

THE BATTALION

Vol. 71 No. 103
14 Pages

Wednesday, February 22, 1978
College Station, Texas

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

Inside Wednesday

Sailing Club seeks new waters, p. 10.
Baseball team beats McNeese State 13-3, p. 12.
Basketball team ends season with 81-75 win over Rice, p. 13.



Battalion photo by Susan Webb

And all that jazz

Maynard Ferguson and his 13-piece orchestra brought an electrifying jazz concert to Rudder Theater Tuesday night, and more than 2,000 attended. Please see related review, page 10.

Brazos county deputies serve 15 of 60 warrants

BY TERESA HUDDLESTON

Fifteen hot check writers were taken by Brazos County deputies Monday night as Brazos County deputy constables conducted another raid on area hot check writers.

The deputies' last raid was on Jan. 26. They started with 60 warrants this time and were only able to serve 15 of them," said E.W. Sayers.

He said that people are beginning to take them seriously. Last time they sent 400 summonses and only 15 percent were answered on time.

This time we mailed out 140 summonses and over 50 percent were answered," Sayers said.

Before warrants are issued, the hot check writer has several chances to pay his bill.

When a hot check comes back from the merchant, the merchant will notify the writer to come in and pay. If this fails, a registered letter is sent to the writer telling him he has 10 days to come in and pay.

After 10 days the check still has not been paid, a copy of the registered letter is sent to the county attorney. The county attorney's office gives it to the justice of peace court.

The justice of peace court sends summonses to everyone who has been sent a letter. After 10 days, arrest warrants are issued for anyone who has not paid his bill.

"The summons is just a courtesy,"

Sayers said. "We don't have to send them out."

After a summons is sent, a \$27.50 fine is charged to the hot check passer. If a warrant is issued, an additional \$7 charge is added. After three warrants have been sent, \$10 is added for each additional warrant.

Two of the fifteen people served warrants Monday were arrested because they were unable to pay the check and the fine. One was released a few hours later when a friend paid the debt. The other is still in jail and has the option of posting bond or remaining in jail until money arrives.

If someone is unable to pay he can sit in jail for \$5 a day until he has paid the bond off. For the usual bond of \$200 that would mean spending 40 days in jail.

Deputies set out to collect \$3,900 in Monday night's raid, but were able to collect only \$1,000 in checks and fines.

Sayers said that four of the people they had warrants for had moved out of state.

"There is nothing we can do to them now but beg them to make restitution," Sayers said.

Those who paid their checks and fines will not have the incident put on their police record.

Those who were not found will have a record connected with their driver's license number. If they are stopped anywhere in the state by police and their driver's license checked, the officer will find they are wanted in Brazos County.

They then will be held until they pay the check and fine.

Sayers said the worst problem they had in serving the warrants was bad addresses.

"Merchants try to handle the checks themselves because they think that it is going to cost them a lot of money," he said. "By the time they send a letter to the county attorney, the person has usually moved."

"If they (merchants) filed right away they would get good results. It only costs them the money for a registered letter and we can do a more efficient job."

Sayers said that the county will conduct the raids as often as the hot checks stack up in the future.

Mass transportation priority is to increase vehicle occupancy

By LYNN BLANCO

One "short term priority" of the mass transportation system is to increase the occupancy of vehicles in the 20th century, said Dr. Ron Holder, program director of Texas Transportation Institute.

In a speech presented by the Great Issues Committee Monday, Holder said the average private vehicle carries 1.25 persons, while in 1955 the average was 4 persons. Holder also said that utilizing car and van pools, and more buses, fewer vehicles will be needed in the future.

"The automobile will continue to be the backbone of the urban system. Cars have become smaller and there may even be electric automobiles in the future," he said.

"I think we will pay whatever price we have to pay for gas before we give up the automobile regardless of economic impact," Holder said.

One reason Holder believes Americans will retain their cars, is that they afford an "element of personal independence" not found in public transportation. "The automobile is very popular and it would be tough to do away with it," he said.

Holder also said it would take more than 25 years to change present forms of urban transportation. There will still be congestion in larger cities.

"Congestion will be here as long as we live. No technology we've come up with yet has been able to eliminate it." By

utilizing mass transportation however, more people can be moved on the freeways, he said.

He said some ways to motivate people to ride buses and to participate in car pools are:

- Utilizing unused frontage roads and shoulders of highways;
- Having a freeway control lane, with special entry at the ramp for high occupancy vehicles, through a system of stop lights;
- Having reserve lanes (concurrent flow) clearing traffic for bus flow;
- Having reserve lanes (contraflow) where traffic flows in opposite directions in the same section of the highway, and
- Having an exclusive bus-car lane.

Holder said plans in Houston were approved in November for a reserve lane (contraflow) system for the North Freeway. Even though traffic flows in the opposite directions in the contraflow system, there are fewer hazards than in the concurrent flow system. In the concurrent system cars are traveling at a slower speed and cars that cross into the reserve lane traveling at faster speeds cause many accidents.

Two other solutions Holder suggested were to build more highways and stagger work hours. He said that soon there will be no more land available to build more highways and in Houston alone there is a two-and-a-half hour peak for work traffic.

United Press International

The governor of Indiana — "astounded" at lack of congressional action — demanded immediate federal intervention in the coal strike that is slowly strangling his state's economy.

But governors of four other coal-producing states urged Congress to keep its hands off the explosive issue and allow the negotiating process to run its course.

For 160,000 striking members of the United Mine Workers, shipments of "scab coal" from non-union mines spawned rage and violence as the creeping paralysis of the 79-day-old walkout spread.

The Tennessee Valley Authority reported coal stocks down to a 24-day supply. A new snowstorm howling across the state threatens rapid depletions. TVA's power famine was further aggravated by indications that a voluntary 20 percent reduction sought in electricity usage is falling short of the mark.

Industry officials said they could not make such a reduction and stay in business. "We cannot come close to 20 percent without shutting down and sending people home," said Dan Ash, an assistant vice president of Rohm & Haas at Knoxville. "We intend to avoid getting into the layoff stage if at all possible."

"You've got to run these units or not," said Howard McCutcheon, general manager of Knox Iron. "You either melt steel or you don't."

In hard-pressed Indiana, Gov. Otis R. Bowen fired off an angry telegram to the White House demanding immediate federal intervention to end the strike.

"I was astounded to learn today of the attitude of the congressional leadership, which, according to news accounts, is one of hesitancy to do anything until disaster actually is upon us," he said.

Even as Bowen called out 250 more National Guardsmen to ride shotgun in defense of non-union coal shipments to the state's power plants, merchants in Terre Haute announced the closing of three

shopping malls and most of the city's downtown businesses every Tuesday until the strike is ended.

Mandatory power cutbacks left Indiana school children wearing coats in chilly classrooms and school officials trimming the school week.

As coal mine operators and UMW officials returned to the bargaining table, the governors of West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky and Pennsylvania took issue with Bowen's call for federal intervention. They demanded, instead, that union and management officials get down to business and settle their differences.

Kentucky Gov. Julian Carroll said federal intervention would aggravate rather

than settle the strike. The best way to settle this is through the bargaining process."

Govs. Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, Milton Schapp of Pennsylvania and James A. Rhodes of Ohio endorsed the stand.

In Springfield, Ill., where city officials won a court order limiting picketing aimed at non-union coal shippers, miners were outraged. About 200 of them showed up at a City Council meeting where purchase of 10,000 tons of such coal from Kentucky was approved.

"We want all the scab coal to stop coming into Illinois from Kentucky and other states," said UMW official Dennis Skeldon.

About 600 pickets closed non-union operations in three Ohio counties Monday

Probe confirms count of drug trafficking

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Panama's Gen. Omar Torrijos has known for years of drug trafficking by Panamanian officials. Trafficking which prompted the Nixon administration in 1973 to consider assassinating a key Panamanian official, the Senate has been informed.

The Senate was going into its second day of secret sessions today to continue scrutinizing persistent drug allegations against Torrijos family members and other high Panamanian officials.

The Nixon administration plot for the "total and complete immobilization" of one unidentified Panamanian official in January and February 1973 was never carried out, the Senate was told Tuesday by Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., the chairman of its Intelligence Committee.

Bayh said although the assassination idea was dropped, other devious efforts to pressure Panama into cracking down on drug traffickers were put into effect.

A public version of Bayh's report did not identify the assassination target. But a recent two-month UPI inquiry into the drug allegations indicated it probably was Col. Manuel A. Noriega, chief of Panama's intelligence services.

A Justice Department official acquainted with details of the plot declined to comment.

Bayh's report corroborated various of the drug allegations uncovered in the UPI investigation.

Senate reaction to the Intelligence Committee revelations was generally low key among both treaty supporters and opponents.

"They've placed no 'smoking gun' in Omar Torrijos' hand," Sen. Allan Cranston, D-Calif., said. "And he won't be the Maximum Leader by the year 2000 anyway. I don't think the drug issue will have any effect at all on the Senate vote. The trend in the Senate — as in the country — is still in favor of the treaties. Today we

reached the 60 mark in committed votes for it."

"Nothing's been said this morning that has not been in the public domain," Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., a fervent opponent, said.

Meanwhile, a federal judge refused to rule whether the House had a right to vote on the Panama Canal treaties. U.S. District Judge Barrington Parker dismissed suit by 60 congressmen who claimed President Carter violated their constitutional right to vote on disposal of U.S. property by sending the treaties only to the Senate for ratification.

Also, the Justice Department Tuesday unsealed the secret May 1972 indictment in the New York of Torrijos' brother, Moises Torrijos. A bench warrant for Moises Torrijos' arrest was issued May 16,

1972, for heroin smuggling into the United States.

Omar Torrijos told two senators last December and repeated to a visiting Atlanta journalist last weekend he would put his brother in jail if the United States provided proof of his guilt in drug trafficking.

"Some sources," Bayh said, "have provided intelligence which we view as reliable and which we believe suggests that General Torrijos knew about narcotics trafficking by government officials and did not take sufficient action to stop his brother's activities."

"Intelligence reports also contain other allegations asserting that General Torrijos assisted his brother. However, our investigation has turned up no conclusive evidence that could be used in court of law," Bayh said.

Congressman blasts canal pacts, Carter

BY MARILYN BROWN

President Carter has made many erroneous and misleading statements to the American public concerning the Panama Canal treaties, says Congressman Philip M. Crane, R-Ill.

Crane argued in opposition to the treaties in a Political Forum debate here Monday night. His adversary was Sen. Donald W. Riegle, D-Mich. Crane was the audience's overwhelming favorite.

Crane criticized the President for stating in the Ford-Carter debates that he would never give up the Panama Canal. "The only lie Jimmy told us was when he said he would never lie," Crane said.

The Carter administration has launched a massive campaign to win public support of the treaties. It has lobbied every U.S. senator and Carter has met with more than 1500 community leaders across the nation.

Crane referred to Carter's statement that the last four presidents have endorsed the treaties and said, "I know that Jimmy has unusual pipelines but how he communicated with Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower and L.B.J., I just don't know."

President Carter said last October that the United States "never bought it (the canal zone), we never owned it, and we're not giving it away." Crane said that the United States paid Panama \$90 million to obtain "free and unchallenge title" to the canal zone, as well as \$10 million in gold to obtain building rights for the canal. The Supreme Court in 1907 declared that title a "complete and total transfer of that land to the U.S. government" and upheld that ruling in 1972, Crane said.

He said it was true that the United States would not be giving away the canal if the treaties were ratified.

"We are paying them to take it," Crane said. The treaties call for the U.S. to pay Panama about \$2 billion over the next 20 years to maintain the canal zone.

Sen. Riegle argued that the canal "is not our property. It is true that we built it, we manage it, and we payed for it, but that doesn't make it ours." Riegle did not support this position.

Riegle said he thinks the key issue is not who owns or operates the canal but that all nations have unrestricted use of it and that the United States has priority use of it in times of emergency.

The Senate added two amendments to the treaties to guarantee the United States' perpetual right to protect the canal with troops and to take first passage through the canal in case of emergency.

"I don't care who runs the canal as long as I'm absolutely guaranteed that it will remain neutral and in operation," Riegle said.

Crane called that neutrality in the zone and U.S. right to intervention "contradict-

ory goals." He said U.S. security will be jeopardized if the canal zone is given up.

"Once Old Glory goes down and the Panama flag goes up, Torrijos (Panama's leader since the 1969 revolution) can tear the treaty up at any time," Crane said.

The United Nations and international law uphold the right of nationalization. International law transcends treaties and agreements between nations, Crane said.

He said if Panama were to nationalize the canal the only recourse the U.S. would have to protect its rights would be to send in troops. That would be by definitin a declaration of war.

(See Carter, page 9)

Applications taken for Aggield, Battalion editor

The Student Publications Board is accepting applications for Summer and Fall editorships of The Battalion and for 1978-79 editorships of the Aggield.

Application forms may be obtained at the Student Publications office, 216 Reed McDonald Building, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Completed application forms should be returned to Bob G. Rogers, chairman, Student Publications Board, 301 Reed McDonald. Deadline for submission of applications is 5 p.m. Monday, March 20, 1978.

Battalion summer editor will serve from May 15 through August 24, 1978. Battalion Fall Semester editor will serve from April 16, 1978, through December 1978 (with the exception of the summer term.) Aggield editor will serve for the academic year 1978-79.

Qualifications for editor of The Battalion are: 2.0 overall and major GPR at the time of taking office and during the term of office (all GPR references are to cumulative figures). At least one year of experience in a responsible editorial position on The Battalion or comparable student newspaper, or at least one year of editorial experience on a commercial newspaper, or at least 12 hours of journalism including Journalism 203 and 204 (Reporting and Editing I and II) or equivalent. (The 12 hours must include completion of Journalism 402 (Law) or enrollment in Journalism 402 during the semester served.)

Qualifications for editor of the Aggield are: 2.0 overall and major GPR at the time of taking office and during the term of office. At least one year in a responsible staff position on the Aggield or equivalent yearbook experience elsewhere.

Corps of Cadets officers announced

Robert J. Kamensky of San Angelo and Scott E. Patton of Sherman have been named to top leadership posts in Texas A&M University's 1978-79 Corps of Cadets.

Kamensky will be corps commander, with rank of cadet colonel of the corps. As deputy commander, Patton will be a cadet captain.

They assume the posts May 6 at Final Review, the Corps' last formal military activity of the school year.

Appointment of Kamensky and Patton was announced by Army Col. James R. Woodall, commandant, with the approval of Texas A&M University President Jarvis I. Miller.

A Naval ROTC cadet and nuclear engineering major, Kamensky will succeed Mike Gentry of Huntsville. Patton, an agricultural economics major and Army con-

tract cadet, succeeds Ken Donnelly of Garland.

They were chosen early in the spring semester so they could select other Corps officers for 1978-79 from next year's senior class.

Air Force Col. Kenneth W. Durham and Marine Corps Col. Jack Ivins also were involved in screening the new corps leaders. They head Texas A&M's Air Force and naval ROTC programs.

Kamensky has completed all three of his NROTC cruises, a prerequisite to a commission in the U.S. Navy. Patton will attend Army field training this summer at Fort Riley, Kan.

Both are active in numerous student organizations and activities, have been distinguished students and have better than 3.0 grade point ratios. Kamensky was corps sergeant major this year; Patton, corps supply sergeant.