

# National Election Called In Ireland

DUBLIN (AP) — Prime Minister James Lynch on Monday ordered a general election for Feb. 15, apparently to strengthen his government's hand for the bargaining with Britain on the future of Northern Ireland.

Lynch could have waited out the remaining 16 months of his current term of office before going to the voters. But he is riding a wave of popularity and clearly has a reinforced mandate which he is fortifying with talks with the British.

British government policy on the future of Northern Ireland is due out in March. Lynch has promised to consult Lynch in advance on these proposals and the Irish leader appeared to have this in mind when he called the snap election.

A public vote of confidence also would help Lynch's efforts to crack down on terrorism and keep the violence in Northern Ireland from spreading across the border.

The election, Lynch declared, is essential if a protracted period of political uncertainty and instability is to be avoided. His government majority in the all-Ireland parliament has been gradually eroded since his Fianna Fail — Soldiers of Destiny — party was elected in June 1969.

His action came as Northern Ireland was ravaged by a bloody struggle of sectarian fighting that has claimed at least 20 lives, with nearly 50 persons wounded, in the last week.

The savagery of this feuding between rival Protestant and Ro-

man Catholic extremists spurred fears in Belfast that the violence would escalate. In Dublin it was felt that the bloodletting would spill over the border on a wider scale than ever before.

Lynch has won general support for his policies, including a crackdown on the outlawed Irish Republican Army and a major revamping of Ireland's constitution.

## Structural Drafting Course To Be Offered In Summer

A structural drafting program that provides students with demand skills for the construction industry will be conducted this summer at A&M for the ninth year.

The summer program prepares young men and women, even those without previous drafting training, for a career in structural detailing. Architects, engineers, contractors and fabricators are seeking such individuals.

Conducted by the Engineering Extension Service through the Engineering Design Graphics Department, the program runs 12 weeks beginning with TAMU's first summer session June 4.

Students in the program may reside on campus and enjoy facilities and privileges of other students.

The course, which carries a \$150 tuition fee, is approved by the Veterans Administration for GI Bill support. Instruction is by

### Batt Book Review

## The Exorcist

By KARL JACKSON

"The possessed" is the key to William Peter Blatty's best-selling novel, "The Exorcist."

Not only is the book about demonic possession but the supernatural detective story is almost as captivating as the book portrays the devil, himself. "The Exorcist" is the kind of book that will keep

a reader awake until he has finished it and then haunt him sleepless with memories.

Blatty manages to move the reader through his involved plot with great skill and agility. At first, the rather overbearing style and the short, often one-word, sentences tend to be Blatty's fly in the ointment. Over-indulgence in these literary practices seems to plague the first few chapters of the book but with the second part, the effect fades into a more readable style. It is difficult to tell if this is the anesthetizing effect of 403 pages and the inevitable late night reading hours or if, with exposure, Blatty's style simply reads better.

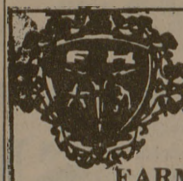
The book is thoroughly researched, complete with many choice quotes from several seriously, non-emotional psychiatrists. The large number of facts help nail down the book to the present day, and Blatty's subject choice and style compound that theme. They form a story that might have happened yesterday and a gullible or slightly naive reader might find himself glancing at the cover of the book to make sure

that it is fiction.

The book draws its power from Blatty's excellent characterizations. He is able to build them quickly and in such a way that one can see deeply into their emotions and almost begin to step into their shoes. As Blatty winds the spring of tension tighter, the effects are most visible on his people. They move ever closer in a slow and steady pace to self-destruction. Few are to escape.

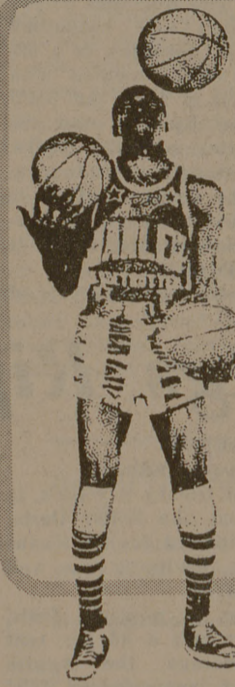
Battling the forces of evil is a formidable task, and Blatty's figures attack it with caution. Each member steps closer to his own end. Some find it in death, like the two Jesuit Fathers, Karras and Merrin, and the producer Dennings. Some find their end with emotional release, only one is able to escape from Satan's wrath. The possessed is 12-year-old Regan MacNeil and the story revolves around the attempts to remove the demon from her life.

Blatty gathers all his forces to create a gripping, exciting novel. It is the kind that will keep you wondering about the possibility of Satan entering your life for years to come.



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## A&M Journalism Students Feel The Pressures Of Deadlines

Journalism students at A&M are feeling the real pressures of meeting deadlines.

The students, part of this semester's Journalism 204 class, are assigned with the Eagle newspaper. The idea was the brainchild of former Eagle publisher Harold Taxel. "At first he thought it would be mainly just source of student body news for the paper," said William C. Harrison, who teaches Journalism 204.

Harrison, co-ordinator of the program, selected the top 18 students in last semester's Journalism 203 class.

The program, still on a trial basis, replaces the 204 lab which meets twice a week. The students must still go to the lecture part of the course. Out of the 10 students, five work on the paper's staff the first eight weeks and the second group closes out the semester's work project.

At the Eagle, students are under the direct supervision of Jim Holman, managing editor. He arranges their work schedules to fit class schedules.

"They will most likely be working about eight hours per week," said Harrison.

The students draw varied work assignments at Eagle. "One day they might be taking some pictures and the next day they might be doing some editing," said Harrison. While working at the Eagle,

the student will work in only news-related jobs. They will, however, be taking some pictures. They will also learn to write captions for their pictures and headlines for their stories.

At the end of the eight week training period Holman rates the students. This rating, and clippings of published stories go to Harrison. Harrison considers all this information in order to arrive at an appropriate grade for the lab part of the course.

"One thing we do ask the students to do, though," explained Harrison, "is to submit to us an evaluation of the program. It is through this evaluation that we can judge the relative merits of the program."

Harrison forecasts that a new 300-level course will be established in the professional journalism curriculum. "It will be the same basic program that these students are in now," explained Harrison, "only it will be broader."

The program will not be limited to just the Eagle, but it will be open to all the local media, depending, of course, on their own needs. All journalism students would have an opportunity to take the course.

The students participating in the first eight weeks of training are Mary Millican, Jean Pfluger, Deborah Thurman, Sally Orebaugh and Steve Goble.



Kent Ellis, Evangelist  
"I AM SATISFIED"

Often people do not want to be troubled with questions of Bible teaching because, they say, "I am satisfied with my religion." Men certainly ought to be satisfied with their religion, but that should not be the first and is not the most important consideration. It is God who must be satisfied with our religion.

We may very well have met religious standards set by ourselves or others and not have met those set by God. The Pharisees were satisfied with their religion, but God was not because it was founded on the traditions of men rather than the word of God (Matt. 15 and 23). The people described in Matthew 7:21-24 were satisfied with their religion, but God was not because they had been led astray by false prophets (Matt. 7:13-23). The Laodicean Christians were satisfied with their lukewarm religion, but the Lord was so nauseated by it that He said He would vomit out of His mouth (Rev. 3:14-17).

When we reason from false premises we reach false conclusions. What satisfies us is not necessarily what pleases God. Often what is exalted among men is an abomination to God (Luke 16:15). Paul wrote of some in his day who measured themselves by the wrong standard. "For we are not bold to number or compare ourselves with certain of them that commend themselves; but they themselves, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, are without understanding" (II Cor. 10:12). Paul did not want to be in the class of those who measured by their standard instead of God's, and on the basis of this erroneous comparison commended themselves. He knew that those who did such were "without understanding." This is true. "For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth" (II Cor. 10:17).

We should never be satisfied with our religion until we know from a personal study of God's word that He is satisfied with it. If Paul dared not to number himself among those who measured only by the standard of their own satisfaction, dare we?

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