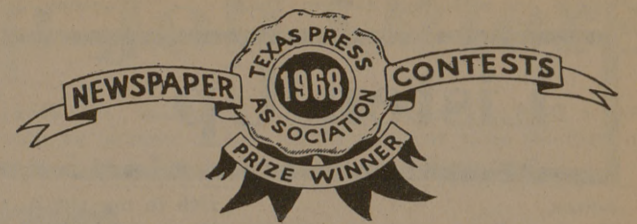




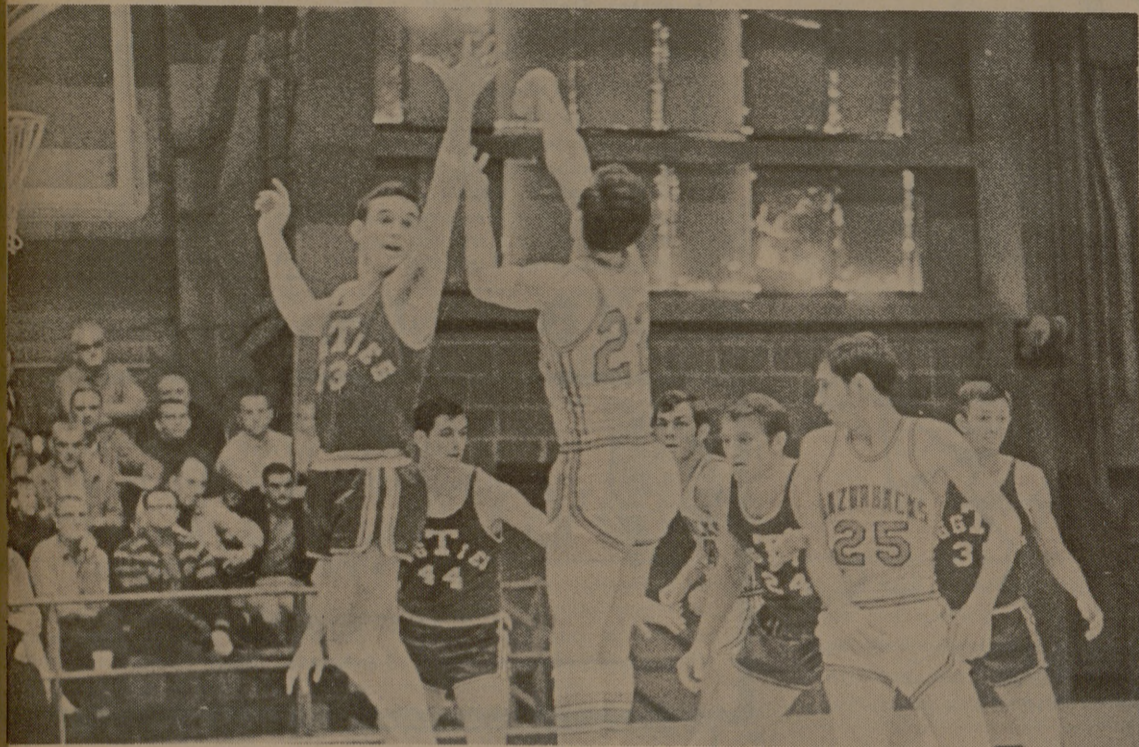
# The Battalion



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A SECOND LATE

Razorback sharpshooter Benton Cone (22) lifts a jump shot over the outstretched hand of A&M guard Sonny Benefield for two of his 11 points in the Aggies' 73-68 triumph in Fayetteville Saturday. The Cadets test their 2-0 conference mark at SMU tonight. (Photo by Mike Wright)

## LBJ's State Of Union Message To Ask Surcharge Extension

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson is expected to outline his analysis of the State of the Union in broad terms tonight and defer recommendations for specific legislation to his successor.

Close associates of the outgoing President say the only exception in his farewell address to a joint session of Congress, and to the nation via television and radio, will be to recommend that the 10 per cent income tax surcharge be extended.

BY DOING so he can include the \$13 billion annual revenue produced by the surcharge in his budget for fiscal 1970, and thus show a small surplus when he sends his last breakdown on government spending to Congress Wednesday.

Johnson and President-elect Nixon have been maneuvering for two weeks over the issue of extending the tax, approved for one year by Congress as a check on an overheated economy and due to expire June 30.

THE PRESIDENT, reported to believe that the tax was still needed to combat inflation, tried to get Nixon to join him in a public statement advocating extension. Nixon, who had criticized the tax surcharge during the campaign, demurred.

But after it became known Monday that Johnson would recommend continuation of the surcharge, with or without Nixon's endorsement, he apparently got private assurances of support from the president-elect.

Aides of Nixon said in New York that he would make a statement immediately after Johnson's State of the Union message, and indicated he would endorse the President's decision. There was no indication, however, that he would give the surcharge the whole-hearted support that Johnson wanted.

IN HIS ADDRESS tonight, Johnson is expected to speak in broad, general terms of a necessity for revitalizing the nation's cities as a means of attacking the root of discontent that has

led to racial rioting in many slum areas and to violent demonstrations by many college and university students.

What Johnson will say about status of the war in Vietnam, or the lack of progress at the Paris peace talks, remained a closely guarded White House secret.

There was speculation that he would be able to forecast a schedule of withdrawal of American troops from South Vietnam. But the rumors, which originated in Saigon, were denied Monday by the State Department. "I know of no proposal by the United States to be announced this week of phased withdrawal of American forces," said State's official spokesman, Robert J. McCloskey.

## Buser To Join San Antonio Industrial Firm

Joe Buser, special assistant to A&M President Earl Rudder, has been named director of advertising and public relations for DPD Manufacturing Company of San Antonio, effective at the end of January.

Buser said that he regretted leaving because "after spending ten years here you develop a deep affection for A&M."

"My small part to assist President Rudder develop a university of real excellence is a source of great satisfaction," the 1959 A&M graduate noted.

"The challenges of joining bright, young men in a growing business venture and the exceptional opportunities for personal and professional development combine into a call I must heed," Buser said.

"We deeply regret the loss of this young man," Rudder said. "He has contributed much to this office and Texas A&M. My best wishes go with him."

occasions represented President Rudder in Student Senate meetings. There he defended the administration's ban on political candidates speaking on campus before an election.

Buser joined the university staff in 1962. He served as publications editor, assistant director of information, assistant director of the Association of Former Students and editor of the Texas Aggie before his assignment to the President's Office in 1968.

While at A&M, Buser was on the Battalion staff four years, serving as editor in 1958-59. He also was a member of the Student Senate, and was listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

The six-year-old-company Buser will join is one of the leading producers of air-conditioners for Volkswagens. It did in excess of \$1 million in business last year through U.S. and overseas dealers.

"Buser is slated for a key role in our company as we embark on a rather dramatic growth program to increase sales, develop new products and make acquisitions," Dick P. Dixon, president of the corporation, said.

Buser and his family will continue to live in College Station. He will open a branch office for the company in the Bryan Building and Loan Building.

## Semester Schedule Change Could Come By Fall Of '70

By DAVID MIDDLEBROOKE

Battalion Staff Writer  
A fall semester in which final exams are over before the Christmas break could become a reality here by the fall of 1970.

The idea, according to Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Horace R. Byers, had been considered by the University Executive Committee for the fall of 1969, but unanswered questions forced postponement.

"I've always been in favor of the idea," said Byers. "I hope that by the fall of 1970 we will have a schedule of that kind."

AS A RESULT of the problems encountered, the official university calendar for the 1969-70 school year will be similar to the current one.

According to Byers, the idea is favored by both faculty and stu-

dents. It would eliminate having the Christmas break near the end of the semester, something Byers called a "disruptive influence."

One of the difficulties involved is getting enough class days into the semester. In order for A&M to remain accredited as a university, noted Byers, the semester must have at least 75 class days.

This would require starting the semester before Sept. 1 or reducing the length of time for final exams.

STARTING before the first of September carries its own set of problems. The first of these is the fact that the state of Texas starts its fiscal year on Sept. 1.

Another is the fact that many student and faculty summer jobs and activities are scheduled to end on Aug. 31. Combined with that are apartment leases, which

commonly start on Sept. 1.

"None of these problems is insurmountable," commented Byers. "It's just a matter of working all the little things out."

"THE COORDINATING Board for Higher Education has already suggested that universities arrange to eliminate a Christmas break," Byers continued.

"They would like to see all universities propose a calendar that would eliminate the break. Then they could recommend a common calendar for all the schools."

An obvious advantage of the new system would be a spring semester that began and ended sooner. Upon returning from Christmas break, students would have a fresh semester ahead of them, one that would probably end around the middle of May.

"I HOPE that we and all the universities in the state can go with the plan by the fall of 1970," remarked Byers. I know the Coordinating Board would be glad to see it, and I'm sure the majority of people here would, too."

"A&M is characterized by progress," he concluded. "We never make changes for the sake of change, however. After all the problems have been considered and worked out, I'm sure the new system will be adopted. I feel that we have a good chance of beginning it in the fall of 1970."

## 3 Directors Renamed By Gov. Connally

Three members of the Texas A&M University System Board of Directors have been reappointed by Gov. John Connally.

Reappointed for six-year terms were Board President L. F. Peterson of Fort Worth, Ford D. Albritton Jr. of Bryan and Dr. A. P. Peterson of Lake Jackson.

Peterson, a petroleum engineering consultant and independent oil operator, joined the board in 1963. He was elected president in 1967.

Albritton, former president and board chairman of Albritton Engineering Corp. now engaged in oil and investments, will be serving his first full term. He was named in June to fill the unexpired term of Gardiner Symonds of Houston.

Beutel, also appointed to the board in 1963, is vice president of Dow Chemical Company and a member of the firm's board of directors and executive committee.

Both Peterson and Albritton are A&M graduates.

Terms for the three men expire Jan. 10, 1975.

Other members of the board are Wofford Cain of Dallas, Sterling C. Evans of Houston, H. C. Heldenfels of Corpus Christi, Peyton McKnight of Tyler, Clyde H. Wells of Granbury and S. B. Whittenburg of Amarillo.

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## Albritton Named Exes President

Ford D. Albritton, president of the Association of Former Students took the reins of the 50,000-member organization this month. Leadership of the mammoth former students group passed to Albritton from Jeff Montgomery of Houston on January 1.

## Art Series Sets Lecture Tonight By UK Architect

University of Kentucky architecture professor Herb Greene will give a Contemporary Arts Lecture here tonight on "Architecture of People."

The 8 p.m. presentation will be in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom, announced Tommy Ellis of LaPorte, committee chairman.

Greene's visit is co-sponsored by the MSC and Temporary Arts Committee and School of Architecture.

He will serve Tuesday morning as a visiting architecture critic on refinery plant projects of third year design students, noted Ed Romieniec, School of Architecture chairman. Robert Nichols, director; Richard Vrooman, Anthony Caporina and J. W. Wood instruct third year design.

## Final Exam Schedule

Date	Hour	Series
Jan. 17, Fri.	8-11 a.m.	Classes MWF8
Jan. 17, Fri.	1-4 p.m.	Classes MWF12
Jan. 18, Sat.	8-11 a.m.	Classes TTh8F1
Jan. 20, Mon.	8-11 a.m.	Classes MWTh2
Jan. 20, Mon.	1-4 p.m.	Classes MWF9
Jan. 21, Tue.	8-11 a.m.	Classes M3TTh10
Jan. 21, Tue.	1-4 p.m.	Classes TF2 or TThF3
Jan. 22, Wed.	8-11 a.m.	Classes MWF10
Jan. 22, Wed.	1-4 p.m.	Classes TTh12
Jan. 23, Thur.	8-11 a.m.	Classes M4TTh11
Jan. 23, Thur.	1-4 p.m.	Classes MWTh1
Jan. 24, Fri.	8-11 a.m.	Classes TTh9F2
Jan. 24, Fri.	1-4 p.m.	Classes MWF11
Jan. 25, Sat.	8-11 a.m.	Classes TF1

Final examination in courses with only one theory hour per week as shown in the catalogue will be given at the discretion of the department head concerned at the last meeting of either the theory or practice period before the close of the semester.

## MIT's Machine Shocks Schach

"Blue Monday" prevailed around the Data Processing Center here yesterday in wake of Schach's double header loss to MIT's Mac Hack Six.

Schach is A&M's chess-playing computer program. Mac Hack Six is the undisputed world champion.

"The thing (Schach) played the way it was told," lamented Air Force Capt. Rolf C. Smith Jr., one of two computer science graduate students who created Schach, "but a lot of things it was told were wrong."

Smith, of Escondido, Calif., said he and his partner, Air Force Capt. Franklin D. Ceruti of New York City, felt Schach played better Sunday than during its first trouncing by Mac Hack Six in November.

"We simply had more problems with the program than we thought," Smith noted. "We found most of them after the match—too late."

Not ones to give up easily, Ceruti and Smith hope to challenge the Massachusetts Institute of Technology kingpin once more before they head for assignments in Vietnam and Thailand.

Both men are scheduled to receive master's degrees Saturday. They are attending A&M through the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Schach, which means chess in German, is roughly the equivalent of the two men's theses. They have devoted more than 1,200 man-hours to the project during the past 10 months.

## Civilian Plan Shows Progress—Cooper

The pilot civilian hall program aimed at strengthening civilian student involvement on campus has "hit the ground running," said Ed Cooper, recalling fall semester activities.

Initiation of the pilot project last September followed Cooper's first year as director of the new civilian student activities office which laid the groundwork for the program.

COOPER'S co-worker with students is Howard Perry, resident hall adviser.

University officials established the pilot program in three dormitories after civilian spirit was determined "not up to par." Programs in the halls—Walton, Leggett and Davis-Gary—are already paving the way for other halls to start similar programs.

Lounge facilities in Walton and Leggett halls have given rise to game nights and plans are under way for forum talks in the halls. A Bible class is taught on Monday nights in Walton.

"THE PROGRAM has been very well accepted by students living in the halls," said Perry. He noted two halls have selected names and coats of arms. They are the Walton Warriors and Leggett TRYELL.

Perry pointed out all three halls have held several receptions and each has had a formal banquet.

"It appears we accomplished quite a bit in building a spirit of unity, or cohesion," Perry emphasized.

A GOOD SIGN, he said, is that "they brag a bit about what they

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have done. There's a little jealousy between pilot halls."

Perry added, "The bonfire is a good barometer. There was more participation this year than any other year by civilians."

In the past, students often moved between dormitories from year to year.

"I'VE SEEN some students that changed every semester," Perry commented, adding he hoped freshmen "will now want to stay in the same hall the full four years."

Cooper believes making the halls attractive to students, "they will find it home and something to which they can tie themselves."

Both Cooper and Perry noted that "some halls have already started 'recruiting' to replace those graduating."

"SOME STUDENT leaders are talking about recruiting from high schools for their individual halls," he said, noting that "if they come to a hall of course, they will come to A&M."

The pilot program will be over at the end of the spring semester. Participating halls will enter into a regular residence hall program in September.

Already anticipated, however, is the addition of four more halls into the program as full-pledged members.

"PARTICIPATION, however, will 'be dependent upon the consent of the residence hall members," Perry emphasized.

"Within a few years we hope to have all 17 halls within a residence hall program," he continued. "But it does not mean that all halls will have a club as do the pilot halls."

The club is a vehicle by which hall students carry on all activities, initiated and administered by students.

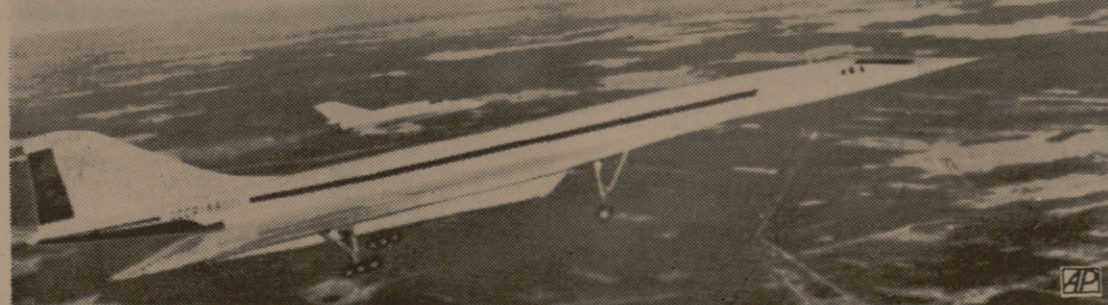
Cooper noted "just organization itself is taking a great deal of time, but I think we ought to be in better shape next fall."

Delegates from the halls will attend their first state convention of the National Association of College and University Resident Halls later this month at Texas Tech.

## WEATHER

Wednesday — Cloudy. Inter-mittent rain. Wind Southerly 10 to 20 mph. High 66, low 54. Thursday—Cloudy. Rain showers. Wind Southerly 15 to 25 mph. High 71, low 53.

University National Bank "On the side of Texas A&M. —Adv.



NEW SOVIET PASSENGER PLANE ALOFT

The new Russian passenger plane, called the TU-144, is escorted by a jet fighter during test flight in Soviet Union. Russian sources say plane can fly at speeds of 1,500 miles per hour at 60,000 feet. (AP Wirephoto via cable from Moscow)