

Today's high 64
Today's low 36
Tomorrow's high 65
Chance of precipitation
Today none
Tomorrow none

The Battalion

Weather

Fair becoming partly cloudy
Tuesday and Wednesday. North-
easterly winds and cool.

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College Station, Texas

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1975

Three jail escapees attack state trooper

Associated Press
SNYDER, Tex. — Three jail escapees from Amarillo were behind bars again today after reportedly attacking a 21-year-old state trooper who singlehandedly tried to arrest them.
Also in custody was a woman who Amarillo authorities believe helped the prisoners escape.
Potter County Sheriff T. L. Baker was to return the escapees to the jail in Amarillo, about 220 miles northwest of Snyder.
Baker identified the escapees as Charles Rumbaugh, 18, held for murder; Michael Joe Sutton, held for armed robbery; and Roger Barrett, 24, an escapee from New Mexico.
The name of the arrested woman was withheld pending formal charges.
Department of Public Safety patrolman Keith Pherigo stopped the escapees and the woman on the outskirts of Snyder because he said their car looked suspicious.
When the male driver of the car had no driver's license, Pherigo took the man to the Scurry County Courthouse in town, with the woman and three men following in the suspect's car.
Pherigo, 21, of Snyder, who has been a DPS officer for just 14 months, ran a license check on the car and found it did not check. He asked for a backup DPS unit.

As the young officer led the four people into the courthouse, he said, the three men suddenly jumped him and one held a butcher knife at his throat.
"I could feel the knife was sharp and it was cutting into my neck. They said they were going to kill me," he recounted to The Associated Press. "I grabbed the knife with my hands, and at the same time I could feel they were going to kill me," he recounted to The Associated Press. "I grabbed the knife with my hands, and at the same time I could feel they were trying to get my gun. I grabbed my gun and dropped to the ground."
"The three of them jumped on me and finally got my gun away. Then they ordered me to go with them back down to their car, just like we came in."
On the way to the car, a second DPS patrol car arrived and Pherigo said he grabbed the man with his gun and tried to get it back. A struggle ensued, he said, but when the prisoners saw the other DPS officer arrive, they surrendered.
In Amarillo earlier, Sheriff Baker said the men cut through a three-eighths-inch steel plating in the maximum security section of the Potter County Jail. They then saved through a barred window and dropped 100 feet to the ground on

ropes braided from blankets.
Jail officials said the men were last seen at 2:30 a.m. Monday, but were gone at 7 a.m.
Baker said the three escapees "had to have outside help." He said a woman friend of one of the escapees had been staying at a motel near the jail. After the escape, officers could not locate her.
Baker, who tried to overpower a jailer last week, was arrested in Amarillo on Aug. 6 after escaping from jail in Albuquerque, N.M., Aug. 1 with four others. He was held on charges of armed robbery, kidnaping, aggravated assault on a police officer and auto theft stemming from a May 2 jewelry store robbery in Albuquerque.
He also faced charges of robbery involving a \$50,000 jewel heist earlier this year in Arkadelphia, Ark.
Rumbaugh was being held on a murder charge stemming from the robbery of an Amarillo jewelry store in April. He is wanted in San Angelo on a warrant charging aggravated robbery in May.
Sutton was charged in Amarillo in April with aggravated robbery after the holdup of a pizza parlor. He also is charged with the theft of diamonds in Tulsa, Okla.



Santa's Helpers

Lynn Harper sits on Santa's (Mike Flowers) knee while Marla Gammon (L) and Dana Weatherly (R) wait their turn during the Host and Fashion Show "Winter Wonderland" presented December 7. The show was sponsored by the MSC Student Programs. Photo by David McCarroll.

NOW asks for withdrawal of SC candidate Stevens

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The National Organization for Women is asking President Ford to withdraw the Supreme Court nomination of John Paul Stevens because he said he would be "more concerned" about discrimination against blacks than against women.
Stevens, who is returning for further testimony today before the Senate Judiciary Committee, told the panel Monday that blacks "are a more disadvantaged group" than women.
The committee and the full Senate are expected to approve Stevens' nomination to the high court.
His testimony led NOW President Karen DeCrow to issue a statement saying, "NOW is disgusted at this blatant example of the white male power structure pitting women against minority males and making us all scramble for the crumbs of power."
Ms. DeCrow said, "The NOW board is profoundly shocked that President Ford is not able to see the significance not only of not appointing a woman to the bench but of appointing a man who is so against women's rights that he does not even understand the issues of civil rights for women in 1975."
Stevens also told the committee Monday that he believes in equality of the sexes. But he said he is not sure the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution would accomplish much beyond the equal protection clause

of the 14th amendment, "aside from its symbolic value."
Stevens also said he is against putting any litigants, even victims of past discrimination, in a favored class. Instead, he testified he felt "my primary obligation is to deal with litigants impartially."
The issue of "reverse discrimination" was raised by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., who said he thinks that in the civil rights area courts have recognized that simply striking down discriminatory laws is not enough.
Kennedy said they frequently have gone beyond that to require affirmative action, like school busing, to remedy the effects of long patterns of discrimination.
He wanted to know if Stevens, now a judge on the 7th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago, was "sufficiently concerned" to feel that judicial action of that kind is necessary.
Stevens told him that in many cases affirmative action by the courts is necessary, but he added that "these things really depend on the facts in a particular situation."
Most of Monday's hearing went smoothly for Stevens, who drew high praise from the American Bar Association and from Illinois senators, Republican Charles H. Percy and Democrat Adlai E. Stevenson III.
Several of the committee members also told the 55-year-old jurist that they intended to recommend Senate confirmation of his nomination.

Stevens' nomination to fill the Supreme Court vacancy created by the retirement of Justice William O. Douglas was submitted to the Senate by President Ford on Dec. 1.
Barring unexpected developments, there were indications the committee may vote on the nomination before the end of the week.
Beirut sees 'worst night' in civil war
Associated Press
BEIRUT, Lebanon — Christian gunmen with their backs to the Mediterranean held out against a fierce encircling assault by Moslem forces in Beirut's downtown hotel and commercial district today.
A police spokesman said more than 50 persons were killed and hundreds were wounded during the night. The government radio said it was "the worst and cruelest night of fighting" in the eight-month-old civil war for control of the country.
Police said at least 125 persons have been killed in the latest round of fighting. It began Saturday night after a massacre by both sides in which police said 128 persons were murdered.
The heaviest fighting was in the seaside area that includes the major tourist hotels, the main commercial district and the banking district, once the financial heart of the Middle East.
An estimated 700 Moslems pushed ahead in a pincer movement that virtually surrounded the Christians, cutting them off from the Ashrafieh, their stronghold inside the city.
Half a dozen big fires burned out of control after fierce rocket and mortar exchanges. They included one in the 500-room Phoenicia Hotel complex where Christian militiamen were besieged.
The Moslems apparently were trying to push to the sea near the port of Beirut, which adjoins Ashrafieh, and cut off the Christian fighters in the hotel and commercial district.
The Christians were holding out in several tall buildings in the area including the Holiday Inn, the Phoenicia, the unfinished Hilton Hotel and the Starco office complex.
The government radio told all residents to stay indoors for the third straight day.
Christian and Moslem militias also traded mortar barrages in suburban battle areas on the northern and eastern sides of the city.
A meeting of 24 religious and political leaders called by Christian President Suleiman Franjeh was cancelled after Moslem leaders refused to attend until Franjeh announces a program of political reforms.
The Moslems want to wrest political control from the Christian minority, which holds the presidency, the armed forces command and the majority of the seats in the parliament under a 1943 agreement drawn up when the Christians were in the majority.

IRA gunmen refuse food in exchange for hostage

Associated Press
LONDON — Irish Republican Army gunmen holding a man and his wife hostage in the living room of their London apartment for the third day refused today to exchange the woman for food, police reported.
Police offered the three or four gunmen their first meal since the siege began Saturday night in exchange for the release of Sheila Matthews, 53. But the gunmen rejected the proposal in a

Moluccan captive dies during escape

Associated Press
AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands — An Indonesian injured in escaping from South Moluccan nationalists who seized the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam died during the night, the Justice Ministry reported today.
E. Abedy, a 52-year-old consular official, was the first fatality in the six-day-old siege at the consulate, where about 25 hostages are reported held. Three Dutchmen were killed by another group of South Moluccans who hijacked a train in northern Holland last Tuesday and are holding about 3 persons hostage.
A spokesman said Abedy was injured in a fall while escaping down a rope from an upper window of the consulate. A second man was shot by the Moluccans during their assault, but there has been no report on his condition.
An Indonesian Embassy official was to meet today with a representative of the Moluccans, but police expressed doubt that either siege would end soon.
The political counselor of the Indonesian Embassy, Surjadi Kromomihardjo, agreed to meet with the Rev. Semeul Metiary after the gunman who seized the consulate last Thursday released a 14-year-old Indonesian girl and three boys 13, 14 and 17 years old.
Surjadi said he would only talk with Metiary in a private, unofficial capacity, not as a representative of the Embassy. The Embassy refused to have any official contact with the Moluccans

to avoid any appearance of recognition of their demand for independence for their native islands in Indonesia.
Dutch officials have made no attempt to negotiate with the Moluccans aboard the train since the breakdown Sunday of mediation efforts by a leader of the South Moluccan community in The Netherlands, Johan Alvares Manusama.
The freed children were the last of 16 who were attending an Indonesian school in the consulate building when the gunmen broke in last Thursday. They said there were seven Moluccans occupying the consulate, not six as the police previously believed, and that they were holding 27 adult hostages. But shortly after midnight the gunmen released one of the adults, an Indonesian teacher in the school who police said was suffering pneumonia.
Police believe there are six Moluccans aboard the train, which was hijacked last Tuesday, and that they are still holding 31 hostages. Three other hostages have been killed.
The Moluccans are demanding that the Dutch government take their demand for independence in the South Moluccan islands to the United Nations. The islands in the south central part of the Indonesian archipelago were part of the prewar Dutch East Indies which became independent Indonesia in 1949. Thousands of the Moluccans fled to The Netherlands after an unsuccessful rebellion in 1950.

Bill collector talents unite dogs, owners

Associated Press
MOUNT PROSPECT, Ill. — Using his talent as a former bill collector, Bob Franks has become a dog sleuth dedicated to reuniting lost dogs with their owners.
Incorporated in August as the Society of St. Francis, placed ads in newspapers with a dog-lost hotline number and so far have returned 84 dogs to their owners," said 41-year-old Franks, once collection manager of a Chicago bank.
Franks says his work as a dog detective stems from his love of the animals and the emotional satisfaction of saving strays from being put to sleep.
"My parents would never let me have a dog in my childhood and I guess I was determined to have as many as I wanted when I grew up," he says.
As for his corporation named after the saint of animals, Franks said, "I'm using my savings — which should last about a year — to run the operation. No donations are solicited, but sometimes they are sent in."
"In October and November, my phone bills were \$39 and donations were only \$11,"

TOP OF THE NEWS

Texas Democrats plan presidential primary

Associated Press
FORT WORTH, Tex. — With a minimum of discussion and debate, Texas Democratic leaders have started the ball rolling for their party's first and perhaps last presidential primary.
The State Democratic Executive Committee wound up its year-end meeting Monday by adopting rules governing the selection of the 130 delegates and 70 alternates who will represent Texas at the national convention in July.
In an abbreviated session that ended shortly after noon, the 64 committee members approved rules that:
— Call for the party to hold its state conventions in June and September on two days, rather than one, a move that some say is designed to speed up the Democratic process.
— Leave up to the delegates at the state convention — through their votes in a straw poll on the presidential preferences — the selection of 32 at-large delegates and all the alternates.
— Allocate three delegates each from all but five of the state's 31 senatorial districts to the national convention. Those five get an extra delegate apiece, based on the amounts of votes cast in the districts in the 1968 and 1972 elections.
There are two districts in Harris County, and one each in Travis, Nueces and Bexar counties, which will draw the extra delegate.
The SDEC also voted for the first time ever Monday to hold the June convention on a weekend, rather than during the week, a move hailed by liberals as a further step to show that control is being taken out of the hands of the conservative element.
The convention is to be held here either the weekend of June 11 and 12 or June 18 and 19, depending on the availability of hotel rooms and the Tarrant County Convention Center.
Members of the legislature early this year agreed that Texas should join 29 other states which hold presidential primaries.

They decided, however, the legislation should just pertain to the 1976 election year.
Some SDEC members were saying privately this weekend that Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, who sought the act as then Sen. Lyndon Johnson did in 1960, is regretting the decision. They contend Bentsen's campaign for the presidential nomination is lagging and that a strong showing by either George Wallace, Jimmy Carter or any of the others in the race will make it that much harder for the Texas Democrat to get the nomination.
Bentsen's campaign chairman in Texas, Agriculture Commissioner John White, Monday denied the charge that Bentsen is faltering and said that he will campaign actively here, as he (Bentsen) will do in many other states.
Both conservatives and liberals indicated they could live with the new convention rules.

Campus
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY'S fall commencement exercises will be Saturday, at 9 a.m. in the G. Rollie White Coliseum. Ford D. Albritton, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Tipperary Corp. in Midland, and of the Ashbrook Corp. in Houston, will speak to the expected 1,260 graduates.
AIR FORCE Lt. Gen. John W. Roberts will address newly-commissioned officers at fall commencement ceremonies Saturday. Gen. Roberts commands the Air Training Command headquartered at Randolph AFB. Commissioning starts at 1:30 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.
THE AGGIE BASKETBALL team plays Sam Houston State Tuesday night. The girls' game begins at 5:15 p.m. and the Varsity tips off at 7:30.
REFRIGERATORS may be re-rented for a \$20 fee, or returned December 11-12 and 15-19. If the refrigerator is clean and defrosted, the \$10 deposit will be refunded. For further information call Allesson King at 845-3051.
THE STUDENT Y ASSOCIATION has a Community Christmas service planned for December 11. The service will be held at the Rudder Tower fountain, beginning at 7 p.m. Larry Grubbs, student worker for the A&M Methodist Church, will be the speaker.

National
HENRY A. KISSINGER, secretary of state, is holding up a final decision on a trip to Moscow until he has assurances from the Soviet Union that it is ready to break the nuclear arms deadlock. U.S. officials said Kissinger made the point to Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin after summoning him to the State Department last night.
THREE of the four Texas shrimp boats are expected to be released today after paying fines for allegedly fishing in Mexican territorial waters, Mexican authorities said.
A spokesman at the U.S. embassy in Mexico City said yesterday that the other boat will not be freed because the Mexicans say that it resisted when they tried to detain it. It didn't stop.