

MSC Council considers new literary magazine

By MICHAEL CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

The creation of a new literary magazine and the construction of a home for the former students' association were discussed at this semester's final meeting of the Memorial Student Center Council Monday night.

The magazine, tentatively named Litmus-Indicator of Change, is part of the 34th MSC committee and has been under consideration since September. The committee was approved by the council with the minimum number of votes needed, 14.

Tracy Howard, vice president of cultural programs, said the first issue will be distributed around April 1. The Litmus will be part of the MSC Literary Arts Committee under the Cultural Program Committee and is endorsed by the College of Liberal Arts.

The goals of the Litmus include: providing an outlet for creativity by Texas A&M students, providing a structure in which students can learn about the function of a publication, providing recognition to writers by publishing their works and presenting the finest works created by students.

The magazine will publish both

stories and poetry, Howard said, and already has 20 members.

The council also heard from the Association of Former Students, which has raised \$4 million of the needed \$6 million to build a permanent home for their organization.

Jim Jeter, a representative for the association, said construction will begin in the spring and should be completed during the summer. The building will be located at the corner of Houston and Jersey streets and will involve re-routing the one-mile-long jogging track which surrounds the area.

Jeter said the fund raising for construction is going well, but is unsure of how the proposed revisions in the federal tax system will affect future donations.

"I don't think it will affect us as much as it might affect corporations and therefore our development foundation which receives the larger gifts," Jeter said. "About one-fifth of the dollars we raise are from matching gift companies. If they (the federal government) start tinkering in business it could affect us considerably."

SWAMP, Students Working Against Many Problems, opposes the proposed location of the association's building because it will occupy

grounds now used as green space. Jeter said SWAMP has a good point in preserving the university's green areas, but argued any new construction would destroy grass. More than 20 locations around the Texas A&M campus were considered, Jeter said, but all were rejected in favor of the Houston-Jersey streets site.

International Students Association President Ivo Lopez introduced a fund-raising drive to provide food for Ethiopian drought victims. Lopez said that starvation is common in 12 of that nation's 14 provinces.

A lack of student awareness of the crisis is the biggest problem in gathering donations, Lopez said. To combat the problem, the ISA will distribute "fact sheets" about the crisis to students during the week.

According to the sheets, as many as 6,400 persons a day may be starving to death with the situation growing worse. Donations for the fund will be accepted at various tables around campus, in the Bizzel Hall ISA office or may be sent directly to the relief agency.

The address of the relief agency is: Hunger Coalition/Ethiopian Relief Fund, 3217 Montrose, Houston, Texas, 77006

Warped

by Scott McCou



SHOE

by Jeff MacNeil



SHOE

by Jeff MacNeil



C.S. natural gas may cost more; impact might be less than feared

By KELLI BROGDON
Reporter

For College Station residents, it may cost more for them to light up their lives because utility costs will increase an estimated \$14 to \$16 per 1000 kilowatt-hours in 1985.

City of College Station Energy Specialist Charlie Shear said Gulf State Utilities signed a 21-year, low-cost natural gas contract in 1964 that ends this year. GSU saved rate payers more than \$2 billion over the contract's 21-year life.

The contract expiration will have less of an impact on customer bills than what was first feared, Shear said.

The reduction of natural gas and the diversifying of fuel mix are rea-

sons the impact will not be as harsh, Shear said.

GSU future plans include the building of a nuclear plant and the purchasing of surplus coal-fired electricity from a neighboring utility system. GSU also has interests in two coal-fired generating units.

This broader selection of electrical generating sources will give a greater flexibility in providing the customers with an economical and reliable electrical service, Shear said.

GSU employees have come up with several of their own cost cutting ideas. One idea still in the research stage, Shear said, is high-pressure sodium street lights. If this idea is approved, the mercury vapor lights now being used in College Station will be replaced. The new lights will

save an estimated \$30,000 to \$40,000 per year, Shear said.

Customers can minimize cost increases in several ways, Shear said.

- Insulating your home can cut heating and cooling bills.
- Money spent on insulation now will be offset by smaller heating and cooling bills in the future.
- Caulking and weatherstripping windows and doors will take some of the work off of heaters and air conditioners.

• During the winter, Shear recommends setting the thermostat between 60 and 65 degrees for daytime and at 55 degrees for nighttime. If this is uncomfortable turn the thermostat up one degree and put on a sweater or an extra blanket.

Commission issues figures in Mexico City blast

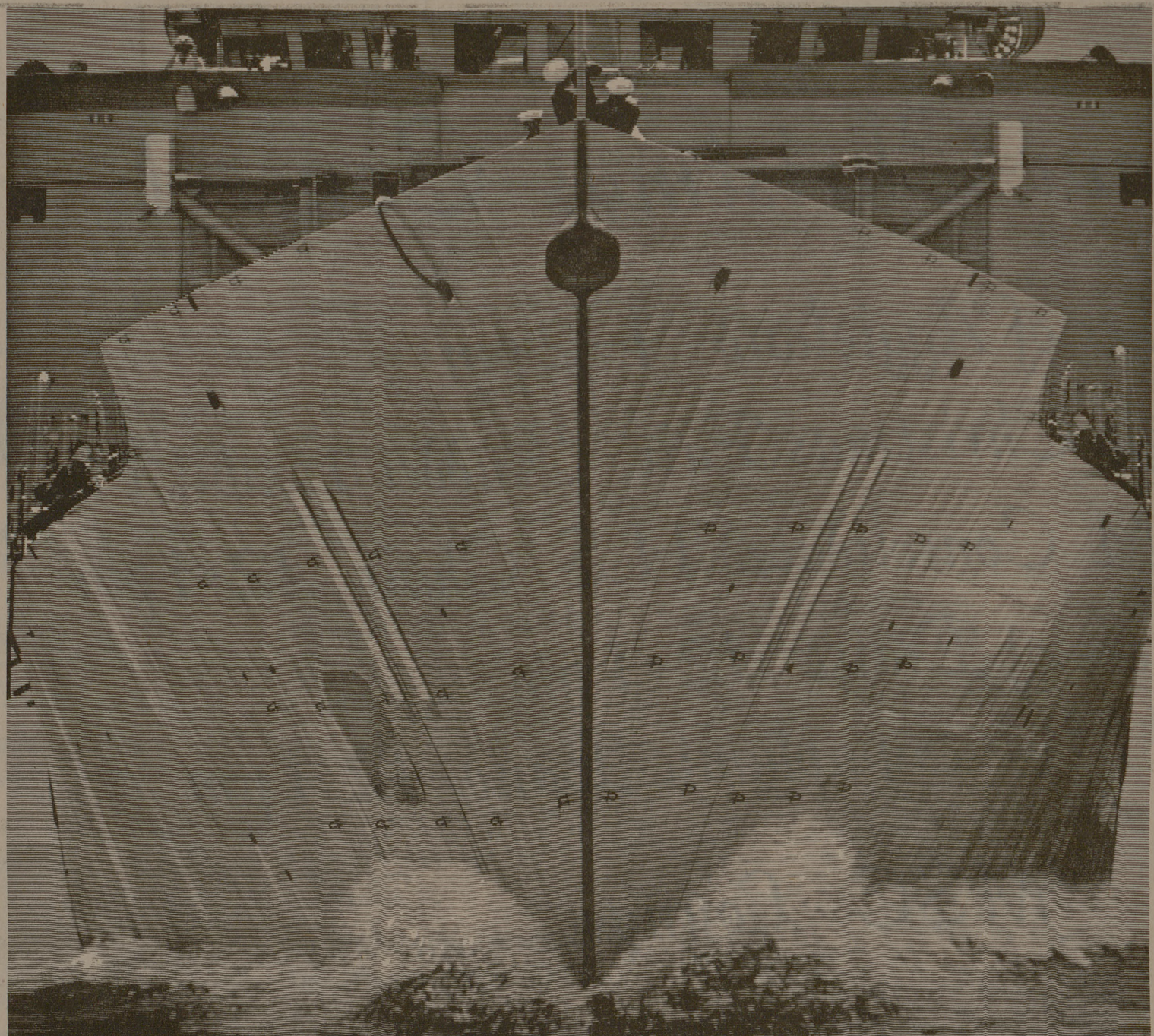
4,248 injured; 113 still critical

United Press International

MEXICO CITY — The explosion at the state-owned oil company Petroleos Mexicanos killed 452 people and left more than 4,000 injured, the government announced Monday. A special commission, composed

of representatives from the Interior, Finance and Health ministries, was formed by President Miguel de la Madrid to provide medical care and new housing for the thousands of people whose homes were destroyed in the fatal blast. A pre-dawn explosion Nov. 19 at the Pemex liquid gas distribution

center in northern Mexico City off a series of explosions and of fire which raced through lower working class barrios. The commission reported 452 people perished in the blast and that 4,248 people were injured, 113 of whom are in critical



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