

# The Battalion

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## Senators May OK Electoral Reforms

By John Chadwick  
Associated Press Writer  
WASHINGTON (AP)—A new attempt will be made after Congress reconvenes Jan. 19 to shake loose from the Senate Judiciary Committee a constitutional amendment providing for the election of the president by direct, popular vote.

It was put at the top of the Judiciary Committee's agenda last August but then was shunted aside during the battle over the Supreme Court nomination of Judge Clement F. Haynsworth Jr. Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., the amendment's chief sponsor in the Senate, blamed what he termed "the obstructionist tactics of opponents of direct election." This was after Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., objected to the committee sitting while the Senate was debating the big tax reform bill. However, the committee did agree to take up the amendment

for discussion, but not necessarily to vote on it, at a meeting this month. No date for the meeting has been set by Chairman James O. Eastland, D-Miss. Eastland, like Thurmond, is opposed to the direct election plan and favors a rival amendment under which presidential electors would be chosen by districts corresponding to congressional districts, except that each state would elect two at-large. Sen. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, the Senate Republican leader and a member of the Judiciary Committee, also favors

the district plan. Further contributing to a division within the committee are other members who advocate a plan under which each state's electoral votes would be divided among the presidential candidates in proportion to the popular vote they received. Under the present winner-take-all system, a state's entire electoral vote is allotted to the candidate that wins a majority of the popular vote. A candidate has to obtain a majority of the national electoral vote to be elected. Bayh looks for a close vote in the Judiciary Committee but maintains the direct election plan can win—if it can be brought to a vote. However, it could run into more delays, just as it did in the last session of Congress. Once again the committee could get bogged down in dispute over a Supreme Court nomination, which Nixon is expected to submit shortly after Congress reconvenes. And hanging over the committee is a directive from the Senate that it act by March 1 on controversial voting rights legislation.

## Diebel: Pay Old Bills, Then Fees for Spring

A&M students with delinquent university bills will not be allowed to complete spring semester registration, university officials announced Wednesday.

Diebel noted the debts include library fines, bad checks and charges for library books, physical education equipment and laboratory supplies and equipment.

"We sent bills to the students shortly after each debt was incurred, followed up with notices and then with letters," the controller explained. "Too often, the correspondence was ignored."

## VISTA Recruiters Here Next Week

The Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) will conduct a recruiting drive next week on the A&M campus, according to Cathy Cummins, VISTA public affairs coordinator.

VISTA seeks candidates over twenty years old who will be available for service within one year. Selection is based upon skills, experience, maturity, and initiative. Although most VISTA volunteers are still selected with general skills, present program needs call for those skilled in law, architecture, city planning, health, and business.

Volunteers are usually assigned to work in teams led by full-time supervisors. These teams often include local indigenous volunteers who are already familiar with the needs and problems of the community.

A VISTA booth will be set up in the post office area of the Memorial Student Center, Mrs. Cummins said, with VISTA representative Martha Donez and a VISTA volunteer on hand from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily to handle recruiting and answer questions.

Once needs are established, volunteers work with local residents to determine ways in which the community can begin to solve its own problems. VISTAs provide some of the knowledge and skills necessary to the achievement of community goals, whether they be in the area of home improvement, nutrition and health care, employment, or education.

Two films dealing with poverty in the United States will be shown from 4-9 p.m. Jan. 16 in the room 3-C of the MSC, Mrs. Cummins said.

Each volunteer receives six weeks of intensive training prior to his assignment, including field experience in the area where he will serve. VISTAs receive no salary—only a minimum monthly living allowance and stipend.

One film, titled "Goodbye and Good Luck," concerns itself with black power, while "Remedy for a Riot" is about racial and economic problems that lead to rioting, the VISTA coordinator said.

Sponsored by local agencies, both public and private, over 7,000 volunteers serve in forty-nine states, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and Guam.

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"On the side of Texas A&M."  
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**CHUMMY CHEETAHS**  
In Nairobi, Kenya, Sunday drivers often ride over to the nearby game reserve to look at the animals, who, in turn, often stroll over and look at the people and admire their cars. (AP Wirephoto)



**COOL HIKE**  
Texas A&M Semper Fidelis Society members picked a cold day Wednesday for a hike, but they made the evening jaunt out to the West By-pass a quick one, double-timing most of the way. The Semper Fidelis Society is primarily composed of students participating in the Marine Corps' Platoon Leaders Class (PLC) program for commissioning following graduation.

## Not a Pair of Comedians It 'Takes a Thief' to Do It

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—If an armed robbery can be funny, San Antonio had a funny robbery, police related Wednesday. Two gunmen held up the Gateway Hotel in the downtown area Tuesday night. One of them fired a warning shot, frightening the other gunman, who fled. The remaining bandit ordered the night manager, Ralph Jordan, 56, to open the safe. Jordan said that only the owner, William Hogan, 48, could open it. The gunman ordered Jordan to call Hogan. Hogan came to the hotel, and was robbed of his wallet and watch. Hogan said only clerk Luis Jimenez could open the safe. Jimenez was called, and he lost

his cash when he showed up. He also opened the safe. Unsuspectingly, S. Sgt. Clayton Counts, 32, of Lackland Air Force Base entered the hotel to make a telephone call. The gunman robbed the sergeant. Then the robber ordered Jordan, Hogan, Jimenez and Counts into Hogan's car. He told Hogan to drive around San Antonio in a search for the other gunman and the getaway car. After about 20 miles, the gunman stopped the car to make a telephone call from a pay phone booth. Hogan jumped from the car and fled. But he fell on an icy spot,

breaking his arm. Fortunately, he fell in front of a cruising police car. Patrolman Neal Mitchell said he saw Hogan running toward his cruiser and thought Hogan was drunk when Hogan fell. But the other hostages began yelling, and Mitchell hurried to their aid. The bandit fled into some nearby brush. Mitchell radioed for help and Mike the police dog arrived and sniffed out a man who had \$3,000 on him—the approximate amount taken from the men and hotel. Charges of robbery by assault with firearms were filed several hours later against Anthony C. Young, 22, of San Antonio.

## Finals Schedule

Final exams for the fall semester, 1969, will be held Jan. 16-24 according to the following schedule:

Date	Hour	Series
Jan. 16, Friday	8-11 a.m.	MWF8
Jan. 16, Friday	1-4 p.m.	MWF12
Jan. 19, Monday	8-11 a.m.	TTh8F1
Jan. 19, Monday	1-4 p.m.	MWTh2
Jan. 20, Tuesday	8-11 a.m.	MWF9
Jan. 20, Tuesday	1-4 p.m.	M3Th10
Jan. 21, Wednesday	8-11 a.m.	TF2 or TWF3 or TThF3
Jan. 21, Wednesday	1-4 p.m.	MWF10
Jan. 22, Thursday	8-11 a.m.	TTh12
Jan. 22, Thursday	1-4 p.m.	M4Th11
Jan. 23, Friday	8-11 a.m.	MWTh1
Jan. 23, Friday	1-4 p.m.	TTh9F2
Jan. 24, Saturday	8-11 a.m.	MWF11
Jan. 24, Saturday	1-4 p.m.	TF1

**NOTE:** Final examinations 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.

## Valor Award, Feedback on Senate Agenda

A report on Operation Feedback and a commendation for valor will be part of the agenda for tonight's meeting of the Student Senate.

The first item under old business at 7:30 p.m. in the University Library conference room will be a report on the findings of

new items will be a resolution commending Jim Blackley, a part time student and campus security officer, for valor. Blackley saved the lives of Mrs. David Harrigan and her five-week-old son when their Bryan apartment caught fire during the Christmas holidays. Caperton also said that there will be a formation of a senate committee to look into procedures for procuring campus speakers.

## Aggie - Exes Give \$100 To Steinmark

AUSTIN (AP)—Texas safety Freddie Steinmark, who helped beat Texas A&M on the football field, has received \$100 from a group of Aggies for the trust fund started for Steinmark after his leg was amputated because of cancer.

Also under old business will be a report by Mark Powell, public relations chairman, on the possibility of reopening the museum that used to be on campus, he said.

Kent Caperton, senate vice president, said that one of the

The University of Texas Ex-Students' Association said the \$100 was donated by the A&M Club of Tyler-Smith County.

"We feel that Fred's personal and athletic character is a credit to the entire Southwest Conference, and our club joins you in the hopes and prayers for his recovery," wrote James Minstead of Tyler, president of the Aggie club.

Steinmark, who played all the 10 regular season games for the national champion Longhorns, is an outpatient at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston.

**WEATHER**  
Friday — Partly cloudy. Wind North 10 to 15 m.p.h. High 39, low 26.  
Saturday—Cloudy. Wind East 10 to 15 m.p.h. High 41, low 31.



**WOMAN TRUCK DRIVER**  
Patricia Kelly, 28, of Chambersburg, Pa., puts her best leg afterward as she steps out of the cab of a tractor-trailer after completing a 5-week, 600-mile course qualifying her to drive truck rigs. (AP Wirephoto)

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