



The Battalion

Weather
 Friday — Cloudy to partly cloudy, winds Northerly 10-20 m.p.h. High 44, low 29.
 Saturday — Cloudy to partly cloudy, winds Easterly 10-15 m.p.h. High 48, low 35.

VOLUME 61 COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1968 Number 535

Board Building Puzzle To Aggies

By DAVIS MAYES
 The building on the A&M campus that students seem to know least about is a gray, two-story house on Houston Street between the main post office and Sbsia Dining Hall.

Students walking by the building were recently asked to guess its identity, and came up with these responses:

"Oh, that's where one of the deans lives."
 "President Rudder lived there while his present house was being built."
 "I always heard the head manager of Sbsia lived there."
 Then one Aggie admitted his ignorance:
 "You know, I've been here four years but I just don't know."
 According to Mrs. Mason L. Cashion, who lives in the house and is in charge of its upkeep, the 15-bedroom structure is actually the "home-away-from-home" of the A&M Board of Directors.

THE MEMBERS like to come here a day or two before a scheduled board meeting," Mrs. Cashion said, "so they can meet informally and do preliminary committee work."

Each of the nine board members has his own bedroom, furnished with two beds, a writing desk, wall-to-wall carpeting and a private bath.

"The extra bedrooms are kept ready for any guests the members might bring with them," Mrs. Cashion said.

She noted that the building's old-fashioned decor, with its high ceilings, full-length windows and ornate wallpaper seem to agree well with her guests.

She recalled a time when one member was asked why the steep stairway wasn't replaced with an elevator.

"IF MONEY must be spent, spend it on something the students can use," he replied.

The house still has the old wooden ceiling fans (which still work) in the bedrooms, but since air conditioning equipment was installed in 1958, their use is chiefly ornamental.

One room that has been re-decorated, however, is the board conference room on the second floor. A large walnut podium and table-and-chair set are framed in walnut wall paneling and green carpeting.

Tradition has it that several mechanical engineering students actually made the handsome oval-shaped conference table, but Mrs. Cashion isn't sure.

She said it also has been traditional for the chairman of the board to take the bedroom closet to the conference room.

MRS. CASHION, of Wills Point, came to A&M with her husband in 1926. He was executive director of the YMCA until he died in 1952. Mrs. Cashion moved into the board of directors' house that same year.

"Before I moved into the house, Mrs. Duncan, wife of the food director for whom Duncan Dining Hall is named, had lived here for 40 years," Mrs. Cashion said.

Mrs. Cashion believed the front part of the house was originally built for Bernard Sbsia, food director in the early 1900's.

"Sometime in the 1930's the rest of the house was built to accommodate the board members," she said.

Mrs. Cashion seems to enjoy her work, even when board members drop in unexpectedly.

"Why, it's just like having real nice company," she said.

New Draft Law May Cut Grad Totals, Dean Says

Hall Sees Losses Of 40 Per Cent

Texas A&M, with its high percentage of male enrollment, stands to be hit harder than most other institutions unless the new draft provisions affecting graduate students are changed, Graduate Dean Wayne C. Hall observed here Wednesday.

The new Selective Service law, scheduled to go into effect July 1, is designed to draw older men into the armed forces before the younger ones and will therefore allow few deferments for graduate study.

Dean Hall said first and second year graduate students will be most affected.

A survey just completed by his office indicates a possible 40-per-cent reduction in the number of students beginning graduate work next fall. Whereas the university had 687 new graduate students this year, the total next year will be approximately 350, under present provisions of the new law.

A&M'S OVERALL enrollment also could be hurt more than that of other schools, the dean noted. With more than 2,000 graduate students in a total enrollment of 10,789, A&M has the highest graduate ratio in the state.

While the draft situation may affect A&M more than other schools, Hall said the university is far from being alone in the dilemma.

"It looks pretty gloomy for graduate study throughout the country," he remarked.

The National Security Council has suggested that graduate students studying in "critical fields"



NEW SCONA LEADER
 Pat Rehmet, left, chairman of the Thirteenth Student Conference on National Affairs, look over prospects for next year's conference with Don McCrory, who has been named chairman of SCONA XIV. McCrory was publicity chairman for last December's conference. (Photo by Russell Autry)

A&M Sailing Club Receives 3 Boats From Aggie Alumni

By MIKE PLAKE
 The donation of three completely outfitted sailboats to the Texas A&M Sailing Club may begin a new era of competition between Texas colleges, members believe.

"We hope the donation of these boats will begin something substantial in the area of sailboat racing," David Kreuger, acting president, said. "We hope to get into competition with other schools as soon as possible."

The A&M club members will begin their new racing schedules Saturday in Houston Bay. They will sail against Rice University and the University of Houston in the Mid-Winter Intercollegiate Yacht Race.

KREUGER SAID that a re-organization of the club has resulted in a need for new members.

"In the first place, our purpose is to promote interest in intercollegiate sailing," he said.

"We need a club with an enthusiastic membership. Sailing experience is not at all necessary. You need only be interested in the sport," he added.

"Eventually, we will try to form a Southwest Conference Racing Association, with races at lakes near the various schools."

Kreuger added that an additional donation of three sailboats may come in the future.

"LIKE THE present ones, they will be 14-foot Sea Larks, complete with 128 square feet of sail and a spinnaker." A spinnaker, he explained, is a balloon-shaped auxiliary sail mounted over the front of the boat. It aids in racing downwind.

The A&M club probably will make Lake Somerville their regular sailing area. "It's only thirty minutes from here," Kreuger noted. "Later, we may be able to secure storage places there for the boats."

"Each boat, including its equipment, is worth about \$1,500," he said.

IN ADDITION to racing, Kreuger said the club will have another function.

"As I said, we are also looking for people new to sailing, without experience. We will attempt to conduct training courses for beginners throughout the year."

Kreuger said that in addition to the Aggie alumni members who donated the boats, the club owes another "debt of gratitude."

"Judge Thomas Stovall and David Dominey, both of Houston, instigated the donation," he said. "Without their efforts, we probably wouldn't have gotten the donation at this time," he noted.

N. Viet Forces In Hue Citadel Hit By Jets

By EDWIN Q. WHITE
 Associated Press Writer
 SAIGON (AP)—U. S. Marine jets poured rockets, napalm and tear gas Wednesday against North Vietnamese troops holed up in Hue's walled Citadel in one phase of an American air campaign intensified on both sides of the border.

Explosives chipped at massive stonework of the Citadel, once the imperial grounds of Vietnam's emperors, in an attempt to cut a path for American Leathernecks trying to root out the remnants of a Hanoi regiment. But it was slow work.

Field reports said almost no progress was made through the 15th day of Vietnamese and American operations against the enemy force, though the rest of the city is largely cleared of the Communists who claimed it at the outset of their lunar new year offensive.

A DIPLOMATIC complication developed with the destruction of a propeller-driven U. S. Navy A1 Skyraider off Red China's Hainan Island. Radio Peking announced Chinese pilots shot down the plane and damaged a companion Skyraider they encountered over the island.

American authorities said the two strayed as a result of navigational trouble on a flight from Subic Bay, Philippines, to the aircraft carrier Coral Sea in the Gulf of Tonkin. The second Skyraider flew on to Da Nang. Its pilot was quoted as saying he had seen a parachute open after the other went into a vertical dive.

AMERICAN squadrons roared in force again over the hills around Khe Sanh, the Marine base forming the western anchor of allied defense lines below the demilitarized zone, and others knifed at North Vietnamese airfields.

Briefing officers announced U. S. fighter-bombers shot down two MIG17 jets and attacked the Kien An air base, six miles southwest of Haiphong; the Bai Thuong field, 70 miles south of Hanoi; and the Vinh field, 140 miles north of the DMZ.

Radio Hanoi said a populated area of Hanoi was rocket bombed. There was no immediate American comment. If true it would have been the first raid of the year on the Communist capital.

Aggie Debaters Set To Compete At SFA College

Texas A&M debaters look for a winning combo at Nacogdoches this week in the Piney Woods Debate Tournament at Stephen F. Austin College Friday and Saturday.

It will be the Aggies' last tune-up chance for the Southwest Conference round robin debate championship in Fayetteville, Ark., Feb. 23-24.

Debate director Robert Archer announced five club members will journey to Nacogdoches, where A&M won the junior division in 1967. A&M's squad for SFA includes Ron Hinds of Midland, Robert Peek of Jacksboro, Morgan F. Heien of Beaumont, Charles F. Stephan III of Fresno, Calif., and Raymond DeLeon of Del Rio.

Hinds-Peek and Heien-Stephan teams will work SFA and SWC meets. Archer said DeLeon, a freshman microbiology major, will observe at Nacogdoches.

Stephan, a senior economics major, is a new club member debating for the first time. DeLeon is in Squadron 9 of the Corps of Cadets.

Aggies have debated at recent Tulane, Baylor and Abilene Christian tournaments. Following the annual SWC meet, debates are scheduled at Durant, Okla.; Natchitoches, La., and the University of Texas at Austin.

Seniors To Usher At Optimist Ball In San Antonio

Twenty Texas A&M seniors will usher for a \$50 per couple Pan American Optimist Club Ball in San Antonio Feb. 24.

The ball was arranged to honor Texas citizens who have promoted HemisFair, according to Peter N. Reed, club president and 1945 A&M graduate.

In addition to ushering an expected 2,000 guests at the HemisFair Convention Center ball, the Aggie seniors and their dates will be guests for the dance, noted Robert Gonzales of San Antonio, Corps of Cadets information officer. The Skitch Henderson Band will play.

"This is a way of projecting the image of the Corps of Cadets," Gonzales added. Cadet Colonel of the Corps Lonnie C. Minze of Houston, deputy commander Pat Rehmet of Alice and Gonzales selected 20 outstanding seniors for the event. They will be in Class A winter uniform, boots, white shirt and black bow tie.

Reed, who studied aerospace engineering and management at A&M, is board chairman and production manager of Reed Candle Company in San Antonio. Two of his three sons are A&M students. Michael is a junior history major and Air Force ROTC cadet in Squadron 11. A sophomore management major, David is an Army ROTC cadet in Company F-1 of the Corps.



THE SPINNAKER IS FULL
 The Texas A&M Sailing Club recently received a donation of three sailboats of this type from Houston area Alumni members. The boats, with the conventional sail and the auxiliary spinnaker (the balloon-shaped sail across the bow of the boat, used in sailing downwind), are worth approximately \$1,500 apiece.

New EE Prof Improves Design Of Infant Heart Testing Device

A new electrical engineering faculty member at Texas A&M is working to improve his design of a machine to record heartbeats of unborn infants.

More specifically, his machine is designed to indicate the condition of the fetal heart.

Dr. Thomas Rhyne, who received his Ph.D. last year from Georgia Tech, became interested while a graduate student in developing instrumentation involved in taking electrocardiograms.

Impressed by the need for improved equipment for recording the impulses of heartbeats of infants prior to birth, Rhyne undertook the design and construction of a practical fetal electrocardiograph as a research task.

HIS RESEARCH advances add to machines already in use to aid obstetricians. Devices are in common use which allow physicians to determine if the unborn baby is alive, if breached birth is likely, and if there is to be a multiple birth.

Dr. Rhyne overcame a sizeable problem of distinguishing between the pattern of the infant's heartbeats and those of the mother. He surmounted the difficulty with a process in which the complexes may be separated, thus giving a clear indication of the condition of the developing fetal heart.

To construct an instrument of practical size and relative simplicity, Rhyne used integrated circuits mounted on printed circuit cards.

DURING THE spring semester the assistant professor will teach electronic computer design classes. And he plans to build an improved model of his digital FECG signal enhancement system, with hopes of incorporating the work into A&M research assignments.

Dr. Rhyne, graduate of La Marque High School and Mississippi State University, worked three years as a NASA aerospace technologist. He was an electrical

SCONA Sets Group Photo

The 1968 AggieLand photograph of the Thirteenth Student Conference on National Affairs committee members will be taken in front of the Memorial Student Center at 8 p.m. Monday, SCONA XIII Chairman Patrick G. Rehmet announced.

Uniform for Corps members will be Class A winter. Midnights and boots may be worn. "Civilian students should wear suits," Rehmet said.

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