

The Battalion

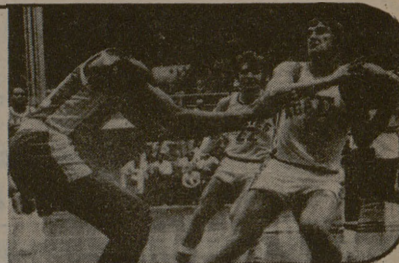
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Officials doubting success of strike

By JOHNNIE HENDON

Sympathy from government and national agricultural organizations will not help farmers get what they are striking for, officials say. That is almost all they can count on from these needed areas.

Farmers are supposed to strike Dec. 14, but their demand for 100 percent of parity is not met.

Parity is the price at which something must sell to give the seller the same relative income and purchasing power he had

in the past. It is one way of trying to keep up with inflation.

Farmers, according to the strike group American Agriculture, will not plant another crop after the December deadline, nor will they buy any more farm machinery.

H. T. Walker, spokesman for A.A., said the group expects 50 to 60 percent participation. He added that most of the support in Texas is in the Panhandle and Rio Grande Valley.

Tom Sand, assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture, said based on past strike attempts, this much farmer participation is doubtful.

He cited for example a strike three years ago in which 70 percent of a state's farmers signed a pledge to withhold their wheat from the market. When it was time to sell, however, most of the farmers sold, hoping to make more money because of the others holding their wheat.

Regan Brown, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, sympathizes with the farmers' situation, too, but doubts if the strike will work.

"The citrus growers in the (Rio Grande) Valley are having one of their best years. Dairy men are having a good year. Even beef and poultry producers are doing better. These people won't want to strike," said Brown.

He added that since the Russians are buying grain, it has gone up 60 cents per bushel in the last few days, and the wheat farmers will not be as ready to strike, either.

One of the problems with organizing is the threat of anti-trust violations to national agriculture groups. The Capper-Volstead Act of 1922 allows individuals to strike, but organizations cannot because it might constitute monopolistic action.

"We're sympathetic to the idea, but it would be a legal nightmare for us to support the strike," said Don Zmolek, administrative adviser for the National Farmers Organization (N.F.O.).

Although most officials believe the strike will help call attention to the cost-price squeeze felt by the farmers, they do not think it is the answer to the problem. Zmolek said the N.F.O. contracts directly with processors and buyers, holding meetings for farmers to vote on the prices they need to cover the costs of production.

Brown said that solution is not as easy as it seems, either. He feels good marketing and exporting is the answer.

He suggested that there was not too much produce in the world to get good prices, but poor distribution of the existing produce.

"You don't conserve yourself into prosperity, you don't store yourself into prosperity, and you don't strike yourself into farm prosperity," said Brown.

Brown said farmers should be working with government on an effective long-range farm program.

"We change the rules every time we change presidents," said Brown.

The strike might work, most officials agree, if perishables, like red meat and milk, were being withheld, but holding grain will not affect the consumer enough because of stockpiles.

Sand also noted that the farm implement business is in bad shape already because farmers have not been able to afford new machinery in a long time. He doubts any more pressure can be added there.

Most officials say that all the strike can do is call attention to a problem they are already aware of and maybe get some consumer awareness.

Police to keep peace at games

By GLENN WHITLEY
Battalion Staff

Incidents at the recent Texas A&M football game will result in some changes in stadium security and crowd control next year, said the Texas A&M University vice president for student services Thursday.

Dr. John Koldus said he met with Marjorie Tate, associate athletic director, and Billy Groff, assistant athletic director, to review the problem that happened Saturday.

Carter considers cut in income taxes in 1978

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Carter is reviewing options that could reduce the average American family's income taxes by about \$300 in 1978, administration sources said today.

And key members of Congress welcome a shift in emphasis from tax reform to tax cuts.

In his news conference Wednesday, the president promised substantial income tax cuts for individuals and businesses while postponing much of his massive reform package.

Key congressmen, who will be dealing with the proposals next year, agreed he was wise to drop the idea of asking for massive tax reform at the same time.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell Long, D-La., told UPI any attempt by Carter to undertake major tax changes, such as ending the preferential treatment of capital gains, "could lead to a prolonged fight."

If Carter wants fast action on a tax cut to stimulate the economy, and certainly if he wants action before next year's elections, he is taking the right course, Long said.

day and make sure it never happens again.

The problem involved the Alpha Phi Omega service organization from the University of Texas attempting to unfurl their huge Texas flag on Kyle Field. They were told not to go on the field by yell leader Joe Reagan. Several fights broke out when the group went on the field anyway.

Confusion and a lack of communication caused the incident, Koldus said.

Groff had given APO permission to go on the field prior to the game, but the yell leaders were not aware of this, Koldus said.

Reagan told the UT students, "You might have permission, but you will cause a confrontation if you go on the field."

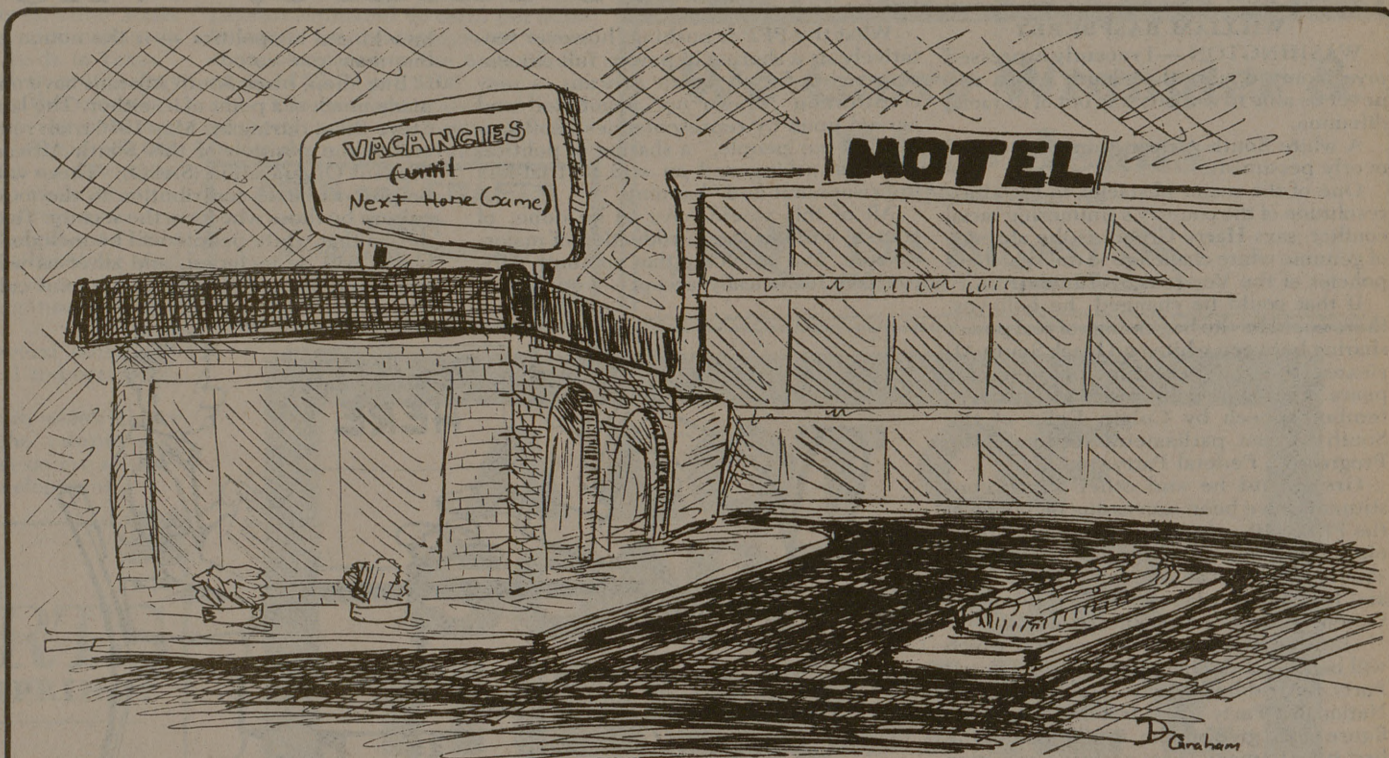
Koldus said he went down to the field Saturday and told the yell leaders they had no responsibility to enforce rules and regulations of the University. Keeping University of Texas students off the field but allowing Corps members to bring an armadillo, a chicken and footlockers onto it appeared to be hypocritical, Koldus said.

Police officers hired by the athletic department are responsible for controlling the crowd, Koldus said. These officers are from the Bryan and College Station Police Departments and the Brazos County Sheriff's department. University Police control traffic and crowds on the outside of the stadium.

Koldus said the officers should be hired through the University Police department and should answer to it, not the athletic department.

"I would like to see it handled through the University with input from the athletic department," Tate said. But he added, "A lot of things that happened would have happened regardless of who was in charge."

Tate said the only responsibility of the yell leaders was to lead yells and instill spirit, not control the crowds.



Make reservations early

Rooms can be difficult to find

By KIM TYSON

If you want to get a room at a local hotel for Parent's Day weekend next April, now is the time to act. Hotel rooms in the Bryan-College Station area may be hard to find during peak periods such as this. However, these hotel rooms are not always in big demand.

During home football games, hotels in the area are generally booked solid.

Those who want rooms may have to go as far as Madisonville (45 miles away) or Caldwell (27 miles away).

"I would say as a rule of thumb you need reservations at least six months in advance," said Bill Jacobs, manager of the Aggeland Inn.

Jacobs said he has some reservations already for 1980. But he said for weekends with no big events in town one week to three days is usually sufficient notice.

Jacobs said his hotel recently adopted a policy of requesting two nights' payment to confirm reservations for football weekend rooms. He said they will not take one-night reservations for those weekends.

Jacobs said he decided on the policy after the University of Texas - Texas A&M football game last weekend because so many people checked out after the game, leaving 70 vacancies in the 176-room hotel Saturday night. Some of the vacancies couldn't be filled.

The 24-room Surrey Inn in Caldwell requires one night's room rent to confirm reservations on football weekends. These reservations can be made as soon as the new football schedule is announced, around the first of the year.

But football weekends are completely different from the rest of the year, said Betty Young, manager of the Ramada Inn for 12 years.

"The motel industry has about 1,000 rooms in the Bryan-College Station area, but we are a feast and famine community," said Pat Mann, executive vice president of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce.

He said some weekends have overflow crowds, but there are others that have a low occupancy rate when no attractions are in the area.

Mann said some apartment complexes turn into hotels when they have vacancies during football season.

Football season may be profitable for hotels but business isn't as dependable during other parts of the year.

The slowest time of the year is during Christmas break, from mid-December to mid-January.

"Business is just dead for 30 days then," Young said.

Young said business is also lost when visitors come to the University and leave the same day.

And personnel problems plague hotels in the area because of the boom-bust cycle of business, Young said. She said it is difficult to find people to do the periodic work or to train new people just for big weekends.

"You feel like a clown in a circus," she said, "You do a lot of juggling with employees."

Conventions in the Texas A&M area are a large part of local hotel business, said Nancy Deitrich, assistant manager of the Holiday Inn in College Station.

"Seminars at the University are really big business for us," she said. Jacobs said the hotels feed like "vultures, because they survive on business created by Texas A&M."

Ninety-five percent of the Ramada Inn's business comes from

something related to the University, Young said. But she said the conventions aren't always spaced out for constant business.

"Sometimes we will have two conventions at one time and the next week nothing," she said.

Smaller hotels may have an easier time adjusting to the boom-bust periods because they have fewer rooms to fill, Young said.

"Maybe in a few years the area may be ready for this many hotels. But right now it's overbuilt," Young said.

Approximately 200 to 300 large conventions come to the University each year requiring hotel accommodations for participants, said John Richards, Texas A&M scheduling and services manager. He said that for the smaller seminars, some 380,000 people come to Texas A&M yearly. Seminars are increasing because news of the Texas A&M facilities is passed on, he said.

The scheduling department helps chairmen find accommodations for conferees in the area. Richards said seminar chairmen are sent lists and phone numbers of hotels in the area. The Chamber of Commerce also publishes a visitor's directory listing motels, hotels and eating establishments.

"But we don't recommend anybody," Richards said. Convention chairmen make all reservations.

Richards also said that dorms are used for some of the larger conferences during the summer.

The Department of Continuing Education also helps coordinate conventions with rooms. John Edd Tucker, assistant director, said he knows of only one time a convention has had to move somewhere else because adequate accommodations

(See Hotel, page 6)

ABC television crew gets ready despite confusion



John Allen, technical director for ABC Sports, checks out his control switcher.
Photo by Mary Hesalroad

By MARY HESALROAD

Roll, take six," on technician bellowed to another.

"What?" a muffled voice asked. "I said roll... WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHAT?? ROLL SIX!"

You call this the communications business?" asked a man who was dragging yards of cable. "You can't even get our intercom to work."

Such good-natured bantering flew back and forth among the 33-man crew from ABC as they set up equipment Thursday afternoon on the west side of Kyle Field for Saturday's televised Texas A&M - Houston game.

The scene was one of organized confusion. Men bustled around the three trucks setting up television cameras and testing equipment. They moved about with an air of easy confidence born from years of experience.

John Allen, technical director for ABC Sports, has been on the job for 17 years. He is responsible for pushing the right buttons at the right time. He controls how the action is televised.

"There is a tremendous amount of pressure to this job, but it doesn't bother me. It's not the kind of pressure to get an ulcer or a heart attack over," he said.

He looked thoughtful for a moment and then smiled. "I guess it doesn't bother me because I don't take this business seriously."

The people who hand out Emmy Awards evidently take Allen's work seriously. They awarded him an Emmy for his technical directing during the 1976 Olympic games in Montreal.

"I did the opening and closing ceremonies and all the track and field events," Allen said.

He also won an Emmy for similar work during the 1968 Summer Olympic games in Mexico.

"About half of the crew here now has won Emmys. Some have won two or three."

Allen is the technical director for the regional college football game of the week. Allen and his crew spent Thanksgiving Day in Lubbock for the Arkansas - Texas

Bookmart begins Monday at MSC

A book mart where students decide the price of their own books is set to begin Monday in Room 137 Memorial Student Center, says Tommy Parks, director of the market.

The Student Government-sponsored project will offer books on a consignment basis — owners decide a price, put it in the book and receive the money for the book if it sells. Unsold books Parks says, will be returned to the owner.

Student Government will not buy the books as it has in the past, because it lost money each time, Parks says. The mart will offer to sell any book, he says even books not being used next semester.

Hours for the book mart are 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. The market will be open weekdays Dec. 15-16 and Jan. 16 through Feb. 17. A 25-cent handling charge will be collected for each book, Parks says. The profits will be returned to Student Government's activities fund.

Tech game. Friday they flew to Philadelphia for the Army - Navy game and then to College Station on Wednesday.

"I don't mind the travel," Allen said. "I wouldn't do it if I didn't love it."

Eight cameras will be used to televise the game Saturday, including one on a platform atop a 150-foot crane.

Most of the crew's duties aren't as risky. Sal Folino, a sideline cameraman, moves along the sidelines following the teams and coaches.

"Every once in a while I spin it (the camera) around and get some pretty girls," he said. "And an 8 by 10 glossy of myself," he added, smiling.

The Aggies' last regular season game is

also the last regular season game for the ABC team. The Hula Bowl will be Allen's last televised game until next football season.

"After the Hula Bowl it's on to golf," Allen said. He said he'll also do auto racing, and NCAA track and field.

"This goes on until July or August. Then I take a vacation and it's back to college football in the fall."

Allen turns away to answer a question. In the background someone yells, "Kill tape!"

"No, roll tape!" someone else orders.

"It's rolling now."

"You're rolling WHAT?" a puzzled voice asks.

Committee recommends earlier Health Center closing

If you want to see a doctor at the Health Center, you may have to go earlier this semester.

A recommendation has been made to Texas A&M University President Jarvis Miller that the Beutel Health Center close its doors at 4 p.m. instead of the present closing time of 5 p.m.

The Student Health Center Advisory Committee made the recommendation after a discussion with Dr. Claude Goswick, director of the Health Center.

"The staff is greatly overworked," Goswick said Wednesday. "We're here until 6 or 6:30 even though the doors close at 5." Any patient who

signs in before closing time is guaranteed a consultation with a doctor.

Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services, said the center is understaffed - two of the seven doctor's positions are unfilled.

It's difficult to attract new doctors to the center because of low pay and long hours said Dr. Jack Wagner, a member of the advisory committee, and a physician himself.

He said Health Center doctors could probably make three times as much money in private practice. Salaries range between \$29,000 and \$34,000 according to the University budget.