

18,440
READERS

THE BATTALION

Town Hall
Tonight

Number 222: Volume 55

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1957

Price Five Cents

Aggies Edge Longhorns in Overtime For First Conference Victory, 69-67

Reno Blasts Kill Two; 40 Injured

RENO, Nev., (AP) — Three shattering explosions from a leaky gas line, followed by a four-hour fire, destroyed a business block and the Elks Club in Reno yesterday, killed at least two persons and injured about 40.

Ten business establishments were wiped out and glass from shattered windows littered a wide area.

All gas lines in the downtown area were quickly shut off.

Twelve square blocks, including the 13-story Mapes Hotel and the Masonic temple, were evacuated for fear of further explosions from pockets of the artificial gas (propane-air).

Although witnesses told of seeing bodies all over the street with "many" dead, only two bodies had been found by nightfall, five hours after the blast.

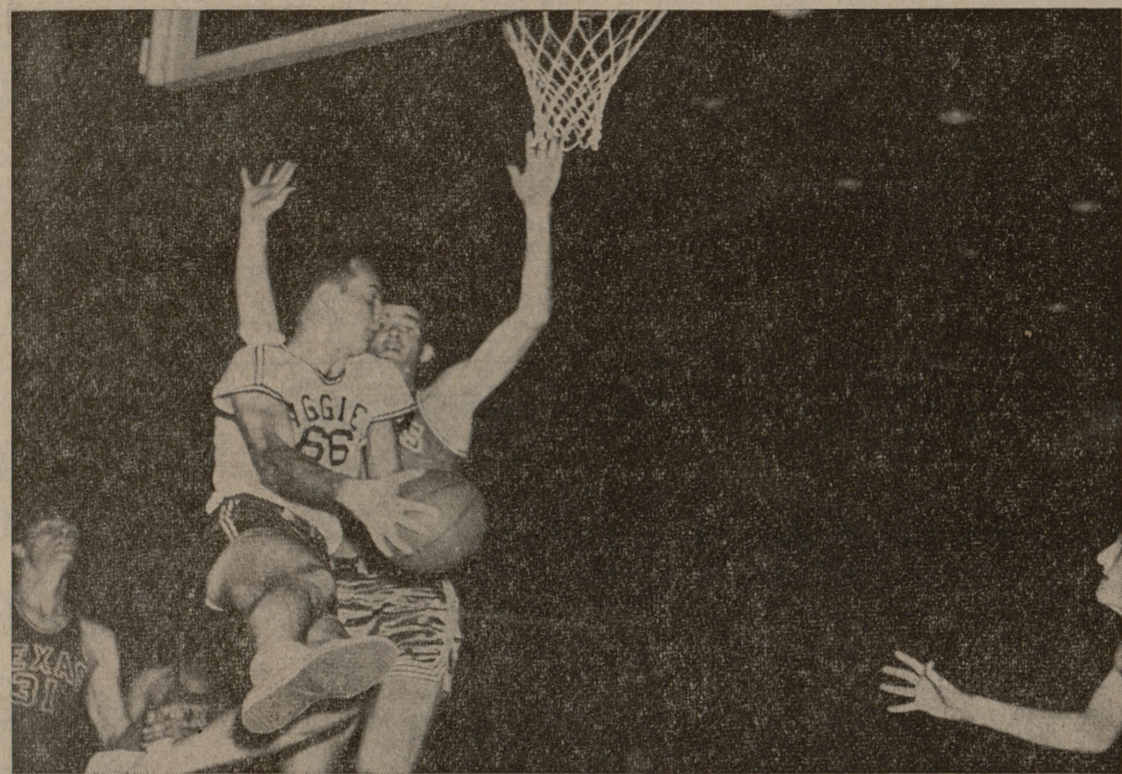
They were the bodies of Mrs. John DuPratt, about 60, member of a socially prominent Reno family who was walking along the street at the scene, and Frank Spina, part owner of a cobbler shop in the destroyed block. Spina's crushed body was found under a wrecked car at the curb.

Billy Hensel Struck by Car

Two-year-old F. W. (Billy) Hensel is in St. Joseph Hospital with bruises, a forehead cut and a concussion received Monday when he was struck by a car.

The lad had been watching some older children fly their kite across the street from his home in the 1200 block of Taurus Street in College Station, when the misfortune occurred as he crossed the street.

Hospital officials say his condition is fair and expect Billy to have recovered enough to return home soon.



A&M REBOUNDS—Neil Swisher (66) brings down a rebound in last night's 69-67 victory over the University of Texas Longhorns. Watching for the Steers is Ray Downs (31). An unidentified Texas cager tries vainly for the ball.

Corps Leader Clears Order About Room Check Policy

In an effort to explain the controversial order on Saturday morning standby inspections, Cadet Lt. Col. L. E. Sheppard, deputy corps commander, began by saying the inspections would be held only once per month instead of once a week.

Sheppard said the Corps Staff had received a steady flow of complaints about the order because it had been magnified by rumors to become much more than it really was.

Most of the complaints were from cadets who believed the inspections would be held each Saturday, rooms would have to be in strict order as for Federal Inspection and that no one could leave until after the inspection each week.

The original order read: "A standby dormitory inspection (with rifles for Army cadets) will be conducted between 0710 and 0745 on 9 Feb. 1957."

Nothing was said in the order about the frequency of the inspections or any of the questions raised in controversy. The rest of the order described the manner in which the inspection would be conducted and that unit commanders "will take appropriate

action against occupants of rooms where deficiencies are found by the inspecting officer."

Sheppard said the purposes of the inspection were to raise the level of room maintenance in the Corps and to prepare all cadets for the coming annual Federal Inspection to be held later in the Spring.

He went on to say that room arrangement will not have to be as strict as it would be for the Federal Inspection and cadets would not have to stay on the campus for the inspection as long as their room was left neat, orderly and in inspection order.

The inspection teams will be composed of tactical officers and Military and Air Science instructors.

Weather Today

Cloudy to partly cloudy skies are forecast. At 10:30 this morning the temperature was 59 degrees. Yesterday's high was 80 degrees, and this morning's low, 55.

Proposed County Law Court Questioned By Local People

By WELTON JONES
Some of the citizens of Brazos County have expressed opposition to the bill, passed by the state senate recently, establishing a county court-at-law here.

Many of these people are asking "Who drew up this bill?" They ask "Do we need another court?"

As introduced to the senate by Senator W. T. (Bill) Moore of Bryan, the measure would create the post of judge of the county court-at-law, with a minimum salary of \$8,400 per year, to have jurisdiction over all civil and criminal cases for which the county is responsible.

At present, county cases are tried in the 85th district court under an agreement reached in 1917 when certain local attorneys determined that the county judge, who is not necessarily an attorney, should not be required to decide such cases.

At the time of this agreement, however, the population of the county was less than half that of Bryan alone today. Now, the district court docket is crowded with minor cases, which must be considered along with major felonies and crimes in the district, said 85th District Court Judge W. T. Mc-

Donald. Sen. Moore introduced the bill in the state senate this session and, as is true in practically all such cases of county affairs, it was passed by that body.

Last Saturday, Sen. Moore, Judge McDonald and acting county-district attorney John Barron called an "informal" meeting of the county commissioner's court in the chambers of County Judge A. S. Ware to explain the bill to them.

Judge Ware, who said he was

Arlington Division Opening Postponed

The proposed graduate engineering division at Arlington will not go into operation this Spring, as originally planned, Chancellor M. T. Harrington announced yesterday.

Proposals for establishment of such a center, to meet the needs of industry in the Fort Worth-Dallas area, are now under study by the Texas Commission on Higher Education. No further development of plans on this project can be made until the Commission has acted on the proposal, the Chancellor said.

not notified of the meeting, was out of town at the time. Absent also was state representative Brownrigg Dewey of Bryan. Commissioners present were Ray Nolan, Precinct One; Newton Burlin, Precinct Four; and Clyde Porterfield, Precinct Three. George Dunn of Precinct Two was absent.

Sen. Moore, Judge McDonald and Barron explained the bill to the court and pointed out that the court would have to appoint the first person to hold the office until the next general elections in November of 1958.

Two of the commissioners present were said by good sources to be "for" the measure. All persons contacted denied knowing of any person being considered for the job.

In addition to the judge, at \$8,400 per year, the bill gives the commissioners power to appoint a secretary, reporter and deputy clerk for the court. Total expenses, including jury pay, has been estimated at "near \$20,000."

Judge McDonald estimated that court fees and fines would probably cover most of the expense. "At present there is some revenue from fines in the district court, but much of this money is lost due to weak

cases which our crowded docket sometimes forces the state to present," he said.

Barron agreed with McDonald and pointed out that some amendments may be added before Rep. Dewey presents the bill to the house of representatives, who are expected to pass it also.

These changes include making the judge's salary fall between \$7,200 and \$8,400 per year and appointing the present district clerk to handle the county clerk's office also.

Judge Ware presently has a salary of \$6,000 annually.

Speaker To Discuss Banking Business

Jacques A. Livaudais will tell architects how they are related to the business of banking at 8 p. m. tomorrow in the Biological Sciences Lecture Room.

Livaudais is vice president and cashier of Progressive Bank and Trust Company. He is member of several professional organizations and is sponsored by the Division of Architecture as another in a series of guest lecturers.

Mehaffey Drops Jump Shot To Win in Final Seconds

By BARRY HART

George Mehaffey dropped a jump shot with three seconds remaining to give the Aggies a 69-67 victory over the University of Texas Longhorns last night in White Coliseum in a frenzied fray that couldn't be held by the regulation 40 minutes.

Tied at the end of 40 minutes of play, 61-61, and 15 other times, the game marked the first victory for the Aggies of Coach Ken Loeffler in Southwest Conference play and their fifth of the season.

In a frantic second immediately after the final buzzer, when Ted Harrod fouled Texas' John Shaffer after Mehaffey's game-winning goal, both coaches, officials and Steer players swarmed around the scorers' table.

The Longhorns claimed a free throw (with the chance to tie the game if Shaffer dropped both on the one-and-one rule) while Loeffler argued violently that the game was over. The official time-keeper ended the verbal battle with a declaration that the foul came after play had ended, much to the displeasure of Texas' coaches, players and fans.

All five of the Aggie starters scored in double columns, with Mehaffey meshing 23 to tie the Steers' Ray Downs for high-point honors. Harrod, Neil Swisher and Fritzie Connally dropped 12 each with Ken Hutto scoring 10. Loeffler kept his starting five in the game until Connally fouled out with 1:46 left in the overtime period.

The pace of the game was set early in the evening, both sides hitting field goals the first four times they got the ball. The score tied seven times in the first 5:58 before A&M pulled away to an 18-14 lead.

Texas came right back and went ahead, 22-20, then led by one point right up until the intermission, (See BASKETBALL Page 3)

W. R. Horsley

Job-hunters Best Friend

By JOE TINDEL

Most graduating Aggies need look no farther than the Placement Office for the man who is their best friend when they need a job.

When that time comes W. R. Horsley, director of the Placement Office always seems to have an opportunity to sit back at his desk and with a smile give what help he can.

"I think that technically the basic aim of the Office is counseling," Horsley says. "If a professor can tell us something of a student's aims or goals, we can better counsel him. We find out what employers want and then are better able to meet a graduate's needs."

Since Horsley became director of the Office in 1940, he has helped build it into one of the best of its kind in the nation.

The office scheduled 366 interviews last year as compared to 293 the year before.

"This year we plan more than 400 interviews with employers," Horsley says.

The Placement director has done some work with companies to learn more of the employee training practices. During the summer he has worked with Continental Oil Co. and Boeing Aircraft. Also he has acted as consultant for Union Carbide.

He feels this kind of experience will better enable him to do his job and increase the number of interviews.

"As long as the demand continues as it has in the past there should be more interviews in the future," Horsley says.

Born in Cripple Creek, Colo. in 1902, Horsley attended Denver

Aggie Follies Outlined To Inter-Council

Operation: Coed will be the title of the 1957 Aggie Follies, C. K. Esten, sponsor of the Aggie Players who will produce the show, told members of the Inter-council Committee yesterday.

The Follies, traditionally held the Friday and Saturday nights immediately preceding Mothers' Day Activities on the A&M Campus, are sponsored by the Inter-council Committee on behalf of the four school councils.

Aside from the title, which was picked "out of the air" no concrete work on the script for the presentation has been done. The theme of this year's play "has been kicked around" Esten said. But, as the bulk of the playwriting remains to be completed, he hesitated to tell anything else about the plot of the play.

"I guarantee it will be clean, no satire toward any official of the college, just a good laugh from the students toward the students," Esten said.

In other action Chairman Fritz Landers, who presided at the meeting, assigned Dave McReynolds to the Coordinating Committee for Mothers' Day, Bill Roach, chairman, with Robert Kidd and H. S. Layton to the Publicity Committee for the Aggie Follies.



W. R. Horsley
Placement Office Director