

State and Local

What's up

Thursday

AGGIE SPACE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY: will show the videotape "America's Future in Space" at 7 p.m. in 604-B Sterling C. Evans Library.

ATARI USER GROUP: will present a demonstration of word processors for the Atari ST and XL/XE computers at 7:30 p.m. in 102 Teague.

ECONOMICS SOCIETY: will elect officers at 7 p.m. in 125 Blocker.

MSC LITERARY ARTS: is now accepting submissions for "Litmus." Call 845-1515 for more information.

PARENTS WEEKEND COMMITTEE: applications for nominating 1987-88 Parents of the Year are available in the Commons, Sterling C. Evans Library, the Memorial Student Center and the Pavilion.

Friday

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE: will have an informational meeting from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in 161 Bizzell West for students interested in studying in the United Kingdom.

PUERTO RICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: will have a Christmas meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three working days prior to desired publication date.

Waiting time should be shorter after health center expansions

More room in center should bring about more efficiency

By John Coles
Reporter

If you haven't noticed, the A.P. Beutel Health Center is expanding — expanding everywhere.

"We've just exploded everything," says Pat Lackey, administrative assistant of the health center. "The center was a very cramped and inefficient area. Now, the center is roomier, more private and has a much more pleasant environment to be in."

The waiting area, along with other areas of the center, is being expanded, and the added room should reduce patients' waiting time, Lackey says.

"Now, the center is roomier, more private and has a much more pleasant environment to be in."

— Pat Lackey, administrative assistant of the A.P. Beutel Health Center

The outpatient treatment clinic, which sees patients from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., is also being expanded, he says.

"It's bordering on the classification of a small emergency room," he says.

He says the treatment clinic will be converted from an open treatment area to three defined areas:

- The first area will be for cuts, blisters and other minor injuries.
- The second area, an injection room, will be used only for giving allergy shots and other medication.
- The last area will be a minor trauma room for serious injuries.

The orthopedic clinic, which many students use instead of going to a high-priced physician, will be expanded as well, Lackey says.

"The expansion of this area was greatly needed," he says. "This area has about 40 to 50 patients a day."

The records department also will be expanded, he says.

Now, patient records are kept in three different rooms.

The expansion plans will combine all the records in one large room, he says, which will make finding a patient's file easier and getting the file to the doctor quicker.

The new room should reduce the time a patient must wait to see a doctor.

Another badly needed expansion was the facilities of the Texas A&M Emergency Care Team, Lackey says.

"Now, the care team facilities have more than doubled (in size)," he says.

Previously, all the care team's facilities were crammed into one room, in which they slept,

did general office work and housed dispatchers, Lackey says.

They now have separate areas for each of those functions as well as a large day room and shower facilities, he says.

Carlos Falcon, president of the care team says, "The expansion had made us feel that we are greatly appreciated."

"When Dr. Goswick (health center director) and Mr. Lackey were making plans for the expansion, they asked us what we needed and they planned optimum space for us," he says.

Robert Emmick, vice president of the care team, says, "The expansion has given us a higher sense of

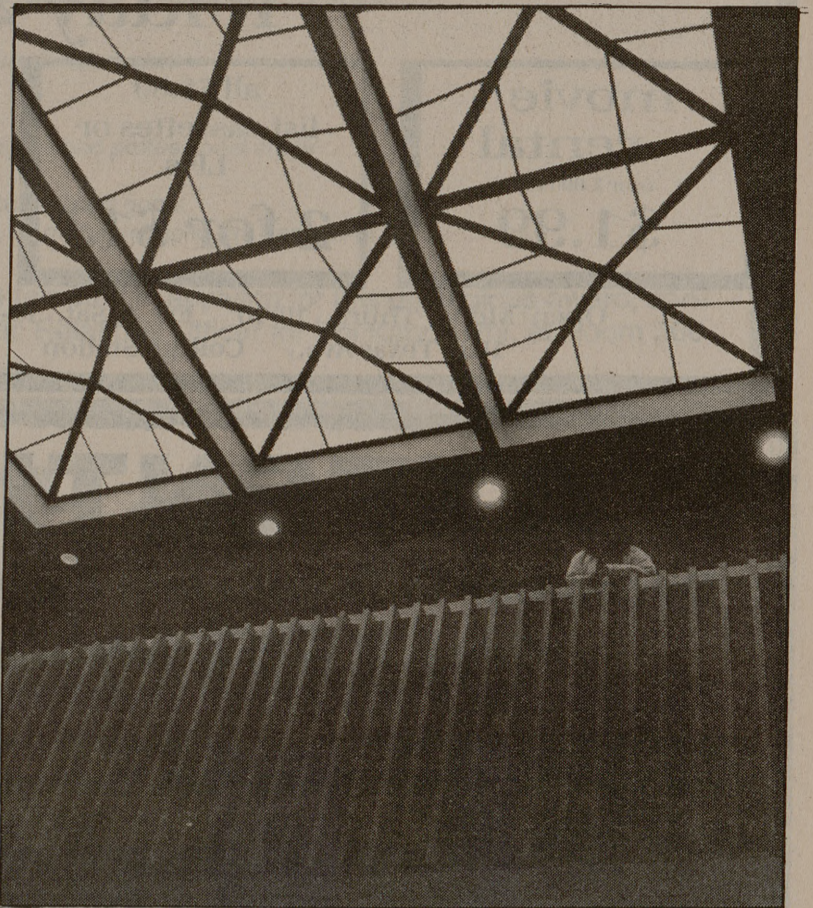


Photo by Lyn Jenkin

Reena Sinha views the expanded A.P. Beutel Health Center.

pride. We really take care of things down here and it has enabled us to conduct business more orderly."

Another new feature added to the health center is a hyperbaric chamber, Lackey says.

It is an air compression chamber similar to what a diver would use for decompression, he says.

Lackey says the center will be using it for patients with poor blood flow.

At different atmospheric pressures, the blood flows better and

enables faster healing, he says.

And, Lackey says it is found to be effective in orthopedic procedures.

The center also has created a special area just to give physical examinations, he says.

The center gets many people coming in for physical exams which are required by certain clubs and sports, he says.

He says the health center expansions should be complete by June or July 1987.

Clements says budget will have no new taxes

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov.-elect Bill Clements met with top government officials Wednesday, saying afterward he hopes to hold the line against new taxes next year.

"There are no new taxes involved," Clements said after meeting with directors of the 14 largest state agencies.

Clements and agency officials said they discussed setting priorities for writing the next budget, which projections indicate could face a shortfall of as much as \$5 billion.

House Speaker Gib Lewis and Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby also met with Clements on Wednesday, and Lewis agreed that Clements sounded a no-new-taxes theme.

"I asked him about taxes . . . and he said that he felt we can hold the

line where we are, and he's going to be asking them (state agencies) to hold the line," Lewis said.

Clements said he has directed the 14 big agencies — which are responsible for more than half of state spending — to draw up a list of priorities for their agencies based on the amount of tax revenue expected for the next fiscal period.

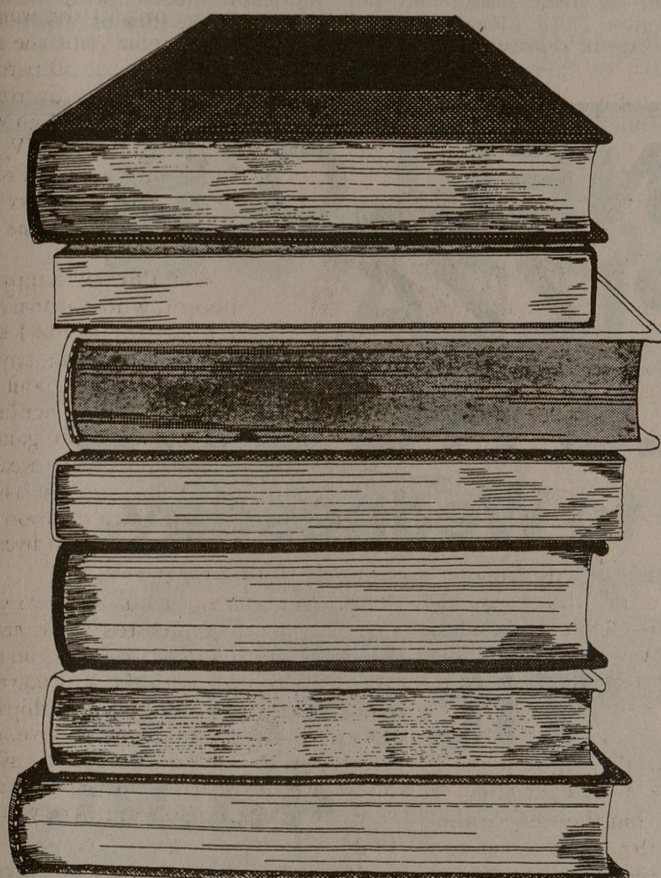
Clements said he plans regular meetings with the agency officials during his term, which begins with his inauguration Jan. 20. But before that, he said, he wants the agencies to submit lists of their priorities.

Clements also said he discussed the possibility of having the 1987 Legislature write a one-year budget rather than the customary two-year spending plan.

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