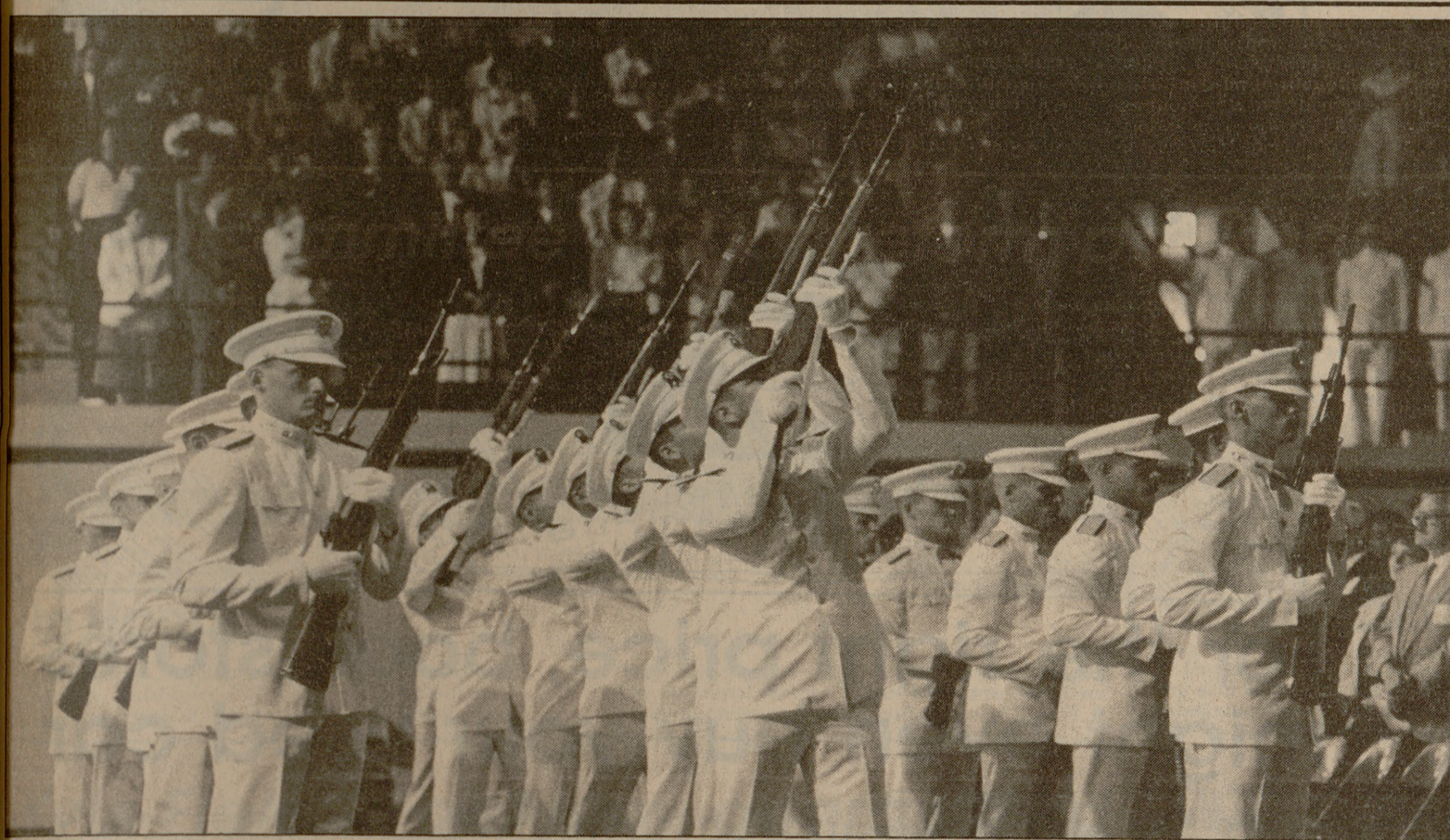


Texas A&M The Battalion

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The Ross Volunteers fire a volley Tuesday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum during A&M's annual Muster ceremony.

Photo by Bill Hughes

Annual Muster draws 8,000 at A&M Ceremonies around world honor memories of Aggies

By Staci Finch
Reporter

When friends or family members die, they are remembered with affection. But memories tend to fade with time — except with Aggies. Every year on April 21, Aggies all over the world gather for Muster and past and present classmates remember their deceased friends.

About 8,000 people, most of them students, attended Texas A&M's Muster, conducted Tuesday evening in G. Rollie White Coliseum. Many of the students came out of curiosity about the Muster ceremony.

"I wanted to see what it was all about," said Kellye Clifton, a freshman. "I think it's really neat, and I am definitely going to come back."

Other students came because they believed the ceremony to be an important tradition at A&M.

Melissa Wydra, a sophomore, said, "I think Muster is a part of A&M that everyone should experience."

Whatever their reasons, students attended the A&M Muster and listened as names were called of Aggies who had died since the last Muster. A candle was lit for each, and friends and family members answered "here" to the roll call. Cadets stood at attention and civilian students watched in silence as the Ross Volunteers paid their respects to departed Aggies with a 21-gun salute.

Speaker for the A&M Muster, Dr. Robert L. Walker, said he believes Muster is special because of the students at A&M.

"Everywhere I go," he said, "I am asked by non-Aggies what it is that makes us so special. I tell them it all comes down to our students."

"Without our students, there would be no reason to have faculty, no former students association and no one for the administration to lead."

Walker said the students are the reason people who are not Aggies are impressed when they visit the A&M campus.

"They like it when people on campus are friendly and want to help visitors," he said.

Walker said recruiters who visit A&M see a unique relationship between students and faculty.

"Recruiters are impressed because our faculty seems to care about the students and wants to

help them find a good job after graduation."

Walker said the main thing students will remember about A&M after graduation is their classmates.

"You'll remember yell practice, the Corps of Cadets, football games, the band and intramural games," he said. "But what you'll remember most is the people who were in those organizations — your fellow students. Those people are what A&M is all about."

Walker said that while the buildings on campus may change, the students of A&M won't.

"One thing about the students here is that they care about each other," he said. "That's why we have such large turnouts at class reunions. What brings people back is each other. That is what makes A&M special."

INS considers testing for AIDS in immigrants

DALLAS (AP) — The Immigration and Naturalization Service wants illegal aliens screened for AIDS when they apply for legalization and those who test positive barred from the country, an INS official said Tuesday.

Aliens who apply for legalization under the new immigration law's amnesty provisions must submit to a blood test for sexually transmitted diseases, but an AIDS test is not now part of those regulations, said William Zimmer, director of the INS regional processing center in Dallas.

He said the INS wants federal public health authorities to declare AIDS a loathsome, contagious and dangerous disease so those who apply for legalization could be tested for the incurable disease and banned if they have it.

The issue is under consideration at INS headquarters in Washington and is being discussed with the Department of Health and Human Services, Zimmer said. His Dallas office is one of four INS regional processing centers in the country.

"We feel in the INS that AIDS should be part of the dangerous and contagious diseases, but we're having difficulty with the help of the surgeon general's office in designat-

ing it as a dangerous disease," Zimmer said.

"The surgeon general has to make that call," he said.

Federal regulations exclude aliens from entering the United States on seven grounds, five of them involving health, a spokesman for the U.S. Public Health Service said Tuesday.

AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, is not now on that list, but changes are being considered in that area, said the spokesman, Ellen Casselberry.

INS spokesman Duke Austin in Washington said the INS as an agency won't take a position on the testing requirements for AIDS until the Public Health Service rules on whether it is an inadmissible disease.

"It's not our responsibility to make that decision," he said. "They're the ones evaluating it. It's their provision of the law. We certainly don't want to legalize people with AIDS."

As many as 3.9 million aliens nationwide are expected to seek legalization under provisions of a sweeping immigration reform act that became law last year, said Stephen Martin, commissioner of the INS southern regional office based in Dallas.

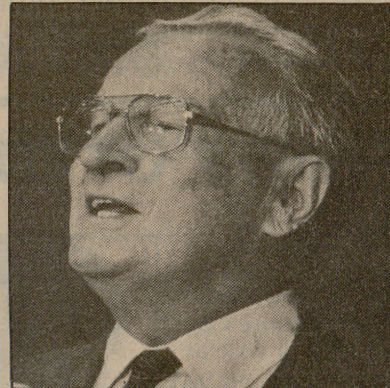
The year-long amnesty period begins May 5.

Clements denounces Legislature in speech to local businessmen

By Robert Morris
Staff Writer

Gov. Bill Clements berated the Texas Legislature for its continual reluctance to freeze the state's ever-expanding budget in a speech to about 150 Brazos County business leaders Tuesday morning at the Hilton.

Clements, who is on a 17-city tour in support of his budget proposals, which have garnered sharp criticism from legislators, said the battle lines are drawn between the fiscal conservatives on one side and budget busters in the Legislature on the other.



Gov. Bill Clements

The governor's current budget proposal for the next biennium is \$36.9 billion, an increase of \$766 million from this year's budget. The House committee has approved a \$38.4 billion budget, and the full Senate approved a \$39.9 billion proposal.

Pointing to the growth of the budget over the past four years, Clements said state government spending and taxes increased three times faster than inflation and over five times as much as the population during the previous administration.

That practice is being carried on by the "big-spender" legislators, he said.

"The big spenders are saying they want the largest tax bill in the history of any state in the United States — \$5.8 billion," Clements said. "They want a 16-percent increase above current state spending."

"I will veto any attempt to raise \$5.8 billion in additional taxes."

Despite charges by legislators that his budget proposal will reduce funding for education and human services, Clements said he is in no way cutting state spending.

"The truth is my budget increases spending \$766 million from its current level of \$36.2 billion — a 2-percent increase," he said.

Holding spending at 2 percent over its current level also would help the small businessman, a move which would stimulate the Texas economy in general, Clements said.

"70 percent of our new jobs come from small business," he said. "Small-business people are struggling, and a big tax increase would sink many of them."

"The best thing we can do for those out of work, for those in need and for our schools is to get our Texas economy moving again so we can create jobs and have the increased revenues of a growing economy."

One possible solution to the problem is across-the-board tax reform, he said.

"My preference is for a tax reform measure that broadens the sales tax base, lowers the rate and continues the current revenue level," Clements said.

The reform process already has begun, and a task force is in the development stages.

"My nominees are already in Gib Lewis' hands," Clements said. "The task force will probably be announced next week and will start to work and will have about 18 months to do its work."

"In the next legislative session that will start in January 1989, I am confident that you will see before the Legislature a broad-based tax reform."

Senate committee OKs tort reform package

By Frank Smith
Senior Staff Writer

A package of tort-reform proposals won approval from a Senate committee Tuesday, but a local lawmaker remains active in negotiations to alter the recommendations before they reach the chamber's floor.

The Senate Economic Development Committee passed the proposals, which consist of several individual bills in addition to an omnibus, or all-inclusive, tort-reform bill.

Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock, is sponsoring the legislation. Sen. Kent Caperton, D-Bryan, leads the opposition, saying the state's liability insurance crisis won't be solved through changes in the civil justice system. The two have been negotiating in the hopes of reaching a compromise, and both camps say those negotiations are continuing.

Montford and some other senators have blamed increased court judgments in personal-injury suits, along with soaring attorney fees, for the so-called insurance crisis. Caperton and others blame insurance companies for wanting increased profits and contend the problem can only be solved through reform of the insurance industry itself.

Montford's proposals may reach the Senate floor for debate as early as Thursday, but a Caperton aide on Tuesday said that barring further compromise, Caperton would attempt to block such debate.

Darryll Grubbs, legislative aide to Caperton, said the two camps remain sharply divided on several key provisions contained in the tort-reform package.

Included among the unresolved issues are provisions that would:

- Make changes in the system of comparative and joint severability in liability suits.
- Place caps on the amounts of punitive damages juries can award.
- Establish an eight-year statute of limitations for all personal-injury cases.
- Eliminate pre-judgment interest for cases not involving contract actions.

Grubbs said that under the current system of joint severability, co-defendants' liability in personal-injury suits can be quantified. For instance, if a truck driver hit a pedestrian and the pedestrian named both the driver and the trucking company as defendants in a civil suit, the jury can rule what percentage of the settlement each de-

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Research benefits companies, students

Drug studies offer way to earn money

By Amy Couvillon
Reporter

Incentive: \$40," the ad read. Julie Dominguez folded the newspaper over and looked more closely at the small print of *The Battalion's* classified advertisements.

"Wanted: Individuals 18 years of age or over to participate in our 'At-Home Cold Study' with an over-the-counter cold preparation."

As Dominguez considered her almost nonexistent checkbook balance and the bills piling up on her desk, \$40 was a whole lot of incentive.

"I might as well check it out; I have a cold anyway," she thought as she reached for the phone.

Dominguez, a junior accounting major at Texas A&M, is one of about 22,500 students who have access to *The Battalion* and have the chance to be a human guinea pig for one of the pharmacy research companies in the Bryan-College Station area.

There are two primary off-campus research companies that run ads

offering to pay volunteers to participate in drug studies.

Paull Research International in Bryan, which ran the ad mentioned above, is operated by Dr. Barry Paull and three associates. Paull is an allergist, and his practice is located in

WANTED: individuals 18 years of age or over to participate in our "At-Home Cold Study" with an over-the-counter cold preparation. Incentive: \$40.

the same office complex as Paull Research. In fact, many volunteers are sent to Paull's office for medical examinations needed in some studies.

Incorporated since 1983, the firm has researched drugs that treat allergies, asthma, colds, fever, sore throats, headaches, high blood pres-

sure and coughs. The firm has performed studies for several European drug companies, including firms in Italy and Switzerland. The project started as a way to make money. Paull and an associate were doing research at A&M's medical school.

"We were doing fire-ant allergy research," Paull says, "and we started doing these (pharmacy) studies to fund our research at the University. Now we've gone on to do it full-time."

Another pharmacy research company that originated as a result of re-

search at A&M is G&S Studies Inc. on Wellborn Road in College Station.

Dr. Claude B. Goswick, president of G&S Studies, is also director of A&M's A.P. Beutel Health Center. The research firm, however, is unrelated to the University.

G&S Studies does pharmacy research on evenings and weekends, studying drugs to treat mild athletic injuries, colds, fever blisters and diarrhea.

"We will do any appropriate study that we feel we can handle," Goswick says.

Before G&S incorporated in 1985, Goswick says the studies were conducted mainly at A&M.

"We did this same thing at the health center for many years," he says. "We didn't have our ads in *The Batt* — it was strictly a sign posted in the health center — and we still had a good turnout."

"But we took much longer to complete the studies, and it was some-

what of a hassle over there. So we just broke away from that."

Both companies look mainly to A&M students for volunteers. Paull Research advertises in both the *Bryan-College Station Eagle* and in *The Battalion*.

"We have had a lot of students," Paull says, "but we have done studies that are specifically designed for a certain group of symptoms: children's studies and high blood pressure studies. The high blood pressure study was all adults 35-55 years old. But for the majority of the studies that we do, just about all the people come from the University; we get both students and faculty."

Paull says many students volunteer just to help out, or to get treatment for illnesses they have.

But money can be a big factor. One sore-throat study Paull Research is conducting offers an incentive of \$100.

Dominguez said the advertised

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