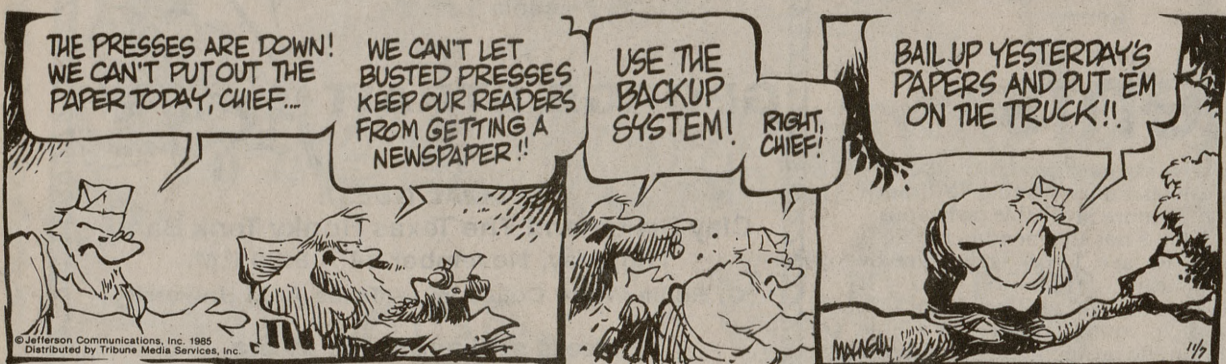


SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly

Liquor law making a stir at A&M



Soviet demands dismay Reagan

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Reagan said there is "every indication" that Gorbachev is "a reasonable man," and that gives Reagan hope he can convince the Communist Party chief at the summit that the United States has no expansionist aims.

other world leaders to agree on an international system to defend against nuclear attack.

The president said his comments in an interview last week with Soviet journalists, in which he appeared to make deployment of a Star Wars system contingent on dismantling offensive weapons, were erroneously interpreted.

Asked earlier if he meant, in

effect, to give the Soviets veto power over deployment of the proposed defense weapons system, Reagan replied, "Hell no."

Asked whether prospects for an arms limitation agreement appeared slim after the secretary's meetings, Speakes said Shultz's meetings with Soviet leaders "made some progress, but differences do remain."

Peso trade limits cause confusion

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Bankers and currency traders Wednesday scrambled to determine the impact of a surprise government announcement limiting the amount of trading in the Mexican peso currency by foreign operations.

The restrictions, announced in a press release late Tuesday by the Banco de Mexico, the nation's cen-

tral bank, appeared aimed at giving the government more control over the volatile currency which has weakened sharply in recent weeks.

They were apparently designed to clamp down on speculation in the currency by foreign banks, companies and other businesses and on the rush by investors worried by the economy to exchange their pesos for the stronger U.S. dollar.

The initial effect of the rules was

confusion. Major banks in the United States halted trading in the peso.

In Mexico City and along the border, the peso strengthened a bit on the free market after sliding Tuesday at private exchange houses to a record low against the dollar.

Private exchange houses in the capital Wednesday offered 499 pesos for each dollar and demanded as much as 516 pesos to sell a dollar.

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lier that night and had been drinking.

After the student's death in September, Carreathers said, concerned parties in Bryan made an alcohol-related issue of it and now A&M has been informed of the alcohol-sale law.

Many student organizations have been quick to cancel their Q-Hut reservations, Carreathers said. While normally the reservations must be canceled 10 days before the scheduled event, he said he is allowing groups to cancel any reservations made prior to the new information.

Next week a group from the Department of Student Services will get together and try to formulate some more sharply-defined policies for the students with the guidance of the system attorneys and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Carreathers said.

Reaction to the new recognition of this law by the students has been varied.

Residence Hall association vice president Allison Kruest RHA is staying objective for now.

"We really have to let the dust settle before we can even see the actual effects on our parties," Kruest said. "Right now, all we can do is adhere to the regulations."

Mike Stallings, fellowship chairman for Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity, said his organization has decided to try a non-alcoholic Q-Hut party.

"It probably won't affect us too much because we have so many non-alcoholic activities anyway," Stallings said, "and we're grown up enough to handle it."

"Still, it's unfortunate because most of the big Q-Hut parties will probably become obsolete now. Parties will move toward smaller, privately-funded ones for convenience. But that may not be good."

"We've always had a controllable environment at the Q-Huts with regard to drinking. People worked the doors and stayed sober to keep an eye on people. They tried to check ages as best they could and keep tabs on how much people leaving had drunk. You won't have that control at a private party."

Michele Zrno, a former social chairman for Spence Hall, agrees.

"People will be coming and going from non-alcoholic parties to buy and consume alcohol," Zrno said, "and they'll end up drinking in their cars."

"People will end up driving more to bars and clubs where alcohol is allowed. It was always tough enough to get people to the dorm mixers before. Between the people who don't come because of the lack of alcohol and those who don't come because of the assumption that no one will go, the parties will be empty."

"The government and the Mothers Against Drunk Driving want to be mothers to all of us, and it won't work."

Susan Franklin, a Haas Hall resident, said a real problem exists, but the nation is giving the wrong solution for it.

"This is simply a reflection of the national attitude toward drunk driving and problem drinking," Franklin said.

"Rather than educate people, particularly the 18-21 year old drinkers, the choice to drink is simply taken

away. That doesn't solve the real problem. At age 21, the irresponsible drinker is considered legal and then resumes abusing alcohol."

Crocker Hall has already tried to have a party without alcohol and hardly anyone showed up, said Mary Thibodeaux, a Crocker resident.

"I don't drink anyway," Thibodeaux said, "but even as a non-drinker I know some people like to drink socially and I think the school should have the right to make that choice."

Some students are afraid the no-alcohol parties will only create more problems.

Trey Cole, a resident of Dana Hall, said it could be almost like mini-Prohibition.

"With prohibition telling us what we can and cannot drink, people may drink out of spite," Cole said, "and like Prohibition, there would be more problems with people breaking drinking laws than before. People like to have a choice."

Kathy Ingram, a Haas Hall resident, agrees that people may drink to rebel, but as a whole, she says the law is a good one.

"I think it's a challenge to everyone — to have fun without having drunk," she said. "I know that's possible and I think students will disagree that, too. Attitudes need to change first, and then the rest will follow."

Carreathers also said students should see the good points of the law.

"Some people think you can't have a good party without alcohol," he said, "but at least two groups already have had successes at the Q-Huts since the word came down."



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