

# THE BATTALION

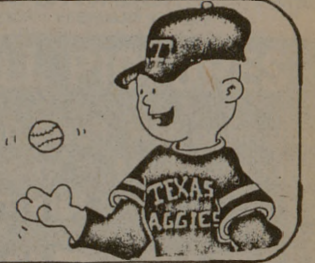
Vol. 71 No. 107  
8 Pages

Tuesday, February 28, 1978  
College Station, Texas

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

## Inside Tuesday

Baseball team back in action, p. 8.  
Domestic animal management  
course offered, p. 6.  
Paul Arnett: Tennis, everyone? p. 7.



## Angry miners balk as coal supplies disappear

**United Press International**  
Rocks and bullets flew on the picket line and coal-starved Midwestern utilities scrambled for anything burnable Monday. Increasing numbers of disgruntled UMW miners damned the very contract their leadership was preparing to sell them. Eighty-five days deep into the coal war, few could book odds for or against a pact designed to end it. The contract is rotten from the word of the famed Gene Oiler, president of an UMW local. "It's pretty bad. It's pretty bad," said Gene Oiler, another local officer. "I don't know if it will be ratified, but I don't know if it's really going to back this thing and not."

Few of their district leaders agreed with the criticism after a five-and-a-half-hour briefing on the new contract with the Bituminous Coal Operators Association Monday in Washington. Gloom rode in their ranks as they emerged. "Everybody's greedy and wants more," said Lou Antal, president of District 5 in western Pennsylvania. "How can you get more if there isn't any more?" "I'm a little numb," said Okie Barton, of District 6 in Ohio. "It's not going to be easy. It's going to be an all-around tough battle." UMW Vice President Sam Church was one of the few optimists predicting ratification of the pact. "You hear the people who are dissatis-

fied," he said. "The silent majority doesn't have much to say." As the union leaders prepared to take their campaign for ratification into the field, vocal minorities did their talking with a torch in Illinois and with rocks and bullets in Alabama. About 200 miners set fire to railroad ties and ripped up rails on a line leading to the Illinois Power Company's Baldwin plant. Alabama state police escorted non-UMW workers to safety after nearly 100 rock-tossing miners shut down the Crawford Mining Co. when it tried to reopen. Three bullets hit a company vehicle. No arrests were made because police said they could not identify the gunman. In Kentucky, Robert Dean Prater, a

23-year-old Pike county miner, was arrested after he and several others were caught stoning a coal truck. Most of the rank and file hostility to the new contract was aimed at the wildcat strike clause and loss of pension funds during the strike by UMW retirees. "They're the ones that built this union," said Steve Elliot, an Ohio union local president. "We have been out for 84 days right now and we should stay out another 84 days to get what we want." Oiler said the new pact allows mine operators to fire any picketer recognized during a wildcat strike, while less well-known miners would go unmolested. Not all the rank and file were up in arms.

## Treaty changes find hard going in Senate

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON—In a show of force, backers of the Panama Canal treaties have demonstrated they own the votes to turn them into significant changes. But the count on the first amendment to come to a vote also showed those same backers are still struggling to win ratification. The Senate killed 55 to 34 an amendment sponsored by Sen. James Allen, D-Ala., which could have kept U.S. troops guarding the waterway for a generation after it is turned over to Panama. The margin of nearly 20 votes was easily enough to defeat the amendment, which required only a majority for adoption. But the 34 votes against the motion to quash the amendment were more than would be needed to kill ratification, which re-

quires a two-thirds majority — 67 if all senators are voting. The Senate planned to continue voting on amendments to the canal debate headed into its 10th day today. Although both sides expressed pleasure at the outcome of the vote on the Allen amendment, neither considered it an accurate barometer of ratification sentiment. Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nev., a main opponent of the treaties, said the vote showed "there are 34 senators displeased with the treaties as they stand." He noted that the total would have climbed to 36 with the addition of Sens. Harrison Schmitt, R-N.M., and Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., who did not vote. But Assistant Senate Democratic leader Alan Cranston said, "We did better than expected and our confidence is shown by the fact that we proceeded with the vote although several of our votes were absent."

## City Council takes steps to insure bond election

**By TIM RAVEN**  
The \$9.2 million municipal bond election moved a step closer toward College Station Monday when the city council asked for the wording of the ballot to be presented for approval at the next regular meeting, March 6. Presently, five projects will be presented to the voters. Item one on the ballot will ask for \$5.3 million to develop an independent water utility system. Along with the \$2.4 million from bonds approved in 1976, total cost of the project is expected to be \$7.7 million. These funds would provide for the construction of water wells, transmission lines, pump stations and additional distribution lines. About \$6.3 million of the total water funds would be eligible for matching funds from the federal Economic Development Administration. The city's share of the cost would be about \$3.2 million, according to a report by the capital improvements committee. Bonds sold for this project will be backed by revenue from the water service. Item two asks for \$845,000 to take the portage area away from the Bryan sewer

system. Some \$350,000 is left in 1976 bonds, making the total cost of this project \$1.2 million. Revenue bonds would back this project. Item three asks for \$300,000 for a permanent road rebuilding program. The capital improvements committee recommended the council budget additional funds to the program each year. Bonds for the project will be repaid with revenue from municipal taxes. Item four involves the construction of two 50-acre athletic complexes. Also planned is the development of neighborhood parks. Total planned expenditures for the two athletic complexes are \$925,000. A complex in the "Golden Triangle" area is expected to cost the city \$675,000, if approved. A tract of land in Southwood Valley to be used for the additional complex is expected to cost about \$250,000. About \$880,000 would be spent on the development of neighborhood parks in the Carter's Grove area in Southwood Valley. These funds include \$60,000 for the purchase of the Lincoln Center recreation facility from the A&M Consolidated School District as a possible site for a civic center.

Plans for the civic center have not been fully developed at this time. The total cost of this project is \$1.81 million. Some \$263,000 could be trimmed from these costs with help from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. The final item would provide additional funds for the completion of the city fire station, police station, and warehouse complex, at a cost of \$680,000.

## Commissioner says cause is stabilization

# 'Teacher demand to decrease in South'

**United Press International**  
SAN ANTONIO — The stabilization of college enrollments in the next 10 years will decrease the demand for new faculty members in the South by more than 50 percent, says Texas Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Kenneth Ashworth. In a speech scheduled Monday to members of governing boards of Texas colleges, Ashworth warned that enrollment

projections for Texas indicate an increase of 11 percent from 1975 to 1985. The national projection is only 2 percent, compared to a growth rate of 88 percent during the previous decade. The 10-year projection shows a slight increase for Texas colleges through 1980, followed by stabilization and even decline during the first half of the decade. The need for new faculty members, he

said, is expected to drop from almost 9,000 persons in 1977 to less than 4,000 in Southern schools in 1985. "With stabilizing student enrollments and stabilizing funding, the prospects for employment by new doctoral graduates is unfavorable to say the least," Ashworth said. Ashworth criticized some colleges for using unorthodox practices to combat the

slow-down in student enrollment growth. He said schools are resorting to "piracy of students from other institutions" and the "body-count game, which involves such devices as taking programs off of our campuses to reach new clientele and raiding the service areas of other institutions." He also criticized the lowering of admissions standards by schools to attract more students and the lowering of performance standards to retain the students. Some schools in other states, Ashworth said, have dropped requirements for graduate record exams and eliminated minimum grade-point averages for admission to graduate programs.

"All these efforts make it easier to get degrees," he said. "Grades become inflated at the same time performance on national tests goes down." "Some of these actions are depreciating the value of all college degrees in the market-place. Employers are finding that a college degree is less and less a predictor of performance in the world of work."

## Crossed wires cause brief power blackout

Two touching wires triggered a short circuit that left parts of College Station without electricity for about 25 minutes Monday night, said city electrical superintendent Joe Guidry.

Electrical contractors working at the intersection of Holik Street and Holleman Drive somehow caused two wires to make contact, Guidry said. The wires short-circuited, throwing a breaker at the substation and shutting off the power.

All of College Station south of Jersey Street was left without power except for a section of Southwood Valley, he said.

A spokesman for the College Station Police Department said they received their first call about the power failure around 5:50 p.m.

Guidry said power was restored about 6:15 p.m.

## Furniture missing

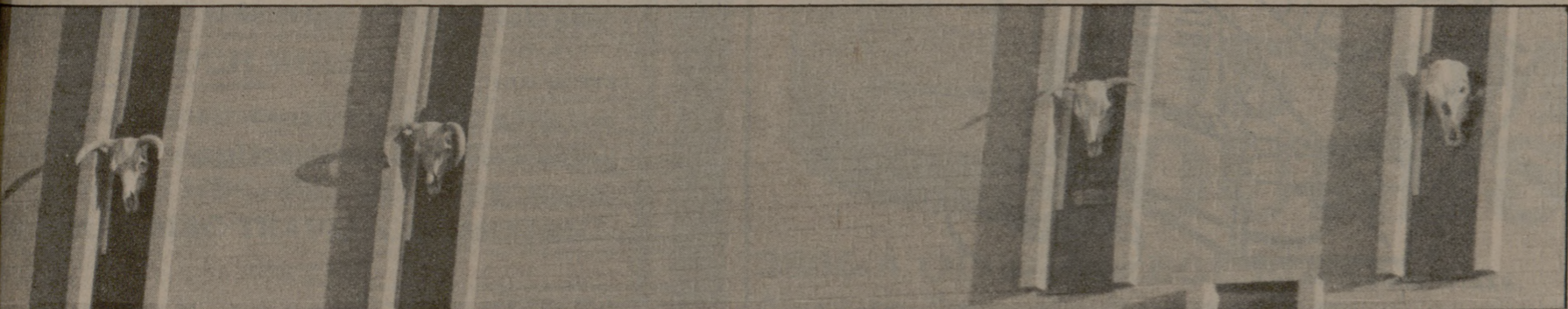
### Chairs, tables, ottomans gradually disappear from Commons

**By AVA KING**  
Lounge furniture with an estimated value of \$13,000 is missing from Dunn Hall in the Commons dormitory complex. Numerous chairs, ottomans, end tables, and pieces of art work are unaccounted for. These items were not taken all at once, but have been disappearing gradually over the six years the dorm has been occupied, said Dunn's area coordinators. Out of the more than 150 furniture items originally issued to Dunn, only three chairs remain in the lounges. No exact count is available on missing lounge furniture because inventory records are not required on dormitory items valued under \$250. The cost of the chairs, ottomans, and end tables issued to the lounges range from \$45 to \$70 per item.

Krueger, like Dunn, was furnished in 1972, but fewer items have disappeared over the same six-year span. Most of Krueger's original lounge furniture is still in the lounges, with only an estimated three items missing per lounge. W. G. Ferris, area coordinator of the Commons, said the difference in theft rates was because girls use the lounges more for wing meetings and informal gatherings. "They are more concerned with keeping lounges nice looking than guys are," he said. "Guys have more mechanical knowledge and the tools to disassemble the furniture," said Larry Pollock, Commons assistant coordinator. "This furniture can be easily disassembled with a wrench and screw-

driver into small, compact pieces that can be carried out of the dorm in a suitcase." Ferris said, "When residents move out of the dorm at the end of the semester, they pack up the furniture and take it with them." Ron Sasse, assistant director of housing, believes that the furniture has not actually been stolen, but has been borrowed by Dunn residents for use in the individual dorm rooms and will "miraculously reappear" at the end of the semester. This practice of "borrowing" is in violation of dormitory policy which states that residents are not to remove furniture from the lounges. It is the responsibility of the resident advisors to see that lounge furniture stays in the lounge and out of residents' rooms.

Ferris and Pollock, who are in daily contact with Dunn Hall and its residents, say they believe that the furnishings are being stolen and taken off campus. All lounge furniture is engraved with a Texas A&M inventory number, and stolen items are easily identifiable. A few pieces of lounge furniture have been located in students' apartments in the Bryan and College Station areas. When the housing office receives information that University furniture is in an off-campus location, the report is investigated by the Texas A&M police in conjunction with the College Station Police Department. Items recovered by police are few, and most missing furniture is never reported.



The end of the trail

Residents on the fourth floor of Dunn Hall have added a bit of the Old West to the more modern architecture of their dormitory. Like

gargoyles from the cowpunching era, these sun-bleached faces gaze out over the north side of the campus.



Texas A&M track team wins

Linda Cornelius, a member of the A&M women's track team, won five individual events Saturday in the track meet against the University of Texas women's team. Cornelius ran the third leg of the winning 1600-meter relay team.

Battalion photo by Jana Hazlett

Battalion photo by Liz Bailey