting in the classroom."

Tewson began the student forum about four years ago. He said at first it was sporadic.

"People might walk by 20 times on 20 different occasions before they finally stopped to listen," Tewson said.

There is a courteous spirit at A&M, Tewson said.

where they throw things at you and it is a real discourtesy. But here, even when those who are violently opposed act obnoxious, their spirit is still one of general courtesy and that of wanting to listen."

Tewson said he doesn't take opposition personally.

"There is no animosity toward anybody," he said. "I just want them to know the truth, and the interesting thing about truth is that it has a way of working in a person's mind and conscience."

"The God that I know loves people and motivates me to love people. So when you love people, you want the best for them and want to help them."

Tewson said his goal is to give students exposure to Christianity.

"If Jesus Christ is truly the only way, then people need to know that," Tewson said. "If there were many ways, then I wouldn't bother."

Tewson said some students want to live the "fun life" — but they are living under a deception of what a fun life is.

"Leaning over the toilet throwing up with a hangover isn't what anyone would call fun; or having your girlfriend tell you she's pregnant and you have to figure out what to do," he said. "There is so much deception about what is fun that people dive into it only to find out they are getting hurt."

Tewson said he's been a Christian for 14 years.

"It's been a lot more fun than the first 21," Tewson said. "I came to Christ because it was true. It was the most logical decision to make for any thinking person."



Photo by FRANK IRWIN

Ron Tewson, pastor of the A&M Christian Fellowship Community Church, speaks to

students near the Academic Building about the Bible.

In Today's Battalion

Local

• Don't let limited finances keep you from studying abroad. See story page 3.

• Members of MSC SCONA talk about their visit to China. See story page 4.