

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Public universities in Texas offer faculty lower-than-average pay

By JERRY OSLIN
Staff Writer

A recent report said public universities in Texas are falling behind the rest of the country in terms of the salary offered to faculty.

This report, from Texas College and University System Coordinating Board, has at least one Texas A&M official worried.

"We at Texas A&M have been reasonably competitive in terms of salary at hiring good people, but we can't afford to fall behind," said Dr. Clinton Phillips, Dean of Faculties at Texas A&M. "We will lose our best and brightest people if we fail to continue to offer competitive pay."

The board's report said salaries rose 7 percent nationally this year for teachers in the first four faculty ranks - professor, associate profes-

or, assistant professor and instructor. Salaries for the same ranks at public universities in Texas rose only 4.1 percent.

"California salaries are up," Phillips said. "Michigan salaries are up. Massachusetts salaries are up. There is a general recognition of the fact that considerable damage was done to the universities in these states because of the recession. Now they (the universities) are instituting massive salary adjustments to try and repair the damage."

These states are not only using higher faculty salaries to repair their universities but they also are using them to repair their economies, Phillips said.

"The rest of the country has come out of a recession and it has become

abundantly evident to them that you can't stifle your higher education system without severely damaging your economy," Phillips said. "One of the ways to attract new business to a state is to have quality faculty at a quality university."

Texas A&M is already in trouble of losing its best faculty members because it is not staying up with the rest of the country in terms of salary, Phillips said.

"We have not been increasing salaries as much as we should have. We have just been keeping up with inflation," he said. "I'm hearing from deans that some of our best young faculty are being looked at by other institutions and we're liable to lose some."

One of the reasons Texas A&M

has not been able to raise salaries as high as it would like is because of its rapid growth, Phillips said.

"Part of our problem is that we have grown so much that we have had to spend our money to attract additional faculty members instead of raising existing salaries," he said.

Even though Texas A&M has not been able to pay the salaries it would like to, it still has its advantages, Phillips said.

"Texas doesn't have a state income tax and people don't have to fight a traffic jam to get to the campus," he said. "It is also cheaper to buy a house here than it is in a place like Stanford. Stanford simply has to subsidize mortgages or provide faculty housing at a reduced price if it is going to get new faculty members."

Local bar owners protest law

Drinking age bill hurts clubs

By MICHAEL CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

That frosty mug of brew enjoyed by many college students may soon be a pleasure of the past for 19 and 20 year old drinkers.

Local bar owners are concerned about economic effects that would result if the Texas House follows the Senate's lead and raises the minimum drinking age from 19 to 21.

It's a move local bar owners dread.

Dixie Chicken owner Don Ganter said the effect of the raise will not only reduce sales, but also increase the number of drunken drivers.

"It's going to be terrible," Ganter said. "We do cater to a considerable crowd over 21, but still I can't be blind. There's a whole pile of students at A&M that are 19 and 20 who are going to be cut out by this completely ridiculous law. It's so in-

sane that words defy description. "The very law is going to do what they are trying to prevent. That is drink and drive. It's going to push it out into the streets and into the country. That's all it's going to do."

If Texas fails to raise the legal age to 21, the state will lose \$107 million in federal highway funds.

The change is being brought about by the Surface Transportation Act of 1984, which was passed by President Reagan last July 17. It establishes a national minimum drinking age of 21 years and says states which don't comply by Oct. 1, 1986, will lose 5 percent of certain federal highway funds for that fiscal year and 10 percent for the next.

The fund threat to Texas will end Sept. 30, 1988 if the U.S. Congress fails to renew the Act.

The Texas Senate Wednesday approved the bill which will become effective Sept. 1, 1986. The nation-

wide federal requirement is being challenged by South Dakota. Should the courts declare the federal law unconstitutional, the state drinking age would revert to 19.

Beer sales are already depressed by the slump in the oil industry, said Jim Pillans, vice president of Brazos Beverages Inc. Pillans expects to lose 20 percent of his business if the new drinking age becomes law. Brazos Beverages distributes Miller beer products in the area.

"In 1981 and 1982 we were still in the tail-end of an oil boom," Pillans said. "In 1982 the oil boom was over and they started laying off a lot of their oil personnel. For example, when 3,000 oil field workers are laid off, 3,000 of those people were good beer drinkers and they have all left town. I think that hurt us more than anything else."

"If A&M were growing by leaps and bounds like it used to, it would

help offset the oil field people leaving."

Sales in 1983 were down 4.7 percent from previous years and Pillans expects the figure for 1984 to be still lower. In 1984, 1.5 million cases of beer were distributed in the Bryan/College Station. In spite of that volume consumed, Duddleys Draught owner Richard Benning said A&M students are not excessive drinkers.

"I'm not sure Aggies drink any more beer than any other college crowd at any other major university," Benning said.

Ganter agreed, "Texas A&M students, by and large, are pretty conscientious about their studies. For instance, this week we are experiencing an extremely low volume week due to the fact it's the first round of tests at A&M. They know why they are here and they study."

Pentagon gives forces top priority

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon's special operations forces—the most elite fighting units in the U.S. military—are in the midst of a "high priority" buildup and revitalization, new budget documents show.

The documents, issued this week along with President Reagan's fiscal 1986 spending plan, show the Pentagon is planning to activate additional Army Special Forces and Ranger units, including a Psychological Operations battalion, as well as another Navy SEAL team.

SEAL refers to the ability of the commandos to fight on sea and land.

There are also plans to acquire additional MC-130H Combat Talon airplanes "to infiltrate, resupply and extract forces from hostile territory," and add specialized troop-carrying shelters to three more submarines.

Many of the details on the extent of the special forces buildup, and its cost, are considered secret. But the "Military Posture" statements released by the services to justify their budget requests provide an outline of what the Pentagon describes as one of its highest priority projects.

The special forces are troops who have undergone rigorous physical and psychological conditioning and who are trained in a variety of hand-to-hand combat techniques and tactics for infiltrating and operating on their own behind enemy lines.

Library services in danger if budget cuts win support

By KIMBERLY PETTIBON
Reporter

The Texas Legislative Budget Board's proposal for a 28 percent cut in the Sterling C. Evans Library budget could alter plans for extending library hours, Dr. Irene Hoadley, library director, said.

"The LBB's proposal would cut about \$2 million from our budget," Hoadley said.

Library officials had agreed with Student Government to extend library hours by about 14 or 15 hours a week, she said. The extended hours would permit students to use the library until 3 a.m. during the week and earlier in the morning on weekends.

"Because of the reductions in spending for this year, we had to inform Student Government that we would not extend those hours," Hoadley said.

But, Hoadley said, it is Student Government's intention to raise enough money to extend the hours for the second half of the spring semester.

Student Government spokesman Tom Urban said, "We need to raise \$1,700 in order to extend the hours."

Student Government could look to its cash account for funding and turn to former students for help if needed, Urban said. However, no concrete funding plan has been decided on yet.

Hoadley said besides library study hours, other areas of library services that could be affected include the periodical department, the map room and the learning resources room. A reduction in open hours and staff in those areas could be a possibility, she said.

Hoadley said the proposed budget cuts come at an awkward time for the University and library.

"We have just gotten to a point where we are able to provide a pretty good level of service for the University community," she said. "But if we have to take some steps backward now, it will take a very long time to catch up."

"Irreparable damage could be done to the library and the students if the budget cut would be maintained for a long period of time (4 to 6 years)."

Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby recently proposed a 6 percent budget cut instead of the previous 20 percent. This would be a substantial difference from the LBB's proposal.

Hoadley said a composite budget would probably not be announced until this summer, after the state Legislature committees meet.

Animal research advances medical science

By PATTI FLINT
Staff Writer

"There isn't an existence that I'm aware of that isn't at the expense of something else," said Dr. Duane Kraemer, professor of veterinary physiology and pharmacology.

Food, clothing and cosmetics comprise only a few animal products used by people. And animal experimentation has provided drugs and surgical techniques that have advanced medical science, and benefited both humans and animals. "It's very difficult to be a purist in this

without being hypocritical or at least being naive," Kraemer said.

The use of live animals in medical research is a very emotional issue in today's society. The transplantation of a baboon heart into a human baby and the poisoning of candy bars in England by animal rights activists were recent animal rights issues.

Dr. David McMurray, professor of medical microbiology, said it is not only appropriate to use animals in research, but necessary. He said it is the only way to learn about diseases and, thus, find remedies for them.

"If the use of biomedical research on experimental animals is halted, then humanity will pay the price," McMurray said.

"If you accept that we have an obligation to alleviate this suffering and must generate this knowledge, then you must accept the use of animals. I'm also for the appropriate control of the way animals are used. I think that reasonable guidelines for the care and use of all animals are necessary."

"Unlike other animals, we have the intelligence and the abilities to manipulate other species for our

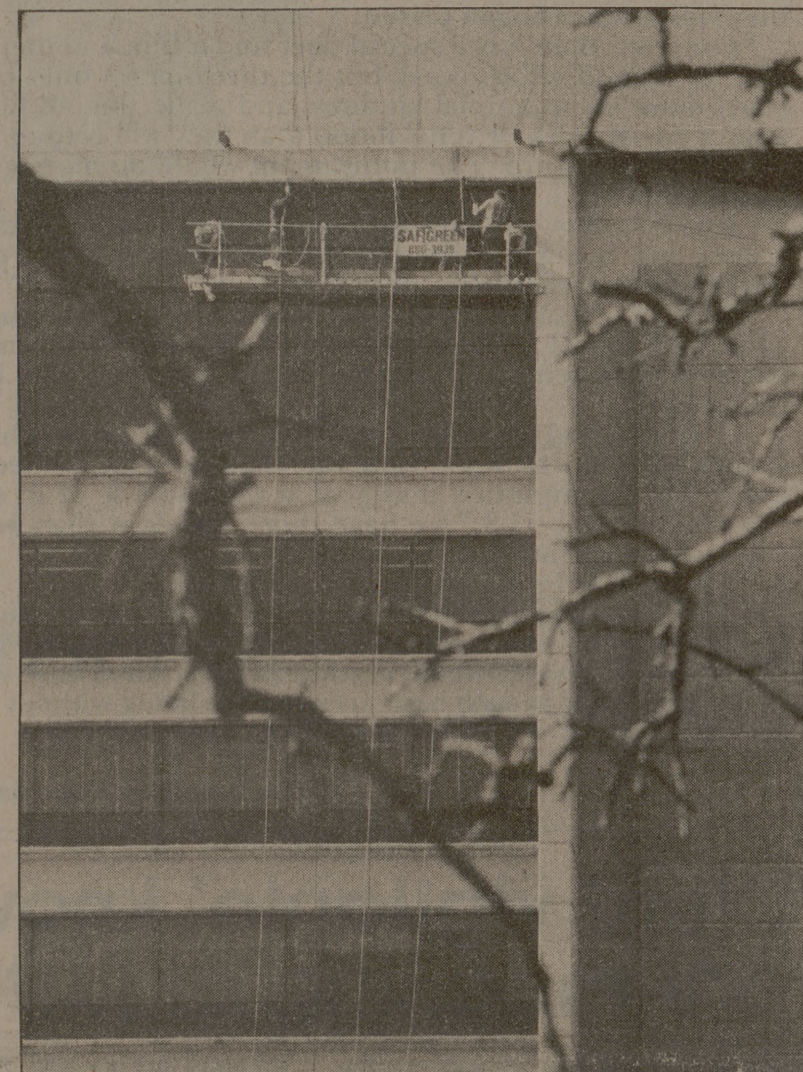


Photo by DEAN SAITO

Revamping Rudder

Workers cleaned the windows of Rudder Tower Thursday afternoon using hanging scaffolding to allow them to reach all the windows easily. The tree branches provide a framing for the picture and aren't as tall as the appear.

O'Neill criticizes Reagan's address

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After weeks of holding his punches, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. went on the attack again Thursday, dismissing President Reagan's State of the Union address as generalities of "a kindly old man."

The Massachusetts Democrat, in his harshest criticism since the president's landslide re-election victory last November, said Reagan "hasn't been honest with the American people. They haven't asked him for honesty."

Reagan delivered his State of the Union address Wednesday night on his 74th birthday.

But Thursday, O'Neill said Democrats had been intentionally easy on the president in their initial reactions to his speech.

"We did not want to hurt this kindly old man that America loves on his 74th birthday," O'Neill, 72, said.

"This kindly gentleman, this old man. The American people are mesmerized by him. But I think he should come out and say what he's asking for."

O'Neill took issue with Reagan's assertion that current high deficits were caused by "nearly 50 years of government's living beyond its means."

"He made somewhat of a simple statement," O'Neill said. "It was very clever rhetoric. But it covered up the facts. Mr. President ... do not point the finger at the distant past, when you yourself have so much responsibility for these deficits resting on your own shoulders."

When Reagan took office, O'Neill said, the national debt was just over \$900 million. "By his own budget projections ... the national debt will be \$3 trillion when he leaves office, triple what it was when the Reagan revolution began."

O'Neill also accused the president of having "a touch in his heart" that makes him "unfair to the poor of America, to the blacks of America, and to other segments of America."

O'Neill, a sharp critic of Reagan during the president's first term, subdued his criticism of the president following Reagan's 49-state sweep. Last month, O'Neill openly praised Reagan as the "most popular" president he'd ever known and vowed to do nothing to block his programs from coming to the House floor.

Reagan's speech to the joint House-Senate session, in which he called for a "Second American Revolution," was "one of his better performances," O'Neill said.

of the facility, said LARR makes sure that anyone using their animals for research complies with the regulations concerning the use of lab animals in the United States.

"First and foremost, we're a watchdog facility," Sanford said. "Our first thought is for the animals."

The LARR accomplishes its task in several ways. One is a grant review process in which a committee screens out all that would cause animals undue discomfort or pain, or

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