

The Battalion

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Bardell asks energy cut in wake of power failure

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Battalion Staff

City Manager North Bardell is asking College Station residents temporarily to turn their thermostats up to 80 degrees in the wake of a power failure that plunged 40 per cent of College Station into darkness Tuesday night.

The request was made to ease the heavy burden on Bryan and College Station power plants.

Two of three transformers, located on Highway 30, failed at 6:18 p.m. Tuesday, knocking out power in the entire south side of town from south of Jersey St. to the east bypass to Wellborn. Electricity to parts of College Station was restored by 9:30 p.m.; full service by 11:30 p.m., Bardell said.

The city manager said the failure apparently was caused by line voltage problems that kicked the circuits on and off in two transformers until finally the circuits burned out.

Damage is estimated at \$35,000 to \$45,000.

McGraw-Edison and Westinghouse personnel are inspecting the transformers, Bardell said. Electrical employees worked nonstop from 6:30 p.m. Tuesday to 3 p.m.

Wednesday to correct the problem at the power station. Bardell estimated it may take a month to return the station to normal service.

He said the power plant had been designed for contingencies, but when two of the four-by-eight-foot transformers failed, the third one also had to be taken out of service to keep it from overloading.

College Station is still drawing electricity from Bryan to supplement the loss from the blackout.

No unusual amount of criminal activity was reported during the blackout, Bardell said. There were, however, traffic problems caused by people milling about and inoperable traffic lights.

Communications problems arose when blackened televisions and noiseless radios could not be used to tell people what the problem was, or that it could be corrected soon.

Al Provacek, manager of Piggly Wiggly, said yesterday, "I didn't know what to do. I was completely in the dark." He said the store closed at 7 p.m., as soon as all the customers could be checked out. Flashlights and hand-cranked cash regis-

ters had to be used, he said. He reported no spoilage of frozen goods.

Terry Ripperda, manager of Safeway, reported no significant amount of spoilage. "We were very, very lucky," he said. He said he was fortunate that compressors in the air-conditioning system didn't burn out.

Margaret Beauchamp, administrator for Sweetbriar Nursing Home, said there were very few problems at the home. An auxiliary unit supplied power for the lights, she said. A fishing lantern and a flash light were also used to apply medication. She reported no complaints from the residents, only laughter about how it was like the old times.

Tucker wins top spot in Student Senate



Bobby Tucker, newly elected Speaker of the Student Senate, took charge of the meeting Wednesday night after his large-margin victory.

The Student Senate elected Bobby Tucker Speaker of the Senate during Wednesday night's meeting and voted down the appointment of a comptroller for Student Government.

Tucker, a junior Agriculture Education major, is a former national president of the Future Farmers of America and received a large majority of the votes.

Joe Beall received the next highest number of votes to become Speaker Pro-tem.

The appointment of Stewart Kingsbury to the position of comptroller was rejected by a nine-vote margin primarily because of conflicting views on how the new position would affect the vice-president of finance's duties.

The comptroller would have been responsible for creating a system of accounting for Student Government funds which total about \$50,000.

Menonite community faces deportation

United Press International

SEMINOLE — The crops are in the ground and the 7,500-acre farming community is practically established but the dreams of more than 500 Menonites who fled persecution in other countries may dissolve with deportation this month.

Their temporary visas have almost expired and immigration officials say the 526 members of an evangelical Protestant Christian sect founded in Friesland in the 16th century must leave the United States by Sept. 22.

Their only chance of remaining would be

an extension of their temporary visas until the U.S. Department of Labor decides whether to issue worker certifications, allowing them to eventually gain permanent resident status.

Mayor Bob Clark, who says the Menonites have answered a "crying need" in Gaines County for skilled craftsmen and farm labor, has called a meeting tonight between the Menonites and representatives from the immigration and labor departments and Texas Employment Commission.

Clark said the Immigration Service informed the German-speaking Menonites by letter that their visas were expiring and they must leave the country by Sept. 22. "They wouldn't be able to harvest their crops, they would have to leave everything behind and some sold their life possessions to move here in the first place."

Clark said the Menonites, who have been asked to provide an interpreter for the meeting, do not understand the letter nor do they know if they will be able to have their temporary visas extended until labor officials decide whether to issue worker certifications.

A spokesman for the Labor Department said its representative at the meeting would seek to determine if the sect will take jobs that could be filled by U.S. citizens.

Menonites as a religious sect oppose the taking of oaths, infant baptism, military service and the acceptance of public office and favor plain dress and plain living. They are farmers and also teach their children a skilled craft.

Tuesday night's blackout had some students studying by flashlight, some by candle light, and some not worrying about their homework at all.

Judge couldn't disbar Yarbrough

United Press International

A state judge Wednesday reluctantly refused to disbar lawyer Donald B. Yarbrough. The judge said Yarbrough could not be disbarred. But it said Yarbrough must settle his complicated financial obligations before seeking admission to the State Bar of Texas.

Judge Bert Tunks was clearly displeased

the Texas Supreme Court — on which Yarbrough served briefly as a justice failed to clearly say under what circumstances they accepted the surrender of Yarbrough's law license Tuesday.

Yarbrough resigned from the Supreme Court on July 15.

Tunks, a former civil appeals judge called out of retirement to hear the 100-

count disbarment lawsuit against the Houston attorney, maintained his jurisdiction in the case by taking it under advisement.

"The defendant is not a licensed attorney in Texas. However, to say this action is tantamount to disbarment is somewhat puzzling to me," Tunks said from the bench. "In his application of reinstatement, he must make restitution to those who suffered pecuniary loss. This case is moot."

Yarbrough will be allowed to reapply for his law license in five years, but with Tunks' admonishment in the record, financial aspects of some 16 civil lawsuits involving thousands of dollars must be resolved.

"I don't see how any other interpretation can be made except all charges involving pecuniary loss are to be taken as true. This is a very unsatisfactory case," Tunks said.

"We will continue this case indefinitely," Tunks told the lawyers.

Bar prosecutor Frank Bean said the case was still active. Waggoner Carr, Yarbrough's attorney, said the issue was moot.

"The bottom line of the opinion is that Mr. Yarbrough is no longer a member of the bar and any efforts to remove him are moot," Carr said. "There is no indication it will go any further."

Yarbrough voluntarily surrendered his law license in Austin on Friday. It was his first move in an effort to withdraw from the disbarment suit on which lawyers have been working the past year.

Carr said Yarbrough could not afford a prolonged lawsuit.

The bar sought to see the suit tried to conclusion to silence Yarbrough's repeated protestations of innocence and allegations of a legal conspiracy against him.

Yarbrough now faces trial in Travis County on criminal charges of perjury and forgery stemming from some of his business dealings in recent years.

Trial on that matter is set for October.

Opponents call pact 'treason'

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Carter signed treaties relinquishing the Panama Canal in the year 2000, but opponents called it "treason" and rallied today to the battle cry "We built it, we bought it, we own it!"

In a glittering ceremony Wednesday night preceding a state dinner for the presidents, prime ministers and diplomats of 27 hemispheric nations, Carter and Gen. Omar Torrijos affixed their names to the two treaties turning Teddy Roosevelt's canal over to Panama.

Carter's bold diplomatic gamble produced the treaties. But signing them does not put them into effect. It takes Senate ratification and House implementing legislation to do that, and the task won't be easy.

Rep. Mickey Edwards, R-Okla., on the steps of the Capitol Wednesday, called treaty negotiator Sol Linowitz the "Bert Lance of international negotiation" as 200 protesters waved the banners, "We built it, we bought it, we own it!"

Even Democrats conceded the path to ratification will be thorny.

Ronald Reagan urged rejection of the treaties, saying their "fatal flaw" is the future assumption of reliable, trouble-free canal operation.

In testimony prepared today for a Senate Judiciary subcommittee, he said the 1903 treaty with Panama gave the United States "a firm, unshakable legal basis for building, operating and defending the canal."

"To this day, it is those rights of sovereignty which undergird our ability to operate and defend the canal. We cannot be kicked out summarily on the whim of some Panamanian government."

Television beamed the ceremony live, by satellite, throughout Latin America as Carter and Torrijos signed the blue-and-red-bound treaties that constitute the historic agreement. The two men smiled and embraced warmly after they signed.

Torrijos, in a concession to the rocky road Carter faces, said the future of the treaties depends on "the statesmanship" of the U.S. Senate.

"We are here to participate in the sign-

ing of treaties, which will assure a peaceful and prosperous and secure future for an international waterway of great importance to us all," Carter said.

"But the treaties do more than that. They mark the commitment of the United States to the belief that fairness, not force, should lie at the heart of our dealings with the nations of the world."

Mobilized in support were Lady Bird Johnson, whose husband Lyndon placed his administration on record for turning the canal over to Panama; and former President Gerald Ford, whose support of

such a move nearly cost him the GOP nomination to Reagan last year.

They received warm applause when Carter introduced them at the signing ceremony. Also present were Henry Kissinger, secretary of state under Ford and Richard Nixon; and William Rogers, who held the post in Nixon's first term.

The treaties cannot become effective until two-thirds of the senators present and voting approve.

The treaties also must be approved by Panamanian voters.

Pres. Miller inauguration October 4 at G. Rollie

Inauguration of Dr. Jarvis E. Miller as the 18th president of Texas A&M University is set for Oct. 4, the 101st anniversary of the institution's formal opening, announced Chancellor Jack K. Williams.

Dr. Miller succeeds Dr. Williams, who assumed the chancellorship of The Texas A&M University System when the Board of Regents moved last spring to establish separate administrations for the main university and the overall statewide teaching, research and public service institution.

The inaugural ceremonies, which are open to the public, will be held at 10:30 a.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum. The formal convocation is expected to attract hundreds of delegates representing colleges and universities from throughout the nation and several foreign countries, as well as representatives from learned societies and professional organizations.

Related activities begin at 8 p.m. Oct. 3 with a concert in Rudder Auditorium, followed by a Memorial Student Center reception honoring the new president and his family. The concert will feature student musical groups from on campus. The concluding activity will be a Corps of Cadets review at 1:15 p.m. following the inauguration.

Classes will be dismissed on the day of the inauguration, noted Dean of Admissions and Records Edwin H. Cooper, chairman of the faculty-staff-student committee planning the inauguration.

Other members of the committee include Gen. O. R. Simpson, assistant vice president for student services; Leatha Miloy, director, Educational Information Services; Steve Pringle, assistant to the president; Robert G. Cherry, assistant to the chancellor and secretary to the Board of Regents; Lane Stephen-

son, assistant to the chancellor for public information; Richard E. (Buck) Weirus, executive director, Association of Former Students; Robert H. Rucker, professor, Horticultural Sciences; Also Mary Helen Bowers, assistant to the dean of admissions and records; Donald D. Carter, associate registrar; Charles Cargill, university center manager; Dr. Haskell Monroe, associate vice president for academic affairs; Dr. C. W. Landiss, head, Health and Physical Education; Dr. C. A. Rodenberger, assistant dean of engineering; Dr. Jenny Kitching, assistant director of home economics, Texas Agricultural Extension Service; Dr. Robert G. Merrifield, head, Forest Science; Robert Harvey, student body president; Mike Gentry, cadet colonel of the Corps and Vicki Young, vice president of student services for Student Government.

Schools pressured by new regulation

United Press International

Fixing buildings for easy access by handicapped students and workers could be some fiscally shaky private colleges or other push up tuition, school officials say.

Federal regulations mandating, if necessary, ramps, elevators and wide

corridors, are the number one concern among many college administrators as their campuses come to life this fall.

The costly alterations seem to be called for under section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This bans discrimination against persons with physical, mental or psychological disabilities.

The 504 regulations went into effect this summer. But many presidents and administrators of both public and independent schools consider them too sweeping and prohibitively costly.

Dr. John Phillips, President of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and former United States Deputy Commissioner for Higher Education, calls the regulations laudable.

But he says they are unclear about how to achieve the goal.

Council approves land purchase for baseball fields

The College Station City Council Wednesday approved the purchase of a 16,500 tract on Eleanor St. for the construction of two baseball fields on the 1.67 acre tract.

Council members also heard extensive arguments from several residents who opposed the approval of a final plat that would allow a segment of land, named Bellem Court, also known as Woodson Heights, to be divided into seven lots with 2-foot frontages.

They said sewage and drainage problems would result, and that the houses built wouldn't be equivalent in value to other houses in the neighborhood. They also accused the developer of trickery in gaining approval of development plans.

A representative for the developer assured residents and the council that no deception was involved.

In other action the council:

Approved a final plat resubdividing Lots 2 and 3, block 3 and Lot 1, Block 4 of

John's Park Addition.

Heard goals report from Elrey Ash, city engineer, and North Bardell, city manager.