

THE BATTALION

Vol. 72 No. 32
14 Pages

Monday, October 16, 1978
College Station, Texas

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

Saunter forth!

• No speedy struts here; only sauntering, walking aimlessly without purpose, is recognized by the worldwide society featured on page 12.

• Handicapped students on campus will soon get van service. See page 11.
• Schools are failing the test in Texas and the nation. See page 7.

Food is wasted on A&M campus

By PAT DAVIDSON
Battalion Reporter

The first part of a food waste study being conducted by the food services department at Texas A&M University shows that 11 percent of the food served in campus dining halls is wasted.

Sbisa Dining Hall has the smallest average waste at 4.1 percent, followed by the Commons at 5.3 percent and Duncan at 8.5 percent.

The cost of food wasted during the one-day survey was \$883.41. Using that as an average, the cost of waste in a 106-day semester is more than \$93,500.

The study is being conducted by Betty Hengen, administrative dietitian for food services and two students in a food technology problems course. They take a sample number of trays from each of the dining halls and weigh the edible food remaining on them. An average "plate waste" is computed which, when multiplied by the number of students that ate the meal, provides a total waste estimate. This will be done three separate days this semester.

The total cost of waste is determined by comparing the cost and weight of food with the weight of wasted food.

On the day surveyed, \$336.21 worth of food was wasted at Sbisa. Duncan had a waste figure of \$287.33 and the Commons had a total waste value of \$239.87.

Sbisa's waste expense is higher because it serves more students, said Lloyd Smith, assistant director of food services.

Miffi Masterson, a Sbisa menu board member, said one reason for the lower average plate waste at Sbisa is that a greater variety of food is offered. When students can choose something they like, she said, they will be more likely to eat it.

A reason for the higher percentage of waste at Duncan, Smith said, is that the morning and evening meals are served family style to the Corps of Cadets.

Corps members eat at tables that are set generally with a meat dish, a green vegetable, a starchy food, salad and dessert, Smith said. There are no choices offered, he said. When preparing for a group of people, food services has to guess the amount that will be eaten. Portion sizes and up being standard, while preferences for different foods vary, he said.

Another factor in the amount of food wasted at Duncan is that food left in the serving bowls is considered as waste in the survey, Smith said.

Smith said these waste figures are for a seven day and menu. The survey will be conducted two more times this semester, on corresponding days of the five-week menu cycle. Thus, the same menu will be

surveyed each time, Smith said.

If the study was conducted on a different day, Smith said, the results would be different. He said the menu chosen could be was one that was "100 percent." The entrees had no bones and a minimum of fat, he explained.

Much of the waste in the dining halls could be eliminated if students paid attention to the amount of food they were taking, Smith said.

Students should realize that they can go back for seconds instead of getting too much at one time, said Beth Scott, a member of the Commons menu board.

Dan Steed, another member of the Commons board, said the quality of food offered affects the amount of waste. He said cheaper food could be bought to save money, but that low quality food would probably increase the amount of waste.

He said if a student chooses a dessert and decides he doesn't like it, he will usually get another one.

Smith said that for the first time, the price of every major food category rose this year.

Furthermore, replacement of lost and stolen silverware and dishes costs food services more than \$30,000 each year, Smith said. Napkins cost more than \$32,000 each year, over half of which could be saved if students would take only one or two instead of a handful, Smith said.

Salt and pepper, sugar and ketchup are other items which are taken in excessive amounts by students, Smith said. What they take but do not use goes into the trash, he said.

Smith said the food service department operates entirely on the income received from board payments and cash sales.

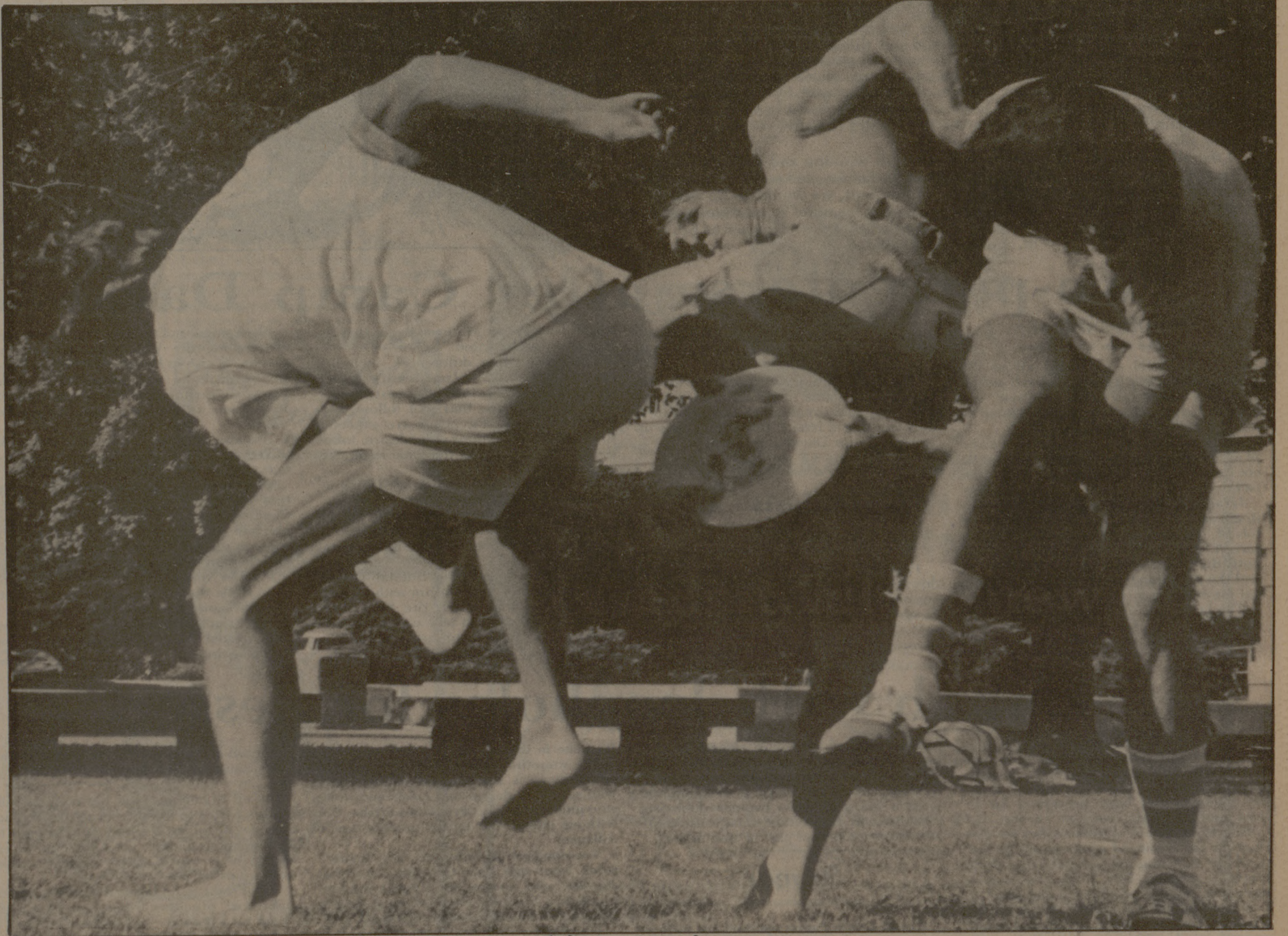
"The students are the ones that pay the bills," he said. Board rates must cover inflation, destruction, maintenance and waste expenses, Smith said.

"Individual wastes cost money," he said.

"We want to provide good food," said Scott, a member of the Commons menu board. "Sometimes rates have to be raised to provide what students want."

Masterson said the menu board could help by not voting for expensive menu items and by being open to suggestions from students.

The student menu board is a committee selected by the student senate. It decides what foods will be served at the dining halls. The Commons and Duncan menu boards include five members each, while Sbisa has six students. The menu boards meet with food services individually and as a joint group.



I've got it

Brad Stayton, Paul Schertz and Kyle Moore have a new variation of an old game — human pretzel frisbee. "Frisbeeing" has been around so long and with such wide participation it's no longer a fad. It's a national pastime.

The three men were practicing their skills in front of the Academic Building on a recent afternoon.

Battalion photo by Bill Wilson

Chip faces Iran student protest

HOUSTON — Secret Service agents escorted President Carter's son, Chip, away from an angry group of Iranian college students in a Texas Southern University building Friday, and the chanting students briefly scuffled with city police called to the scene.

A witness to the incident said about 150 Iranian students suddenly appeared near Carter as he talked with other students on the first floor of the Student Life Center.

"They were shouting obscenities at him and shouting about the U.S. government's relationship with the shah (of Iran)," said Mario Gomez, a reporter for the campus radio station.

The incident was the latest in a series of protests staged by Iranians who oppose the shah's government.

A police spokesman said there were no injuries and no arrests, despite a brief scuffle between a few Iranians who rushed a police riot squad when it first arrived at the student center.

Congress may agree on tax-cut bill

WASHINGTON — In a marathon post-midnight session, Congress struggled to adjourn Sunday. A 14-hour filibuster, which stymied the Senate, was cracked and negotiators were near an agreement on a compromise tax bill.

Passage of President Carter's five-part energy package — the main piece of legislation in the 95th Congress — was virtually assured.

Congressional leaders, ignoring the clock, drove their exhausted charges down to the wire in a desperate effort to keep the session from spilling over into next week, or even worse, a return after the elections.

The final obstacle to passage of the five-part energy package came well past the midnight bewitching hour when Sen. James Abourezk, D-S.D., and his allies gave up the delaying tactics that had paralyzed the Senate since 9 a.m. Within minutes of his surrender, the Senate approved the energy tax bill.

At the same time, Senate-House negotiators on the tax bill were reported near an agreement considered acceptable to Carter.

Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal told reporters the provisions in the bill were "reasonably close to most of the president's targets. It looks a lot better than it did."

From the start, congressional leaders had said that there would be no quitting until the tax and energy bills were sent to the White House in a form that would not lead to a presidential veto. The president delayed his departure for Camp David to keep a close eye on Congress.

Senate-House negotiators, despite the complexity of trying to reconcile the \$16.3 billion tax cut approved by the House and the \$29.3 billion package approved by the Senate, moved toward agreement on a plan providing cuts in the range of \$20 billion to \$21 billion. They moved to agreements in a number of controversial areas hoping to satisfy the administration.

White House lobbyists — on the scene all day — reminded the negotiators that Carter would veto a tax bill if he found it unacceptable — a move that would almost certainly mean a "lame duck" session. Abourezk, sticking to his role as a maverick, used every parliamentary maneuver to keep the Senate from voting on the energy tax bill and Senate Democratic Leader Robert Byrd's temper grew shorter as the day grew longer.

Byrd said there was no "rhyme or reason" for the filibuster because the Senate had voted 71-13 to curb debate and time would eventually run out. Even Abourezk said "you cannot keep something like this going forever."

The energy and tax bills, along with a resolution funding departments and agencies that have not received appropriations, were listed as "must" bills before Congress can adjourn.

But backers of a number of other major bills were fighting desperately to get their chances before the final gavel falls: They included the Humphrey-Hawkins "full

employment" bill, a program to curb the rise in hospital costs, a new public works bill acceptable to Carter and a reauthorization of the state and local government public service program.

Before the session, Byrd gave Carter and Congress "A" marks for their work and said it came about "because there has been a spirit of accord, compromise and cooperation between the Congress and the president."

"That record is to be shared by the Congress," he said. "This has not been a rubberstamp Congress — yet it has not been a balky, unbending Congress."

Among the bills that moved toward final and certain passage during the day were the phasing out of federal regulations on airlines with a possible cut in fares as a result; an omnibus housing bill; a three-year extension of the endangered species act with an exception of the Tellico Dam, the only known habitat of the snail darter; and a \$100 million program for the repair of 13 western dams to make them better able to withstand earthquakes and floods.

U.S. has dollar-devouring machine

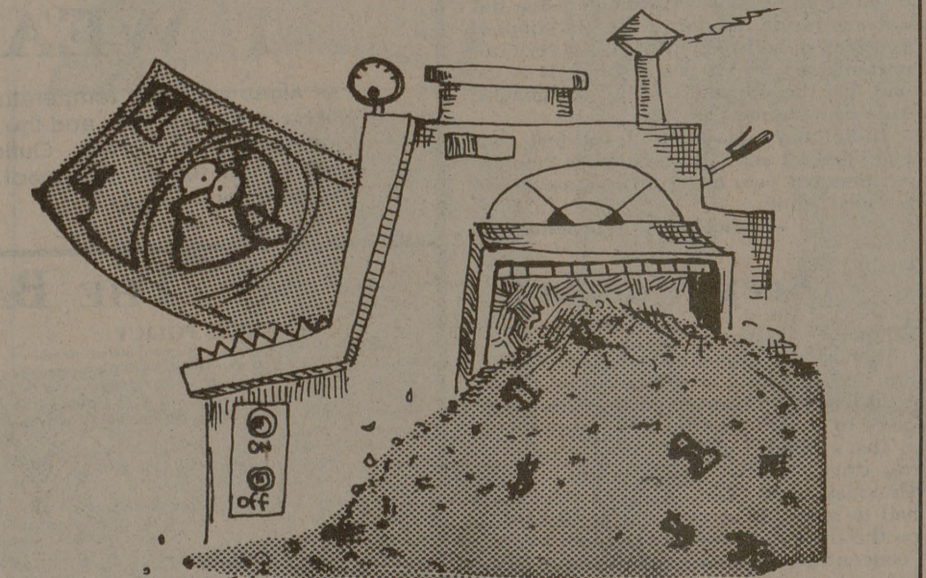
TYLER, Texas — The United States government throws away several millions of dollars per day, much of it thanks to a machinist-inventor named Elias F. Joseph.

Joseph, a technician for the Atomic Energy Commission years ago, currently heads a company that produces currency disintegrators, huge machines up to two stories high that slice, rip, shred and otherwise destroy paper money that is showing the wear and tear of circulation.

"It takes the paper currency and breaks it down into small particles and fiber," Joseph said. "Our machines are currently used in 13 different countries, including France, Spain, The Netherlands, Zaire and in several places in South America."

Joseph says money wears out comparatively fast. A \$1 bill, he says, has a life of about 18 months, a \$20 bill less than that. The \$100 bill, he says, has the shortest life span because "when anyone gets a \$100 bill, they don't want a corner torn or a dirty soiled bill."

At the federal reserve bank in Dallas, Joseph's currency green disintegrator is fed up to \$4 million per day. Workers dump the currency in the top of the machine on one floor and by the time it gets to the floor below it looks like confetti bound in bales and ready for some alternative use, such as mixing with drilling mud for oil wells.



The average \$120,000 machine can handle up to 350,000 bills per day. The machine destroys up to 1,500 pounds of currency per hour with a thousand bills weighing about 2.2 pounds.

"When I had my first machine ready for the U.S. Treasury to see, representatives came to Tyler to see a demonstration," Joseph said. "I had asked them to bring some samples for me to destroy. They brought a half million dollars in \$1 bills."

Showing off the machine for potential customers is not without its problems however.

Joseph said the Bank of Chile once sent him three trunk loads of two million pieces of currency as samples for his disintegrator.

"The FBI contacted me wanting to know why a machine man with five children from Tyler, Texas, needed three trunks of foreign money."

Conclave fails to elect new pope

VATICAN CITY — Roman Catholic cardinals from six continents failed in their first four ballots Sunday to elect an heir to John Paul I, but confusing smoke signals convinced 300,000 onlookers that a successor to the "smiling pope" had been chosen.

The multitudes broke into wild cheers and applause at 6:34 p.m. (1:34 p.m. EDT) as the chimney atop the Sistine Chapel began puffing the white smoke that traditionally signals the election of a new pope.

But the white smoke lasted only four seconds and for the next 15 minutes the chimney billowed black — announcing the 111 cardinals sealed inside had failed to give any candidate the required two-third plus one margin, or 75 votes.

The Vatican officially confirmed the smoke was black 18 minutes after the first puffs emerged.

But the crowd refused to disperse and stood in the cobblestoned piazza waving handkerchiefs for more than half an hour in hopes the 264th leader of the world's 700 million Roman Catholics would appear on the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica.

Many remembered that the cardinals took only eight hours and 54 minutes to elect Italian cardinal Albino Luciani as Pope John Paul I on Aug. 26.

There also was confusion following two unsuccessful morning ballots when the cardinals sent up thick, black smoke from the Sistine Chapel. The crowd, many wearing hats fashioned from newspapers to ward off the hot sun, released a great, collective sigh of disappointment.

But only three minutes and 45 seconds

later, unmistakably white smoke began pouring forth and the huge crowd, which had begun to scatter, cheered and stampeded back into the square to see the new pope.

A Vatican spokesman warded off a stampede in the Vatican press office with the firm announcement at 12:06 p.m.: "The smoke was black."

The failure of the cardinals to elect a new pope in their first full day of voting echoed the deep divisions evident in their ranks before they were sealed into the conclave chambers.

The cardinals from 49 nations were scheduled to gather for their next round of voting Monday. According to the conclave ritual, two ballots are held in the morning and two in the afternoon with smoke signalling their success or failure after every second vote.

Following instructions from technical experts, the cardinals were burning special Italian army chemical flares designed to produce the black smoke.

For centuries the cardinals had burned wet straw with their unsuccessful ballots to produce the black smoke, but they abandoned that practice in favor of the chemical system after the death of Pope Paul VI "to avoid confusion."

The cardinals were sealed into a bricked-off section of the splendid Vatican palaces Saturday evening to begin the secrecy-shrouded search for the 264th pontiff.

The untimely death of John Paul, only 34 days after he ascended the papal throne, brought the cardinals back into conclave for the second time in only 50 days.

Only American Cardinal John Wright, 69, the prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy, was participating in conclave for the first time. Operations on his eyes and leg prevented Wright from participating in the Aug. 26 election of Pope John Paul.

The cardinals spent most of Saturday evening in quiet prayer and meditation after settling into their cells.

At 9:15 a.m. Sunday, a tolling bell summoned the cardinals to the Sistine Chapel and they took their places at the long, beige felt-covered tables dressed in their formal crimson vestments.

Grades due; Q-drop now

Mid-term grades are due today, so grade reports should arrive in students' mailboxes later this week.

Next Monday, Oct. 23, is the last day to Q-drop a course, according to the Texas A&M University calendar.

A Q-drop allows a student to drop without recording a grade — a drop without penalty.

University regulations state that a student who drops a course after the Oct. 23 deadline will receive a grade of "F" unless "unusual circumstances exist as determined by his academic dean."

Students who have not filled out an address card in the registrar's office, Heaton Hall, should do so promptly if they wish to receive a mid-term grade report.