

THE BATTALION

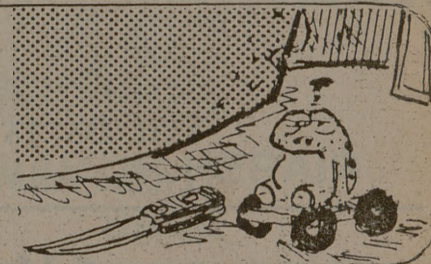
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Miners reject union offer, TVA orders western coal

United Press International
Coal mine operators Wednesday night rejected a union proposal that could have ended the 80-day-old coal strike. It also was revealed that TVA — the nation's largest and most fuel-desperate utility — quietly has ordered hundreds of thousands of tons of coal from Wyoming, which is unaffected by the walkout.

But, a Kerr-McGee spokesman in Gillette ducked the issue.
"I'm really not supposed to say anything," he told a UPI reporter. "I know my superiors are sorry they said anything about this in the first place."
Initially, it was reported the shipment-branded "scab coal" by United Mine Workers strikers — was to be moved by Burlington Northern and Chicago & Northeastern railroads, but a C&N spokesman in Chicago said Burlington decided to handle it alone.

He refused further comment and said he doubted if Burlington would discuss the TVA deal "because of the very real fear of violence."
In Indiana, Gov. Otis R. Bowen issued unloaded M-16 rifles to his National Guardsmen in "Operation Chimney Sweep" and again demanded that President Carter intervene in the strike and "do it now."
A striking miner said Carter should "keep his nose out of this" and "go back to Georgia and pick peanuts."

In Indianapolis, where mandatory electrical cutbacks threaten to turn off the city's outdoor lighting, darkened streets raised the specter of a crime surge.
In both Indiana and Kentucky, the strike landed in the mail box, forcing the U.S. Postal Service to trim electrical consumption by 25 to 50 percent, with a corresponding cutback in services starting Friday.
In Chicago, lights were dimmed in the world's tallest building — the 110-story Sears Tower — and the landmark Wrigley Building's bank of spotlights was doused.
As the strike dragged on, unemployment spawned by industrial layoffs soared by 8 percent in West Virginia where business losses now total \$25.2 million and tax losses have topped \$3 million.

Students can collect insurance but few will be able to qualify

By PAIGE BEASLEY
Battalion Staff
Students looking for full-time jobs can file a claim for unemployment insurance benefits that are nontaxable. However, most students will not qualify, because

class schedules limit their availability for work so many have not had previous full-time jobs.
"Benefits from unemployment insurance are not subject to income tax," said Charles Gillespie, manager of the Texas

Employment Commission in Bryan. Unemployment insurance compensates for wage loss and provides a form of financial aid.
Qualifications everyone must meet, said Gillespie, are first to file a claim, be able to work and be available to work.

"A person who limits availability to part-time employment would not be eligible," he said. "The hours depending on the type job." Secretaries normally work from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., while some restaurant and factory employees work later hours.

"Someone who quits their last job to return to school is penalized on a claim until they have subsequent work," Gillespie said. "When someone quits their last job from the labor force. In effect, they have said I'm not available for work, I'm going to school."

Claimants must have received at least \$500 in wages for employment during their base year, which is the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the date of the claim, he said. A person must also register for work and continue to report to an employment agency until he has a job.

A claim could pay \$15 to \$84 a week, depending on individual earnings, Gillespie said. The greater the previous earnings, the greater the amount received from unemployment insurance.

A person may receive payments for a maximum of 26 weeks, Gillespie said. This figure is subject to change in accordance with changes in state and federal unemployment rates. Persons with minimal work history receive fewer payments than persons who have worked for longer periods of time.



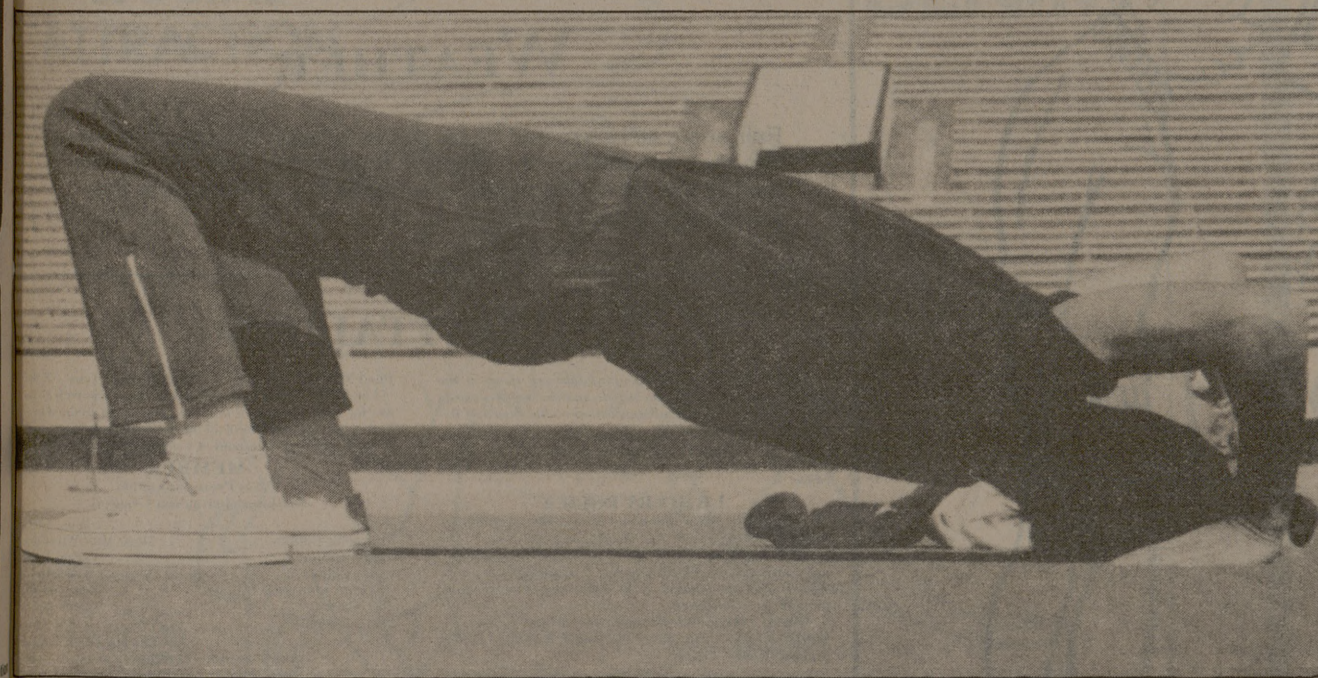
Festivities begin at 7 p.m.

All Night Fair returns Friday

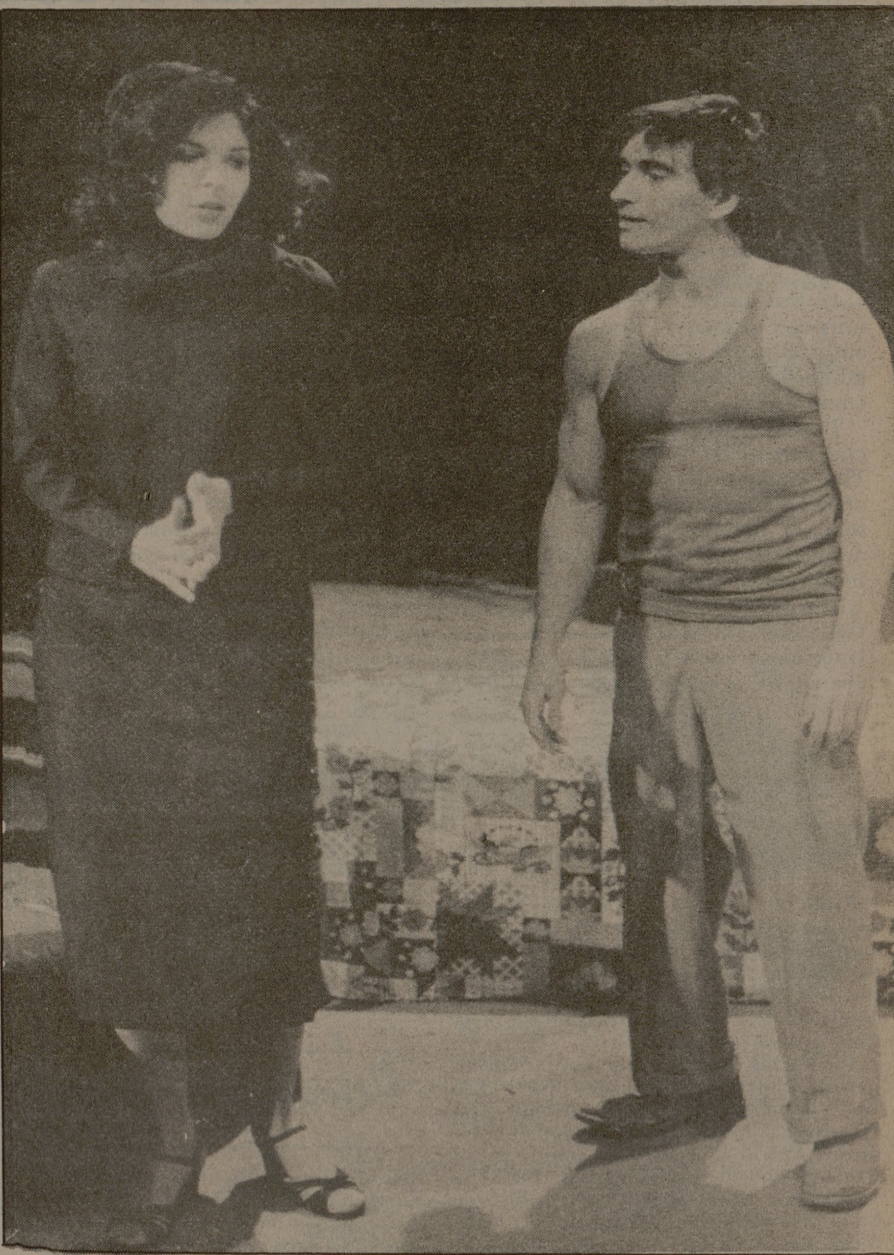
By GAIL SMILA
The third annual All Night Fair is back at the Memorial Student Center will be live with entertainment this weekend.
The fair, which is sponsored by the MSC Council and Directorate, will be held at the MSC on Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m.
This year's special attraction is Denim, a band that Rebecca Taulman, fair director, says is "not really country and western, not really hard rock, and not really pop."
Denim is scheduled to play for a dance which will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Fifty-nine booths will be set up at the fair where students can play anything from darts to roulette to computer games — and much more.
Also included in the festivities are a magician, simulated games of "Name that Tune" and "The Gong Show," and prehistoric bowling, where bowlers will be dressed as cavemen.
Three to five thousand students are expected to attend the fair this year. The price at the door is 50 cents and 10 cents per game or, for those who don't pay at the door, the cost is 25 cents per game.
The theme of this year's fair is "Travel

Thru Time With Us" and those planning to attend are encouraged to wear appropriate costumes. Prizes for the best costumes will be awarded at 11 p.m.
Booths, operated by recognized university organizations, will be judged at 10 p.m. Winners will receive a 16-gallon keg of beer. Profits from the booths will be put in the organizations' activity funds.
The fair is expected to make \$1,800 at the door. The money will cover the cost of producing the fair and paying \$750 for the band. Any money left over will be put into an account to help pay for next year's fair.



One step at a time
Marathon runner Tom LaHouse steps and stretches while preparing for a race. He warms up for 30 minutes before each marathon.
LaHouse, a senior geophysics major from Syracuse, N.Y., is planning to run in the Texas A&M University spring marathon in early April.



Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

'A Streetcar named Desire'

Blanche Dubois (Linda Nystedt) introduces herself to her brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski (Bill Weldon) in a scene from the Aggie Players' current production. The play runs Feb. 23-25 and March 1-4 in Rudder Center Forum. Please see review, p. 5

Senate approves nominations, recommends regulation change

By LIZ NEWLIN
Battalion Staff
The student senate approved the new student body president's nominations for filling vacant positions of the executive branch and two vice presidents after a 25-minute closed executive session Wednesday night.

Senators also recommended a change in University Regulations concerning grade requirements for student organization and club officers. The recent controversy about grade requirements prompted the former student body president, Robert Harvey, and a vice president, Vicki Young, to resign last week. Neither posted above a 2.0 grade point ratio for last semester, but their cumulative GPRs were above 2.0.

The amendment suggested by the senate adds "post" to the grade requirements, apparently clarifying the previous rule that officers must post a 2.0 GPR for each semester they are in office. The change still must be approved by the University committee on regulations.

Harvey and Young contended that neither the regulations nor the student body constitution were clear.

Mike Humphrey, new student body president, decided not to retain all of Harvey's five-member executive staff, which resigned last week at Harvey's request. Humphrey nominated three new people, keeping only recording secretary Nancy Bunch and director of information Dan Sullins.

Humphrey chose, and the senate approved, Kirk Marchand as executive director, Chris Farmer as judicial board chairman, and Lisa Maxwell as controller.

Both the former executive director, Geri Campbell, and former judicial board chairman, Stan Stanfield, said before they resigned that they would accept their old jobs if offered. Stuart Kingsbery, former controller, said he would not accept his old post, but he did say his assistant, Maxwell, was qualified.

Humphrey began explaining his changes to the senate, but he was interrupted by a request to close the meeting to the public. The senate unanimously approved going into executive session.

Humphrey did give senators some of his reasons for not re-appointing the old staff members during the open meeting.

He said he "tried to be objective" in nominating an executive director and judicial board chairman to serve the six weeks before a new student body president is elected.

"The thing that bothered me about Stan (Stanfield) is that at times Stan has not been the most fair person," he told senators. He said Stanfield had good ideas about reforming the board into a more effective branch,

but that sometimes his personal feelings interfered.

"Chris (Farmer, new chairman) is better able to lay his feelings aside," Humphrey said later.

Farmer, who was recently accepted to medical school in Houston has been a member of the board three years.

This year the executive director became a "closer partner" with the president, supervising five student coordinators who oversee all executive committees.

In the past, the director ran all executive committees alone, which includes committees on Muster, parent's day, the blood drive and book mart.

Marchand is currently operations sergeant for the Corps of Cadets and will be operations officer next year.

The job has been expanded, Humphrey said, to "be more of a partner with the president."

Senators approved Humphrey's choices for vice president of student services, William Altman, and vice president for academic affairs, Mike Flores.

Seven senate positions are vacant due to resignations. Humphrey said he hopes to submit nominations for the seats at the next senate meeting, March 8.

In other action, senators heard first readings on several bills, including student fee allocations and movement of the consideration section in Kyle Field.

Senator Scott Macaluso also announced an investigation of problems students have in math courses at Texas A&M.

Nation in confusion, gas producer says

By ANDREA VALLS
The nation is in a cross-current of contradiction and confusion because of governmental regulations of the petroleum industry, said Michel Halbouty, an independent oil and gas producer, at the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce Banquet Wednesday.

"As long as the petroleum industry is imposed upon by governmental regulation, we will never solve our energy problem," he said. "Energy is the lifeblood of an industrialized nation. Without it, our nation is impotent."

Halbouty said the nation is approaching a time of turmoil because of governmental restraints placed upon the industrial section of the nation. The energy solution lies in the hands of the American people and industrialists because the bureaucrats in Washington are not familiar with the fundamentals of the petroleum industry, he said.

The laws passed by the legislature erode industrialist's liberties and increase regulation, said Halbouty.

"Millions of jobs are in jeopardy because of the regulation of the petroleum and natural gas industry."

Halbouty said America is witnessing a mass elimination of people's rights because of government oil regulation. Nothing has been done since the 1973 oil embargo to increase America's energy situation with oil and gas, he said.

"We have received only barrels of paper

work from the legislature, not barrels of oil," he said.

He added that under Carter's recently defeated energy plan, nothing provided for an increase of the oil supply. The plan did provide for restraints on wildcaters (independent oil drillers) to drill for oil, therefore limiting the nation to less oil reserves than we are producing, he said.

"Our nation has no choice except to import oil under these conditions," he said. "Our nation cannot hope to be self-sufficient when wildcats are restrained from oil exploration."

"We are moving towards socialism much faster than Russia moved toward Communism," said Halbouty.

He attributed this to apathy on the part of American people to speak out against governmental restraints. He added that the United States is no longer a nation dominated by strength, but by legislated restraints and regulations restricting personal and industrial free will.

The restraints will lead to inflation and decline of our military strength, he said. "If I was in the Soviet Union and wanted to destroy the United States, I couldn't think of a better program to use than the one that America is presently using."

Halbouty received his Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Professional Degree in Geological Engineering from Texas A&M University. He recently established a \$150,000 scholarship fund at Texas A&M. The University Geosciences Building was recently renamed from him.