

# The Battalion

Vol. 67 No. 26

College Station, Texas

Wednesday, October 13, 1971

Cloudy,  
light  
rain

Thursday — Cloudy. North-  
westerly winds 5-10 mph. High  
77°, low 61°.

Friday — Cloudy, light and  
variable intermittent rain. High  
74°, low 58°.

Saturday night Fort Worth —  
Clear. Northerly winds 10-15 mph.  
66°. 40% relative humidity.

845-2226

## Nixon makes plans to visit the Kremlin

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nixon announced Tuesday he is going to Moscow in late May to meet with top Soviet leaders because there exists now "a possibility of making significant progress" toward settling major differences between the superpowers.

The President surprised newsmen by appearing at the usual noon White House briefing and reading a statement that was released at the same time in Moscow.

That statement said "President Nixon and the Soviet leaders will review all major issues, with a view toward further improving their bilateral relations and enhancing the prospects of world peace."

In answering questions, Nixon

explained that "I do not believe in having summit meetings simply for the purpose of having a meeting. I think that tends to create euphoria. It raises high hopes that are then dashed . . . We are not making that mistake."

Nixon took pains to explain that there is no connection between the projected Moscow trip and the journey to Communist China which he announced last summer he would make sometime by or before next May. And the White House said the two trips will be separated "by a bridge of time."

In what appeared to be an effort to fend off criticism, Nixon said a few hours after his announcement of the Moscow visit that it should not be interpreted as meaning that the United

States intends to be less concerned about its national strength.

"We want peace in the world, we want a reduction of tensions in the world," Nixon said as he participated in Capitol Hill ceremonies unveiling a portrait of Rep. H. Edward Hebert, D-La., House Armed Services Committee chairman.

But, the President continued, "Unless and until we have mutual agreements . . . among the great powers . . . the United States must maintain its defense at adequate levels."

Initial response in Congress to the President's announcement was favorable on both sides of the party aisle.

What makes the current situation favorable for a meeting,

Nixon explained, can be seen as "we look back over the record of the last two and a half years, significant progress has been made" in Soviet-U.S. negotiations.

"We have had a treaty with regard to the seabeds. We have had one with regard to biological weapons. We have had an agreement coming out of the SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks) with regard to the hotline and accidental war and, of course, most important of all—and I think this is the item that, for both us and for them, led us to conclude that now was the time for a summit meeting—we have had an agreement on Berlin."

Nixon indicated arms control, the Mideast, mutual troop withdrawals from Central Europe and a European security conference are likely to be discussed.



State Senator Mike McKool knocks the insurance system of Texas Tuesday at a Political Forum presentation. (Photo by Joe Matthews)

## Political Forum presents Julian Bond on Thursday

Julian Bond, state representative of Georgia and first black ever nominated for the vice presidency of the United States by a major political party, will speak on the upcoming strategy of Black America at Political Forum's Noon Series Thursday in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom.

Bond, leader of American liberals in the bloody Chicago convention of 1968, was nominated for the vice presidency by Chicago Democrats after he won the fight for redistricting Georgia which resulted in the election of seven black representatives, including himself.

Bond became the focus of political activities in January of 1965 when the Georgia House of Representatives would not allow

him to take his seat in the House because of a statement he made concerning Viet Nam.

Not allowed to serve his term in 1965, he was re-elected in February, 1966, but again a special House Committee barred him from taking office.

He won a third election in November of 1966 and was sworn in a month later after a unanimous Supreme Court ruling overturned the previous Georgia legislative actions.

Bond was supported by many outstanding political personalities including Vice President Hubert Humphrey, who said, "One of the most precious freedoms we have is the right to be different."

As a state representative, Bond now serves on the Education, Insurance, and State Institutions and Properties Committees. A

known worker in civil rights drives and voter registration drives, he is also a member of numerous civic organizations.

Bond is the founder of the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights, member of the advisory board of the proposed Martin Luther King Memorial Library, member of Southern Correspondents Reporting Racial Equality Wars, an executive member of the Atlanta chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and part of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

"Politically, kids aren't relevant," Bond said in 1969 in an interview for Newsweek magazine. "Since McCarthy was defeated they haven't involved themselves in politics in any outstanding, meaningful way."

## At Political Forum

## McKool hits insurance system

"The insurance system in Texas, which is set up to discourage competition and initiative, is in itself basically wrong," said State Senator Mike McKool yesterday in presenting his alternatives to the Noon Series of the Political Forum.

"The state board regulates the insurance costs which cannot be undercut, thereby, rewarding non-profit, inefficiency by granting excessive rate increases" commented the senator, recalling the raise in premium costs over the past two and a half years.

"Eighteen months ago the state board allowed the insurance companies a 9.9% increase, which was followed in January 1, 1971 by a 21% raise. In June, 1971 they were again allotted another 13.4% bringing the cost of insurance up 44% in two years," said the senator, "in lieu of the meager 2.2% cost of living increase."

"Never have the insurance companies in the past five years failed to secure their desired increases, until the current price freeze. Presently, they have petitioned a 12% hike pending the conclusion of the wage and price controls," he said.

"The company stockholders are the recipients of the unbounding success, while the consumer is bled to accommodate record-breaking profits and high dividends," commented McKool.

"Exceptions are the key to the insurance philosophy of 'grouping.' Male drivers under 25 are a prime target. Some mastermind

has based on conjecture, conceived that this group is accident prone despite statistics to the contrary. Their insurance rates, therefore, run between \$200 and \$300 a year. Those over 55 are considered total "undesirables" in spite of their past record and are forced to become part of the "assigned risk" category," noted McKool.

"In 1967, in Washington, Senator Hart addressed himself to the argument that medical costs, auto repairs and salary payment increases were responsible for the ceaseless rise in premiums. He proved that the profits exceeded the expenses by more than one third."

The senator cited the precarious book-keeping system as partially responsible for the inefficiency.

"The New York Stock Exchange will not even accept the Texas insurance companies book-keeping as credible, being a dubious combination of the accrual and cash and carry policy," McKool said.

The insurance lobby was also blamed by the senator as a contributing factor.

"In Austin the Insurance Committee of the State Senate is composed of thirteen members, nine of who have continually voted for insurance rate increases," he related. "These same nine objected when a minority report was filed to pull the issue out of committee."

While the price freeze has been in effect McKool has taken the opportunity to question state board member Ned Price as to the board's future intentions. In a recent letter he said "consider this an application to roll back insurance rates 10 per cent so that the insurance companies will carry their share of the present national burden and give Texas citizens the rebate that they so desperately need."

The senator was questioned on whether he favored the no fault insurance now in effect in Massachusetts.

"The first statistical reports

have been very encouraging. If this trend continues, Texas will inaugurate the system," McKool said.

When asked the intentions of the nine "insurance senators," McKool replied, "The regulated are too close to the regulators. The insurance companies have powerful lobbies and large campaign contributions have been allotted, with the realization that no legislation must pass through the legislature. However, the voters can decide the fate of these legislators. They need only be educated on the issues and positions held by their appointed representatives."

## Student flack causes laundry to return to earlier schedule

"The two things that killed the laundry operation this year were the great turnover of trainee employees, plus the fact that our laundry, poundage-wise, is much heavier this fall," explained George Hartsock, A&M laundry manager.

Uncontrollably, these two occurrences caused the laundry system to slip behind schedule as of Sept. 1.

During this slowdown, many students were required to make two trips to receive their clean laundry. Inevitably, he said, students began to object.

In light of the numerous complaints, on Oct. 6, the Laundry

Committee recommended that the laundry announce a two-day schedule. We did, and it backfired."

Because the new system backfired, the laundry will renew the old schedule (leaving the laundry one morning and picking it up the next afternoon) on Monday, Nov. 8. By this date, all employees will be properly trained and the operation will be normal.

"We are not off of our schedule every day," Hartsock emphasized. "As of now, students should ask for their laundry the same way they have in past years. Ninety-nine per cent of the time, their laundry will be completed."

## 'Tex' Watson is found guilty on seven counts of murder

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Charles "Tex" Watson, who coolly testified that on Charles Manson's orders he shot or stabbed six of the Tate-LaBianca slaying victims, was convicted Tuesday of seven counts of first-degree murder and one count of conspiracy to commit murder.

He was the last of four defendants to be convicted in the slayings of actress Sharon Tate and six others in August 1969. Manson, 36, and three female co-defendants already have been convicted and sentenced to death.

Watson, a lanky 25-year-old former Texas honor student, was described at his trial as the chief lieutenant in Manson's hippie style clan and leader of groups that on two nights in August 1969 savagely killed the beautiful actress and the others.

He pleaded innocent and innocent by reason of insanity. He thus faces a sanity trial and, if ruled sane, a trial to determine whether the penalty should be life imprisonment or death.

The trials would be conducted

by the same jury that convicted him.

Watson fought extradition from his native Texas for so long the others were tried in June 1970 without him. After being returned here he was ruled insane, then later pronounced fit for trial. The state argued that he feigned insanity. The defense said he became mentally deranged from overuse of hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD and became a "robot" controlled by a dominating Manson.

## A&M television becoming a big operation

By LARRY MARSHALL  
Staff Writer

KAMU, A&M's television station, is finally coming into the big time after a slow, rather shaky start, according to Mel Chastain, station manager.

"We started six years ago with one man and a secretary, and now we have a staff of 29 people," said Chastain.

The station has been on the air for about 18 months now, operating out of Bagley Hall. At first the station had only two rooms in the building, but have since taken over most of the building.

"Most of the things we do, because they are produced ahead of time, tend to be done at night," commented Chastain, "and this makes it unsuitable for any study or reading in the building then."

The present studio was made from two rooms and is not very large. This is a large handicap in the operation of the station, as is the fact that the station is located on two floors in Bagley.

"Television just does not work

this way," Chastain said.

The transmitter that KAMU uses is one of the older models to be found. In fact, it is older than most of the students on this campus. This caused many problems in the early going, Chastain said. "In the first six weeks, we had 76 transmitter failures," he recalled.

The unit manufacturer was called in and the transmitter worked well since. It will probably make the move to the new site, but whether it will operate when it gets there is another story, he said.

"The decision on where we were going to move, once the demolition date of Bagley Hall for May of 1972 was finalized, was not an easy one," commented Chastain. "The planners looked high and low for somewhere to put us. First the plan was to put KAMU on the second floor of the Cushing Library. This failed because the realization hit everyone that the operation of the station and its productions was far too noisy to permit any other serious studying to go on in the rest of the building."

Next the plan was to put the station in the basement, but the

air-conditioning machinery was too noisy for the studio sound proofing to keep out. So the plan changed again to locate the station in the new classroom-office building near the Academic Building. But this would not work because the station was to be put in the basement, but there was no room to permit use of the mobile unit, which is necessary.

"So, after examining every available structure on campus, looking for adequate space and twenty-foot ceilings, they decided we should get our own building" said Chastain.

The new facilities will include two new television production studios, one 1,600 square feet and the other 3,600 square feet, both larger than the present studio. Each will have a control console so both can be operated at the same time.

The facility will also contain an FM radio studio and control room. A&M does not have a radio station now, but the prospect seems good.

"We hope that the approval of the plans by the administration means that they will look with encouragement upon the develop-

ment of an FM station in the not too distant future," said Chastain. "An FM station is not very expensive at all to operate, and we could get a low power station that will cover the campus and community and do a good job."

The front half of the new building will consist of classrooms for broadcast journalism classes. Currently there are only three classes offered, but increased space and facilities will change this, commented Chastain.

"The station productions now tie everything up so we can only have one afternoon a week open for labs," he stated.

The new classrooms will have provisions for rear projection of films and be equipped with monitor television sets.

"We are very pleased with the building, and are extremely appreciative of the efforts made to help us get it," said Chastain.

The situation has been given a two-to-one grant by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for operation. The station's share was raised from outside sources.

"KAMU is financially separate from the state. Not one penny of state funds goes for the operation of the station. There is a rider in the Texas Constitution that precludes any state funds from being used for any new educational stations in the State of Texas," Chastain said.

The state does supply some money for operation of the closed-circuit television and for the journalism courses taught.

The Public Broadcast System is a nation-wide organization with 212 member stations. Each station has the right to accept or reject any programming it wants to, Chastain said. "Most of the programs come from members, like us," he said. "We are considering some ideas to submit for a production grant."

The network came about as a result of the Carnegie Commission report that recommended a non-government educational system.

"The point is, if you are relying on the legislature to bring you money each year, it is going to have an effect on what you feel you can or cannot say," Chastain said.



THE FIRST BONFIRE LOG has been brought in by the New Traditions Singers, an A&M vocal group, part of which is sitting on the log. The tree, for all those environmentally concerned, was killed by lightning. (Photo by Mike Rice)

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