

THE BATTALION

72 No. 22
ages

Monday, October 2, 1978
College Station, Texas

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

Create a course at A&M

●Change doesn't come easy at this University. Changes in the curriculum must be reviewed and approved from the department level to the state board that oversees all state colleges. And that takes time. See page 5.
●Californians may vote to bar smoking in public except at places like roller derby. See page 4.



'Cooling Off'

After the Aggies win a football game, tradition dictates that the five yell leaders be thrown into the fish pond in front of Sbisa Dining Hall. With Saturday's win against Memphis State University, these yell leaders took their first "swim" of the season. They

are, from left, senior Jeff Hancock, junior Brian Hill and junior Jeff Smiley. Next Saturday the Aggies face Texas Tech University in Kyle Field at 1:30 p.m.

Battalion photo by George Rowe

Conclave seeks 'ideal' pope

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
VATICAN CITY — After the election of Pope John Paul I, cardinals looked and agreed that the surprise candidate from Venice was perfect for the job. The question now is whether another candidate is waiting in the wings. The criteria that led to the choice of Paul cannot have changed much in intervening 34 days. The cardinals wanted and found an Italo-American acceptable to conservative and liberal alike, doctrinally strict but not too old nor too young, wise, as one Roman priest remarked, "something has got to give." The cardinals have to overlook some of the factors as age and pastoral experience which are important last time. The "ideal age window" — 62 to 68 — is about before the last conclave may be extended at either end to include several candidates of unquestioned ability.

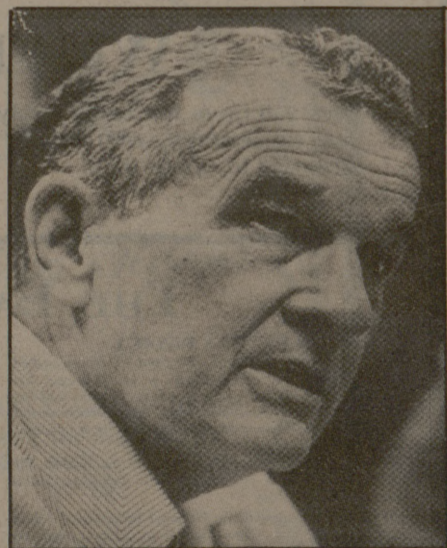
at 57 is another powerful contender among the younger candidates. For years Pope Paul VI's right-hand man, Benelli, is generally respected if not universally popular and was one of the undisputed kingmakers in the last conclave. But despite the desirability of finding someone active and fit, many cardinals may still shy at the prospect of electing a pope for the next 20 years or more. If age is not considered a serious drawback, Cardinal Corrado Ursi of Naples at 70 emerges as a candidate. In the Italian hierarchy, he is the only one to possess the direct, simple pastoral charm with which Pope John Paul captivated the world. Cardinal Giovanni Colombo of Milan has vast pastoral experience and is widely respected but his age, 76, may be considered excessive. If the conclave decides to play down the pastoral aspect, Cardinal Pericle Felici, 67, comes to the fore. Felici is a conservative, but the last conclave showed the cardinals were by no means interested in electing a liberal.

The names so prominently mentioned before the last conclave — Cardinal Sebastiano Baggio, Sergio Pignedoli and Paolo Bertoli — apparently were immediately passed over once voting got under way. Now, Vatican sources say, they look like losers. Cardinal archbishops, wrestling with pastoral problems, seem to be looking for someone who can personally identify with their difficulties, as John Paul so obviously could.

As secretary general of the Vatican Ecumenical Council, Felici could be expected to continue church reforms of the past decade in a measured fashion, but he might also find it possible to reconcile the traditionalist wing of the church that now threatens to fly off into schism. Otherwise, there do not appear to be any serious contenders from the Roman Curia, the church's central bureaucracy.

Clements says Ford fired Schlesinger for lying about security, budget

By DOUG GRAHAM
Battalion Staff
Gubernatorial candidate Bill Clements said he knows the real reason why former Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger was fired in 1974. The candidate flew to College Station Saturday morning to combine campaigning with a Texas A&M University football weekend. Clements said a forthcoming book by former President Gerald Ford will reveal that Schlesinger was fired for lying about national security and budget matters to Ford. Schlesinger also misrepresented defense matters to the president, he said. "I know because I was there," Clements said after a press conference at Easterwood Airport. He served four years as deputy secretary of defense.



Bill Clements

He said Hill has been running for governor since his unsuccessful first try in '68. Clements claims Hill has increased the bureaucracy of the attorney general's office 300 percent and still has a backlog of cases. "Hill is a career politician," Clements said. Clements, owner of Southeastern Drilling Co., stressed to the small gathering, "This is my first time to run for elected political office." Clements also criticized the Carter energy programs, criticizing

Schlesinger, Carter's top energy advisor. "I think Schlesinger is bad for this country; bad for the energy department," he said. Clements said he believes the energy program is faulty and one of the reasons is the oil storage project. The program is in the process of storing oil in underground salt domes as a reserve against future oil embargos similar to the Arab oil embargo in 1973. He said paying money for one billion barrels of oil to be stored is not wise. He questions investing in "dead oil" in the event of a crisis. "It is my judgment there will not be a crisis, but if we do have a crisis, it would dilute our freedom of action to have a billion barrels of oil," he said. Recently at one of the salt dome storage projects a fire broke out. The blaze occurred near Hackberry, La., and burned for several days before being extinguished. Clements said the gas deregulation bill that has passed the U.S. Senate and is now before the House will extend federal control over Texas' intrastate natural gas. "Texas will be subsidizing the East Coast," he said. Clements said he will try to be nationally active if elected. Asked if a Texas governor should not be nationally active, Clements said, "No way. If the Governor of Texas cannot be nationally active, he'd do a disservice to Texas."

Stadium expansion awaiting state OK

University officials are meeting with the State Coordinating Board today seeking approval for the construction contract to add a third deck of seats to Texas A&M University's Kyle Field.

The University system board of regents approved that \$22,858,600 contract — which is several million dollars greater than original engineer estimates for the addition — during a special board meeting Saturday. Because the contract the board approved will cost more than system engineers projected, it must receive special approval from the coordinating board.

The regents awarded the contract to the H. B. Zachry company of San Antonio.

System Chancellor Jack Williams said Saturday system officials expect the coordinating board to approve the contract without much opposition.

"They know as well as anyone how things are in the construction industry," Williams said.

A representative from Lockwood, Andrews and Noonan, the Houston-based firm which designed the third-deck expansion, told the five regents present that rapidly rising construction costs made the higher-than-expected contract necessary.

Total cost for the Kyle Field expansion is now estimated at almost \$27 million, university facilities planning manager Paul

Stephens told the board. That expansion will include new physical education facilities in a complex joining the east side of the football stadium with G. Rollie White Coliseum.

In particular, the price of cement has doubled over the last three months, increasing the price of the Kyle Field project greatly, he said.

The regents did cut \$770,000 worth of facilities and expenses from the project's budget Saturday. The changes involved the finish to be used on the exterior of the G. Rollie White addition, the exterior finish of the concrete columns to be added to the stadium and the stadium public address system.

Inmates challenge Texas prisons in suit

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
HOUSTON — What began six years ago as a handwritten complaint by a 35-year-old repeat offender goes to trial today as a major federal court lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the Texas prison system.

David Ruiz, now serving 25 years for robbery, wrote the first of eight inmate suits against Prison Director Jim Estelle, other officials and the prisons they run. U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler consolidated the cases.

The Justice Department has involved itself and officials say the trial that starts Monday could result in major changes in the Texas Department of Corrections. The FBI has been investigating.

"We've had agents crawling all over our place," said Assistant Prison Director D.V. McKaskle. "One was measuring cell blocks and even the toilets. We've copied thousands of documents they've asked for.

There's no end in sight." The state and the federal government have hired experts with opposing opinions about the quality of the 15-unit, 24,000-inmate Texas prison system.

"We expect to successfully meet all the allegations that are being made in the lawsuit," said Ron Taylor, administrative assistant to the TDC director. "However, we're very reluctant to become involved in a public debate over those allegations. We just simply can't."

Arnold Pontosso of Austin, 64, a former federal prison warden who is now a consultant, describes the state's prisons as "probably the best example of slavery remaining in this country."

He complains the system's goals are confinement and production and says that "if rehabilitation occurs, it is more by accident than design."

The state's expert, Fred T. Wilkinson, 66, a former deputy director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, says the Texas system is "superior to any other state system in physical facilities, quality of personnel and operational programs."

Ruiz, first imprisoned in 1960 for armed robbery and reimprisoned in 1968 on another robbery conviction, charged his treatment in solitary confinement was so bad he slashed his wrists to get out.

The consolidated complaints charge violation of inmate constitutional rights in the form of poor medical care, food and sanitation, discriminatory job classification, inadequate inside-the-prison security and overcrowding.

In the case file are interviews with dozens of inmates, many of whom detailed horror stories for investigators.

One said he was an inmate enforcer with special privileges, including a homosexual in his cell and the authority to beat other prisoners in order to keep them in line. Other stories detailed the strong preying on the weak, homosexual rape, self-mutilation in escape attempts and suicidal hangings.

Some inmates complain Texas Department of Corrections employees interfered with their access to the courts and took vindictive action against inmates who filed suits or agreed to be witnesses.

One inmate told investigators that, as an inmate dental technician, he pulled teeth and performed oral surgery even though he had little training.

One report said guards once raped a woman inmate and that another inmate who became pregnant by a guard was placed in solitary confinement and nearly died of a miscarriage.

yells interspersed with Aggie yells. Each dorm tries to outdo the rest.

Toward the end, the yells became increasingly "grody" or obscene, he said. At the conclusion, there was a barrage of napkins and paper, followed by dropping cups and pounding trays with forks and finally throwing food.

"On Friday night," Blatchley said, "food of every kind was thrown, including spinach, ice cream, chicken, pizza — even whole plates of food."

"The dining hall was an absolute mess," Todd Shipley, president of Schumacher Hall, said he didn't think Friday was much worse than usual.

"It was traditional Sbisa," he said. "Everybody looks forward to Friday, because it's the time when the dorm residents get together."

He said there was more noise than usual, but he did not see the food fight itself.

He said he thinks "Animal House," a movie about a college fraternity, has caused Sbisa employees to be more concerned with the conduct of the diners.

Blatchley said there were some "unfortunate consequences" to the incident. One student's grandparents were in the midst of the fight, he said. A food service worker slipped on some food and was injured, and at least three students slipped and dropped their trays, he said.

But there may be even greater consequences for the diners at Sbisa.

"As a result of (what happened) Friday," Blatchley said, "there are definitely going to be fewer people on the board plan at Sbisa."

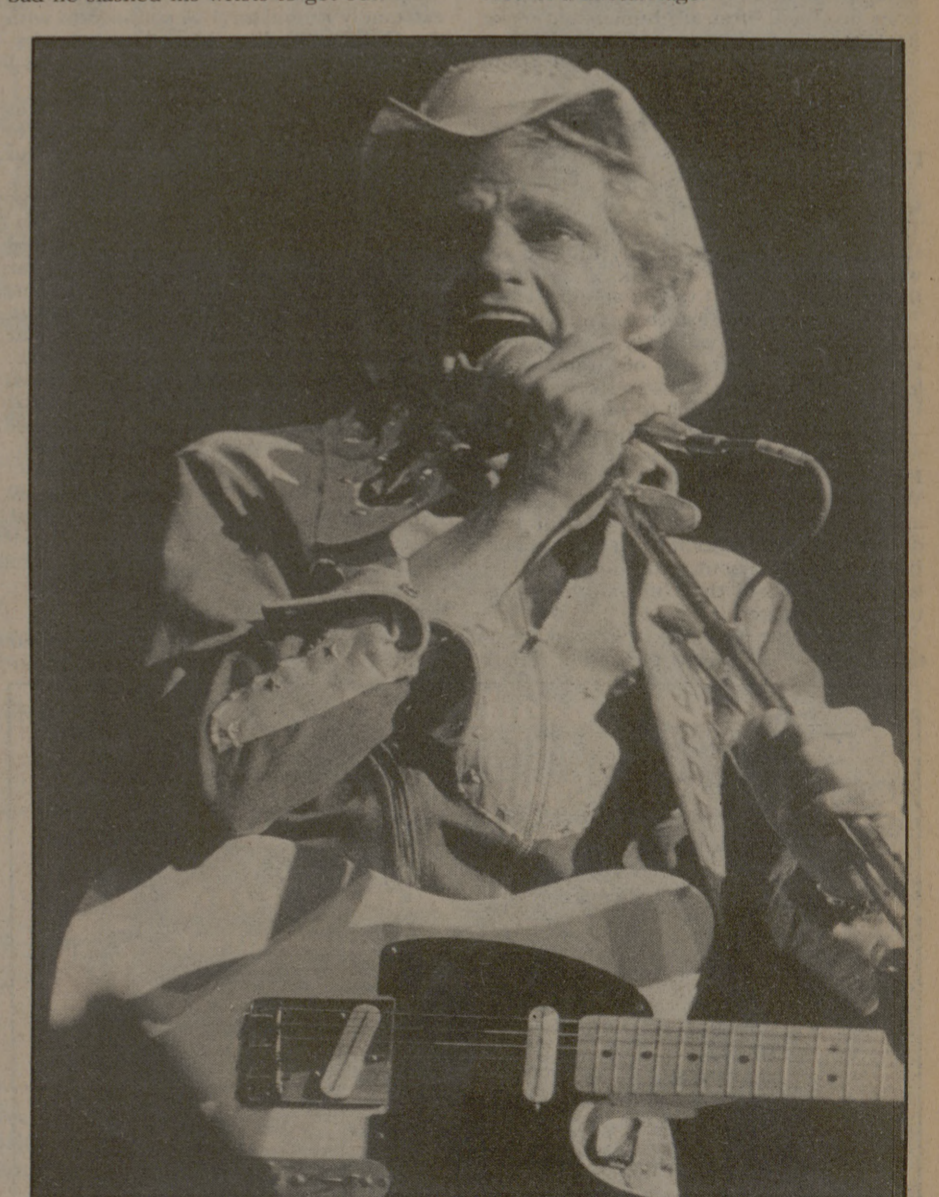
A number of students caught participating in the disturbance will face a disciplinary hearing. If found guilty, they will be removed from the board plan.

Costs for meals also may increase to pay for more maintenance and wasted food, he said.

In the future, Blatchley said, he would recommend calling the University Police for assistance in controlling food fights.

"We have experienced more problems in the dining hall (Sbisa) than is representative of A&M," Blatchley said, noting that Sbisa is the only dining hall on campus with these problems.

He said the student services staff thought it could deal with dorm yells and other exhibition of Aggie spirit. He said the administration supports the development of residence hall yells, but activities are getting out of hand to the point that they are a source of embarrassment to the University. "It is just not like Aggies at all," he said.



Battalion photo by Steve Lee

'When you're hot, you're hot!'

Jerry Reed received a warm reception from Aggies Friday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum. Reed entertained the Town Hall crowd with jokes and down home country music. For a review of his performance, see page 6.