

THE BATTALION

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Taking special interest

Politics in Brazos County are becoming more lively. Special interest and minority groups — along with "regular people" —

are getting involved in county politics and may make a difference. Check it out on page 7.

Arkansas ticket draw proposed

By DILLARD STONE
Battalion Reporter

The long nights spent camping in line for out-of-town football game tickets may be the rule for this year's Texas A&M-Arkansas contest.

Under a lottery system recommended by the Athletic Council by the student senate, the 377 recipients of student tickets will be drawn one week before the game.

Only graduate students, seniors and their dates are eligible for the lottery, which will operate this way:

Beginning Tuesday, students may present their identification card and ticket books at C. Rollie White Coliseum and receive a numbered token. The registration process will end next Thursday at 4

Please see related story, page 8.

At 5 p.m., registrants will meet in front of the coliseum for the drawing of tickets and issuing of tickets.

Non-student date tickets will not be available.

"I can't imagine students camping out a week to get tickets, which is what would happen under the present system," said Wally Groff, assistant athletic director and business affairs.

Groff indicated the information contained in Wednesday's Battalion was erroneous. A letter to the editor stated that the Athletic Council will veto the senate's recommendation.

Kevin Patterson, vice president for student services, told the senate Wednesday that he had not received any indication from council members that they viewed the recommendation with disfavor.

"I think it is a good proposal," Groff said. He added that anything that would

reduce students' camping out for tickets deserves serious consideration.

Groff said the tight ticket situation resulted from a 40 percent reduction from Texas A&M's original ticket request. The Athletic Department asked Arkansas for 5,000 tickets and received only 3,000. Of these, Groff said, 1,355 went to the Aggie Club, 840 were reserved for students and the remainder were split among season ticket holders, Arkansas A&M Club members and the Athletic Department.

Of the 840 student tickets, 420 are reserved for band members and their dates, and 43 have been reserved for the Memorial Student Center Travel Committee's trip to the game.

Groff said 3,000 tickets is the most Texas A&M has ever received from Arkansas. He added that the Athletic Department had sold 5,000 tickets, so that many people are receiving refunds for the game.

He also said that student interest in the biennial trip to Arkansas has never been high enough to increase substantially the number of student tickets.

"If the band decided not to go, we probably couldn't sell 840 tickets," Groff said.

Once students get to Little Rock, Groff said, they may find another problem. Texas A&M did not receive blocked seating assignments as is common at most other stadiums, he said.

"We had been giving Arkansas good seats for the last few years," Groff said. "But we give them exactly what they gave us the previous year." Next year, Razorback fans will be located in the same relative positions in Kyle Field as their Aggie counterparts are this year.

Groff said that he would like to exchange 7,000 tickets with other conference schools, but they refuse, because they can't sell that many.

"Arkansas knows they can't sell more than 3,000 (when they come here), so that's all they give us," Groff said.

"Aggies just sell more tickets."



Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

Meeting for pigeons only

Even with winter just around the corner pigeons still flock and fly around the Bryan-College Station area. These birds were bunched together on a high voltage wire near the corner of Washington and South Main Streets in Bryan.

Crash near Snook injures 3 persons

Three persons — including a graduate student at Texas A&M University — were involved in a one-car accident on FM 60 near Snook early Thursday.

The driver of the pickup truck, 21-year-old Donald Lee Morgan of Tanglewood Apartments in College Station was listed in serious condition Wednesday night at St. Joseph's Hospital.

One of the passengers, 22-year-old Patricia Bednarc of 1201 Westover in College Station was listed in stable condition. The other passenger, 26-year-old Texas A&M student Kathy Ingles of 4108 Aspen in Bryan, was treated and released from the University health clinic.

According to police reports, the truck was traveling west on FM 60 when it overturned.

Earl Butz says controls burden farmers

By STEVE LEE
Battalion Campus Editor

Former Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz attacked the Carter administration for "over-regulation" of the agriculture business in a Political Forum speech Wednesday.

Butz called for maintaining the family farm, which he referred to as "the best illustration of incentive at work." He said that government controls have placed an unnecessary burden on agriculture, thus restricting the free enterprise system.

"The United States is the only country in the world that asks its farmers to curtail production in a hungry world," Butz said. "As we receive from the world's markets and shrink internally, while we encourage expansion abroad, for short-term political expediency, it is hard for me as an economist to see any basis to rationalize in this."

Butz criticized the current administration for what he called its "cheap food philosophy." As an example, he cited the government's vast grain surplus, or reserve, that is not channeled back into the market.

"Those reserves are there for the sheer purpose that never again do Texas farmers get \$5 for wheat, or \$3 for corn, or \$10 for soybeans," he said. Butz also denounced the government for attempting to level out the "booms and pluses" of agriculture, saying that only the booms have been leveled out.

While his attacks on Carter were seri-

ous, Butz kept the audience that filled Rudder Theater amused with sharp and satirical attacks on politicians, consumer advocates and other opponents.

He told of an incident in which he was being interviewed by a young journalist on a talk show. He said the interviewer asked "When are food prices going to go down?"

Butz said he replied, "The cost of food will go down as soon as the cost of advertising food on this station goes down. And prices will go down as soon as they reduce your salary, and they can start right now."

Butz defended current food prices by saying that less than 17 percent of take home pay is spent on food items.

"That leaves 83 percent to spend on everything else that makes life so wonderful," he said. "That's the reason we enjoy this widespread affluence in America that is unequalled."

Butz labeled the participants in the recent agricultural strike, who fought for minimum price laws as "noise-makers." He said that the movement served a purpose at first, in that it was to help farmers who were losing money. However, adjusting prices would interfere with the market price of goods, Butz said. Instead, he said, a policy of selling, not committing crops to reserves, should be adopted.

He also maintained that attempting to adjust prices in the agricultural system on a yearly basis would cause problems since the business is a "biological entity," or seasonal in nature.

Butz praised land-grant universities, such as Texas A&M, for building upon

Carter acts on dollar drop

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter Wednesday took emergency action to halt the steep slide of the American dollar abroad, prompting an immediate gain in the value of U.S. currency on European money markets.

The dollar's sharp decline "is clearly not warranted by the fundamental economic situation," Carter told White House reporters. "That decline threatens economic progress at home and abroad and the success of our anti-inflation program."

Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said the dollar's drop "has gotten out of hand. It must end and will end."

Within minutes of the decision to boost interest rates, increase U.S. gold sales and enter into a \$30 billion "swap" agreement with major foreign banks, the dollar registered a large, 4 percent improvement in hectic trading on the Frankfurt, West Germany exchange.

The value of the dollar has fallen 18 percent over the past year in relation with the currencies of the world's other major industrialized nations and 7 percent during the past month alone.

Last week, Blumenthal warned dollar speculators that "sellers of dollars will encounter stiff resistance" from the United States.

The new dollar rescue package is intended to put those "sellers" on notice that the United States is now prepared to back up its currency with strong and forceful action.

The main problem with the dollar involves a situation in which foreigners hold about \$500 billion and have been selling the dollars rather than buying, investing or saving them.

This, in turn, has prompted a general lack of confidence in the dollar overseas because of foreign skepticism about the administration's willingness to act forcefully to reverse the trend.

The Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board took a series of coordinated actions the government hopes would restore faith in the dollar. They included:

—A boost of the board's discount rate —

the interest it charges member banks for loans — from 8.5 percent to 9.5 percent, the highest in history. By increasing interest rates, it is hoped foreigners will be encouraged to invest funds in the United States while Americans seek their loans overseas.

—An increase in the amount of gold auctioned from U.S. reserves to at least 1.5 million ounces a month. The United States was scheduled to sell 750,000 ounces this month and had sold 300,000 ounces a month for the past six months.

—Establishment of a supplementary reserve requirement — in addition to percent member bank reserve requirements — equal to 2 percent of time deposits in denominations of \$100,000 or more. This action would further alter regulations on domestic banks to encourage them to brood dollars from their foreign branches.

"The dollar's deterioration already has led to a rise in import competitive prices which further fuels inflation and perpetuates a vicious cycle," Blumenthal said.

"The image of the American economy and its leadership is adversely affected by this."

SMU tickets still available

Tickets for Saturday's football game between Texas A&M University and Southern Methodist University in Dallas will remain on sale through 5 p.m. today.

Kevin Patterson, student government vice president for student services, said the Athletic Department requested the one-day extension because of low ticket demand and because there may be some students who had not had a chance to buy tickets.

Kickoff in the Cotton Bowl is set for 3:10 p.m. The game will be regionally broadcast over the ABC television network.

Once, twice — sold by U.S. Customs

United Press International
HOUSTON — Archie Kramer looked at his new — uh, nearly new — 1975 Cadillac formerly owned by a wealthy Iranian and laughed. He had just paid \$2,000 for it at a U.S. Customs Service auction.

"I don't even know if it'll start," he grinned Wednesday. He had surprised himself by purchasing the car.

Kramer's was one of dozens of purchases — for business or fun — at the auction of seized, abandoned or unclaimed merchandise, personal possessions and equipment intended for import but blocked or left at customs.

The privilege of bidding cost \$20, which bought registration and a numbered card. To bid, one listened to the auctioneer bark off proposed amounts and then raised his card.

Customs Service spokesman Charles Conroy said the car once belonged to a wealthy Iranian who shipped it to America for trade, "but he got in a hurry, married a

girl in Arizona, went back to Iran and left it."

Many of the items had colorful histories, including the 15 papier-mache mounted fish. Salvage dealer Bob Collier paid \$80 for one and said he hoped to peddle it for \$200.

Conroy said the fish were the result of a Mexican racket victimizing American deep sea fishermen. The crooks would take a fisherman's prize catch, tell him they would mount it and send it to him. Instead the fisherman got a papier-mache imitation.

"When they find out what they are, they don't want to pay the (customs) charges and pick them up," said Charles Mayer, a Customs employee who has helped run the auctions for nine years.

There were clocks, clothes, furniture, oil field equipment, motorcycles, a stand-up globe, films, earthenware, radios, recorders, toys, jewelry, perfume, swimming pool vacuum, a backgammon set, aircraft parts and a Volvo windshield.

NY press strike may be settled

United Press International
NEW YORK — Negotiators announced tentative contract settlement Wednesday in the 84-day-old strike by pressmen against The New York Times and the Daily News, the city's only major morning daily newspapers.

The publishers said they hoped to resume publication on Sunday if agreements could be reached with the drivers' union and striking paper handlers, machinists and auto mechanics.

Labor mediator Theodore Kheel announced the agreement about 8:20 a.m. in the offices of the Federal on and Conciliation Service.

"I am pleased to say it's over," Kheel said. "This day belongs to the publishers and pressmen. I will let them speak for themselves."

William Kennedy, president of the pressmen's union, said, "We're certainly glad it's over. We arrived at a just and equitable settlement. There are no winners in a strike this long."

Walter Mattson, executive vice president and general manager of the Times, said, "The publishers are also delighted. We feel the conclusion was reached with good feeling. We are embarking on a new era as far as our labor relations is concerned. There were no winners."

The tentative settlement was reached 12 weeks to the day after the walkout began.

The strike was the third longest newspaper walkout in New York City history and idled 10,000 employees. It was estimated to cost the papers \$1 million a day in lost advertising and circulation revenue

Long winter foreseen

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Indian medicine man Rocky Stallings says Texans had better drag out their long johns because the yellow jackets are building their nests flatter on the top and thicker on the sides this year.

Besides that, Stallings says dogs, cats and squirrels have put on thicker-than-usual fur, an ominous sign in Indian lore that a severe winter is at hand.

"Common birds have got more down than usual," he adds. "And a lot of acorns put out two crops this year. And for the first time since I can remember the prickly pear flowered a second time."

Couple that with mesquite trees blooming while they still have mature beans and gopher terrapins burrowing 18 inches deeper than normal and it all means we're in for a freakish cycle," said Stallings, who explains Indian tradition at the Institute of Texan Cultures.

"Up north, the higher the hornets build the ground, the deeper the snow will be," he observed. "We'll have cold weather especially in this area and a little south."

and an estimated \$200,000 a day to maintain equipment and pay staffers not on strike.

Nine daily papers have closed since the 114-day strike by printers 15 years ago, a strike estimated to have cost the city's economy \$255 million.

Under the tentative agreement, Kennedy said, the union preserved the concept of unit manning, assigning a fixed number of pressmen to a press. The publishers initially demanded room manning, in which the foreman would decide how many pressmen worked on a press.

He said the union had agreed to a reduction in manning, which was a gain for the publishers and the publishers in turn had promised to guarantee the jobs of all 1,508 pressmen, which was a gain for the union.

The union agreed to ultimately reduce manning levels by one journeyman from 12 to 11 on a typical press.

The publishers won the right to offer pressmen monetary incentives to retire early.

The terms of the agreement with the Times and the News will also apply to the New York Post, which signed a "me-too" contract with the pressmen Oct. 3 and resumed publishing.

Kennedy said that as soon as Douglas LaChance, president of the drivers' union reached a tentative agreement with the two papers, he would schedule a ratification meeting.

The tentative agreement fell into place with resolution of pension items, as well as various safety provisions.

Stallings said his collective observations of nature's activities this fall should mean periods of cold, dry air will last longer through the winter, "and when we get moisture it'll be a heck of a lot more than we want and too sudden. Three to four records will be broken this year."

Stallings, 56, who began studying to become a medicine man at age 9, said his observations of weather conditions over the years proves out Indian weather predictions.

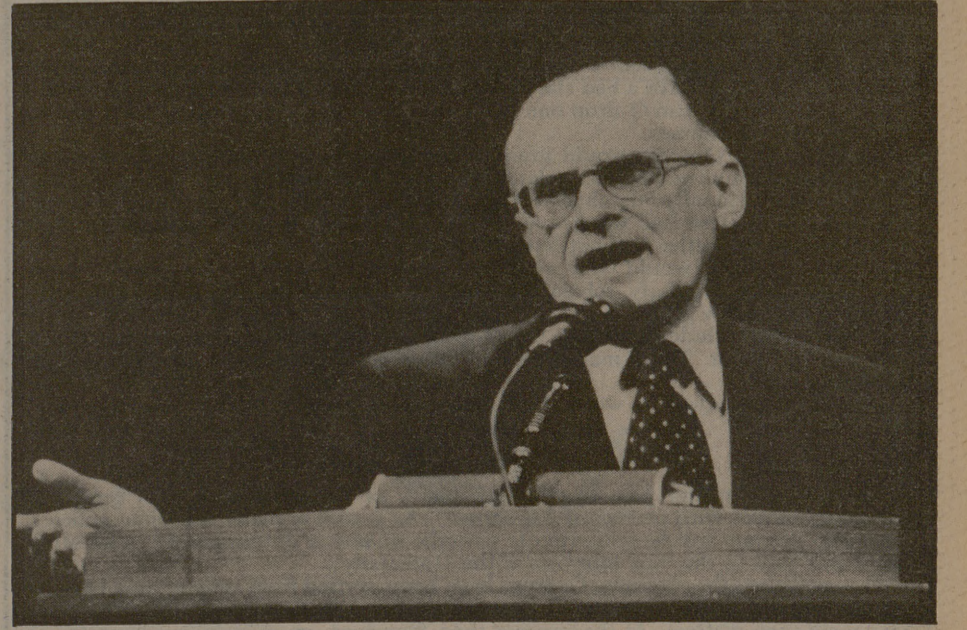
"This is the kind of stuff that started almanacs," he said.

Stallings said observing animals and plants also could help him make short-range predictions on weather changes.

"When birds or chickens start preening their feathers, it's going to rain. If it rains and the chickens don't take cover, you're in for three or four days of rain. If the chickens take cover, it'll be over with shortly."

He added persons should not discount the signs if an arthritic person's joints start acting up.

"I've seen some of them that were downright accurate," he said.



Battalion photo by Lee Larkin

Earl Butz said Wednesday he trusted farmers more than government.

what the farmer has developed. But he emphasized that this instruction all started from the farmer's incentive to "make a little money." He said this incentive must not be regulated by the government.

"The private sector has done it, Butz

said. "But the government is getting more and more, while the private sector is getting less and less. Our government is now absorbing 38 percent of the Gross National Product. Society suffers because of this kind of regulation."