

The Battalion

Vol. 71 No. 30
16 Pages

Wednesday, October 12, 1977
College Station, Texas

News Dept. 845-2611
Business Dept. 845-2611



Battalion photo by Kevin Venner

Convicts not just clowning around

Martin Tuley prepares for second half action in the annual Texas Prison Rodeo while Fred Burke watches the half-time entertainment. The two con-

vict clowns are veterans of the rodeo which takes place each Sunday of October in Huntsville. (see related story and photos on page 10 and 11)

Prizes awarded

Two Americans, one Briton cited for physics achievements

United Press International
STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Two Americans and a Briton shared the 1977 Nobel Prize for physics Tuesday for solid state physics, which, among other benefits, could lead to solar heating cheaper. The chemistry prize was given to a Belgian professor for his contributions to non-equilibrium thermodynamics, particularly the theory of dissipative structures. It said "the great contribution of Prigogine to thermodynamic theory is his successful extension of it to systems which are far from thermodynamic equilibrium."

Academy member Prof. Bo G. Malmstrom said Prigogine's work contributed to the understanding of how living beings use energy.

"With Prof. Prigogine's theory we can understand why we exist," Malmstrom said.

A spokesman at the University of Texas said Prigogine, born in Moscow, has been on the University of Brussels staff since 1947 and on the Texas staff since Sept. 1, 1967, commuting between the two. He currently is in Brussels.

In announcing the physics award, the Swedish academy said: "The three prize winners are theoreticians within the field of solid state physics — the branch of physics which lies behind essential parts of the current technical development, particularly in electronics," the Academy said.

In New Vernon, N.J., Dr. Anderson interrupted his gardening to say he was "delighted" to share the prize with van Vleck

and Mott, with whom he has worked for years.

"My major reaction was that I was delighted to win the prize with the two people I admire most in the world," Anderson said. "One is my old professor van Vleck and the other is a man who I worked with for a decade, Mott."

Academy member Prof. Stig Lundqvist said Mott and Anderson's knowledge of the behavior of crystalline materials meant, for practical application, that "solar heating cells may become cheaper in the future. It now takes about seven or eight years to gain enough energy to pay for the energy you have invested to build a solar heating system."

The Swedish academy said van Vleck has been called "the father of modern magnetism," and his ideas have played a key role in development of the laser.

Anderson was van Vleck's student at Harvard, and Mott "brought to the attention of researchers and popularized" Anderson's major written work, "Absence of Diffusion in Certain Random Lattices," published in 1958, Lundqvist said.

In Cambridge, van Vleck said Tuesday his winning a share of the physics prize was unexpected. "This thing is a complete surprise to me," he said.

Van Vleck retired from teaching in 1969 but still maintains an office at Harvard University.

Van Vleck said that although Anderson studied for his doctorate under him at Harvard, the three winners "never really worked together." He said their research was separate but related.

After gaining his bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin and his doctorate at Harvard, Van Vleck began his research "in 1927 and I've been publishing papers on it for almost 50 years. The earlier work tends to be the most important."

Van Vleck and his wife, Abigail, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June. They have no children.

His comments came in remarks prepared for delivery at a luncheon attended by about 400 delegates to the 18th annual United Press International Editors and Publishers Conference at the Cerramar Beach Hotel about 30 miles west of San Juan.

"The tragedy is that it should not even be necessary to wait for special events to focus our news media's attention on Latin America and the Caribbean," Todman, a native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, said. "The really important stories are already there, waiting to be told."

Todman lamented the fact that so little is in U.S. newspapers about a major world power like Brazil, that few people even begin to grasp the social struggle in Argentina and that the differences among coun-

tries like Venezuela, Paraguay and Peru are not understood.

Todman also defended the Carter administration's efforts to negotiate a new canal treaty with Panama and to normalize relations with Communist Cuba.

"These two issues relate," he said. "Let us look behind the headlines to the real story: our successful pursuit of security and progress through practical relationships that respect the individuality and sovereignty of all peoples."

"This administration intends to come to grips with the issues that top the agendas of the nations in this hemisphere — and thereby to seize the opportunity to help shape global events with them as sovereign and independent, but cooperative partners."

Council approves street paving bill

By MARK POWER

Railroad crossing protection, paving bids, and brush chippers were the high priority items occupying College Station City Council in regular session Tuesday.

North Bardell, City Manager, convinced council to authorize a program sponsored by the State Department of Highways to install passive warning devices at all railroad grade crossings in the city.

"I would urge the council to approve this measure as it requires no city funds other than maintenance," said Bardell.

Passive warning devices are signs and warning stripes, and they have no mechanical barriers or other devices to stop the flow of traffic at a crossing. Under new regulations, several crossings in College Station need upgrading, and approval of the measure will allow the Highway Department to upgrade the crossings.

Council approved a bid from Young Brother's, Inc., at a cost of \$30,745.55, to pave Richards street with a black road base.

The road base to be used is similar to the base young trees just planted and the brush chipper is needed to reduce the

bulk of dead brush produced by seasonal pruning and trail construction.

The Parks Department admitted to not having enough work to justify purchase of the chipper, but argued successfully that the utilities department could use the machine when clearing power line right of way.

In other agenda items Monday, the council approved a preliminary plat for Baywood, moved to later agenda an agreement for easement construction near South Knoll and College Hills school, and considered bicycle lane construction in a preliminary plat for Southwest Place.

College Station looking for land to build convention center

By JEAN HENKHAUS

College Station is looking for land on which to build its proposed convention and civic center. But even though the city is searching for property, no firm decision has been made to build the center, City Manager North Bardell said yesterday.

The A&M Consolidated School District may have the land the city needs. The city council is eyeing a piece of the school's land in the Southwood Valley area.

Meanwhile, the school board would like to build an elementary school in either south or east part of town.

It all ties into negotiations that have begun between the council and the board.

In a letter sent to A&M Consolidated Superintendent Hopson Tuesday, trustees of the city's Parks and Recreation Foundation authorized a proposed plan designed to exchange deeds of several land sites under consideration.

The Foundation makes possible the exchange of land between the two governmental agencies providing that the trade will benefit the taxpayers of the community.

Exact location of the land in question is not available due to the "sensitive" nature of negotiations.

Plans for a civic center were begun almost two years ago when a committee was set up to study the feasibility of the center.

After a bond election in June of 1976, a half million dollars in bonds were authorized for the project.

Bardell said that, if revenues are not available, the construction of the center will not be possible.

He added that instead of building the entire structure at once, an alternative of building it in phases might work out.

By exchanging land with the Foundation, the school district may soon begin plans for another elementary school.

"If we grow like we've been growing, we will need a new elementary school by

1980 or 1981," Hopson said.

The best location for the school would be either in South or East College Station due to the rapid growth of these areas, Hopson said.

Reform would allow control by commission

United Press International

WASHINGTON — House members spent taxpayer's money for such things as an office Christmas party, entertaining constituents, political club dues and on one occasion for a bar bill to entertain President-elect Jimmy Carter.

These items were among hundreds of detailed expenses in the House Clerk's semiannual report, swollen to double its usual size because of reforms voted earlier this year when unofficial office accounts — sometimes called "slush funds" — were abolished.

The reforms were part of the recommendations of the Commission on Administrative Review. The panel's final round of improvements came to the floor Wednesday under fire because of what the clerk's report showed.

The reform measure, managed by Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., chairman of the commission, would create a House administrator to handle all the housekeeping chores of the 11,000-employee House, with the help of an auditor and a comptroller.

It also would set up a grievance panel of three House members to hear employee complaints of discrimination because of sex, color, age or creed. The bill would do

away with free plants, picture framing service and foot lockers for members.

Rep. Robert Bauman, R-Md., the clerk's report in his hand, recommended in a speech Tuesday that all members read it before voting on the latest commission recommendations. He cited several instances of questionable spending that members certified as being for "official business."

Bauman did not cite names but listed a \$200.77 expenditure for a staff Christmas party. The report showed this was claimed by Rep. Charles Wiggins, R-Calif. Another was a \$1,291 payment for a "constituent reception" Jan. 4, when members were sworn into the new Congress, claimed by Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman, D-N.Y.

"There are hundreds of pages of such items that were made possible under the last round of the so-called Obey reforms," said Bauman.

Obey said, "I wonder if Bob Bauman is saying he would prefer things the old way where no one had to report such expenditures. What we did was get rid of the office slush funds and made such spending reportable."

Negotiators to bypass national union leaders

United Press International

NEW ORLEANS — Negotiators for dockworkers and shippers plan to bypass national leaders in hopes of arranging a local settlement for a strike which has closed the nation's second largest port.

Members of the International Longshoremen's Association scheduled meetings Wednesday with representatives of the New Orleans Steamship Association in hopes of working out an agreement locally.

"They will definitely be talking contract when they get together," Paul Guillory, vice president of Local 1419, said Tuesday.

The 11-day strike is costing the city an estimated \$2 million per day.

ILA contracts usually are negotiated in New York, but Guillory said local dockworkers want to negotiate directly — rather than wait for a national agreement.

The only cargo handled in the port Tuesday was a military shipment.

Harvey Tilton, secretary of ILA Local 1419, said a Panamanian ship transporting military goods and the personal belongings of servicemen was unloaded Tuesday at a military terminal. He said the exemption for military cargo was union policy during all strikes.

The Panamanian vessel was the first ship unloaded since ILA members took a strike vote Saturday. The New Orleans

dockworkers, however, voted against the recommendations of their national leaders and made the walkout applicable to conventional freighters as well as container ships.

ILA national leaders in New York want to limit the protest to container vessels which reduce the number of waterfront jobs. New Orleans is the only port on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts which has included other ships, in defiance of ILA President Thomas Gleason.

Tilton said ILA officials also expected to meet with shippers today to resume negotiations on local issues.

"There are a number of issues outstanding, but there is nothing that we couldn't resolve in a short time if we got down to negotiating and everybody put forth their best effort," Tilton said.

Talks were to be held in the offices of the New Orleans Steamship Association. Tilton said he did not know whether federal mediators would attend.

"I think the prospects for a settlement in New Orleans are great because everybody wants to get back to work, that's for sure," Tilton said.

He said shippers also indicated willingness to break the deadlock.

"I get the impression that they are being hurt and I also get the impression that these people want to negotiate," he said.

Latin American expert says too much drama in reporting

United Press International

PORRADO, Puerto Rico — The Carter administration's top Latin American executive gave American newspaper editors a scolding Wednesday for reporting Latin American events like hurricanes and coups while missing more significant trends.

"The news profession tends to judge worthiness in terms of dramatic events — a missile crisis, a coup d'etat," said Terence Todman, Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs.

Unfortunately, when it comes to Latin America, even these events are frequently reported. The underlying significance of the Panama story is missed almost

entirely.

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tries like Venezuela, Paraguay and Peru are not understood.

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Academic Building mosaic nears completion, p. 7.

It's rodeo time again at Huntsville, pgs. 10, 11.

Baylor QB joins SWC sideline squad, p. 14.

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