

State/Local

Senate approves revised procedure for filling seats

The Student Senate, in their last meeting of the year, approved a policy revision allowing the Internal Affairs Committee to fill Senate vacancies through interviews at their discretion.

Previously, the Senate absentee policy prevented the Internal Affairs Committee from interviewing potential candidates to fill Senate vacancies. The revision stated that this policy led to seats remaining unfilled when they could have been filled by qualified students.

Kevin Buchman, a senior speech communications major and Speaker of the Senate, said the bill will allow the seats to be filled immediately in the case of students graduating and situations of this nature.

The absentee policy was sent to the Rules and Regulations Committee for further discussion.

Also in Monday's meeting, it was resolved that the name of the Student on the Board of Regents Ad Hoc Committee be changed to the Ad Hoc Committee Researching a Student Liaison to the Board of Regents.

"It sounds like such a technical detail, but by just saying — 'student on the board of regents' — caused problems," Ty Clevenger, a sophomore genetics major and senator, said.

Bulldozer rips pipe, explosion burns driver

FRIENDSWOOD (AP) — A bulldozer driver was critically burned Monday afternoon after a propane pipeline exploded when two bulldozers pulling grass mowers cut into the pipeline.

Bulldozer driver Eddie Martinez, 25, of Alvin, was burned over 90 percent of his body and listed in critical but stable condition at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston.

The other bulldozer driver wasn't hurt.

About 47 homes within a one-mile radius of the area were evacuated as a precautionary measure.

Friendswood Fire Chief Bill Wilcox said.

As many as 200 firefighters from five departments were called to battle a series of pipeline explosions. Officials said the bulldozers cut into the eight-inch Phillips Petroleum propane pipeline about 2 p.m. The pipe began to leak and a spark triggered an explosion.

The pipeline was cut off seven miles down the flow on one end and three to four miles on the other end while firefighters let the fire burn itself out.



Junior Cathy Langford and freshmen Tiffany Uresti and Amy Andersen scoop up ashes from bonfire Monday afternoon for keepsakes. Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Mandatory reporting requirements aim to offset farm-worker shortage

By Melanie Heldt Reporter

Producers of perishable commodities now must report the hiring of people who gained United States residency status through the Seasonal Agricultural Worker program.

The mandatory reporting is supposed to determine whether there will be a shortage of seasonal agricultural workers in the future, said Dr. Dick Edwards, an economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Producers must file quarterly reports on Form ESA-92. The first report is due Jan. 16, 1989. Individuals who were hired during the last

quarter of this year also must be reported.

Edwards said if no reportable workers were hired, producers need not file the form. However, failure to file the proper report when such workers are hired could result in fines of up to \$1,000 per violation.

The immigration law allows workers who became residents through the SAW program to be employed in non-agricultural jobs once they become legal American citizens.

The status report is necessary because of the possibility that a large number of SAW workers, once legalized, will no longer choose to be employed in agricultural jobs, Edwards said.

If information gathered through the new reports finds a shortage of SAW workers, a provision in the immigration law will allow additional workers into the country beginning in 1990.

Edwards said the naturalization process is much easier for aliens in the SAW program.

To be eligible for citizenship, aliens who are not in the SAW program are required to have lived in the United States since Jan. 1, 1982. Workers who were in the SAW program, however, only had to prove they worked for 90 days in the harvesting and producing of perishable crops from May 1, 1985 through May 1, 1986.

To become legal citizens through the SAW program, workers must document that they worked with perishable crops, which are defined as fruits, vegetables, wheat, corn, rye, cotton and soy beans, and the producer has to prove that the worker was hired for at least 90 days.

Because some of the seasonal agricultural workers are likely to seek new jobs once they become citizens, Edwards predicted that harvesting costs will increase.

"Prior to the law, there was a good labor pool that could be used at minimum wage," Edwards said. "Now we'll see the cost of employing producers and harvesters go up."

In Advance

Indianapolis Ballet to put on 'Nutcracker'

The Indianapolis Ballet will perform "The Nutcracker" at 7 p.m. today in Rudder Auditorium.

The event, sponsored by MSC OPAS, also will be a canned food drive for the Brazos Valley Food Bank. Audience members who wish to donate canned goods can bring them to the performance.

Tickets are \$12.50 for adults, \$10 for students and \$7.50 for children ages 3 to 12. They are available at the MSC Box Office.

After you've shown your folks around, show them this.



After they've seen where you eat, where you sleep, and where you go to class, show them what's going to help you study.

The IBM® Personal System/2® is the best way to show your parents just how serious you are about your grades. It's easy to learn and easy to use, and can help you organize notes, revise papers, produce high-quality graphics, and more. And if you're eligible, you'll even get the IBM PS/2 at up to 40% off.

So after you've shown them around, show them what counts.

FREE box of diskettes and diskette case with purchase of a PS/2. Hurry—supplies are limited. See the MicroComputerCenter for details.

MicroComputerCenter

Computer Sales and Supplies

Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Memorial Student Center

IBM and Personal System/2 are registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation.

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOPS

Handcraft Your Christmas!

Register Now 845-1631

Bread Dough Ornaments Tues, Dec 6 6-9pm \$12	Wooden Teddy Bears Mon, Nov 28 6-9pm \$16
Etched Glass Ornaments Tues, Nov 29 6-9pm \$12	Cutting Boards Mon & Tues, Dec 5 & Dec 6 6-8pm \$16
Stained Glass Ornaments Mon, Nov 28 6-9pm \$12	Toy Rocking Horses Wed, Nov 30 6-9pm \$16
Cross Stitch Ornaments Tues, Dec 6 6-9pm \$12	Stick Horses Tues, Nov 29 6-9pm \$14
Christmas Stockings Mon, Dec 5 6-9pm \$16	Picture Frames Wed, Dec 7 6-9pm \$14
Pinecone Wreaths Wed, Dec 6 6-9pm \$20	Cookies, Cookies, Cookies Wed, Dec 7 6-9pm \$16
Grapevine Wreaths Thurs, Dec 8 6-9pm \$18	Cookie Bouquets Tues, Dec 6 6-9:30pm \$18
Natural Nut Wreaths Thurs, Dec 8 6-9pm \$18	Edible Greeting Cards Wed, Dec 7 6-9pm \$16
Gift Wrapping & Bows Wed, Nov 30 6-9pm \$12	Fantasy Fudge & Pecan Crunch Tues, Nov 29 7-9pm \$18
Christmas Potpourri Mon, Nov 28 6-9pm \$16	Peanut Brittle & Coco Clusters Wed, Nov 30 6-9pm \$16
Computer Christmas Cards Tues, Nov 29 6-9pm \$12	Danish Christmas Bread Mon, Nov 28 6-9pm \$16
Hand-Painted T-Shirts Wed, Dec 7 6-9pm \$14	Gingerbread Houses Thurs, Dec 8 5-8pm \$25
Holiday Magic Thurs, Dec 8 6-8pm \$8	Gingerbread Men Tues, Nov 29 6-9pm \$14
	Cajun Cookin' Experience Mon, Dec 5 6-9pm \$28
	Tamales and Tortillas Thurs, Dec 8 6-9:30pm \$24

MSC University PLUS

Plant your ad in The Battalion Classified and harvest the RESULTS!



Phone 845-2611 for help in placing your ad.