

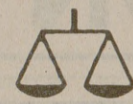
Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 89 No. 174 USPS 045360 6 Pages

College Station, Texas

Wednesday, July 18, 1990

Asbestos compensation



Court order takes step to resolve the nation's biggest liability issue.

See Page 6

University leases MSC bookstore to corporation to improve facility

By SEAN FRERKING
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M has taken another step toward becoming one of the best universities in the nation by leasing the MSC bookstore to a private firm, an A&M administrator said Tuesday.

To help improve the University, the private corporation will provide 20 full book scholarships each year as a part of its contract and the new bookstore operators also will fund four full scholarships per year.

Robert Smith, vice president for finance and administration, said the University will benefit greatly from the change in the bookstore's operation.

Smith, who was authorized by the A&M Board of Regents to conduct the inquiry into the possibility of leasing the bookstore, concluded negotiations to lease the store Thursday.

He announced Monday his selection of Barnes & Noble Bookstores, Inc.

He said he chose Barnes & Noble, Inc. because of its commitment to A&M and the company's history of success with other collegiate bookstores.

"We felt Barnes & Noble has an outstanding commitment to make us the best in the nation," Smith said. "They (Barnes & Noble) have had outstanding success with some prestigious

schools."

Barnes & Noble manages more than 200 bookstores on campuses across the nation including bookstores at the University of Houston, Oklahoma, Michigan, Tulane and Cornell.

Patrick Maloney, Barnes & Noble's vice president in charge of Western territory and Texas, said his company is excited about the opportunity to build A&M's bookstore into Barnes & Noble's "crown jewel."

"One of our top priorities is to make this bookstore the best in the nation," Maloney said. "With Texas A&M, we feel we have a unique chance to work with the best resources and people in the nation."

Under the new agreement, which will last 10 years with an option to renew, Barnes & Noble will operate the gift store on the first floor of the MSC, the bookstore in the basement, the Kyle Field gift shop and various souvenir stands during football season.

In the contract, which does not include the computer store in the MSC, all present store employees will keep their jobs and be offered competitive wages.

Also stated in the lease agreement, book prices will be the same or lower than retail prices in published book lists.

Smith said the policy for selling used books at

25 percent off the new book price will be maintained.

"It was one of top goals to see that students and faculty got the best deal possible," Smith said.

Barnes & Noble insisted on providing 20 full book scholarships each year as a part of its contract, Smith said. Four full scholarships also will be funded per year.

Smith said the qualifications for these scholarships will be determined by A&M President William Mobley and will be announced at a later date.

Maloney said Barnes & Noble also has plans for a major renovation for the bookstore.

"We plan to increase the size of the bookstore to 27,000 square feet and build a new entrance," Maloney said. "We're excited about the chance to make this the most fantastic bookstore you've ever seen."

Barnes & Noble also will create an academic reference section, Smith said. The academic reference section will provide supplemental texts in all areas of study and will enhance the status of the University.

"Right now, we don't have anything like it," Smith said. "With the addition of such a department, we will not only increase the value of the

See MSC/Page 4

Nurturing nature



Photo by Sondra N. Robbins

Tim Konderla, a senior horticulture major from Bryan, weeds some hibiscus Monday afternoon inside the Folliculture Greenhouse. Konderla is a student worker.

Electric bills 'skyrocket' unusually early

By ISSELLE MCALLISTER
Of The Battalion Staff

Summer's sweltering heat has College Station and Bryan residents paying a high price to stay cool.

Many B-CS residents had electric bills due this week and the unusually high temperatures in May and June caused utility bills to skyrocket.

This is something that does not normally happen until July and August, Cathy Stark, supervisor of Col-

lege Station Utilities Customer Service, said.

July and August are typically the hottest months and produce the highest bills, she said, but this summer the real heat came early.

Energy consumption increased because of the use of air conditioning, she said, but rates remained the same.

Vicki Reim, division manager of Utility Customer Services for the city

of Bryan, explained that air conditioning spins the meter quickly and can double and even triple energy bills.

Testing meters for accuracy in both cities costs \$25, but Stark said there is usually nothing wrong with them.

In fact, she added, if a meter is not working properly, it will usually slow down. It is very rare for it to

speed up, she said.

If energy bills are exceptionally high, Stark suggests reading the meter up to twice a day to see when the most energy is consumed and cutting back accordingly.

The energy department offers free energy audits, she said. An auditor will check the home to see where energy is escaping and offer suggestions on conservation.

Increase of high scores inspires new LSAT form Test changes begin June 1991

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

The Law School Admissions Council recently announced a revised Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) will be introduced in June 1991.

The announcement of this change, which will affect the more than 100,000 students who take the test annually, comes on the heels of a substantial change in the LSAT implemented one year ago.

Since that time, the admissions council has observed there were four times the number of test takers who received a perfect score of 48.

Judy Holze, manager of the Stanley H. Kaplan Educational Center Office in Waco, said the number of people scoring higher than 42 and the number earning a perfect score has risen.

She said, however, there are still a significant number of test

scores at the lowest ends of the scale and fewer people are scoring in between.

Stanley Kaplan, chairman and CEO of the Stanley H. Kaplan Educational Centers, said in a prepared statement. "Although there is no formula to identify and guarantee which test might be best for whom, we feel that average or above-average test takers would be more likely to benefit from the current version of the LSAT.

"On the contrary, students who are not the best test takers, might benefit from waiting, since those with below-average skills tend not to perform as well on the current version of the test," Kaplan said.

"However, we are advising all our students to review these changes with a pre-law adviser to assure them the highest level of preparedness and confidence for

See LSAT/Page 4

Philippine rescue squads lack training

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Rescuers worked Tuesday to save hundreds of people trapped by an earthquake that left 234 people dead, but the squads were hampered by a lack of equipment and the training to cope with the disaster.

The U.S. military joined the search for survivors. Japan also sent aid and medical teams.

Filipino reporters who visited areas of major damage said there was little sign of a coordinated, comprehensive government rescue operation.

Most rescuers were private citizens organized by local civic groups and lacked training to deal with the emergency. Reporters also said rescuers lacked heavy equipment such as cranes to lift debris.

The Office of Civil Defense and the Red Cross reported that 234 people were killed in Monday's earthquake, hundreds were injured

and thousands left homeless. The quake measured 7.7 on the Richter scale and was centered 60 miles north of the capital, Manila.

The military said it was unable to bring cranes, tractors and other heavy equipment to Baguio because of landslides triggered by the earthquake. The landslides also trapped hundreds of people in passenger buses, trucks and private cars.

Filipino officials and reporters who visited the city — one of the hardest hit by the earthquake — said hundreds of the city's 120,000 residents have fled their homes and pitched tents in the city's park or are living in their cars.

Eighty-two people are known to have been killed in Baguio and hundreds are feared missing.

Food and fuel supplies in the city were reportedly running low. Col. Bienvenido Licican, spokesman for the military rescue team, said the

search for survivors had to be suspended at night because there is no electricity to power searchlights.

He appealed over Manila radio stations for tools, blood plasma, medicine and doctors to care for the injured.

Manila radio and television stations appealed to listeners to contribute to a fund for the victims of the quake.

"This is developing into a national tragedy," a reporter for the ABS-CBN television network said.

President Corazon Aquino declared a state of emergency throughout central Luzon island, which suffered the greatest damage during the earthquake, the strongest tremor to strike the Philippines in 14 years.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, who visited Baguio, 110 miles to the north of Manila on Tuesday, said 50 people may have been killed in the

Hyatt Terraces Baguio hotel when the front section of the inner atrium collapsed.

"I never thought in my entire life that I could see such destruction," Ed Panglilan, spokesman for the Defense Department who accompanied Ramos to the city, said.

Townpeople lined the streets begging for food as Ramos' party drove past, he said.

A U.S. Air Force engineering team joined the search for up to 1,000 people believed trapped under 27 buildings in Baguio.

The United States dispatched a Naval engineering team and a field hospital to Cabanatuan, where at least 49 people were killed when the six-story Philippine Christian College collapsed.

Monday's quake was the worst to strike the Philippines since 1976, when a quake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale killed 8,000 people.

Candidate makes stop in Bryan

Richards talks about crime, punishment

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Ann Richards said Tuesday during a campaign stop in Bryan that Texas needs a governor "who will do more than talk about busting rocks."

Richards, who was joined by state Senator Kent Caperton, talked tough about crime and punishment to a packed courtroom in the Brazos County Courthouse.

"We need a governor who will do more than talk about busting rocks," Richards said. "We need a governor who will bust criminals."

She was referring to Republican candidate Clayton Williams', Class of '54, proposal to send drug offenders to a military-style boot camp and make them bust rocks.

Among Richards topics were her proposals to stiffen prison sentences for violent criminals, initiate alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs for those in prison and begin more extensive education for all school children.

Richards, who has served as state treasurer for the past four years, said as a woman, she has a particular interest in battling crime.

She quoted statistics saying that three of four women in the United States will be victims of a violent crime during their lifetime.

"So I want adequate police protection and I want the tough laws and penalties, including the death pen-



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

State Senator Kent Caperton joins Ann Richards in Bryan.

alty, that we have on the books enforced," she said.

Richards said that if elected governor in November she would propose laws to end parole for violent criminals and find less costly ways to punish non-violent criminals.

"Right now, we're letting out the violent ones to let in the non-violent ones," she said.

Publicly owned vacant military

bases, hospitals and schools or boot camps are less expensive alternatives for punishing non-violent criminals than sending them to prisons, she said.

Richards, however, said if Texas is going to get tough on criminals, more prisons must be built. As a current member of the state Bond Review Board, she has helped approve financing for more than 23,000 ad-

ditional prison beds in Texas.

The governor-hopeful also said she would like literacy programs and alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs in prisons in order to keep them from returning to prison.

"We are serving notice here and now that when Ann Richards is governor, we're not letting people out of prison until we have reduced the chances they'll do another crime by ensuring they can read and have been treated for addiction," she said.

Richards said another key to lowering Texas' astronomical crime rate is to educate children about alcohol and drugs at an earlier age, improve day care services for single-parent families, and appropriate more money for pre-natal care for poor mothers.

When asked about the amount of campaign money raised by Richards in comparison to the amount by Williams, Richards said her campaign ran behind financially in the Democratic primary and the Democratic runoff.

Richards again predicted victory in the final governor's race.

"We will win because the governorship of Texas is not for sale," she said.

Williams is leading Richards by a small margin, according to most of the latest voter polls.

W. Virginians enact plan for soliciting drug tips

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — West Virginians can report suspected drug dealers by filling out a coupon — anonymously, if they prefer — and mailing it to state police under a unique new statewide program.

Civil libertarians said the program would create "a paranoid atmosphere," and put West Virginia on the level of Albania, the hard-line Communist nation.

The program started on a small basis in February when the Williamson Daily News printed similar coupons on its own and invited people to fill them out and mail them to state police.

As a result, police in Williamson and Mingo County have received nearly 700 coupons listing the names, addresses or license plate numbers of suspected drug dealers or users.

Last month, federal, state and local authorities arrested 46 people in Mingo County as a result of the coupon tips. Wally Warden, editor of the Williamson newspaper, said six people have been convicted in local courts and plea agreements are being worked out in federal court for other suspects. No one has been sen-

tenced, he said.

State police announced their own, statewide program Monday.

The coupons will be available at state police detachments and will be carried by troopers in their cruisers, Trooper Ric Robinson said. They'll also be passed out at the state fair in August, he said.

Tipsters, who get no compensation, can fill out the name and address of drug users, the address of suspicious activity or the license plates of cars in the vicinity. The information can be called to a toll-free phone number, or mailed to state police headquarters.

"It's the wrong way to fight the drug war," Bob O'Brien, West Virginia delegate to the national board of the ACLU, said. "It creates a paranoid atmosphere, just the way it was in Germany in the '30s and '40s when people were encouraged to spy on their neighbors."

"It's the thing going on today in Romania and Albania," he said, "where people complained to their government about the sense of always being watched. This kind of program will not make us drug free, it will just make us unfree."