

# The Battalion

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Wednesday, March 3, 1971

845-2226

Cloudy  
and  
cold

WEDNESDAY — Cloudy to partly cloudy. Wind North 10 to 20 m.p.h. High 43, low 34.

THURSDAY — Cloudy. Wind East 10 to 15 m.p.h. High 56, low 38.

## Approval given on civil trial changes

AUSTIN (AP) — The Senate Jurisprudence Committee approved a series of bills Tuesday that would revolutionize civil trials in Texas, but it defeated a bill that would permit 9-3 jury verdicts.

The approved bills now go to the Senate floor for action.

The bills, by Sen. Oscar Mauzy of Dallas, would have a profound effect on automobile collision cases.

Supporters said the bills would clear crowded court dockets and have no effect on automobile insurance rates.

Opponents said they would fur-

ther clog the dockets and surely raise insurance rates.

Mauzy's main bills would:

—Authorize 9-3 jury verdicts.

—Knock out contributory negligence as a bar to recovery.

—Repeal the automobile guest statute.

Jim Kronzer, Houston lawyer, told the committee that Texas' 1876 Constitution authorized 9-3 verdicts in civil cases and misdemeanor crimes.

But the constitution also left it up to the legislature to require unanimous verdicts if it chose, and it did.

Neither the legislature nor multi-member courts such as the Texas Supreme Court could operate effectively under a unanimous vote rule, yet we expect juries to, Kronzer said.

Under present law, separate fact questions are submitted to juries, including one that asks if the plaintiff was in any way himself negligent.

No matter what the answers are to the other questions or how much money the jury says it would take to compensate the plaintiff for his injury or loss, a "yes" answer to contributory negligence prevents him from recovering a dime.

Even if the jury thinks the plaintiff is 5 per cent responsible and the defendant 95 per cent responsible, the plaintiff gets nothing.

Only Texas, North Carolina and Wisconsin still have this system, Kronzer said.

Mauzy's bill would adopt the comparative negligence rule, permitting the defendant to discount the plaintiff's recovery only in proportion to the plaintiff's contributory negligence.

Dist. Judge C. L. Ray of Marshall spoke against the guest statute, which requires a gratuitous guest in a car to prove the driver was grossly negligent before the guest may recover damages for injuries.

Courts have interpreted such things as driving from zero to 60 miles an hour in two blocks in a residential neighborhood or 70 miles an hour through a deer-torn area as not being grossly negligent, Ray said.



LOOKING OVER THE INDIA EXHIBIT in the Memorial Student Center are Jan Bowen, a sophomore english major, and Dave Herzik, a senior in history. The exhibit is all part of a week reviewing the history and culture of India. It will culminate in an "India Night" Sunday at 7:30 p. m. in the MSC Ballroom. (Photo by Larry Martin)



THE FIRST PHASE contract for a new office and classroom building has been awarded to M.V.T. General Contractors of Bryan. An artist's conception shows the unique pillars for the eight-story structure. Set for erection northeast of the Academic Building, the new facility will house several academic departments and provide offices for faculty and staff.

## Rally cancelled pending board meeting

A rally for on-campus women's housing which was to be held in front of the Academic Building Thursday at 1:30 p.m. has been canceled until after the April open meeting of the board of directors.

Many students have voiced strong objections to the recent board decision delaying on-campus women's housing until September of 1972.

"The rally was called primarily to call attention to points the Board of Directors has not made known to the student body," Rance Palmer, a graduate student in urban planning said Tuesday.

Palmer and Allen Giles, junior political science major, are responsible for initiating the rally.

"If the students knew some of

the things the board of directors is not telling them," Palmer continued, "we thought we could initiate action such as a peaceful march on the (System) Administration Building."

The rally was postponed due to a plea from Kent Caperton, Student Senate president, who hoped to talk to the board before any further controversy on the "girls on campus by '71" movement could be stirred up.

"There is still a good chance the Board might reconsider the opening date," Caperton said, "I wouldn't want to jeopardize such a consideration in any way."

"If the board okays housing for women next year and makes known the points they have previously kept from the public, there will be no need for the

rally," Palmer said.

Palmer and Giles said they believe they have tremendous support from all student types on campus: corps, civilian, blacks and even the cowboys.

"The real purpose of the rally is to dramatize the opinions of the majority of the students," Giles said.

The pair plans to contact major newspapers in the area — the Houston Post, The Houston Chronicle, The Dallas Morning News, and others — and make student sentiment on the problem of women's housing known, they continued.

Their intention is not to recruit women for A&M, they said, but simply to making the space available.

"The parents of most prospective women students want the protection provided by a dormitory during their freshman year," Palmer said.

"The argument now is that there is not enough room on campus for female housing in '71," he said, "but there is a large percentage of students on campus now wanting to move off who are unable to. If we can get some of the men off campus, we will have room for women."

The rally is planned to be a strictly informative gathering in which the issues involved will be stated, and women will be invited to give their opinions on the housing situation, he added.

"It's definitely going to be a peaceful thing," Palmer said.

"We're not radicals."

The rally is designed to present the facts to the students, draw up and sign a petition and discuss possible action such as a

peaceful march, he explained.

"Coed dormitories are a way of life in other schools," Giles said, "A&M is ready for women on campus."

## Approval of tuition hike draws students' protest

AUSTIN (AP)—The House Appropriations Committee voted Monday to raise college tuition rates, and immediately got protests from college-age groups.

The committee approved a bill which would raise state college tuition for residents of Texas from \$50 to \$135 a semester, based on the average 15-hour course load of most students. Non-resident tuition would be upped from \$200 to \$705.

The bill, which Jones says will raise \$110 million to \$115 million, will be debated by the full House Wednesday, probably before the \$430 million general tax package is laid out for action.

"We strongly urge the legislature to resist a tuition increase," A&M senior Tom Henderson, Texas Intercollegiate Student Association president, said Monday night. "We also urge students to take a personal interest in the matter and write their senator and representatives and tell them of their (the students') objections."

Henderson also said he believes the measure is intended to be puni-

itive as well as to raise money. He said he so believes because the tuition hikes exceed those requested by Texas Gov. Preston Smith.

Richard Burns, president of the Texas Student Education Association which claims 7,000 college student members, issued a statement saying Jones' bill "places higher education on the inflationary list and provides an excessive increase in tuition rates at the expense of the students."

The Texas Young Republican state headquarters released a statement condemning the tuition increase proposed by Gov. Preston Smith last week from \$50 to \$125 a semester.

"This tuition increase could cause financial hardship for thousands of students and deny others the opportunity for a college education," said a resolution passed by the executive committee of the Young Republicans.

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

—Adv.

## Sen. Church to speak Thursday

Sen. Frank Church of Idaho, co-sponsor of the controversial Constitutional amendment to limit use of ground troops in Southeast Asia, will speak here Thursday.

Church will be presented in a Political Forum noon series address in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom, announced Charles R. Hoffman.

The title of Church's address is "Foreign Policy and the Generation Gap."

Students, faculty-staff and area patrons will be admitted free to Political Forum, Hoffman added.

The public-free policy is made possible by patronage subscription of the MSC committee's programs.

Recognized in the areas of conservation and international affairs, Church co-sponsored the Cooper-Church Amendment that sought to limit U. S. involvement in Southeast Asian conflicts.

The senator is acclaimed an outstanding public speaker. Church keynoted the 1960 Democratic National Convention and has more than 14 years experience in the U. S. Senate.

He is a 13-year member of the

Senate Foreign Relations Committee. As chairman of its Subcommittee on International Organization Affairs, the Idaho legislator has become well known for independent views on American foreign policy.

"His writings and lectures in this area have attracted growing attention at home and abroad," Hoffman said.

He was a delegate to the 21st General Assembly, the youngest member of Congress ever to serve in that capacity. Church also has been an observer or dele-

gate to numerous international conferences throughout the world.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Stanford, he was a member of the Board of Editors of the Stanford Law Review. In 1956, at age 32, Church defeated former U. S. Sen. Glen Taylor in the Democratic primary and then beat incumbent Republican Herman Welker for the U. S. Senate seat.

He was re-elected in 1962—the first Democratic senator in Idaho history to serve two consecutive terms. He was again re-elected in 1968.

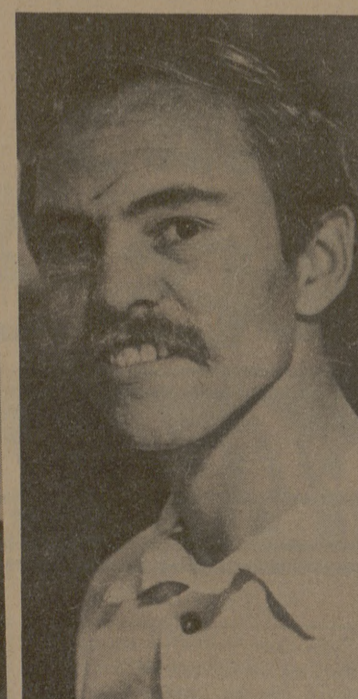
### The inquiring Battman

## What do you think of Bryan-College Station movies?



Daniel Noyles  
freshman

"I get tired of groad flicks in a hurry. I wish they would bring good movies — ones you can take a chick to."



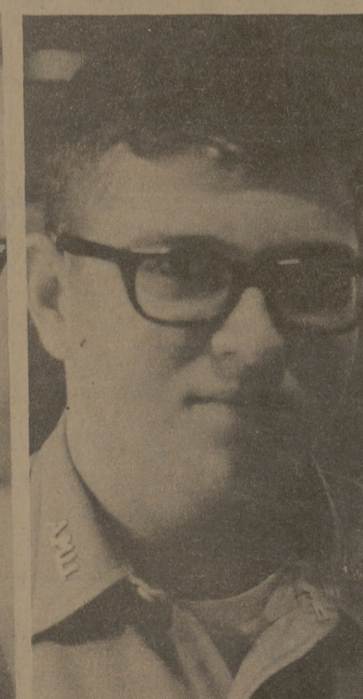
Roger London  
junior

"I think that on the whole most of the movies are of poor quality and content. Few are worth the admission price."



Charles Hicks  
senior

"Most of them are suitable for Aggie audiences — mostly sex, mostly childish."



Dan Monroe  
freshman

"The theaters concentrate too much on the 'groad' flicks, but there are some good ones — maybe once every two months or so. The best theater is the Palace and the worst is the Queen."



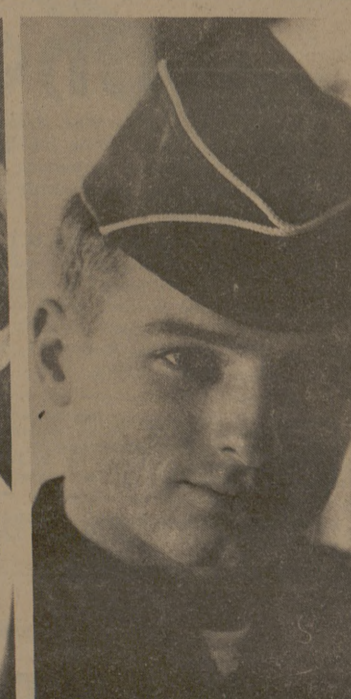
Emily Kay Edwards  
sophomore

"I think more recent movies should be brought here — it would make more for the owner for one thing. For instance, I watched Spencer's Mountain on TV the same night it played here."



Kirby Brown  
junior

"Movies in the B-CS area are of three basic types: (1) those of the children's variety, (2) those of the less than average clothing (i.e. frolic), and (3) those of the immediate post-'Elvis' era."



Warren L. Gillespie  
junior

"Bryan-College Station theaters seem to get more than their share of cheap, second-rate flicks. I'd like to see more movies that contain a plot and first rate photography." (Photos by Patrick Fontana)