

# The Battalion

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## Board appointments, costly payoffs

### Former Students Executive Director contends

Board of Directors' appointments are costly political payoffs, said Richard "Buck" Weirus, executive director of the TAMU Former Students Association.

"When Dr. (Jack K.) Williams (president of TAMU) calls me to find out who an appointee is . . . something is wrong," said Weirus Saturday at a Student Government reunion.

"The president should be consulted."

Three terms on the A&M board expire Jan. 15. Ford D. Albritton, Jr. of Bryan, L. F. Peterson of Fort Worth and Joe H. Reynolds of Houston will be reappointed or replaced by Governor Dolph Briscoe. "I have not really consulted Gov. Briscoe about the appointments,"

said Williams. "I talk to Mr. Briscoe about a lot of things but not about the board appointments. Those nine people on the Board of Directors are my bosses."

Within the first two months of the year, Briscoe must make appointments or reappointments to about 600 board, agency and commission

places where terms of members are expiring.

Before 1975 is over, he will have placed more than 1,700 people in major and minor jobs.

During his four-year term, he will make enough such appointments to "control" every appointive state agency. That is to say, the people he selects will be in a majority of seats on the regulatory, licensing and administrative bodies.

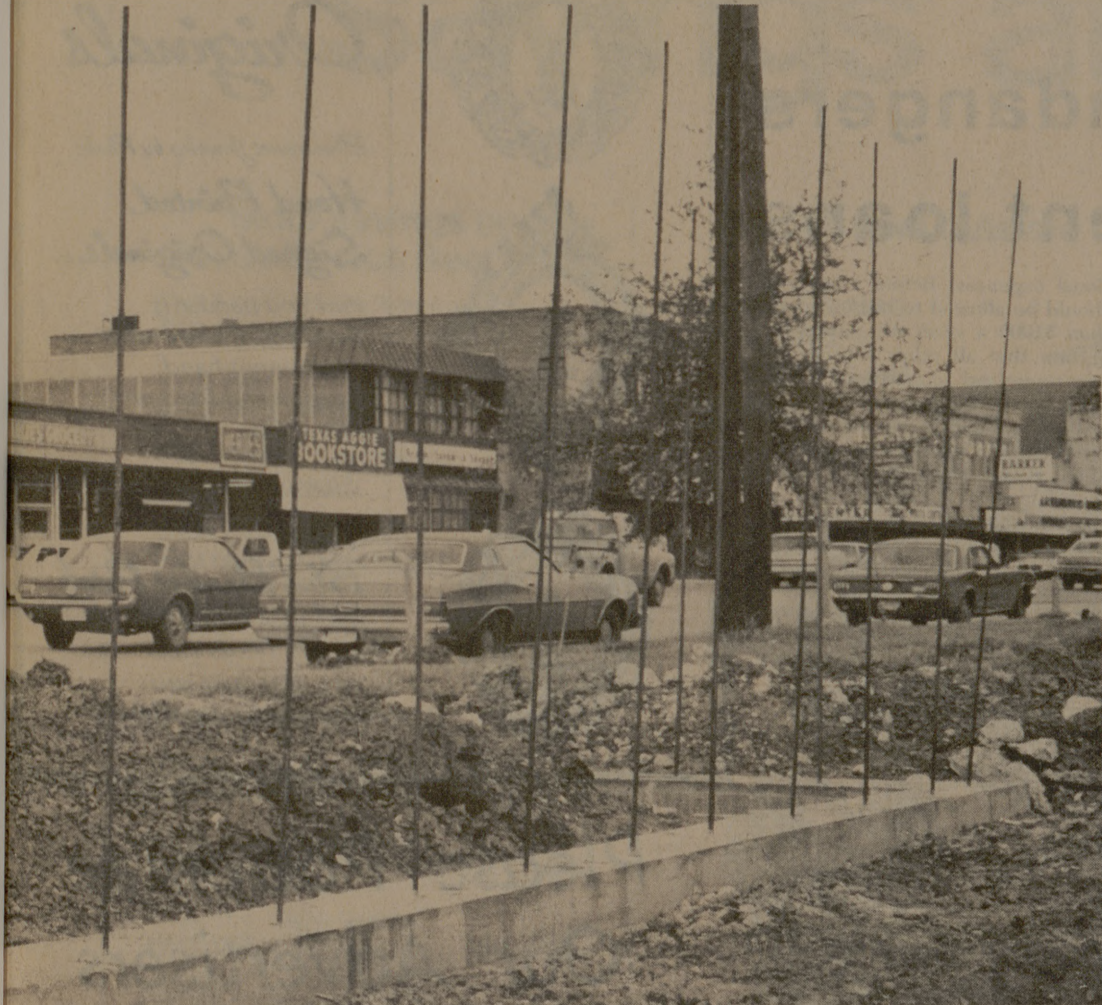
Nearly all the gubernatorial appointments are subject to confirmation by the State Senate.

Three University of Texas system board of regents members will come

to the end of their present terms January 13. The most controversial of the three, Frank Erwin Jr. of Austin, has stated he does not seek another term. Jenkins Garrett of Fort Worth and Dan C. Williams of Dallas also face expiring terms.

State Highway Commissioner D. C. Greer's term expires February 15. Briscoe has stated he will reappoint Joe Christie chairman of the State Insurance Board January 31.

Other agencies with powers reaching into all segments of economic life of the state have vacancies coming up which Briscoe will fill early this year.



(Photo by David Kimmel)

### Inside looking out.

Construction on the infamous North wall began during the Christmas holidays. This area, located at Northgate, will be completed soon followed by the remainder along University Drive.

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## Four counties responsible for most of Texas' oil spills

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP)—Nearly all of Texas' oil spills in the past two years have been off the coast of four counties—Harris, Jefferson, Orange and Galveston—a special report noted Tuesday.

Sen. A. R. Schwartz, D-Galveston, released the report in connection with his proposal to set up a \$50 million fund to protect Texas' coastal waters.

Schwartz filed another bill to allow public ownership of any superport that is built in the Gulf of Mexico to handle huge tankers carrying foreign oil.

Gov. Dolph Briscoe and Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby have urged private companies to apply for a superport license, but Schwartz said, "The only private interests which intend to apply are the 11 oil and petrochemical firms which comprise Seadock, Inc."

"The Seadock scheme is simply a monopoly, and the Bill of Rights of

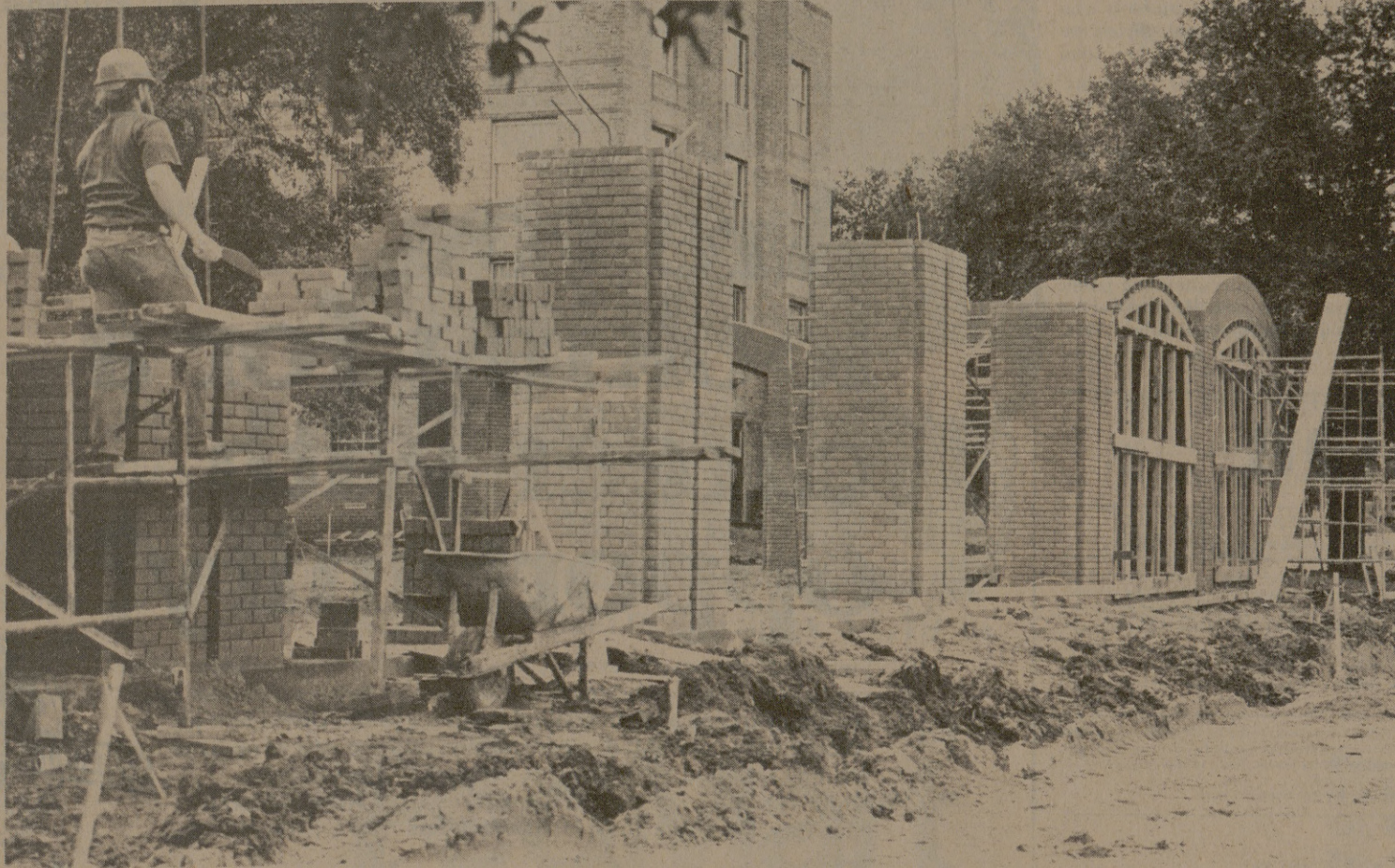
the Texas Constitution states, . . . monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free government and shall never be allowed . . . in the State," Schwartz said.

Rep. Larry Bales, D-Austin, said of the Briscoe-Hobby statement: "It is evident that the people of Texas have once again been taken for a ride by the large oil corporations and it is evident too that the big oil lobby has enlisted the support of the two highest elected officials in Texas

in their efforts to gouge the public out of excess petroleum profits."

Schwartz's bill would permit a public body to sell revenue bonds to develop the offshore port, and the bonds would be repaid with the fees of oil companies using the port.

"We must not place our coastal resources in the hands of special interest corporations with only a profit motive to guide them when the public interest is at stake for all time," he said.



(Photo by David Kimmel)

### Corps Arch

Construction will soon be completed on the arches at the entrance of the Corps area quad. The project is part of the beautification work being

done to coincide with the 1976 Centennial celebration.

## A&M in '75

What should it be in the new year?

By ALAN KILLINGSWORTH and GREG MOSES

Writing about Texas A&M during vacation isn't easy. The students evacuate and the student life dies. So we made a spot survey of those faculty and staff and few students left on campus. The question: "What things about Texas A&M in 1974 would you like to see changed in 1975? What things should remain the same?" We walked around campus, dropping in offices and stopping a few of the people who passed. We made no appointments because we wanted the answers to be spontaneous. The answers:

#### Steve Swanson, graduate, Geology

I wish that the library would stay open longer. They also need to have more people that will work the North entrance. I'm not sure why they have to barricade the entrance.

#### Andy Hajash, graduate, Geology

I don't think that the library should close during football games. I'd like to see the North door of the library remain open. There is a need for bike paths and more motorcycle parking.

#### Beverly Royse, secretary, Petroleum Engineering

My husband is a student and the increase in the building use fees was a big blow to the cost of tuition.

#### Lanell Corley, secretary, Cyclotron

I kind of hate to have the wall put up. It's gonna block my view of the outside. They should use the money for multi-layer parking.

#### Dave Torgerson, senior scientist, Cyclotron

I want A&M to beat Texas. "The Battalion" should improve its editorial content.

#### Alton Hassell, graduate, Chemistry

Tuition is my pet peeve. They claim that tuition is low, but the overall bill is high.

#### Ray Skowronski, graduate, Chemistry

There needs to be a better working relationship between the Student Body and the Student Senate . . . There needs to be more campus news and less national news in the Batt.

#### Lee Kassell, first year vet student

Move the building use fees down . . . Work out the parking situation. There are a lot of sources not being used.

#### P. T. Eubanks, professor, chemical engineering

Double or triple the parking on campus . . . The faculty salaries are not keeping up with inflation. The faculty in the last four or five years has lost the buying power. With 10 per cent inflation we get a 5 per cent pay increase.

#### Donald Garrett, instructor, mechanical engineering

I really think that there is a little discipline left here in the classrooms and in other activities. There is still respect for higher authority. I think that it's a good institution.

#### Fred Norcross, library doorman

The double price of the parking stickers is pitiful. I'm a senior citizen and I pay \$48 a year for only a half day of use. Maybe this might help some. I don't know.

#### Richard Andrew, student worker, library

Why does the school make poor use of its funds? Why build a wall and increase building use fees? . . . Why has candy gone up to 20 cents and the quantity gone down. It must go to President William's slush fund.

#### Bret Holland, graduate, zoology

I would like to see some intelligence in spending money. The wall, the mall, and the University Center.

#### Tony Bourgeois, associate professor, psychology

This university is so lovely and smooth. I can't think of anything that would enhance the situation. How can you improve on perfection?

#### Steve Gouge, graduate, history

You got an hour? The main thing is building use fees especially since they waste money on the things like the University Center. There should be more concern for the students in their spending procedures. The upcoming bond issue is useless to me because I will graduate in August.

#### T. H. Williams, director, English Language Institute.

We need more classrooms.

#### Dr. Anne Marie Elmquist, department head, modern languages

We need more classrooms . . . I like the University Center. Not the furniture though.

#### Candy Johnston, secretary, modern languages

There is not enough parking.

#### Susan Drugan, clerk, housing office

What the administration does, they say it's for the students but it's not . . . The wall, I mean, most of the students don't want a stupid wall . . . I don't like the idea that the employees can't criticize the administration without losing their jobs. It's like having a guardian.

#### Carol Hanson, student worker, housing

The university's faculty is stretched too thin. The students aren't getting the quality teaching they need. They can't meet the needs of the growth . . . There should be better concerts. Everyone that is rude should keep their mouth shut . . . There is too much priority given to the Corps of Cadets.

#### Glenn Jennings, manager, housing

I'm looking toward a better housing operation to offer the students a better and a complete service.

#### R. A. Lacey, registrar

The greatest thing was the tremendous growth in students. We led the nation. We expect 1975 to be another great (See CAMPUS, page 2)

## Today



### Inside

Loan defaults . . . . . p. 2  
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### Weather

Fair to partly cloudy and mild, Wednesday and Thursday. High both days 72°. Low tonight 46°.

## Vet school opens A&M for spring

Three-hundred and ninety-four students returned to classes Monday (Jan. 6) as the College of Veterinary Medicine opened its spring trimester.

The remainder of the student body begins class in two weeks on Jan. 20.

A record 20,500 spring enrollment is estimated by registrar Robert Lacey, a figure that would overshadow even the fall enrollment last year by 2,000.

A new mark was set in the fall semester of 1974 as 21,500 pupils signed up for A&M courses.

Veterinary students have been on holiday break since Dec. 13 and now are in the trimester that ends April 18.

Spring recesses are planned for A&M classes in mid-March.