

Mostly cloudy and mild with possible showers Tuesday afternoon. Cold front tonight should clear skies by noon Wednesday. High today 77°; low tonight 66°; high tomorrow 68°.

# The Battalion

Vol. 68 No. 45

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, November 19, 1974

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## Board hears report

# TEA wants minority recruitment

By ROSE MARY TRAVERSO  
Staff Writer

The recruiting of qualified minority teachers by A&M Consolidated School District was recommended in a Texas Educational Agency (TEA) report presented to the Consolidated School Board at its meeting Monday night.

The report shows that in 1965-66, the first year of complete integration, there were 75 Anglo and 12 Negro teachers. During the current school year the district has employed 171 Anglo, one Mexican-American and eight Negro teachers.

The TEA examination of faculty and staff assignment within the district showed that the percentage of minority teachers in each school is substantially the same as the percentage of minority teachers in the district as a whole.

The report also stated that minority participation in the extracurricular activities is generally very high but, there was no minority participation in some school activities such as cheerleading, yearbook staff and the Paper Tiger staff. There was minority participation in these organizations in previous years.

The TEA suggested that capable minority students be encouraged through counseling to enroll in advanced academic courses, since there is presently minimal enrollment in advanced mathematics and physics classes.

Other areas of concern to the TEA were lack of department and grade level heads, open-flamed unvented heaters in kindergarten music/play rooms and poor maintenance

of the middle school facility, said Fred Hopson, school superintendent, who presented the TEA findings.

Hopson said that department and grade level heads would be hired "if we can afford it."

Explaining that the TEA inspection was made on a rainy day, Hopson said that "poor maintenance" referred to the mucky condition of the Middle School's cement floors. He said the TEA representatives suggested tiling the floors.

The TEA representatives pointed out that there were only two magazines and no newspapers in the elementary school libraries and the libraries needed to "weed" out old books, Hopson said.

The TEA complimented the condition of school libraries, the instructional program and the "very happy group of professionals who enjoy their work and assignments," Hopson said.

In other action Monday the board approved a proposal to issue free passes for any school activity in the district to all College Station residents 65 years or older.

The program, called the Golden Pass, would not cause any expense or reduce the receipts the district is currently receiving, Hopson said.

A contract for the TAMU Driver Education Program which includes a \$7 per student price hike was approved by the board.

Due to rising costs in all programs, the students will pay \$35 for the "unique, multiphase program," Hopson said.

Other area schools' and private

instructors' courses, which do not include the multiple-car driving range, skid pad exercises or in-transit audio-visual sessions, begin at \$45 plus, Hopson said.

A directive to the school superintendent that the collection of \$124,437 in delinquent taxes be pursued by "whatever legal means are available" was passed by the board. Scheduled with the collection of taxes is a loan for \$60,000 to meet payroll and operating ex-

penses. The loan, which will be repaid by Dec. 1, will be the last one of its kind necessary, Hopson said.

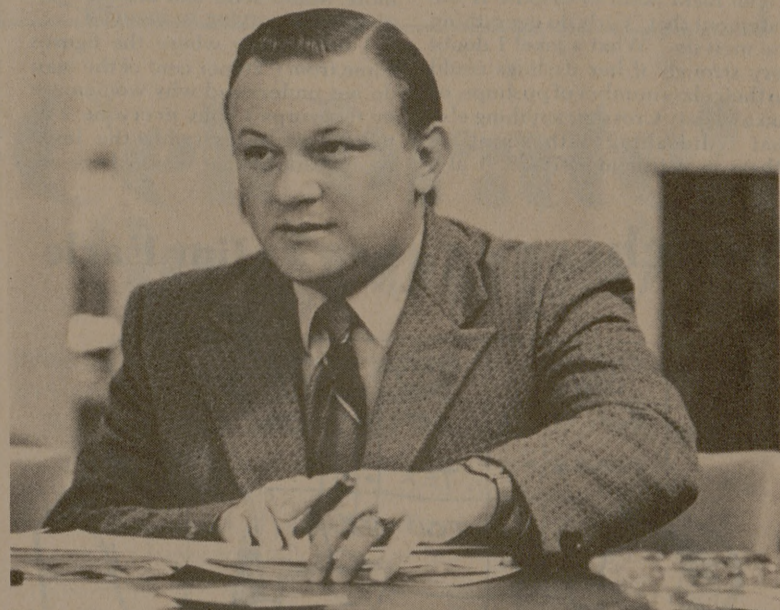
A recommendation by the Policy Committee that the building use fee schedule be rewritten rather than changing existing policies was accepted by the board.

Youth, civic or community oriented organizations will be charged lower rates than commercial groups or those without a tax

exemption certificate for use of the buildings.

During the last year, the district received about \$500 from youth groups but at the new rates about \$55 is expected, said Nancy Donaldson, committee chairman.

Since records of the building fees previously collected are incomplete, predicting how much difference the reduced rates will make "involves a lot of guesswork," Hopson said.



Fred Hopson, A&M Consolidated school superintendent.



Tasty competition

The "Eat the Hell out of Rice Krispies" contest was sponsored by the MSC Council as a special project, Friday before the Rice game. Col. Thomas R. Parsons, Corps commander, competed in the event. Judging was based on who could eat the most Rice Krispies in a set time limit. (Photo by Jack Holm)

## Bell Co. executive tells of corruption in suicide message

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.'s top executive in Texas left a suicide note which said, "Watergate is a gnat compared to the Bell system," an attorney said Monday.

The note was left by T. O. Gravitt of Dallas, who was Southwestern Bell vice president for Texas until he took his life by carbon monoxide poisoning Oct. 17.

San Antonio attorney Pat Malone, who represents the Gravitt family, first confirmed the existence of the letter and its author. Contacted by The Associated Press, James H. Ashley of San Antonio, a dismissed Bell executive who was a friend of Gravitt, confirmed the contents.

Gravitt was under investigation by his company at the time of his death. Ashley was subsequently fired in the same investigation. Now, Ashley and Gravitt's family have filed a \$25 million damage suit against Southwestern Bell, accusing

the company of conspiracy which resulted in Gravitt's death.

Ashley said the Gravitt family brought him the letter, which has been turned over to attorneys.

"You might say the late Mr. Gravitt gave me my game plan. We'll see how good it is in court," said Malone of Gravitt's letter. "But I really am inclined to think that a man like Gravitt, making his last statement on this earth, would have little reason to lie."

The letter makes specific references to alleged Bell contributions to politicians, to lofty Bell executives using company jets for personal affairs and to a political slush fund to be used by executives who were given salary raises. It is handwritten.

Gravitt, 51, composed the letter in the study of his Dallas home and left it there. The next morning, he shut the garage door, climbed into his car and turned on the ignition.

## Briscoe Cash questioned

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Dolph Briscoe has been ordered to appear in state district court in connection with a \$15,000 cash contribution he received during his 1972 election campaign.

Briscoe, in a deposition taken last week and made available Monday to The Associated Press, said he did not report the donation from South Texas rancher-banker Clinton Manges because he intended to give it back. The money was never used, the governor said.

"I want to make this point," Briscoe told The Associated Press Monday night. "If I had it to do again, I would do the same thing. I'm convinced I was right in not accepting the money. It has not been utilized in any campaign or for any other purpose and I'm convinced I did the right thing," he said.

Briscoe said the original cash is held by his attorney, Joe Reynolds of Houston. Reynolds supplied a transcript of the deposition to The AP.

Contents of the deposition were mentioned in an affidavit filed Monday in 53rd District Court by Terrence O'Rourke and Raymond Needham, lawyers for Frances

Farenthold in her election law violation suit against Briscoe.

Mrs. Farenthold is seeking \$2.5 million in damages from Briscoe under the new campaign disclosure law. She alleges Briscoe received contributions for his 1974 election campaign before appointing a campaign manager as required by the new law.

Her lawyers seek to make the 1972 Manges contribution a part of the case, Reynolds said.

Reynolds told the AP: "There is no violation of the law . . . none whatever. Briscoe never accepted the money and the guy Manges said he'd take it back. Manges was supposed to have picked it up."

Mrs. Farenthold's attorney, O'Rourke, asked state District Court Judge Herman Jones, in the Monday affidavit, to order Briscoe to protect the cash and preserve it from any alteration.

Jones ordered Briscoe to appear in court before 9 a.m. Nov. 25 to show why O'Rourke's motion should not be granted. Briscoe could send his attorney to court, however, and does not have to appear personally.

Manges, a prominent rancher-banker, has a long association with

(See CAMPAIGN, page 4)



Earl Scruggs

## It's a long way from Gastonia... and Earl Scruggs is still movin'

By KEN STROEBEL  
Special to the Batt

Earl Scruggs has come a long way from Gastonia. It was in that North Carolina town that the 15-year-old Cleveland County native first performed on radio.

And he's not through making tracks yet. Currently on a five-day tour, Scruggs is visiting the enter-

tainment capitals of the nation—Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boulder and last Friday evening, College Station, Tex.

But the G. Rollie White Coliseum audience found him different from the Earl Scruggs that invented Bluegrass and for two decades kept it alive and well and living in the South.

"I had been doing the same thing for 20 years," Scruggs said. "That was really what got me so impatient with Bluegrass music. I suddenly realized I was very stale. Unless you're happy with what you're doing, you're not gonna project yourself excitedly."

"I felt I had gone as far as I could go with the type of music I was playing a few years ago," he said. "Until I formed the Earl Scruggs Revue, I was practically playing the same numbers night after night, that I had been playing for the past 15 years or so. I just feel the banjo is an instrument that can be used in many forms of music if you phrase it correctly. So, I added drums and electric instruments to the group to give it a more modern sound."

And the instrumentalists, Scruggs said, weren't exactly strangers. On electric bass, harmonica, guitar, spokesman and lead singer is Earl's son, Gary. Also on guitar, five-string banjo and slide guitar is son, Randy. Earl's youngest son, Steve, plays rhythm guitar, bass guitar and banjo. Drummer, Jody Maphis, lives near the Scruggs home. Josh Graves, who is known as the world's best dobro guitarist, serves to link the present with the past in country music.

This arrangement is advantageous, says Scruggs. "With six months' experience together, we were as good as a band that might have worked together for several years." And, Scruggs said, "The boys are quite talented and I don't say that just to be bragging. They are good."

That becomes evident when the Revue takes the stage. Their music is fast, rollicking and varied, from gospel to boogie. The blues from Gary's harmonica are the bluest sounds since the SMU game and Daddy Earl's left hand sprints up the banjo neck as his other fingers

run in place.

Earl is featured in a couple more square dance club reciters on the five-string. Then there it is, unmistakable formula blues, complete with a Ray Charles-type piano part: Everybody wants to laugh, nobody wants to cry, Everybody wants to laugh, nobody wants to cry, Everybody wants to go to heaven, nobody wants to die.

"Randy's gonna retune his acoustic guitar," announces Gary, "and play another song which appeared on the Kansas State album. It was written several years ago by a lady named Joni Mitchell.

It's phenomenal: Hundreds of Ags, clearly impatient for the inevitable "Foggy Mountain Breakdown," warm to "Both Sides Now," even after the mention of Kansas.

Then the Revue does a number "named from a community in which we were born and raised. It's called the 'Flint Hill Special.'" The Revue launches into another fast one, with Gary romping on the guitar, if one may romp on the guitar, then it's Earl's turn, then Gary's harmonica, then Earl again, then the whooping-stomping-yelling ensemble again.

Now it's Steve's turn. "Steve's gonna take the banjo and right after I was born he wrote a song that was called 'Earl's Breakdown.'" And Gary leaves you wondering if there's a connection. As Steve's right hand becomes a controlled blur, there's time to notice his blue jeans are flared. His denim shirt is embroidered too, but not to the extent of his banjo pickin'.

For one of the characteristics of Bluegrass is a technique called improvisation, which also characterizes Dixieland jazz. It involves the performer beginning with a central, simple, well-known theme and

any decision by the panel would be appealed all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Arguments Friday tried to pinpoint police enforcement of pornography laws. They centered on obtaining search warrants, seizing materials and the threat of temporary injunctions against club activities until the law is decided upon. The judges questioned the charging of movie house operators with showing obscene materials and again for the use of a "criminal instrument"—the movie projector.

Singleton questioned the Bexar County District Attorney Keith Burris about the seizing of the film projectors from the Fiesta Theater, which was showing "Deep Throat."

"In a book case would you have to have the linotype in evidence in order to test the obscenity of the book?" Singleton asked.

Burris said seizing the projectors was necessary for the state's case.

Singleton replied, "You say in order for the state to make a case on the film they have to make a seizure on the projector?"

"Yes sir," said Burris. "Inconceivable!" Singleton said.

"going to town," or making up his own ornamented variations as he goes along. Syncopation is also common to the two types of music. This involves accenting a beat that would not normally be emphasized. Music from "The Sting" by Scott Joplin, for example, is syncopated.

So the inference lingers that Bluegrass evolved as a poor man's Dixieland, a jazz that somehow lost—or gained—something on its way to—or from—the farm. By now, Steve's banjo has turned pink under the spotlight and a pair of black headphones are bobbing furiously behind the speaker boxes. Then there's only one song left. "In 1948," announces Gary, "Dad wrote a song. It was the first song he ever wrote. And later it was used as the theme for a movie. It's called the 'Foggy Mountain Breakdown.'" The whooping-stomping-yelling part starts immediately, then dies—a little. The Revue's own music builds to a feverish run as the clapping starts. Actor Warren Beatty called the Scruggs residence to secure permission to use that song for the theme to "Bonnie and Clyde." In 1969, Earl was awarded a Grammy for it. And he still doesn't read music. They play other songs but the collection of that ovation lingers: Earl, squinting, reeling away from the crowd, grinning to the sons behind him. "Hoo-wee," he yells under the roar, wiping the sweat from his brow. Which prompts the memory of something he said in the dressing room with a cold, stale sack of Whataburger french fries at his elbow. "I've been very thankful and feel honored," he said. "I've been very, very fortunate. It's very nice to be able to do what you want to do when your kids get up and still do what you like."