

## Weather

Partly cloudy and mild Thursday and Friday. Northeasterly winds 6-12 mph. High both days mid-80s. Low tonight 63.

# The Battalion

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The new wooden floor of the high school gym was flooded by the rain following the high winds of the tornado. School officials called it a total loss. One

student commented, "I am sure glad basketball season is over."

Photo by Alan Killingsworth

## Corps changes whip-out policy

By DON MIDDLETON  
Staff Writer

"I do not exaggerate at all when I tell you that the future of the Corps is in your hands," said Gen. Ormond R. Simpson, assistant vice president for student services, addressing a meeting of newly appointed Corps of Cadets commanders, sergeants and sergeants-major.

The retired Marine lieutenant general expressed concern over the loss of numbers the Corps has been experiencing the last few years. Simpson stated that since 1965, when membership in the Corps was made voluntary, the total number of cadets per year has declined by

one-third.

This year alone 370 cadets resigned from the Corps, including 29 percent of the freshman class. Total enrollment is now below 2,000.

"The strength of the Corps is less than it has been in 50 years," said Simpson.

"The Corps is suffering from self-inflicted wounds," Simpson stated, "and not from external forces at all. No one is more concerned about the Corps than President Williams. The Corps has no greater friend. He is determined to insure that the Corps will survive and prosper."

Simpson further stated, "Our concern is not because of great things done in the past. The reason

I'm here tonight is I believe the Corps of Cadets makes a great contribution to its members, and an even greater contribution far out of proportion to its numbers, to A&M."

In an effort to counter the current trend, Corps leaders have been busy since the beginning of the semester conducting seminars and gathering information from all members of the Corps in order to decide what areas warranted change.

The first of the changes to be implemented in the manner in which cadets introduce themselves, or "whipping out".

"Whipping out should be a friendly gesture, a way to meet fellow Aggies, and not the belligerent, mechanical action it's developed into the past few years," said Deputy Corps Commander-designate Bill Helwig at an earlier meeting of next year's commanders.

Corps Commander-designate Joe Chandler stressed that the change in the whipping out policy was "not the panacea for all the ills of the Corps," but the first of many changes vital to the future of the Corps.

Reaction to the change has been mixed, with some cadets voicing strong approval while others believe that the new way of whipping out will kill the Corps faster than the old way.

Under the old rules, a freshman was required to approach an upperclassman from the right side, walk in the same step and perform a series of stiff motions while speaking in a loud voice.

The new policy allows approach from any side and a friendly extension of the hand while speaking in a clear tone of voice. All cadets whip out in the same manner, the words changing from to class to class.

Simpson expressed strong approval of the change and of the entire program in general.

"What I've seen happening here in the last six weeks is the most encouraging thing I've seen in a long time," Simpson said.

## Rights Act bill defeated in tie vote

(AP) — A proposal allowing states to free themselves of coverage by the Voting Rights Act was defeated Wednesday by a tie vote in the House Judiciary Committee.

But Rep. M. Caldwell Butler, R-Va., said he would offer the proposal again when a bill extending the Voting Rights Act through 1985 reaches the floor.

"If you accept the theory that the Judiciary Committee is more liberal than the floor, the tie vote indicates that the proposal will pass on the floor," said Butler after the action.

The proposal, an amendment to the Voting Rights Act extension, was supported by the committee's Republicans and most members from Southern and border states.

The proposal would allow the states to obtain a federal court order exempting them from the act if they have achieved a 60 per cent voter turnout of whites and minorities in a presidential election and have not been guilty of voting rights infractions for five years.

## Citizens begin rebuilding process

# Calvert damage evident

By ALAN KILLINGSWORTH  
Staff Writer

The citizens of Calvert, Texas spent Tuesday night waiting for the sun, wondering exactly what had happened to their town.

It was that evening that a tornado ripped a 300-yard path through their city. Six people were injured. "Everybody heard it coming," M. L. Evans said. "It sounded like 40 fighter planes flying over the town. And then, it was here."

Reports were that the wind was so strong during the five minutes it lasted, trees were doubling over and touching the ground. Winds were estimated at 300-400 miles per hour.

Early yesterday morning, the town looked just a little more excited than it does on any other day. Most of the people were walking around looking for the place where they could offer a hand in cleaning and salvaging through the mess.

Trees and branches were scattered through the street and the sound of chain saws buzzed across the town. Then there were those who just didn't know where to start.

Aid started arriving early Wednesday morning. People from towns surrounding Calvert brought machinery or even a tray of sandwiches. The National Guard arrived Tuesday night and had been patrolling the area for looters. No one knew who called the Guard but they

all seemed to appreciate their presence.

Both Calvert schools were hit hard by the storm. The tornado started at the elementary school and ended at the high school.

The cafeteria of the elementary school had been set up as a shelter for what the volunteers could salvage. Books were stacked on the stage and an occasional truckload of desks and chairs from the destroyed wings were unloaded for safe keeping.

The new high school gym floor was about three inches deep with water. One of the high school students mumbled, "I sure am glad basketball season is over."

The basements of the schools had been set up as headquarters for the local Civil Air Patrol (CAP). The student members had stayed up all night helping people and setting up the only communication system that Calvert had. They were out of touch with the outside world for six hours.

The student patrolmen, looking tired and trying to get down the roast beef that people had brought for workers, stood in front of school and talked about what they had seen.

"Everyone inside!" yelled a CAP officer. "They've spotted another one just west of here. Move along. Let's get in the basement."

Some of the children in the hallway started to yell about going

home. They moved to the basement until they got the "all clear."

The work never stopped. With the threat of another tornado came rain. What little that could be salvaged had to be stored in a dry place, and crews were continually moving things from one place to the next when they saw that the roof was not holding.

"We have lost everything," said Jack Unger. "It wasn't insured and we'll have to move on."

Unger owned 100 Texas Place where Calvert had its arts and crafts show this week. More than 6,000 had attended. The building was demolished.

Unger was in the building at the time the storm hit. He and his wife, Gracia, were walking through the show area when the roof started to lift off the structure. They ran for the stair case, trying to find safety from the flying bricks. Rafters fell from the ceiling and mortar covered Unger and his wife.

A section of the roof flew off and wrecked a truck on Highway 6. Gracia Unger suffered abrasions and was hit by a flying brick.

The Calvert City Hall was full of action. The mayor, Cooper Wiese, was trying to organize salvage operations. He hadn't contacted Governor Briscoe nor had he thought of asking for aid. He said he thought that Calvert was doing pretty well on its own.

When asked if there was any panic by the citizens after the tornado hit, he replied, "The people in Calvert don't panic. If they were to strike oil in Main Street, maybe four people would turn out to see what was going on."

He said "excuse me" and left looking just a little more excited than he would on any other day in Calvert.



Fontana Ford Co. in Calvert suffered extensive damage when the twister dipped out of the southeast damaging several buildings in the downtown area. Photo by Alan Killingsworth

## Dallas seeks state suit

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas school superintendent Nolan Estes said Wednesday he will ask the 40 largest school districts in the state to join the Dallas district in a suit against the State of Texas asking for relief from the "inequitable system of state aid to education."

Estes said the situation in the legislature, "never has been more chaotic and confusing." He said he has little faith the lawmakers would act in the five weeks remaining in the session to enact a new school financing system.

He suggested the school board travel to Austin next Wednesday in a last-ditch effort to get action from the legislators.

Estes also urged Gov. Dolph Briscoe "to veto any band-aid reform bills" which do not change the property tax assessment formula.

He added he would ask Dallas civic groups to join the teacher organizations in an appeal for support of a new education bill.

"I am not sure parents realize we are talking about cutting school programs for kids and lowering school programs to mediocrity if the re-

form measures are not passed," he stated.

He told a meeting of the school board that without changes in the

state's funding system, taxpayers will have a choice between higher local taxes or cutbacks in educational programs next year.



Kyle Field Astroturf Removed

The worn and faded astroturf on Kyle Field is being replaced. Workmen are ripping up the old turf with the help of special machines.

The new turf will be ready for the 1975 football season.

Photo by David McCarroll

## Runoff elections held today

Student Senate runoff elections are being held today from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Students can vote at the MSC, Library, Fowler Hall lounge and the Guard Room in the Corps area.

Those senate positions being contested are as follows:

College of Education (sophomore) — Debbie McWilliams, Sharon Watkins, Mike Forehand and Binnie Bendele

College of Architecture and Environmental Design — Tom Kolaja, Kim Bush, Randy Hohlaus, Doug Gates

College of Agriculture (sophomore) — Bryan Crittendon, Jim Wilson, Shelley White, Greg Parks

Undergraduate off campus (12 positions available) — Steve Ingram, Kay Zenner, Joanne Arnold, Debbie Boyd, Brad Brown, Karen Gilmer, Mike Garrett, Dave Johnson, Tom Donahue, Athena Dalrymple, Marcy Roman, Jimmy Arnold, Dick White, Joy Drum-

Couples who had their pictures taken at the Junior Ball may pick them up Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in the Memorial Student Center. They are available at the main desk in the Student Programs Office.

mond, Jess Pettit, Randy Blair, David Hill, James B. Galbraith, Shari Mauthner, Jim James, Robert Graham, Jay Janica, Clayton Smith, Greg Grubb, Saralyn Thompson, Mark Schrier, James Radaack, Pat Pamplin, John Swiegood, Joe Wil-

liams, Joe Anders Jr., Gordon Pederson, Thomas Lane Allen, Chuck Chimpco.

The Walton-Leggett-Milner-Hotard race is being contested between Paul Mueller and Raymond DuBois.

## Tariff delayed; controls lifted

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ford announced Wednesday he is delaying a new oil tariff hike for about 30 days but will take executive action to remove all price controls from domestic crude oil over a two-year period.

Federal Energy Administrator Frank Zarb told newsmen at the White House that a \$1-a-barrel increase in oil tariffs, scheduled to take effect Thursday, would be postponed in the hope that the House will vote on an energy program acceptable to Ford before it recesses for Memorial Day on May 21.

Zarb said the Federal Energy Administration, at Ford's direction, will begin hearings immediately on an administration plan to remove all price controls on domestically produced crude — a process he said could be completed prior to the

congressional recess. Zarb said the present controls would be lifted at a pace of about 4 percent a month over a two-year period.

Once the FEA hearing process is completed, he said, Ford would announce a specific decontrol program that would go into effect five days later unless Congress voted in the interim to reject it.

Ford is hopeful, Zarb reported, that the House will vote before it recesses on an energy plan that would meet his objective of curtailing oil imports by two million barrels a day by the end of 1977 through the use of "reasonable market mechanisms."

Zarb said the dollar-a-barrel tariff hike would take effect in about 30 days unless Ford decided sooner "there is just no hope" of getting the type of legislation he seeks.