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Inside Monday:

Number of teen runaways increasing in Brazos County, p. 6.
Aggies take two from Texas, p. 8.
Olsen Field near completion, p. 9.



Southern Lebanon taken in Israeli sweep, U.N. forces ordered to curb invasion

United Press International
Israeli forces today controlled virtually all of southern Lebanon south of Syrian lines and U.N. peace-keeping troops were rushing to take up positions in the war zone.
In New York, the U.N. Security Council today demanded Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin arrived from Middle East talks with President Carter.
In a sweeping offensive Sunday, Israeli forces rolled west on the three major roads from their positions in southern Lebanon, aiming to within three to five miles of the port of Tyre and doubling the size of a mile-wide "security belt" they had fought, Israeli military sources said.
They also advanced to within machine-gun range of the Litani River, the so-called "red line" that marks the under-stand boundary between Israeli forces and the 30,000 Syrian troops who ended Lebanon's civil war.

Some 60,000 Palestinians and 100,000 Lebanese were left homeless.

Western diplomats in Beirut feared that the scope of the conflict could be enlarged unless the crisis is speedily contained.

The Soviet daily Pravda also warned

that "other Arab states" could become involved in the fighting unless Israel withdrew quickly.

Eight Arab states backed an Arab League call for a summit meeting, but Syria called for an Arab hard-liner meeting.

Social security protest spurs House action

WASHINGTON — Sentiment is growing in Congress to give Americans at least a partial reprieve from rising Social Security taxes.
Proposals to roll back the increases voted in December are being pressed in both houses.

Speaker Thomas O'Neill has told the White House the feeling against the increases is now so strong that unless the administration comes up with a proposal it could live with, the House will write and pass one of its own.

What prompted all this was a near "taxpayers' revolt" many congressmen say they found when they went home after passing a bill in December to finance Social Security into the next century.

The protests, they reported, comes mainly from relatively well-to-do taxpayers rather than poor ones.

Under the bill, a \$10,000-a-year worker's Social Security tax will rise only \$8 in 1979. But a \$23,000 worker's tax will rise \$332.92 or \$260.32 more than it would have risen automatically under existing law.

"The letters aren't coming from the \$8 people," said one congressional aide. "They're coming from doctors, lawyers and businessmen."

Most of the proposals now being discussed would reduce Social Security payroll taxes — borne equally by employers and employees — by financing part of the payouts from general revenues.

Proponents believe that would reduce inflation and increase employment, since payroll taxes discourage hiring and also are passed on to consumers as part of product cost.

They also believe it would be fairer, since the income tax burden is shifted to the wealthy more than are payroll taxes.

But Social Security pensions have been financed from employer-employee contributions since they began in 1935. Medicare and disability insurance, which became part of Social Security in later years, have been financed the same way.

House Republicans, meanwhile, say their plan the House rejected last year could have solved the whole problem. It included putting federal employees under Social Security, shifting Medicare funds to other parts of the program, and eventually increasing the full retirement age from 65 to 68.

Housing policies

Freshmen required to live on campus but 75% don't for lack of dorm space

By CHRIS PICCIONE
Seventy-five percent of Texas A&M University's entering freshmen who desire dorm spaces are forced to live off campus because of the lack of on-campus housing. But according to the Texas A&M under-

graduate catalogue, "single students attending the University are required to reside on campus. Off campus permission may be granted on a semester basis only when facilities are not available in University housing."

"The number of freshmen having to live off campus is a concern we all share," said John Koldus, vice president of student services.

A committee comprised of Koldus, Ron Sasse, assistant director of student affairs, Karen Switzer, student development coordinator, and the residence hall staff are investigating the shortage of housing now available to freshmen.

"It would be difficult to change the policy now for next fall because it would be unfair to the people on the waiting list," said Koldus.

The committee is now considering four proposals. The first is an increase in the percentage of the number of freshmen admitted on campus. Under the present policy, 70 percent of available dorm space is allotted to freshmen each fall. This percentage provides a type of insurance for freshmen. Without any priorities, upper classmen now residing in dormitories might fill all the spaces.

"Finding the appropriate number is a guessing game," said Koldus. Ron Sasse is continuing to evaluate the percentage, and trying to determine the correct number of freshmen we should admit on campus," he said.

Under another proposal, all dormitory spaces would be drawn in an annual lottery. A student would not know from year to year whether or not he was living on campus. Sasse said this type of system would cause an "administrative nightmare, because there would be no continuity in the residence halls."

A third idea would limit the number of years a student could live in a residence hall. This would cause inconveniences for students who choose to live on campus for financial reasons or lack of transportation.

A fourth proposal would create an all-freshman dormitory. Sasse said this segregation would result in a lack of upperclassmen serving as role models. This would also inconvenience many upperclassmen who prefer dormitory life.

"A freshman dorm would be contrary to the A&M class priority system," said Koldus. Unlike the football ticket allocation, freshmen would have first priority.

The purpose of residence halls is to help students make the transition from high school to college life and to perpetuate the

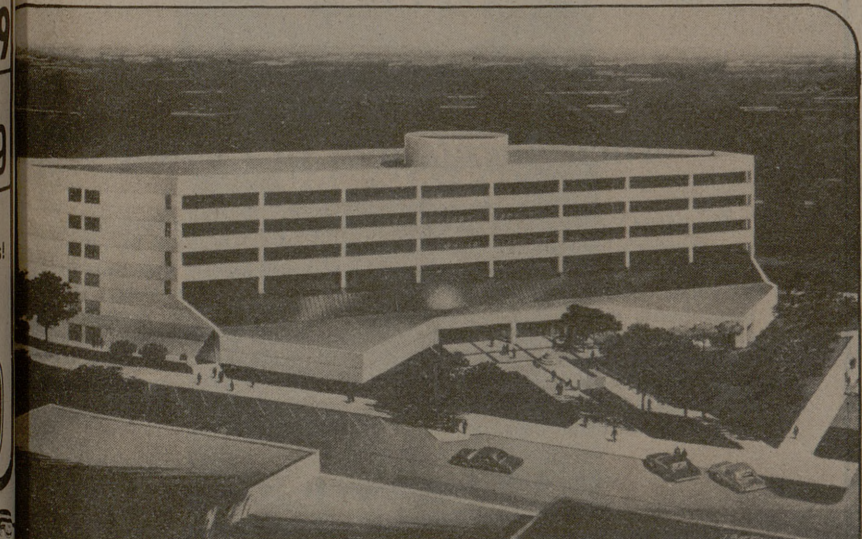


Spring's in the air

Battalion photo by Susan Wehls

Kicking up one's heels is one way to celebrate the end of a long, cold winter. This grizzly bear in

Houston's Hermann Park Zoo seems to anticipate tomorrow's first spring day.



Building designed to conserve energy

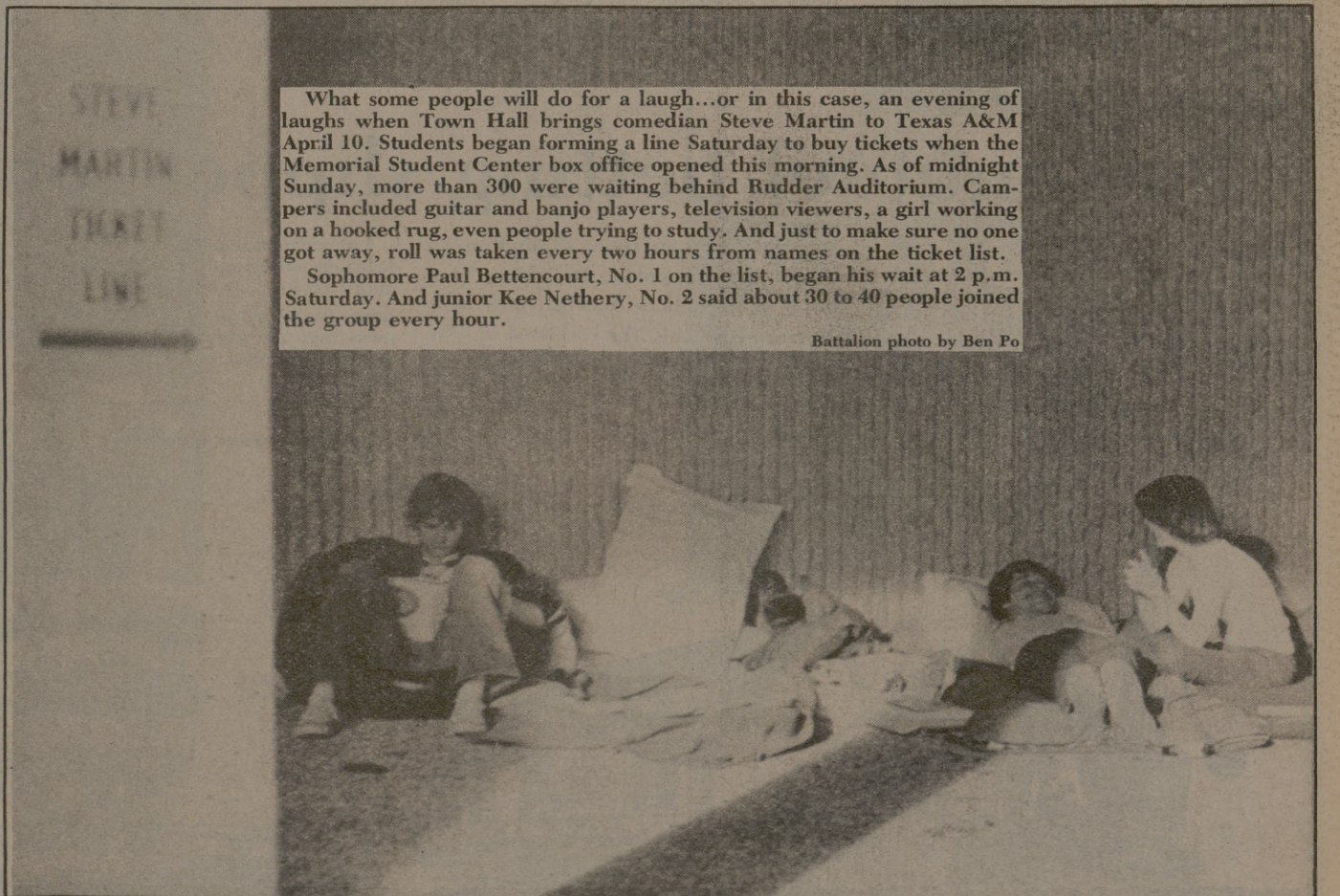
Texas A&M University's new academic and agency building will be constructed on an east-west axis, at a 45-degree angle to all the other buildings. For one reason: energy conservation. Such placement of the building allows for optimum solar orientation, says architects for Koetter, Tharp, Cowell & Bartlett, the Houston firm designing the building.

With more than 250,000 square feet of floor space, the six-story academic and agency building will be one of the largest facilities on campus. It is expected to cost about \$15 million.

The building will house the College of Business Administration, English Department, Institute of Statistics, Texas Transportation Institute (TTI), Texas Real Estate Research Center (TRERC), Texas A&M Research Foundation and remote facilities for the Data Processing Center.

"This building addresses two major problems facing Texas A&M: priority space needs in the academic areas — particularly in the College of Business Administration, which is now divided among several buildings, and the English Department — and the aspect of accommodating state agencies, such as TTI and TRERC, for which we are responsible," said Texas A&M President Jarvis E. Miller.

The facility, to be located on the east side of the campus, is expected to be ready for use in 1981.



What some people will do for a laugh...or in this case, an evening of laughs when Town Hall brings comedian Steve Martin to Texas A&M April 10. Students began forming a line Saturday to buy tickets when the Memorial Student Center box office opened this morning. As of midnight Sunday, more than 300 were waiting behind Rudder Auditorium. Campers included guitar and banjo players, television viewers, a girl working on a hooked rug, even people trying to study. And just to make sure no one got away, roll was taken every two hours from names on the ticket list. Sophomore Paul Bettencourt, No. 1 on the list, began his wait at 2 p.m. Saturday. And junior Kee Nethery, No. 2 said about 30 to 40 people joined the group every hour.

Battalion photo by Ben Po