

THE BATTALION

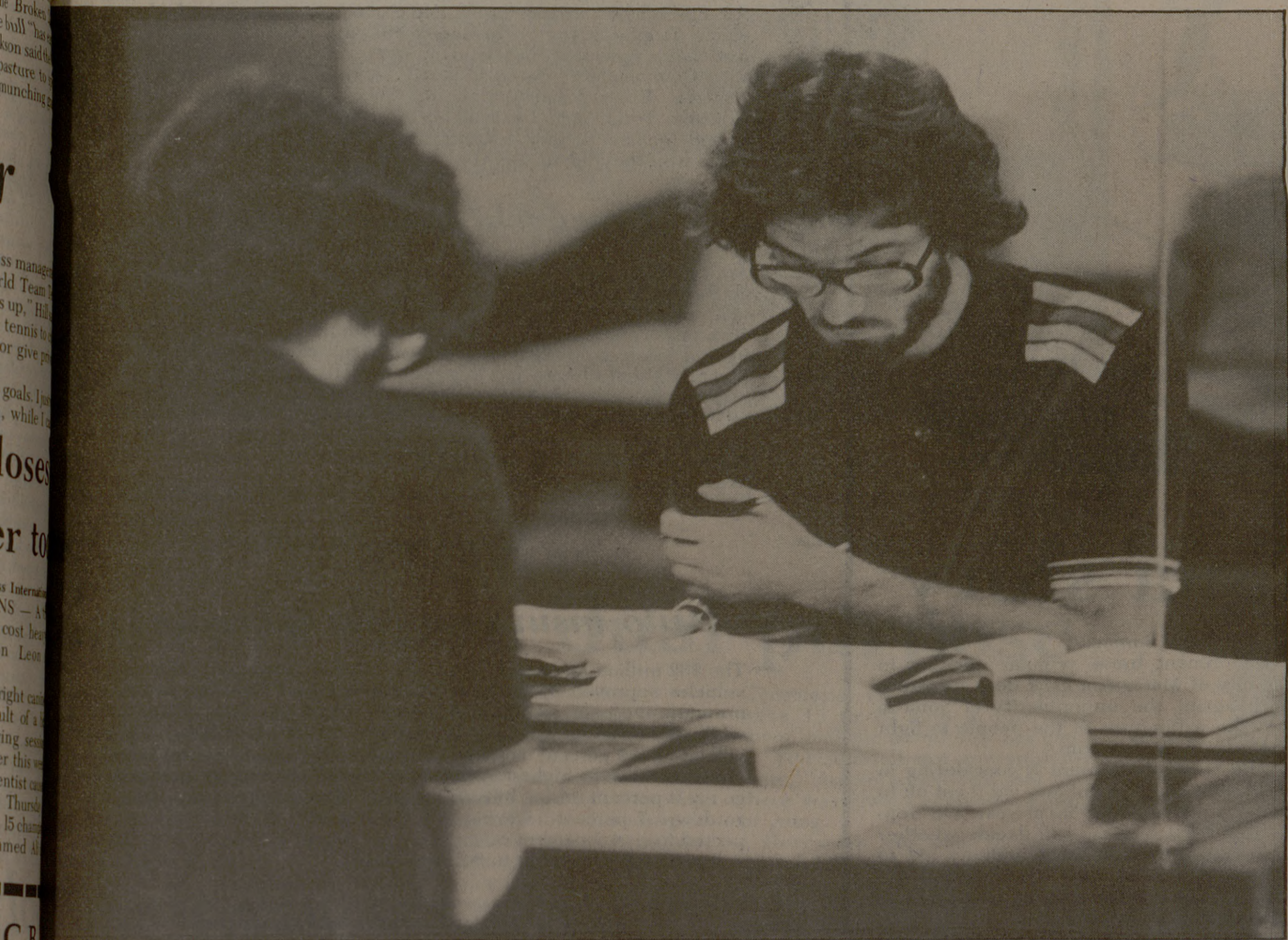
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The OK Carrel?

Not so, say some Texas A&M men
residing in these dorm study rooms.
Check it out on page 3.



Double vision

Could this be a reflection of students' study habits? Mark Gidlow, an ocean engineering major at Texas A&M, takes advantage of a quiet spot in

the Memorial Student Center to catch up on some reading.

Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

Williams rebuts charge of Prairie View neglect

In a news release issued this morning by the University, Texas A&M University System Chancellor Jack K. Williams refuted an allegation made by State Rep. Fronia Thompson Wednesday that the university system financially neglects Prairie View A&M University.

Thompson, D-Houston, asked the Justice Department Wednesday to investigate funding for Prairie View, and said she would seek to amend the state constitution to give the income Texas A&M receives from the Available University Fund (AUF) to be dedicated to Prairie View, a predominantly black school, a Houston Post story said today.

She has said that since 1971 Prairie View has received only 8.6 percent of the available University Fund, which amounts to the interest and bond proceeds from the Permanent University Fund (PUF), and the funding problem there is a result of discriminatory practices in the state, the Post story said.

She and a small delegation of Texans are to present their concerns about Prairie View to Health, Education and Welfare officials today.

Williams, who is the head of the statewide teaching, research and public service system, which includes Prairie View A&M, said in a letter to the Houston legislator that the predominantly black institution has actually received more than a fair share of TAMUS-controlled funding over the past 20 years.

Thompson specifically claims that Prairie View has been treated unfairly in distribution of the TAMUS's one-third share of the income from the Permanent University Fund (PUF). This fund is dedicated by the state to Texas A&M University and University of Texas systems, with the latter receiving two-thirds.

The Houston legislator has been quoted as saying that since 1958 Prairie View has received "only \$3.8 million out of a total of several hundreds of millions of dollars which have existed in the fund."

Williams said Prairie View has actually received \$8.2 million from the PUF, as well as other money for construction, repair and renovation of facilities, for a total of \$51.9 million.

He also pointed out that the PUF proceeds account for less than 10 percent of total TAMUS funding. Most of the money comes in forms of appropriations and grants and contracts for specific uses.

Williams emphasized that Prairie View A&M has received a proportionally higher share of PUF funds on the basis of new students than Texas A&M, and that it has fared considerably better than if it were not part of The Texas A&M University System.

Since 1958, when Prairie View became eligible for PUF funding, the A&M System Board of Regents has allocated approximately \$54 million to Texas A&M and \$8 million to Prairie View, Williams said.

"By so doing the board has faced an obvious responsibility to place the dollars where the students are enrolling," the chancellor said. "Allocations from the Permanent University Fund to Prairie View A&M University for each new student during the period have been \$4,751 while allocations to Texas A&M University for each new student have been \$2,518," Williams said.

During the past six years, Prairie View has had an increase of 226 new on-campus students while Texas A&M has gained 14,149 students in the same category, he added. For that time frame, the allocation to Prairie View was \$16,805 per new student while Texas A&M received \$2,214, he said.

Additionally, the chancellor cited Texas A&M's obligations and commitments in graduate study and research, both of which require greater funding than for programs conducted at institutions primarily involved in undergraduate teaching.

"One-sixth of all students at Texas A&M are seeking advanced degrees, primarily in the agricultural, engineering and physical sciences," he said. "Prairie View, on the other hand, is essentially an undergraduate university offering mostly baccalaureate and master's level work in a limited number of fields."

Prairie View's research expenditures amounted to about \$1.1 million, which

Williams said was better than most universities of its size.

Williams also said that the public service agencies that Texas A&M administers and the space requirements for headquarters at the College Station campus also place an added financial obligation there.

"Apart from the fact that Texas A&M is a fast-growing University, specializing in role and scope as a scientific graduate institution with heavy research and public service obligations, while Prairie View is a small, slow-growing undergraduate teaching institution, comparison of space for students still favors Prairie View," Williams said.

He noted that educational and general space per student at Prairie View in 1977, as calculated by the Coordinating Board, was 191 square feet, while the corresponding figure for Texas A&M was 180 feet. Since 1971, the square-foot increase at Prairie View per student has been 12 percent compared to 7 percent at Texas A&M.

"This difference in educational and general space per student must be calculated and considered in any fair and reasonable discussion of physical plant funding," the chancellor stressed.

He said the board has actually funded Prairie View "far beyond these requirements."

From Sept. 1, 1958, through May 1977, the board allocated \$5,248,498 for construction of new buildings at Prairie View.

"Ad valorem tax proceeds for the period Jan. 1, 1958, through Dec. 31, 1977, would have provided approximately \$4,200,000; thus the excess to Prairie View from PUF allocations has been approximately \$4 million," Williams noted.

Williams also said that PUF funds are constitutionally prohibited for repair and renovation at Prairie View, and that Prairie View's current physical plant problem is are "not so much" that of new construction but rather one of renovation.

other victims of the crash. Smoke and flames rising from the marijuana more than 18 hours after the 3 a.m. accident hampered the search Wednesday.

The suspects refused to answer questions in English or Spanish and asked only to speak to lawyers, Union Parish sheriff's deputies said.

"They've been well schooled" to keep quiet, said Sgt. Dan Manley, a state police narcotics officer.

The suspects were identified as Hernando Mantilla Pinilla, 51, a licensed pri-

vate pilot; Francisco Camargo, 24, and Carlos Humberto, 29, all of Colombia. Camargo and Humberto also were charged with being illegal aliens.

All were held without bond.

The coroner said he was unsure whether any more bodies would be found.

State police narcotics agents removed 35 burlap-wrapped bales of high-grade Colombian marijuana, weighing 80 pounds each, from the site. More remained on the ground under tight security.

Teague home after having mild stroke

By DOUG GRAHAM
Battalion Staff

U.S. Rep. Olin E. Teague suffered a mild stroke early this week, his Washington, D.C. office reported Wednesday.

Doctors told Teague to rest at home. Because of that, a dinner honoring the retiring 6th U.S. District congressman was cancelled. Teague has held the office for 32 years.

The dinner had been scheduled for the night of Sept. 16 at Texas A&M University.

Teague's stroke was light, his Bryan office reported. Teague was unaware he had suffered a stroke until he was checked by a doctor Tuesday. He worked in his office about an hour after learning he had had a

stroke and then returned to his Bethesda, Md., home.

The attack was his second stroke, the office said. His first occurred in 1975 and was also mild, the staff member in Bryan said. She added health problems Teague has suffered during his 30 years in Congress resulted from wounds inflicted during World War II.

Teague was wounded several times while in the European theater, most seriously when much of his ankle was shot away. Those injuries led to the amputation of Teague's left foot in 1977.

Though the dinner has been cancelled, the Olin E. Teague National Science Policy Symposium will be held as scheduled on Sept. 16.

The symposium honors Teague, who is

chairman of the House Science and Technology committee.

Co-chairmen Dr. Jarvis Miller and Travis B. Bryan, Jr. said, concerning funds for dinner tickets, "Our committee feels an obligation to return the purchase price to any ticket buyers who request it. We are hopeful, however, that funds will remain after expenses and refunds to create a President's endowed scholarship at Texas A&M in Teague's honor."

They said they are still interested in finding an appropriate way to honor the congressman, who plans to retire in January. Those who wish to make contributions to the Teague scholarship fund or obtain a refund should write Box OET, College Station, Texas, prior to December 31.

Connally's testimony same in JFK killing

United Press International
WASHINGTON — John Connally, the first witness in a series of public hearings on the death of President John F. Kennedy, told Congress Wednesday the shots

that wounded him and killed Kennedy came from behind and to the right — a conclusion supported by the Warren Commission.

The former Texas governor and his wife, Nellie, were called to testify before the House Assassinations Committee as it began its 16 planned public hearings on the Nov. 22, 1963, shooting in Dallas. Their testimony was substantially the same as it has been since the slaying.

Looking from behind as the presidential limousine wound its way through Dealey Plaza that day, Connally sat in a right hand jump seat in front of the president. Connally's wife was in the left hand jump seat in front of first lady Jacqueline Kennedy.

After viewing a color movie of the presidential motorcade, Connally, who had to dab at his eyes repeatedly as he recounted the events, said as the motorcade passed by the Texas School Book Depository, "I heard what I thought was a rifle shot. I immediately had fear of an assassination."

He looked over his shoulder, but did not see Kennedy.

"Then I was hit (by the second shot)," Connally said, but could not remember actually hearing it. "I was knocked over. The force of the bullet drove my body over. I was drenched with blood so I knew I was badly hit."

He said his wife pulled him down over her lap "when another shot was fired."

"I only heard two shots," he said, in reference to the first and third shots. He said the third shot "hit with a very pronounced impact" — and he slapped his hand sharply to simulate the sound.

"Immediately I could see blood and brain tissue all over the interior of the car," he said.

He said he was certain the shots he heard "came from back over my right shoulder — from behind us. I don't think any shots came from any other direction."

The Warren Commission investigation into the Kennedy assassination concluded the shots which killed the president were fired by a lone assassin, perched on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository — a location to the right and rear of the motorcade.

To resolve the question of how many bullets were fired at the motorcade, chairman Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, was attempting to secure enough funding from Congress to keep his committee probe alive.

Stokes told reporters the investigation funds would run out on Sept. 15 unless the extra money is approved.

House overrides defense veto

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The House Armed Services Committee, in non-binding action, Wednesday voted 24-6 to override President Carter's veto of the defense authorization bill that included a \$2 billion nuclear supercarrier the White House does not want.

Supporters of the nuclear carrier threatened to tie up other legislation or include the huge ship in new legislation in an effort to win backing for the project.

The committee vote had no direct effect

on consideration of the veto by the full House, which must decide whether or not to accept Carter's rejection of the bill. It puts the committee formally on record to override the veto, which Carter made on grounds the carrier takes money away from high-priority readiness programs.

House Chairman Melvin Price, D-Ill., said if the veto is not overridden, the panel would be "forced to reconsider the bill as a whole," joining other members who earlier indicated the process could take months and result in the carrier again being written into a new bill.

Strike negotiations fail; pay raise offer lowered

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — An attempt by the state education superintendent to revive negotiations in the week-long teachers strike failed Wednesday and the school board instead slashed its offer of a 4 percent raise.

Superintendent Gene Geisert said the board would revert to an earlier offer of a \$1 million pay raise package — or 1.6 percent — because a drop in enrollment expected due to the strike would reduce state aid to the district.

"As a result of the teachers strike students may be fleeing, either into parochial, private (schools) or other options," Geisert said. "If we have fewer students, we will have fewer state dollars to pay teachers."

Nat LaCour, president of the United

denounced the board's move as a "scare tactic" and charged Geisert with wasting time rather than trying to settle the strike.

"The superintendent has fooled no one, not even the public," LaCour said. "We reject \$1 million, we reject 4 percent and we're going to continue the strike until we negotiate an increase acceptable to the teachers. We're not worried about what's acceptable to Dr. Geisert."

The union is seeking an 8 percent raise and improved fringe benefits.

About 90,000 students are affected by the walkout, which drastically curtailed instruction at most schools. Thursday will be the sixth day of the strike.

Before Geisert's move, state education superintendent J. Kelly Nix met separately with both sides in the walkout and said he was optimistic talks would resume. He said he was not trying to twist arms but

merely attempting to inform both sides about a possible drastic cut in state aid to the school district if the walkout continues.

"I'm asking both sides to go back to the bargaining table and see if they can resolve it before they reach that point in state law," Nix said.

LaCour said the problem was not the union's responsibility.

"If there's a loss of funds, it's obviously a result of the strike. The fact that the strike is not resolved, I believe, is the fault of the board and that the board refuses to return to the bargaining table," LaCour said.

Nix said the walkout could damage chances of students, particularly high school seniors, for promotion or graduation. If it does not end soon, Nix said, weekend make-up classes or an extension into summer vacation might be needed.

Plane carrying \$22 million worth of marijuana crashes

United Press International
FARMERVILLE, La. (UPI) — A four-engine DC-7 smuggling as much as \$22 million worth of marijuana into the country crashed and burned Wednesday in the woodlands of north Louisiana, killing at least one passenger.

Three Colombian natives were arrested while hitchhiking near the crash site. All were charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

Coroner J.G. Norris said a search would resume Thursday in the charred rubble for