

# THE BATTALION

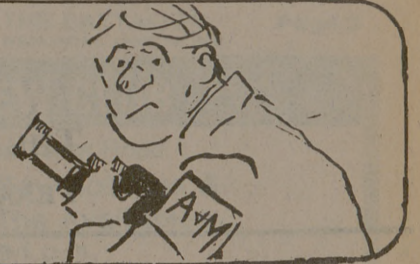
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## Inside Wednesday

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## Senate ratifies Panama treaty

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — In a businesslike manner that signaled the end of a historic era, the Senate Tuesday ratified the Panama Canal treaty 68-32 and pledged the United States to give up the waterway by the last of the 20th Century.  
This is a day of which Americans can always feel proud, for now we have reminded the world and ourselves of the things we stand for as a nation," an exultant President Carter said, accepting the biggest political victory of his presidency.  
He indicated he would travel to Panama in the next few weeks to present formal ratification to Panamanian Leader Omar Torrijos. Carter said he had talked with Torrijos by telephone after the vote, and been assured Panama will accept the treaties with reservations placed by the Senate.  
The razor-thin ratification decision — a vote more than the two-thirds majority needed — set U.S.-Latin American relations onto a new course by formally rejecting the 1903 treaty that was the centerpiece of Teddy Roosevelt's "Big Stick" diplomacy in the Americas.  
Panama quickly dispelled fears it might reject the pacts by sending its ambassador, Gabriel Lewis, to the White House "to tell President that we accept the treaty."  
"Now I really feel that Panama is an independent country," Lewis jubilantly told

reporters as he headed for the executive mansion.

Carter, too, was jubilant. The vote delivered him the most important policy victory, foreign or domestic, he has yet achieved, and he quickly announced his pleasure — and Panama's notification it would accept the pacts — in a nationally televised appearance.

He watched the roll-call on a television set in the office of his personal secretary, then telephoned his gratitude to Senate Democratic Leader Robert Byrd of West Virginia, who steered the treaties through one potentially fatal controversy after another and cast the deciding 67th vote Tuesday.

"You're a great man, that was beautiful vote!" he told Byrd, according to a White House spokesman.

The parchment treaty, together with the companion neutrality pact approved in March, now go to Carter for signature of the ratification documents — and a moment of celebration before he must fight the next battle in a canal treaty controversy that will continue.

Treaty foes, who condemned the pacts to the end as a sell-out of U.S. interests and prestige, were sure to try to block the implementing legislation that must now be approved by the House of Representatives.

## Dance to benefit MD

By CHRIS PICCIONE

Members of the Omega Phi Alpha OPA service sorority and their brother fraternity Alpha Phi Omega (APO) are challenging the students and faculty of Texas A&M University to a showdown of spirit and willingness to help those afflicted with Muscular Dystrophy.  
April 22, OPA, in cooperation with APO, will sponsor a Benefit Dance Marathon to be held at the Lakeview Club. The marathon will begin at noon and run continually until midnight. Roy Robbins and the Availables will begin playing at 9 p.m.

To enter the marathon, couples must pay a \$4 fee. This fee includes dance tickets, two dance marathon t-shirts and dance numbers to be worn by the contestants.

Sponsored dancers who collect the most money and dance the entire 12 hours will have the opportunity to win the grand prize of a color television and a stereo unit. The organization that earns the most money will receive a keg party.

Entry forms and sponsor sheets will be available until Friday on the first floor of the MSC. The entry forms must be completed and turned in at the OPA/APO cubicle. Sponsor sheets also must be turned in no later than noon, April 22.

## Food stamp program unaltered by decision

By BILL WILSON

Something changed, yet nothing changed. Federal instructions regarding applications for food stamps have been changed, but the decision altered nothing in the Brazos County food stamp program.  
A recent federal court decision, Aiken v. Obledo, invalidated federal instructions that required proof of need for emergency food stamps.  
Formerly, food stamp caseworkers were instructed to contact a person living outside the applicant's home to determine need, or to have the household prove its need. Also, no household could receive food stamps more than once every six months.  
The effect of the federal court order will be retroactive to August 1974.  
Food stamp caseworker Patrice Fagan said federal guidelines allowed variations in local policy, so Brazos County's program already conforms to the new policy.  
"As far as I know we didn't do that (limit emergency food stamp recipients to once every six months) here," she said.  
Fagan said the court decision "didn't change anything as far as regulations." The local limit generally does not allow anyone who has received food stamps within the past month to receive emergency food stamps.  
However, if a family is not expecting income for seven days and does not have enough money and food to last until they receive their next authorization-to-purchase card, they may be eligible for emergency food stamps. Authorization-to-purchase cards, used to purchase food stamps, are issued from Austin once a month.  
The local program will still use a person outside the home whenever possible to determine if there is a legitimate need for food stamps.  
Fagan said case workers will continue to visit homes of food stamp recipients.  
"A lot of things are obvious when you go into someone's home," she said.  
Larry Carnes, director of food stamp program and policy development, said the old policy instructions were abandoned because they had not been published in the Federal Register, and were therefore invalid. The Federal Register is a list of all laws and amendments open to public comment for revision or adoption.  
"It was a technicality," said Carnes. "We were doing what they told us to do and, in essence, they were wrong."

## Boy war hero fighting for honorable discharge

United Press International

FORT WORTH — At the age of 12 Calvin Graham was a navy war hero. Now he is 45, crippled with arthritis and forgotten.  
In 1942 Graham quit the seventh grade in Houston and convinced a naval recruiter he was old enough to join his brothers in World War II.  
He was a gunner in the Pacific front at the battles of Guadalcanal and Santa Cruz. During his combat tour he was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Service medal with two campaign stars, the World War II Victory medal and a Navy Unit Commendation with a Bronze Star.  
But when officials found out they had an adolescent on their hands, his service record and medals were revoked. Graham, who became known as World War II's "Baby Vet," so embarrassed the Navy that he was jailed for three months when his age was discovered.  
The Navy says his enlistment was illegal and refuses to acknowledge Graham ever served.  
All he wants now is an honorable discharge.

"I had already given up fighting for the discharge," Graham said. "But then they came along with this discharge program for deserters. I know they had their reasons for doing what they did, but I figure I damn sure deserved an honorable discharge more than they did."

President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944 promised Graham, then 14 years old, an honorable discharge from the Navy, his battlefield medals and a Navy Cross.

"I'm still waiting," Graham says.  
Since he had no official service record, Graham was to be drafted when he turned 20. He joined the Marines but suffered a broken back and was discharged. After that, his health began declining. His brief stint in the Marine Corps brought him a medical discharge and 40 percent disability. A Navy discharge would help cover the expense of dental work and other medical expenses.

Now Sens. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, and John Tower, R-Texas, are working to have Graham granted an honorable discharge.



Carson and Barnes five-ring circus appeared yesterday in College Station, south of K-Mart at Texas and Deacon. The two-hour spectacle, billed as "America's largest wild animal circus," was presented by the Bryan-College Station Jaycees, the second circus they have presented in four years. Acrobats, trapeze artists, tightrope walkers, clowns, lions and tigers, elephants, jugglers and much more entertained the audience that filled the big top to quarter capacity for the first show at 4:30 p.m. A second show was at 8 p.m. Admission was free.

Battalion photo by Colin Crombie

## 10,000 booklets to be distributed

## Prof evaluations available Friday

By LINDA SULLIVAN

Ten thousand teacher evaluation booklets compiled by the six-member Professor Information Committee will be distributed Friday around the Texas A&M University campus. Committee Chairman Mike Flores said the booklet serves as a student to student communication device in determining a choice for professors.

The 80-page newspaper stock booklet contains over 390 entries from colleges throughout the university, with a separate, more representative section surveying 80 percent of the College of Liberal Arts professors. Each entry has the responses to 13 questions numerically coded from 1 through 5. The questions cover

categories ranging from exam fairness to instructor attitude towards the course. The entries include an average score tally for each question from the varying number of students surveyed.

Flores said the high faculty response enhances this year's evaluation results. From 1,600 requests for survey participation, 390 teachers replied, not including the College of Liberal Arts. Survey tabulations could only be volunteered, said Flores. "When the teacher agrees to go through with the survey, they are also agreeing to have the results published," he said.

The College of Liberal Arts offered 80 percent faculty participation with its own evaluation survey drawn up by the col-

lege's Joint Excellence Committee. Their 13 questions differ in that Flores' committee's questions vary from a positive to a negative formulation; the liberal arts' questions are all in a positive form.

Distribution date of the booklet is later than Flores had hoped for, but due to the student government internal shuffling, "We let it slip up on us," he said.

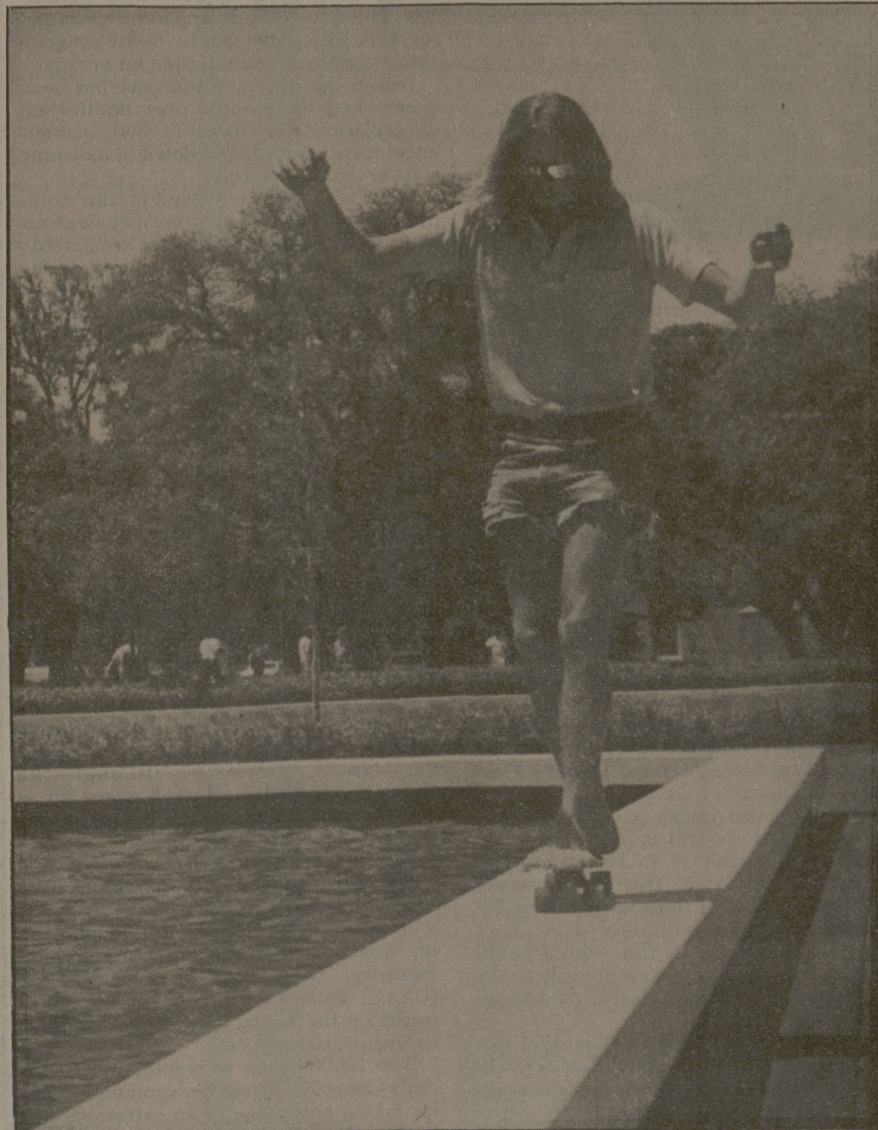
Students may receive a free evaluation booklet from any of the dormitory resident advisers or corps officials. Flores also hopes to have several copies available at each campus shuttle bus stop.

Dan Sullins, director of information for student government, served as the production consultant of the two-semester long

project. Sullins said the operation as a whole went smoother than last year's. "We cut corners where we could on the production cost, but we need to figure out a better type of computer program to put it together quicker than the ten hours it took us this time," he said.

Student Body President Mike Humphrey said the total cost of the publication was about \$2,700. These funds were allocated to the committee through the Student Senate.

Plans for the 1978-79 instructor evaluation booklet are already underway. Flores said a joint committee with the Student Government and the College of Liberal Arts is looking into the possibilities of formulating a new set of survey questions.



Careful, don't fall! . . .

Ronald Ross practices his skate-boarding by the MSC fountain for the skateboard contest that will be held at the Grove on Saturday at 11:00 A.M. Anyone is welcome to enter the contest that is sponsored by the TAMU surfing club.

Photo by Debbie Parsons

## Parents, students oppose graduation requirements

By MICHELLE BURROWES

Parents, students, and teachers expressed their discontent with proposed A&M Consolidated High School graduation requirement changes at a special school board meeting Tuesday night.

The board rescinded the recommendation that the changes be made when citizens expressed their opposition at the board meeting Monday night. The meeting will be in the Special Services Building on Jersey Street. A curriculum meeting will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m.

One main complaint that surfaced at the meeting was that band students would no longer be able to substitute band for physical education.

Several citizens said that if students took all required courses, required electives and physical education, not enough electives would be left under the proposed changes for the students to take both band and college preparatory courses like advanced math, advanced science and foreign languages.

"Music contributes to their lives and lifestyles," said James Matheny, A&M Consolidated High School's choir director. "If that isn't what education is about, then I must be mistaken."

Physical education requirements are not the only ones affected by the proposed changes. Six additional credits would be required from career guidance laboratory, a vocational skills class, and the optional but controversial free enterprise system class.

The free enterprise class, labeled by students and parents at the meeting as "a propaganda course," is a state-mandated elective. Board president Bruce Robeck said he understands it to be "a course on the virtues of capitalism."

One citizen, Arthur Wright, said students might benefit by studying our economic system.

Parents and students also complained about non-transferable summer school credits.

Many A&M Consolidated students take summer courses.

(Consolidated offers no summer courses) but receive no credit for them.

Superintendent Fred Hopson said the district's policy is to accept transfer credits only if the course was taken as remedial schooling.

Many parents and students objected to this practice, saying it is hard for a student to remain interested in school when he is unable to work at his own pace.

A "closed campus" proposal aimed at restricting students' "off" periods also met with opposition, since many students use the last period of the day as an off period and work in the afternoons.

## Court upholds judgment for Yarbrough case

United Press International

AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court today upheld a \$98,966 judgment against former Justice Donald B. Yarbrough for Yarbrough's role in dealings with two Houston men concerning a bank stock purchase.

The high court on which Yarbrough served for six months before being forced to resign in the face of legislative proceedings to remove him from office upheld the lower court decisions against Yarbrough without written comment.

Rex L. Cooper and D.W. Ford, both former business associates, filed the suit against Yarbrough contending he induced them to finance the purchase of controlling interest in Commercial Bank of Victoria, that Yarbrough used the funds to purchase stock in his own name, and that Yarbrough wrongfully surrendered to stock to Greater Houston Bank to secure a loan.

Cooper also sued Yarbrough for fraud and legal malpractice, contending Yarbrough failed to provide him with a tax shelter as Yarbrough had agreed while act-