

Summer summary

This summary will acquaint students with local activities over the last three months and should dispel the belief that nothing happens in College Station during the summer. Plans continued during the summer for the construction of a wall between the campus and North Gate. The wall will stretch from the USDA Building to the Zachry Engineering Center and has been questioned by a number of students and College Station merchants.

Several students on the Long Range Campus Planning Committee felt students' opinions were not considered. The high cost of the wall prompted suggestions of other ways to separate the campus from Northgate.

President Jack Williams stressed the beauty of the wall and assured students traffic between C.S. and campus will not be hindered.

After leaving the Corps area untouched most of the summer, construction began a few weeks before cadets returned to their dorms. Plans project that out of the mud

and chaos that surrounds the area will arise a new Military Quadrant, complete with brick arches across the north end.

Another major change in the 98-year history of the Corps is the admittance of coeds into cadet ranks. The phasing in of women, the "Minerva Plan," was conceived and designed by the juniors on Corps staff last semester.

The women's company, W-1, will function initially as a day duck outfit but plans are for it to be moved into the Corps area as a regular outfit.

W-1 will be an invisible outfit until uniforms arrive. The uniform will follow the basic one worn by other cadets but will be styled for women.

The major social event of the summer was Willie Nelson's 4th of July Picnic held at the Texas World Speedway. An estimated 35,000 fans attended the festival which met with stiff criticism.

Both Bryan and College Station city councils, the Chamber of Commerce and the First Baptist

Planning for wall continues; July festival draws critics

Church Board of Deacons passed resolutions censuring it. The picnic was called indecent, immoral, and a bad reflection on Brazos County.

Earlier in the summer the Singing Cadets made a good will tour of Romania. The choir travelled through the Iron Curtain country for three weeks hoping to establish friendship through music.

At home, the proposed College Station budget for the fiscal year 1974-75 increased 14 percent from \$3.26 million to \$3.72. This was accounted for by inflation and increased growth.

Construction of a park and pavilion was planned at the cost of \$1.5 million. The Brazos County Park would provide a multi-purpose facility capable of seating 3,500; 6 acres paved and 3 acres turf parking;

13-14 acres of picnic facilities; 10-12 acres of public use equipment including an outdoor theater and 20 acres left in the natural state with trails.

Opponents noted the park is proposed on the site of a natural bog.

Economically disadvantaged area youths were given jobs through the Brazos Valley Development Council Youth Summer Program. The goal was to provide 390 kids, aged 14 through 21, with as much work experience and instruction as possible.

Leases were filed later in the summer by Dow Chemical Company for strip mining in about five years. Lignite coal is the goal of this operation.

A \$230,000 program for a seven county area, including Brazos

County, will provide vehicles and materials for ambulance and hospital services.

Bryan will get radio equipment for its ambulances while College Station will get a modulance (a van with detachable coach), extrication equipment (to pry into wrecks and pull out injured victims) and radio equipment.

Federal funds of \$16,000 caused differences between Bryan and College Station over a common planning committee. The planning committee, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, will draw up and submit a Unified Work Program for approval and administer the funds received by it.

College Station councilmen thought planners were partial to Bryan's planning efforts.

Enrollments drop; Expenses increase in nation's schools

Enrollments are expected to drop and expenses to rise in the nation's schools and colleges during the 1974-75 school year, according to U.S. Commissioner of Education Terrel H. Bell.

An estimated 58,610,000 students will answer the school bell this fall, compared with 59,009,000 actually enrolled last September—an anticipated decrease of seven-tenths of one percent. Dr. Bell said that the biggest decline, about 730,000 students, will be felt by the elementary schools.

The Commissioner indicated the total cost of education is expected to rise about \$11 billion over the previous year. Funds from local, state, and federal sources during 1973-74 totaled \$97 billion, while in 1974-75 the prediction is for \$108 billion, he said.

Education expenses will represent nearly eight percent of our gross national product and will directly involve almost 62 million Americans.

"Education will be the principal occupation of 29 percent of our population," said Bell. "In fact education is considered to be the country's largest enterprise in terms of the number of people involved and the dollars spent."

A continued rise in high school enrollment is predicted. Assuming that the same proportion of 18- to 21-year-olds enroll in institutions of higher education in 1974 as in 1973, there will also be another small increase in college enrollment.

Enrollment in kindergarten through grade 8 is expected to de-

crease from 35.1 million last fall to 34.4 million in 1974. A decrease of more than 600,000 is anticipated in public schools, while nonpublic school enrollment will probably decline by about 100,000.

In grades 9 through 12, enrollment is expected to rise from 15.4 million in 1973 to 15.6 million this fall. Since little or no change is anticipated in nonpublic school enrollment, all of the increase will occur in public high schools.

In colleges and universities an increase of about 100,000 degree-credit students, from 8.5 million to 8.6 million, over last fall's enrollment is expected.

Virtually all the higher education increase will take place in public institutions since enrollment in privately controlled colleges and universities is expected to remain relatively stable. The figures for both years exclude undergraduate students enrolled in occupational or

general studies programs that are not creditable toward a bachelor's degree. There were 1.1 million of these nondegree-credit students in the fall of 1973.

Expenditures for elementary and secondary schools are expected to total \$65 billion (\$62 billion for public and \$6 billion for nonpublic schools) during the next school year, while expenditures for higher education are estimated at \$40 billion (\$27 billion for public and \$13 billion for private institutions).

More than 3 million persons will be engaged in classroom instruction this fall. This includes more than 2.3 million persons teaching at the elementary and secondary school levels (2.1 million in public and 200,000 in nonpublic schools) and over 600,000 instructional staff members in colleges and universities (more than 400,000 in public and 200,000 in private institutions).

Cadet Slouch

By Jim Earle

WELCOME
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The Battalion

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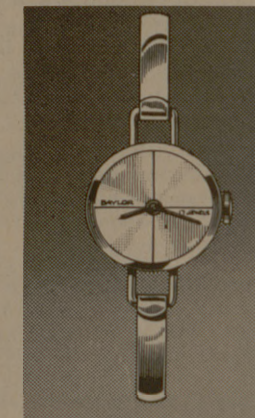
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