

# THE BATTALION

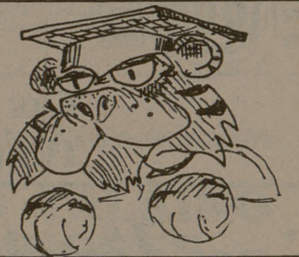
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## Wee-hour action

The A&M Consolidated School Board ended a marathon executive session Tuesday morning, missing The Battalion's deadline. Today's story on page 5 details the surprising results.



## Mardi Gras axed; police pickets joyful

**United Press International**  
NEW ORLEANS — The parades of Mardi Gras that annually draw a million tourists and \$250 million worth of income to the city were abruptly canceled Tuesday because striking police refused to provide massive security problems of the annual weeklong celebration.

The surprising cancellations, by leaders of 18 carnival parades, effectively ended Mardi Gras 1979 in the city. However, at least one of the carnival organizations, known as "krewes," vowed to parade in the suburbs and indications were that several others would follow.

Texas A&M University's Ross Volunteers and the Fish Drill Team make annual pilgrimages to New Orleans to march in Mardi Gras parades. Ross Volunteer Company Commander Glen Sliva said, "Right now, we're undecided as to what we're going to do."

Lloyd Walker, Fish Drill Team Commander, said, "We're still going. As long as we've got a place to stay and a meet to go to, we'll be going." The FDT is

scheduled to compete in a drill competition Friday at Tulane University.

More than 1,300 police officers walked off their jobs for the second time in two weeks last Friday. Since then, marathon negotiations have failed to bring an end to the strike although a federal arbitrator said Tuesday night progress has been made.

"The pace is picking up and tensions are being relieved," said Ansel Garrett. I think we had an excellent meeting and I asked both parties to return (Wednesday).

However, Garrett said moments later he was unaware of the decision by the 18 krewes to cancel their parades. He refused comment on whether the move would harm or help negotiations.

Cancellation of the parades — including Rex, the King of Carnival — came after officers of the 18 groups met and announced they would not be held as pawns in the struggle between the city and the Teamster-affiliated police group.

"We're not going to let Mardi Gras be held hostage by the Teamsters," the offi-

cials said in their statement.

Bourbon Street tavern owners, who cater to the tourist industry, were stunned by the decision.

"It's going to cost us more money than I even care to estimate," said "Little" Eddie D'Lair, a barker at a Bourbon Street strip joint. "The tourists are leary. Many of them have told me they came down for a week or two weeks, but they are leaving early. They are just scared to stay."

Dennis Corcoran, a tourist from Rockville, Ill., said he and his group intended to stay. He said they would attend the regularly scheduled parades in the suburbs and hoped more New Orleans parades would shift to the suburbs.

"We are to the point that we are going to have to rent a car and go out to the suburbs to see parades," Corcoran said. "It's the first time we've come down here and this is the first year they've canceled Mardi Gras. Parades were one of the reasons we came down — to enjoy Mardi Gras."

Striking police officers, marching the picket lines in a steady rain, showed little remorse at the decision to cancel Mardi Gras.

"We didn't cancel Mardi Gras," said one officer who refused to give his name. "The krewes canceled Mardi Gras. We'll go back to work tomorrow if they want us to."

Another officer outside police headquarters across town smiled when he heard the news.

"You're talking to the wrong people if you think we have any sympathies," he said. "They could have avoided all this if they had given us what we wanted."

Although state police and National Guardsmen had been brought in as substitutes for police, Mayor Ernest Morial said he could not allow the parades to take to the streets. He said the troopers and guardsmen were unprepared for the special problems of Mardi Gras.

Morial had canceled 10 parades on a day-by-day basis since the walkout began last Friday, but the leaders of the remaining 18 organizations said a more definite decision needed to be made.

"Nothing but harm can come to the spirit of New Orleans Mardi Gras through the day-by-day suspense of these cancellations," the 18 carnival groups said in their joint statement.

"It is wrong to use Mardi Gras as blackmail in this dispute. The same procedure can be used each year and we're not going to let our organizations be used as puppets in such a plan."

The Chamber of Commerce filed suit Tuesday to prevent Morial from submitting to binding arbitration, one of the union's demands for a contract settlement, but a state judge refused to issue a temporary restraining order.

## Chinese planes hit inside Vietnam

**United Press International**  
BANGKOK, Thailand — Chinese planes struck deep inside Vietnam Tuesday but Peking's ground forces held their positions 6 miles across the border, intelligence sources said.

Chinese troops near the Russian border alert on combat alert in anticipation of possible reprisals by Hanoi's Soviet ally, said Chinese civilians in at least two border areas were either relocated or evacuated.

Chinese news reports from Peking said, "The Chinese invasion, which began Tuesday, came in retaliation for Vietnam's strike march through Cambodia."

Chinese troops Tuesday were reported withdrawing from key areas of Cambodia because of rearguard fighting from Cambodian loyalists.

Both China and Vietnam indicated fighting was continuing, but their accounts were sketchy.

The German news agency reported Peking that Chinese troops were withdrawing, but the Chinese Foreign Ministry denied the report, and the official China News Agency issued a one-paragraph dispatch saying: "Frontier forces of the Chinese People's Liberation Army in Kwangsi and Yunnan are continuing to hit back at Vietnamese aggressor troops."

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## I don't like the word lobbyist,' liaison says

# A&M has good buddies in state legislature

**By LIZ NEULIN**  
Battalion Staff

At first, the small blackboard in his office seems unusual — out of place for a top university administrator. Most executives use desk calendars and embossed leather binders.

Bob Cherry uses those too, but the green, wood-frame blackboard is for THE System. That's when representatives of the Texas A&M University System will appear before the state Legislature to ask for money.

"I've said many times that we all work for an institution that goes broke every

year," said Cherry, secretary to the Board of Regents and legislative liaison.

On Aug. 31, the end of the fiscal year, the budget also ends. The next day, the Legislature's appropriations fund all state agencies, including universities and colleges.

The agencies prosper or perish, finally, by the decisions of 31 senators, 150 representatives, a lieutenant governor and a governor. So the lawmakers are worth the attention.

Cherry says he educates the legislators — doesn't lobby them — just like other state university liaisons do.

"I don't like the word 'lobbyist,'" he said, smiling behind his desk in the Systems Building. "I never want to appear as a lobbyist. I never want them (legislators) to see me as a lobbyist."

But ask anybody else — senator, bureaucrat or journalist — and since the sixties Robert C. Cherry has been identified as an effective lobbyist for Texas A&M. Most are quick to add that "lobbyist" is not a dirty word; they see lobbyists as information brokers who also try to ensure favorable treatment of their agency. The lobbyists' methods vary.

Bo Byers, a long-time Austin observer and reporter for the Houston Chronicle, says "an awful lot of politicking" goes on.

Sam Kinch of the Dallas Morning News says that almost all the state universities of "decent" size employ lobbyists.

The list of state universities with liaisons includes The University of Texas, The University of Houston, Texas Tech University, Southwest Texas State University and East Texas State University.

The lobbyists wine and dine the legislators, Kinch says, and they coordinate the testimony of university representatives before government committees.

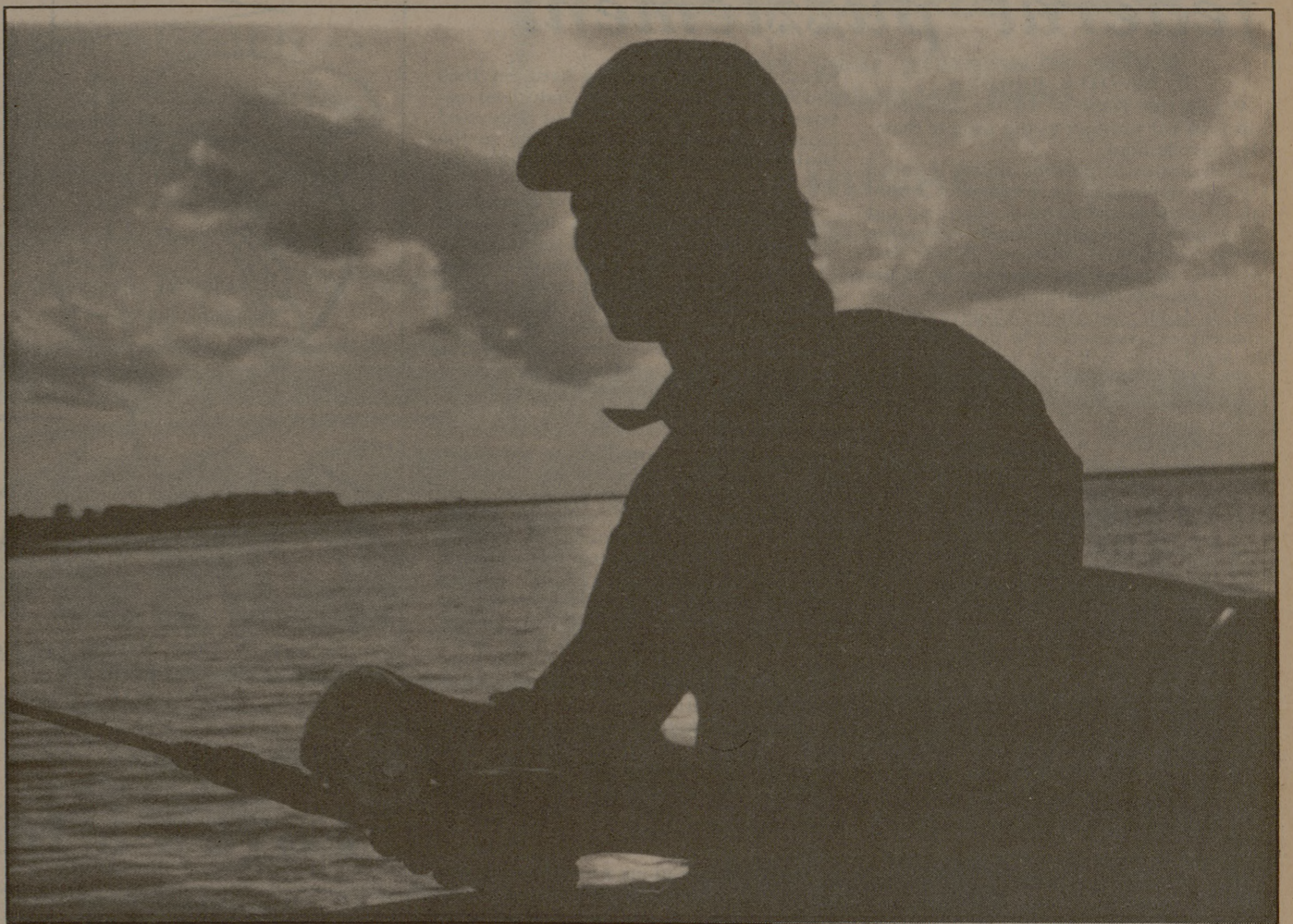
Cherry says he occasionally takes a legislator out to lunch. If they're talking and it's mealtime and they eat, he tries to pick up the tab.

His expenses run about \$1,000 during the January-May session, he said.

This year an assistant, Cliff Laywell, will help Cherry. This is Laywell's first session with the Texas A&M System, but he was legislative liaison for the Texas Farm Bureau a few years. Now he's on leave from the Agricultural Extension Service. Texas A&M does not maintain an office in Austin as some universities do.

Ramon Dasch, an attorney in the Secretary of State's Office, says the universities' legislative liaisons are not required to register as official lobbyists because they're part of the executive branch. Records show that none of the major state universities' lobbyists is registered.

Even though the lobbyists are part of the system, they are not allowed to spend state funds to influence the Legislature.



## Sunset fishin'

Rick Thompson, a Texas A&M University graduate, is joining many other anxious bass fishermen in pursuit of the wily bass as the

spring spawning season gets into full swing in the coming weeks.

Battalion photo by Larry Parker

# Academic Council lowers GPR needed for business

**By DIANE BLAKE**  
Battalion Staff

Although there is a national push to stiffen standards in business administration colleges, Texas A&M University last week lowered those requirements.

The Academic Council changed transfer requirements from a 2.5 grade point ratio to a 2.0 GPR.

Also lowered were SAT score requirements for entering freshmen, to match the requirements to the rest of the University.

The change was made to bring the college of business administration into line with the rest of the University, said Dr. C. D. Stolle, assistant dean of the business administration college.

"Our college was somewhat alone in having higher SAT and transfer requirements," he said.

The assistant dean said that 10 years ago

the college experienced a "very, very great growth" and was having trouble accommodating the boom with enough classrooms and teachers. The standards were raised to slow down the growth, he said.

But the problem was not solved, Stolle said, because students began taking business administration courses — while they were still registered in other colleges.

"The burden of counseling was on the assistant and associate deans in other colleges, and we still had the space and teaching load problems."

He said about 400-500 students will be affected by the change.

The change will not affect the college's accreditation with the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, Stolle said.

"We cleared this with the AACSB. They understand the difficulties it was creating in this University."

Stolle said the AACSB allows colleges to set their own standards, so long as the school does not graduate inferior students.

In accrediting a college, the AACSB review includes the quality of teaching, percentage of teachers with doctorates, teaching load and course content.

It also recommends a common core of business subjects and looks at the difficulty of the program — whether all students are making A's or B's.

"It is also very supportive of the professional school concept," Stolle said. This would require students to post a certain GPR for a year or two before admission to a college of business administration, similar to programs offered in medicine or law.

Some schools, such as the one at North Texas State University, have switched to a five-year program. Stolle said that in the past six or seven years, semesters have been getting shorter, and experts say more information should be included in the courses.

"Several professional agencies that deal with business administration think the five-year program is needed to get the necessary amount of knowledge," he said.

Texas A&M's program will not be changed until the new dean arrives in July — if then.

To transfer, a student should first pick up his folder from the dean of his current college.

Each student should also sign a change of curriculum form before going to the College of Business Administration office.

# Iran's new chief of staff says Americans needed to run military equipment

**United Press International**

TEHRAN — Iran Tuesday executed four more generals by firing squad and began a diplomatic campaign to extradite Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. There were indications Iran would ask U.S. military advisers and oil experts to return.

In a news briefing, Gen. Mohammed Valli Qaraneh, the new chief of staff, indicated hundreds of American military advisers eventually would be asked to return to the country to help manage the \$70 billion worth of military equipment purchased from the United States.

The equipment includes sophisticated F14 fighters and he said "we cannot do without foreign advisers" to help run them.

During Khomeini's rise to supreme power in Iran, American military advisers were perhaps the most hated of all foreign symbols and the ayatollah's camp repeatedly asserted these advisers would be thrown out of the country.

It now appeared, however, the government was softening its previous statements and taking a more practical view.

On Monday Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan named a lawyer, Hassan Nazih, to run the oil industry and indicated that foreign oil workers might be invited back to Iran. He warned that failure of Iran to resume full oil production could wreck Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's revolution.

The National Front political party demanded the establishment of both a government of national unity and a national guard to dilute the power of the army and lessen the chances of a military coup d'etat.

The Front warned that unless those measures were undertaken immediately Iran would face "serious difficulties" from internal unrest.

The country's new military leaders fired another 20 senior Air Force officers and announced that the current purge and reorganization of the armed forces was now 50 percent complete. More than 100 field grade officers have been executed, fired, demoted or retired.

In a second major move to return Iran to normalcy, schools reopened for the first time in many weeks. Khomeini Saturday had ordered 3.5 million striking workers back to their jobs in his first major effort to get the country moving again.

Iran's revolutionary radio announced the four generals were executed by Islamic firing squad at 2:40 a.m., less than three hours after being found guilty in secret trials of crimes against the people.

Four other senior generals, including the former head of SAVAK, Gen. Nematollah Nassiri, were executed Friday, bringing to eight the total number of military figures executed since the new government took power.

Government sources said moderate Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan was unaware of both sets of executions until after the event and was "furious."

The government also stepped up its efforts to try to "corner" the shah and bring him back to Iran to face trial.

A Foreign Ministry statement said the government will bring pressure — presumably via its oil exports — on any country offering asylum to the shah, currently vacationing in Morocco.



Bob Cherry is legislative liaison for Texas A&M University System. He is scheduled to meet with the external affairs committee of student government at 4 p.m. Friday in Room 502, Rudder Tower, to explain the Permanent University Fund and Texas A&M's involvement in the 66th Legislature.

Battalion photo by Lynn Blanco

(Please turn to page 5.)