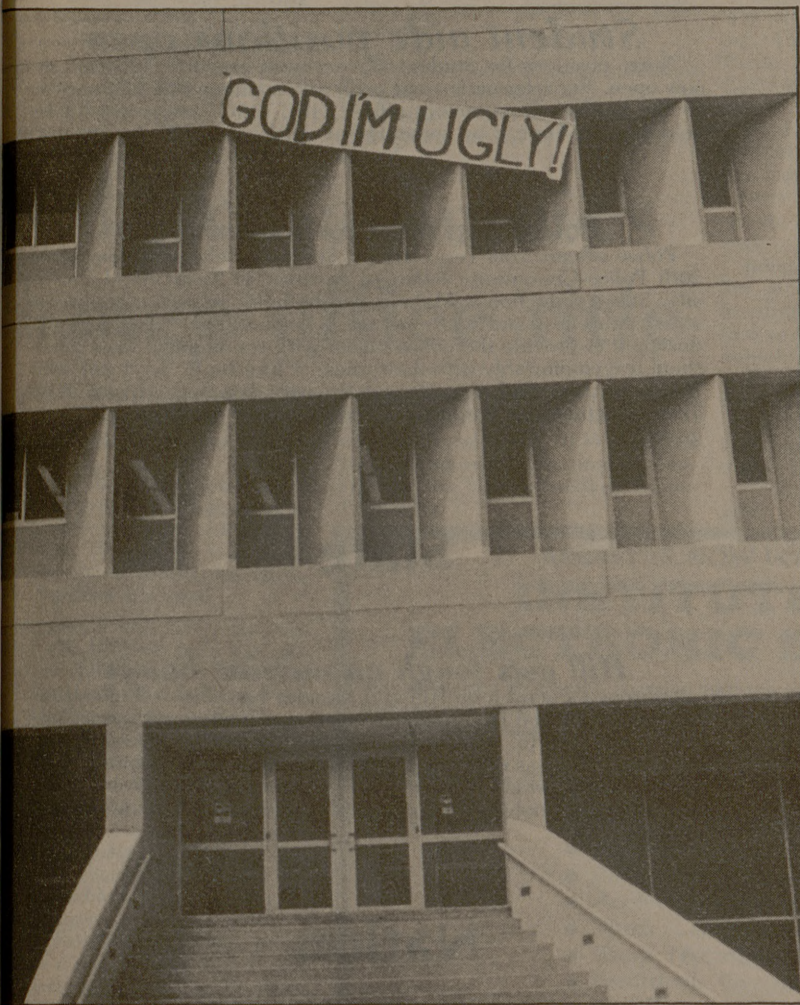


The Battalion



Message from on high?

The amateur architecture critic made a point with a sign hung yesterday from the new Langford Architecture Building. The sign was removed yesterday morning.

Battalion photo by Patrick O'Malley

Offshore oil rigs being evacuated

NEW ORLEANS — A fleet of helicopters and crew boats yesterday began evacuating workers from offshore oil platforms threatened by the season's first tropical depression.

We are now evacuating all Amoco personnel and contract personnel from drilling platforms in the Gulf of Mexico," said Dave Hagen, a spokesman for Amoco Production Co. "We're talking about seven drilling rigs off the Texas and Louisiana coasts."

Henri said Amoco had about 500 workers on the seven drilling platforms. The ones farthest out in the Gulf are being brought in by helicopter and the rest are being brought in by crew boats. We should have everyone in by Tuesday morning. Several other oil companies were evacuating nonessential workers from their platforms in the Gulf.

There isn't a wholesale evacuation, but the companies are limiting their operations and bringing in the unneeded personnel," said a spokesman for Petroleum Helicopters, Inc.

PHI uses 200 helicopters to shuttle an average of 7,200 workers a day to oil drilling platforms in the Gulf of Mexico.

"We're just bringing in the extra bodies right now," said the PHI official. "Everybody's more or less sitting and waiting."

The tropical depression formed 50 miles south of New Orleans Monday after crossing Florida as a disorganized tropical wave during the weekend.

The depression was centered at 26.5 north and 88.5 west and had winds of 35 miles per hour.

The National Weather Service at New Orleans issued a special weather statement late yesterday urging persons in 11 south Louisiana parishes to be on the alert.

Students enrolled for fall semester reach 28,365

First-day enrollment for the fall semester at Texas A&M University shows a 1,981-student increase over that of opening day last year.

Registrar Robert A. Lacey said 28,365 students were registered Monday on the main campus, a 7.5-percent increase over the 26,384 enrollment for the same period in 1976.

Texas A&M President Jarvis E. Miller said he viewed the opening-day enrollment figures as a highly positive indication that the university's programs continue to be well received.

"While we are not stressing an expanded enrollment, this healthy gain is most gratifying in that it reflects the continuing confidence of students and their parents in Texas A&M's programs," Dr. Miller said. "As a state-supported institution, we feel obligated to accept all qualified applicants."

Lacey emphasized the figures are not complete, pointing out that registration continues on campus through Friday and that final figures will not be compiled until Sept. 14.

University officials predicted enrollment this fall would exceed 29,000.

Plan fails to plunder Elvis' plot

MEMPHIS — Four men were arrested Monday in a reported plot to steal the body of rock 'n' roll king Elvis Presley.

Police Capt. John F. Molnar confirmed four were arrested shortly after midnight Monday but disclosed few details. He declined comment on reports the four were equipped with explosives.

Molnar said three suspects were taken to custody near the marble mausoleum where Presley was entombed Aug. 18. He said the fourth was arrested in a getaway car.

Presley was entombed in a room of the marble, columned mausoleum at Forest Hill Cemetery two days after he died of heart failure.

4 buildings named in honor of alumni

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents named campus buildings in honor of alumni Joe Moore, Michel T. Halbouty, H.C. Heldenfels and the late H.L. Heaton.

Board Chairman Clyde H. Wells said the alumni were honored for their contributions to Texas A&M.

The regents named the buildings Facilities housing KAMU-TV and AMU-FM, Texas A&M educational television and radio stations, will bear the name of Moore, a 1938 graduate of the university and president of its alumni association in 1974.

The Geosciences Building will be named in honor of Halbouty, a 1930 Texas A&M graduate who received the institu-

tion's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1968. Halbouty, of Houston, is widely acclaimed for his geology and petroleum-related expertise.

Texas A&M's new science classroom and laboratory building will be named in honor of Heldenfels of Corpus Christi, a 1935 Texas A&M graduate. He served on the Board of Regents from 1961 until 1974 and was chairman of the board in 1965-66. He is a past president of The Aggie Club, the organization which raises scholarships for student athletes.

The former Exchange Store building, now being remodeled to serve the Office of Admissions and Records, was named in honor of Heaton, who was the University's first dean of admissions and records. He also served as registrar for 28 years.

Traffic!

Ags arrive on carpet of congestion

By JAMIE AITKEN and SUE MUTZEL

The word "traffic," alone, is an understatement. The bumper to bumper congestion seen on city streets the past few days would almost make it hard to distinguish between thoroughfare and parking lot.

College Station, besieged by almost 30,000 students in seemingly as many cars, is faced with a traffic problem as never before.

The College Station police department braced itself weeks ago, according to one of the city's police officials. Beefed-up police activity between the hours of 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. has been initiated to try to deal with the increased numbers of accidents and traffic violations inevitable with the number of vehicles now on the road, Capt. Ed Feldman said.

"We knew it was fixing to hit and we got prepared for it," Feldman said. "There's no doubt about it, our biggest problem is traffic."

In this city of some two dozen policemen, working traffic used to be rather routine, with "five or six accidents at the most on a bad day" during the summer months, Feldman related.

But over the weekend accident incidents increased significantly, he said, mainly due to failure of drivers to yield right-of-way and hitting other cars in the process of a lane change — an accident environment brought about by the sardine-can nature of the city's thoroughfares.

The problem has moved the city to form a special traffic division within the police

department, something unneeded in the past. But Feldman said, when it was foreseen two years ago that traffic flow in the city would demand special attention.

The six-man division will incorporate the use of three radar systems to be used around the clock, and the possible addition of as many as six new officers to the ranks may be seen over the each year for the next few years.

Meanwhile, ticketing has begun. A warning period before the start of school in which violators were advised of the impending traffic problems and given warning citations, has been replaced with the

real thing, Feldman said.

But the job has not proved an easy one, he noted.

"There's so much traffic that even if we see a violation, often we can't get to it. The Police Department has to have the voluntary assistance of the public to help with traffic this heavy."

"We'd love to do something else than work traffic and issue tickets," he said.

Feldman said he expected the situation to ease over the next two weeks.

"The students need to look around and pick the best way to school," he said. "It

would make it much easier for them and us."

Until the rush is over, though, College Station police and motorists, alike, will contend with the lines of traffic that circle the campus. Trouble spots along University Avenue, Texas Avenue and particularly the intersection of Jersey and Anderson will receive added patrols, Feldman said.

Moving traffic isn't the only problem facing College Station and the Texas A&M campus. Once the vehicle reaches its destination it has to be parked — somewhere — not necessarily nearby.

And in the jammed confines of the University police station, thousands pressed for a legitimate pass to park on campus — in a parking space.

Some 20,000 automobiles and 8,000 bicycles are expected to be registered this fall through the campus police, said Tom Parsons, director of campus security and traffic.

Beginning Monday, the University's eight on-duty officers will begin ticketing operations. Students parked in lots other than student lots, however, may find the yellow slips under their wipers before Monday.

The musical-chairs incidents of parking violators bumping other drivers out of their legal parking spaces into illegal ones has proved to be the biggest problem with on-campus parking, Parsons said.

But he noted that peace should return to the campus lots within a few weeks, after the bulk of the processing is over.

"Be patient and cooperate," Parsons advised. "I don't really think it's worse than last fall, just a few hundred more cars."

No room at the 'Y'

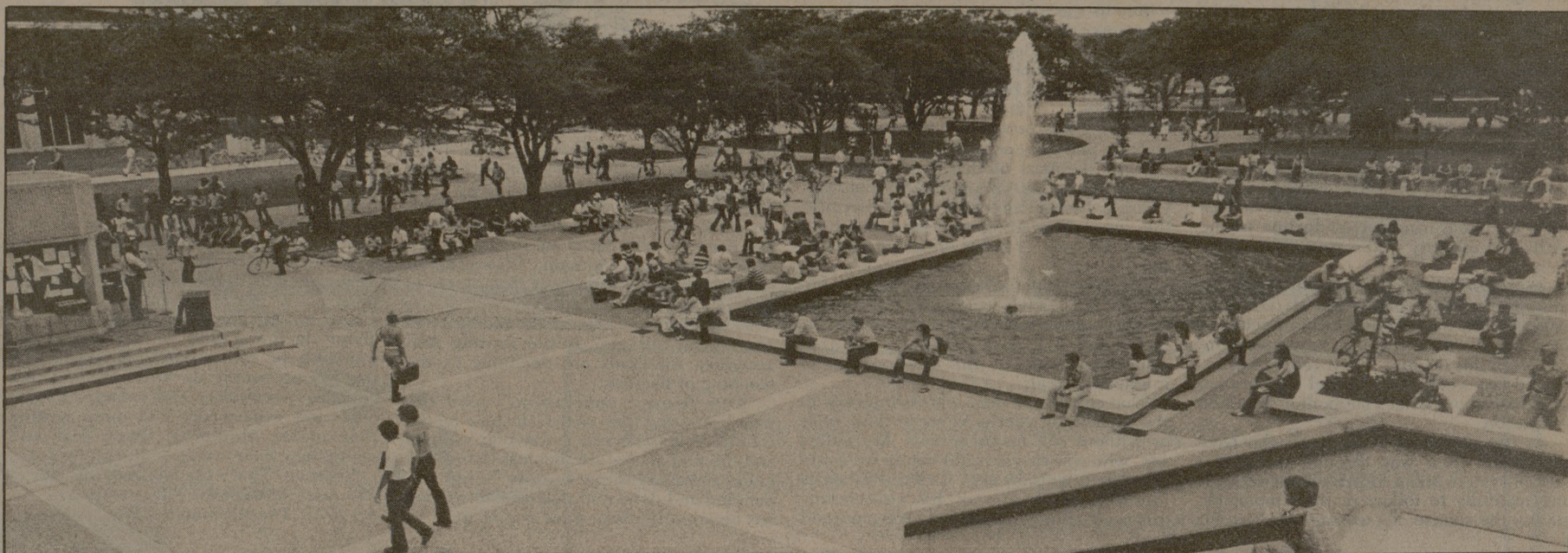
They came laden with pillows and bedrolls, radios and dominoes, in hopes that tonight they might see better accommodations than the hot, crowded hall of the YMCA Building.

More than 150 persistent students, some beginning their encampment outside the student services office early Monday, spent a long night waiting for the chance to fill the dormitory vacancies announced at 1 p.m. Tuesday.

Cold drinks abounded in the stuffy corridor, made almost impassable by a carpet of lounging bodies. Outside on the steps of the building, dozens more took a few minutes to enjoy the relative coolness before returning to reaffirm their place on the waiting list.

The yearly vigil proved to be only one of numerous lines and waits encountered by students at the outset of the semester. Placement in dormitory vacancies, made available by "no-shows" and moves, is expected to continue late into the afternoon Tuesday and then on through the week.

Some of those whiling away the hours remarked that the bivouac in the YMCA was little different than nights spent previously, since they had yet to find a place to sleep that they could return to the next night.



Breaking for lunch and music

The first day of classes brought the first sidewalk concert for Texas A&M students. Yesterday Clint Brown played his guitar and sang to the lunch-

time crowd at the MSC fountain.

Battalion photo by Patrick O'Malley

U.S. in Panama

Bid to embarrass Carter blocked in Southern governor's session

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — A resolution opposing surrender of any U.S. control over the Panama Canal was blocked in a committee of the Southern Governor's Conference yesterday. This at least temporarily spared President Carter the embarrassment of opposition from political leaders in his native South.

The resolution by outspoken Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards failed to clear the resolutions committee on a 3-3 vote, with late appointment to the panel providing the tying vote.

Puerto Rico Gov. Carlos Romero-Barcelo was appointed to the committee Sunday to replace Alabama Gov. George Wallace, who did not attend the conference. Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe appointed Romero to the committee, but said he did not question Romero's stand on the Panama Canal issue before making the appointment.

Briscoe said he opposes ratification of the canal treaty, and will vote with Edwards if the Louisiana governor today attempts to bring it before the full conference.

There was speculation that Carter had become involved in backstage negotiations concerning Edwards' resolution, but Briscoe and Kentucky Gov. Julian Carroll, chairman of the resolutions committee, said they knew of no personal contact by the President with any of the governors.

Edwards said a solid majority of the Southern governors favor his resolution and oppose ratification of the Panama Canal treaty.

"It takes three-fourths majority to bring it to the full conference, then two-thirds to pass it. That's like trying to organize a Baptist church in the Vatican."

Edwards, South Carolina Gov. James B. Edwards and Oklahoma Gov. David Boren voted for the resolution in committee, but Carroll, Arkansas Gov. David Pryor and Romero opposed it.

"If we were just giving it away it wouldn't be so bad, but giving it away and paying them to take it is what insults me," the Louisiana governor argued.

Edwards said if the present treaty is bad for Panama, then Panama should be paying the United States to get out of that pact.

Carroll said the governors should take no stand on the canal issue, because their opposition would be blown out of proportion.

Discussion of the Panama Canal resolution dominated the opening day of the

43rd annual Southern Governor's Conference.

Other issues presented to the governors included problems with the nation's economy.

Irving S. Shapiro, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co., said American citizens recognize the economic problems.

Shapiro listed inflation, seven per cent unemployment, a sluggish rate of capital investment and a low rate of fixed business

investments as indicators of economic problems.

But Shapiro said the economy also has positive indicators. He said inflation is well below the levels of 1974 and 1975, employment is at an all time high, the short term trend in capital spending is upward and the federal deficit is shrinking.

"Looking ahead, realistically, we see an extended period of slower growth and chronic inflation; greater consumption but lower savings; higher employment but limited gains in productivity."

Shapiro said chronic inflation is the greatest challenge facing the U.S. economy, and said "we will make little progress until its causes are viewed more realistically."

He said government deficits are to blame for the inflation.

A third problem facing the governors concerned illegal aliens entering from Mexico. The only way to solve the problem is to create employment for them in Mexico, an official of the Mexican government said yesterday.

Army boss boosts canal pullout pact

United Press International

FT. POLK, La. — The proposed treaty reducing United States control over the Panama Canal has been endorsed by Army Secretary Clifford Alexander.

Alexander Monday called for Senate ratification of the treaty.

The secretary was at Ft. Polk to activate the Army's last battalion, the 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry. Adding that unit brought the Army to its full strength of 16 active, combat-ready divisions and eight divisions in reserve.

Sens. Russell B. Long, D-La., and J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., were among the elected officials attending the event.

Berkowitz reportedly sane

United Press International

NEW YORK (UPI) — Kings County Hospital psychiatrists reportedly have found "Son of Sam" suspect David Berkowitz mentally competent to stand trial.

WPIX-TV said last night it had learned of the psychiatric finding, but did not indicate its source.

The psychiatrists' report was delivered yesterday to state Supreme Court Justice Gerald Held in Brooklyn and will be opened today at a hearing.

The pudgy 24-year-old former postal worker, charged with the 44-caliber killings of six people, was ordered to be present at the hearing.

Held will make a decision on whether Berkowitz is fit to stand trial on the basis of the report.

Defense attorney Mark Jay Heller already has said if Berkowitz is found competent to be tried, he will advance a defense of insanity.

Berkowitz has been studied by psychiatrists in a special ward of Kings County Hospital since Aug. 16, when he was arraigned in Brooklyn on the first of six murder counts.

Two subsequent arraignments have been held in a bullet-proof chamber 50

feet from Berkowitz' guarded cell to avoid the danger of transporting him.

The report, contained in a 10-by-14-inch manila envelope, was delivered personally yesterday to Held by Dr. Daniel Schwartz, head of the forensic medical section at the hospital.

Schwartz, who has spoken almost daily to Berkowitz since he was remanded to the hospital, sat unobtrusively in Held's courtroom for three hours Monday until the court calendar was cleared, then approached the bench.

After he identified himself, Schwartz handed the package to Held, saying he wanted to deliver it to the judge himself.

"This doesn't weigh any 10 pounds like I thought it would," Held joked.

"It's the most difficult work I've ever had," Schwartz replied. "I'm glad it's over."

Held then took the package — containing three copies of the report on Berkowitz' mental condition — to the chamber of Administrative Justice Charles Ruben.

The two jurists signed their names on the back flap of the envelope and sealed it to make sure it would not be tampered with before today's hearing.