

Politics

Page 6

THE BATTALION

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

SWT student newspaper affected by slow economy

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP) — In a tough economic climate, Southwest Texas State University's student newspaper is struggling more than most.

The *University Star* relies heavily on advertising revenue, and with that quickly evaporating, it already has dropped one edition. It now publishes three times per week. The paper's printing costs, meanwhile, continue to rise.

Student fees that help finance the paper rank near the bottom among Texas' state-run universities.

A university committee increased the newspaper's budget for next year, but staff members say they will need more money to revive the lost edition.

The campus chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) is warning that without increased universi-

ty support, the *Star's* financial troubles will get worse.

"I'm not optimistic that their publication days are even going to stay at three," said Frederick Blevens, a journalism professor at the university and adviser for the SPJ campus chapter.

Interest in working at the paper is always high until students hear the pay: \$10 per assignment. Editor Sarah Evans was quoted as saying in Monday's *Austin American-Statesman*.

In a May internal audit performed by the university, the *Star's* 2000 budget was \$229,569, the second-lowest among Texas' 12 largest state universities. The university contributed about 12 percent of the *Star's* budget, \$1.09 per student, ranking it second to last among state college newspaper that received student fees.

At universities of similar size, such as the University of North Texas and the University of Texas-Arlington, student

"I'm not optimistic that their publication days are even going to stay at three."

— Frederick Blevens
professor of journalism at
SWT State

fees made up as much as 50 percent of their newspapers' budget last year, according to the audit.

Money for the newspaper, which is determined by a committee of students and faculty members, stayed mostly flat for

years. University officials decided the publication should receive only a portion of state fees because of its status as independent press, said Garrison, dean of students.

"It was never intended to be a big source of their own income base; it was supposed to be supplemental funding," Garrison said.

The University of Texas' student newspaper, *The Daily Texan*, is structured similarly. But UT's size and the newspaper's 28,500 circulation help support a \$3 million budget, said Kathy Lawrence, director of Texas Student Publications.

Papers across the country are feeling the pinch of declining advertising and a sluggish economy. Ad revenues could dip even further because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, industry analysts say.

Bentsen may run for Senate seat



KEN BENTSEN

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Rep. Ken Bentsen said Monday he is launching an exploratory committee for a run for the Senate seat held by Phil Gramm.

Gramm, a Republican, has said he will not run for re-election when his term expires in 2003.

Should he run, Bentsen, a Houston Democrat, would be seeking to take back for his party the seat once held by his uncle, Lloyd Bentsen. Lloyd Bentsen gave up the seat in 1993 to become treasury secretary in the Clinton administration.

An exploratory committee allows

Bentsen to begin raising the money needed to build a campaign organization, without fully committing to the race. A list of members of Bentsen's committee was not immediately available. Candidates are expected to need an estimated \$10 million for the race.

Bentsen, 42, had said that he is strongly considering running, even before a redistricting map approved by a state judge paired him and Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Houston. Bentsen has said the pairing is not the reason he is seeking the Senate seat. He was re-elected to his House seat last year with 60 percent of the vote.

"As a result of the recent events that have rocked our nation, I feel compelled to expand my public service," said Bentsen, in a statement issued Monday afternoon.

Austin lawyer Ed Cunningham is the only announced Democratic candidate for the seat. Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk also has established an exploratory committee. His committee includes former Govs. Art Richards, Mark White and Preston Smith and Texas House Speaker Pete Laney.

Others considered possible Democratic candidates are former Texas Attorney General Dan Morales and former Senate candidate Victor Morales.

On the Republican side, Attorney General John Cornyn has announced for the Senate.

Bentsen, an investment banker, is a member of the House Budget and Financial Services committees. He served last year as the chairman of the Democratic Caucus' redistricting arm, IMPAC 2000.

HOLE IN THE WALL SALOON

HAPPY HOUR
Monday - Friday 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Friday and Saturday 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm

DIG BEER NIGHT
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

• TIJUANA FRIES • WINGS
• 16 T.V.'S • BURGERS
• GREAT APPETIZERS

Open 11:00 am to 1:00 am Daily
At the West End of Northgate
217 University Dr.
(979) 260-0586

Looking for a challenge?

- Lead teams of skilled professionals in accomplishing critical tasks.
- Be responsible for cutting-edge systems and hardware worth millions of dollars.
- Have the opportunity for worldwide travel.
- Pursue your education with little or no cost to yourself. Navy and Marine Corps scholarships available that include payment of tuition, books and a monthly stipend.

For more information, contact the Texas A&M University Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit at 845-1775

GENITAL WARTS STUDY FOR FEMALES

Planned Parenthood of Houston and Southeast Texas is participating in a research study for external genital warts in females. A pharmaceutical company is sponsoring this 3 - 6 month study.

Participation is voluntary.

Qualified volunteers may receive related medical services, including:

- Study-related medical examinations
- Study-related laboratory blood work
- Investigational drug

For more information and to find out if you qualify, please call: our Bryan clinic at 846-1744.

Research participants will be compensated for their time.

TEXAS Party Pics

<http://www.texaspartypics.com>

Attention Campus & Greek Organizations:

Book Texas Party Pics for all of your events!

Benefits include:

- Online ordering! All party pics are posted on our website 1-2 days after the event.
- Pictures are mailed directly to you within days of ordering.
- Affordable Prices:
 - o 4x6 Color/B&W: \$1.50
 - o 5x7 Color/B&W: \$2.75
 - o 8x10 Color/B&W: \$7.95
 (prices may vary for non-contracted organizations)
- No upfront photographer fees!
- We accept Aggie Bucks at our store location!

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am-12:00pm, Friday 3:30-6:00pm.

Contact us to book your event today!
(979)-696-2470, texaspartypics2@yahoo.com
1104 D Harvey Road (located in Scrapbook Country)
College Station, TX 77840

Entry-Level Clerical Positions
(Full and Part-Time)

SourceNet Solutions, a leading business process outsourcing company, is expanding its global operation and opening an office in College Station.

SourceNet Solutions has immediate full and part-time openings for qualified, dependable employees for office work, including data entry, customer service and general administrative duties. Work schedules are flexible!

Qualified candidates will possess basic PC skills and a high customer service orientation. Please send us your resume, along with salary history or salary requirements to:

Email: recruiting@sourcenet.com
Address: 1212 N. Post Oak Rd., Houston, TX 77055
Fax: 713-548-5079

SourceNet SOLUTIONS

Golden Key International Honor Society

New Member Registration Deadline
Friday October 19, 2001
Visit <http://gkihs.tamu.edu/>

PARTY TIME RENTALS

We Rent Fun!

1816 Ponderosa • College Station • 979-696-5555

• Tents
• Tables
• Chairs
• Casino

LINENS • CHINA • DANCE FLOOR • AND MUCH MORE

Open Forum

To discuss the proposed Excellence Fee at TAMU

October 17, 2001
Rudder Theater
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Dr. Bowen invites the Student Senate, Graduate Student Council, and YOU to come learn more, ask questions, and share your thoughts concerning the need for a fee to support institutional excellence.