

# The Battalion

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## Top of the News Campus

**GIL MILLER**, an assistant math professor here will present a lecture on "Creation and Cosmogony" tonight in Rudder Tower 401 at 7:30. **THE STUDENT SENATE** has openings for senators in the following positions: Graduate, College of Agriculture; Graduate, off-campus; College of Veterinary Medicine; Cain-Hotard-Walton-McInnis-Schuhmacher; Graduate, College of Engineering. Interviews for the positions will be held Jan. 17-18. For information contact Student Government, MSC 216.

**TWO HUNDRED YEARS** of Americana, depicted in cartoons and caricatures, will be on display today in the MSC Gallery, Room 104. The exhibition, entitled "The Image of America in Caricature and Cartoon," is sponsored by the MSC Arts Committee. An open reception will be given tomorrow in the Gallery at 2 p.m.

**ENGLISH 489A**, the language of film, will be offered in the spring semester as English 251. The only prerequisite is freshman English.

## Texas

**A PESTICIDE** manufactured in a Houston chemical plant may be the cause of nerve diseases that have affected several workers at the facility, a federal official says.

The pesticide, lephophos, was manufactured at the plant from 1971 until the company ceased production of the material in January 1976.

George Pettigrew, regional consultant for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Dallas, said some of the affected workers had symptoms associated with multiple sclerosis. Pettigrew said his main concern is to find past employees who might be experiencing some neurological symptoms.

**JOHN CONNALLY** plugged for a six-year term for U.S. president yesterday and said events out of the control of the chief executive would cause Jimmy Carter to have a struggle if he seeks re-election in 1980.

The former Texas governor told a news conference at Trinity University he thinks those events include problems with the economy, international relations and bureaucracy.

**THE RAILROAD COMMISSION** reported yesterday that 22 wildcat oil wells and 13 wildcat gas wells were drilled in Texas during the last half of November, maintaining the lead on last year's pace.

The commission reported that 6,769 oil wells have been completed this year, 544 more than at this time last year. A total of 3,824 gas wells have been completed, 726 more than a year ago.

## National

**PRESIDENT FORD**, as one of his last acts, may ask Congress to outlaw sex discrimination. This would give women the legal protection that Congress gave blacks and other racial minorities in the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

**ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS** that could raise President-elect Jimmy Carter's hopes of balancing the federal budget during his term are being considered by a congressional panel.

The Congressional Budget Office, in a report issued yesterday, said this year's estimated \$50.6-billion deficit could turn into a surplus of as much as \$78 billion by the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 1980.

But the budget office report carefully stressed that its projections should not be considered predictions.

**WHITE HOUSE** officials say President Ford probably won't try to force the steel industry to roll back its new price increases, but the incoming Democratic administration has expressed its willingness to pressure the industry into compliance. Vice president-elect Walter Mondale criticized the steel industry's 6 per cent boost in prices on a major product as a "very ominous pattern for the economy." The new prices, which took effect yesterday, cover flatrolled steel, the kind used in the manufacture of autos and appliances.

## World

**YITZHAK RABIN**, Israel's prime minister, said in Paris yesterday that his country is ready to work with its Arab neighbors on "any aspect of economic cooperation" even without a formal Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

He said that he felt the benefits derived from common economic projects would accelerate the movement towards peace. He also said that he expects a major Arab-Israeli peace initiative next year.

## weather

Partly cloudy and a little warmer today. Fair tonight and tomorrow. High today in the low 60s. Low tonight near 40. High Friday in the mid-60s. No precipitation forecast.

## Senate suggests formation of Aggieland advisory board

A five-student advisory committee will counsel Texas A&M's Aggieland yearbook on future editions of that yearbook if University President Jack Williams follows a recommendation the student senate made last night.

The senate voted last night after 2½ hours of discussion to ask Williams to establish the board on a strictly advisory basis. The senate had difficulty deciding what to do with the Aggieland bill. Sen. Mary Ellen Martin proposed the advisory board form of the recommendation early in the meeting as an amendment, but the senators defeated it the first time. However, after another hour of discussion and several aborted attempts at a final decision, Corps Commander Robert Harvey recommended another vote on the advisory board version, and it then passed, 37-12.

The three-hour meeting was totally dominated by the Aggieland discussion, with only one other bill coming up for a vote. Under the senate's recommendation, an advisory board to allow student input on the yearbook would have representatives from student government, the Residence Hall Association, the Corps of Cadets and the Memorial Student Center (MSC) Council.

The bill originally had called for an editorial board to replace Aggieland editor Gary Baldasari and take over all his duties. How-

ever, through their discussions most senators showed they considered the editorial board either an infringement of free speech or not entirely legal.

A letter from Bob G. Rogers, chairman of the Student Publications Board, which Harvey read to the senate probably helped gain support for the advisory board. The Publications Board is the student-faculty committee that hires and fires Aggieland and Battalion editors and handles business affairs for the two publications.

Harvey quoted Rogers in the letter as saying he welcomed a student group to help advise the yearbook editor, but opposed an editorial board that would replace the editor.

Controversy over the Aggieland first appeared with the 1976 Aggielands in late October. Some students complained about pages in the yearbook they call "derogatory" and "in bad taste."

As corps member and senator Michael Springer reiterated last night, some felt "the Corps was flat-out insulted." Recommendations in the meeting ranged from outright removal of Baldasari at any cost to asking for a Publications Board investigation into his competence, to a possible public reprimand of the editor.

The senate recommendation ultimately stems from Baldasari's being editor for the 1977 yearbook as well as the 1976 edition.

A number of senators expressed fears that he would produce another yearbook next year that they'd consider controversial. When the senators approved the final yearbook recommendation at 10:50 p.m., they began filtering out of the senate chambers one by one. The one other recommendation the senators voted on requested that University administrators and deans be made eligible as they now are not for the Distinguished Achievement Awards given each spring by the Former Students Association.

After rushing through the Achievement Awards recommendation and a small amount of new business, the senators seemed ready to break and run when Senate Speaker Lynn Gibson strode out from behind his podium and began a five-minute "speaker gripe session," as he called it.

Gibson chastised the senators for meetings such as last night's "where you destroy a bill, rebuild it, then destroy and rebuild it again." His voice resounding across the suddenly quiet senate chambers, he called to them for more self-pride and professionalism. "If you're interested in helping the students, you've got to prove it in here before you can out there," he shouted at them. And they listened, then applauded. Then they adjourned and broke and ran.

—Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

## Ford's half-brother, Leslie King, dies in car, tractor-trailer wreck

Associated Press

**LEBANON, Tenn.** — Leslie Henry King, President Ford's 53-year-old half brother, was killed today when his car collided head-on with a tractor-trailer on Interstate 40 near this Central Tennessee town, police said.

A White House spokesman said shortly after state police announced King's death that President Ford had not yet been informed of the accident.

State police Sgt. Ron Hill said King's car was westbound in the eastbound lane of the Interstate when it hit the tractor-trailer. King, a resident of Cookeville, Tenn., where he owned an auto parts store, was alone in the car and apparently was killed outright, Hill said.

The driver of the tractor-trailer, Billy Hudson, was not injured, Hill said. Hill said it took more than an hour to cut King's body from the tangled wreckage.

Witnesses told police that King had been driving in the wrong direction for several miles, Hill said.

Operators of Citizens Band radios who saw King driving the wrong way said they tried unsuccessfully to warn him off the highway.

His body was taken to McFarland Hospital in Lebanon.

Hill said an investigation would be made.

King was one of three children born to Ford's father, Leslie L. King, by a second marriage.

President Ford, born in Omaha, Neb., in 1913, was the only child of the first marriage and originally was named Leslie L. King Jr.

His parents divorced in 1915, and the

following year his mother married Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids, Mich., who adopted the baby and renamed him. Mrs. Ford subsequently bore three other sons.

Ford did not learn until he was a teenager that he was the adopted son of his mother's second husband.

King, who also was a hunting guide, said he recalled first meeting his half-brother when Ford was an assistant football coach at Yale University in New Haven, Conn., where Ford attended law school.

During the years that followed, they exchanged letters and met whenever Ford's

political trips took him into Tennessee.

After Ford became president in 1974, King, who was a member of the state Republican executive committee, invited him to visit the state. He said then he felt closer personally to Ford than to either of his two full sisters "because of our political thinking."

King was an active supporter of Ford's recent election campaign in Tennessee. While campaigning in the state, he indicated he was thinking of seeking office himself, saying he might "run for something instead of somebody."

## Execution of Livingston delayed by Justice Powell

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. has postponed the scheduled Dec. 10 execution of convicted Texas murderer James Livingston.

Powell acted yesterday to give the full court time to consider Livingston's formal appeal that he be spared the electric chair. He was one of two men sentenced to death for the 1974 murders of three persons during a robbery of a rural North Texas grocery store.

The other convicted murderer, Robert Excell White, has pleaded with the high court to let him die. White's lawyers, however, have asked the court to delay his

execution. White's case is being considered by all nine justices.

Livingston, his brother, Gary Dale Livingston and White were arrested in Mississippi a few days after the three persons were shot to death at McKinney, Tex. The victims were a 73-year-old store operator and two teen-aged customers.

Gary Dale Livingston was sentenced to life in prison after he plead guilty to a murder charge.

The Texas death penalty and death penalty laws in Florida and Georgia were upheld last July 2 by the U.S. Supreme Court. Justice Powell is considering the cases because he handles matters for the U.S. Fifth Circuit, which includes Texas.

## Opponents plan to halt execution

Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Death penalty opponents say they'll make a "concerted effort" to stop the Monday sunrise execution of Gary Gilmore, who wants to be the first Utah convict to stand up to face a five-man firing squad.

The U.S. Supreme Court eventually will get the case on appeal and when it does "they're going to look at it and say, 'My God! This is a circus,'" predicted Jinks Dabney, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Dabney said he would meet today with

other attorneys to coordinate plans for stopping the execution, which District Court Judge J. Robert Bullock ordered to take place two days after the convicted murderer's 36th birthday.

Robert Van Sciver, an attorney for other Death Row convicts, said, "It's really going to be a concerted effort on the part of a lot of interest groups. We just want to be certain there isn't any overlap" in plans to stop the execution.

Asked how Gilmore, who has consistently fought for a speedy execution, would react to a delaying appeal, his attorney,

Ronald Stanger, said, "I don't think he would be happy."

Convicted murderer Robert Excell White, 30, is scheduled to die in the electric chair four days later on Dec. 10. However, White's attorney appealed to a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, who referred the request to the full court. There was no indication when the court would act.

The National Weather Service said sunrise in Salt Lake City on Monday will be at 7:37 MST.

Gilmore had said he wanted a six-pack of beer as his last meal, but he has been on a hunger strike since Nov. 19 because officials refuse to let him talk with his girl friend, Nicole Barrett, 20. She was confined to a mental hospital on her mother's orders after she and Gilmore took sleeping pills in an abortive suicide pact on Nov. 16.

Bullock, who presided over Gilmore's trial on charges of killing a motel clerk, originally sentenced him to die on Nov. 15. But the sentence was stayed by Gov. Calvin Rampton pending a review by the state Pardons Board.

At yesterday's re-sentencing hearing — one day after the board upheld the death sentence — Bullock rejected a petition by a former Gilmore lawyer, Tom Jones, that would have stayed the execution pending appeal.

Utah tradition gives condemned criminals a choice of hanging or the firing squad. The 39 men who have been put to death by firing squad all were seated and strapped in a wooden armchair with a black leather hood covering their heads.

But Gilmore told Bullock, "I don't want a hood on my head. I'd like to stand and not wear a hood."

"I doubt I have jurisdiction over that, but I will tell the warden about your request," the judge replied.

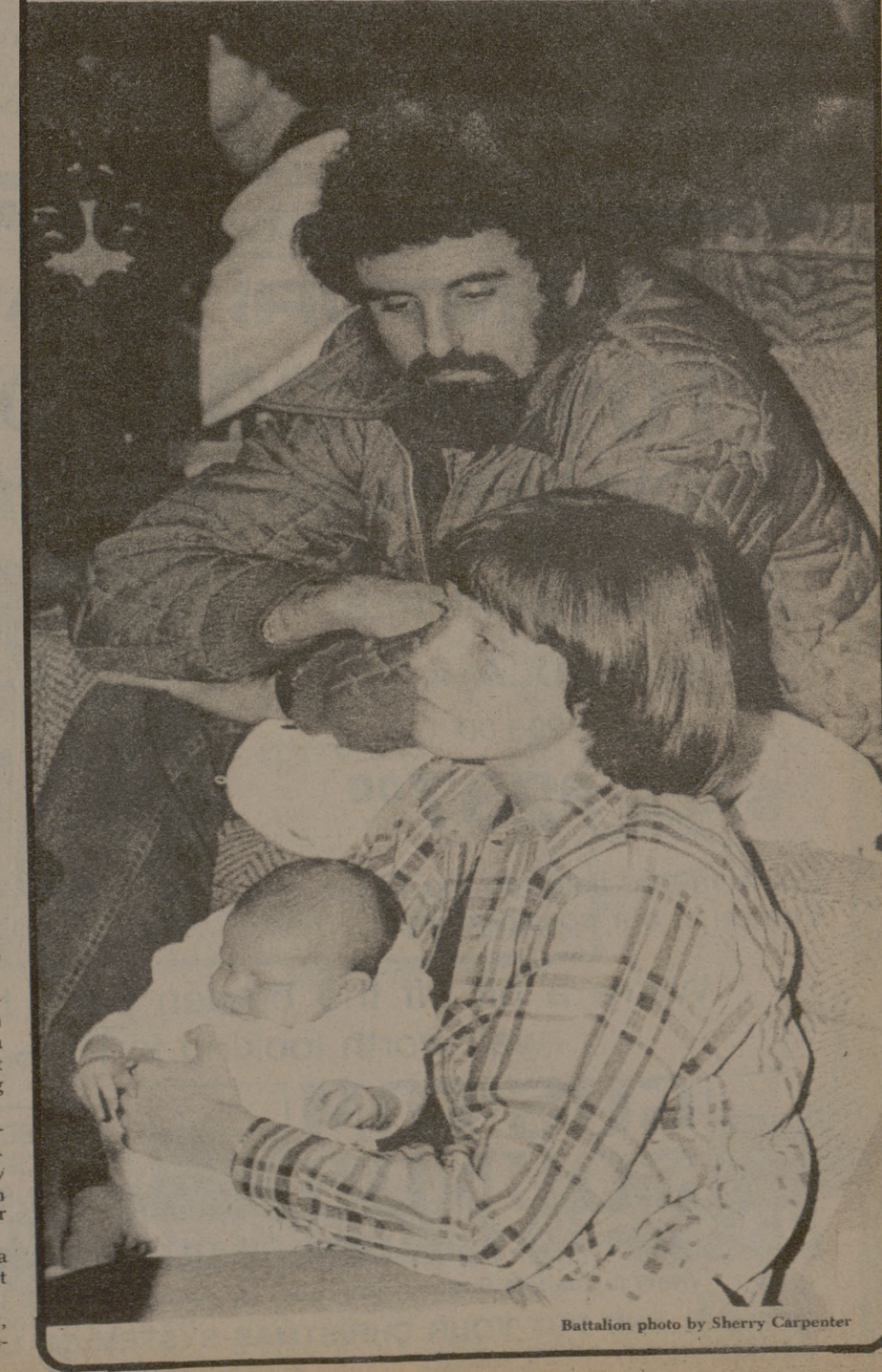


Battalion photo by Sheryl Wooldridge

*Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight*

Matthew 3:3

A warm yuletide glow last night greeted Aggies who attended the first annual lighting of Texas A&M's international Christmas tree in the MSC student lounge. Earlier this week students decorated the tree with ornaments representing many different nations. While other celebrants surrounded the tree and sang Christmas carols, Thomas A. Holtzer, a post-doctoral fellow in entomology, and his family seemed to consider the more solemn aspects of the holiday.



Battalion photo by Sherry Carpenter