

THE BATTALION

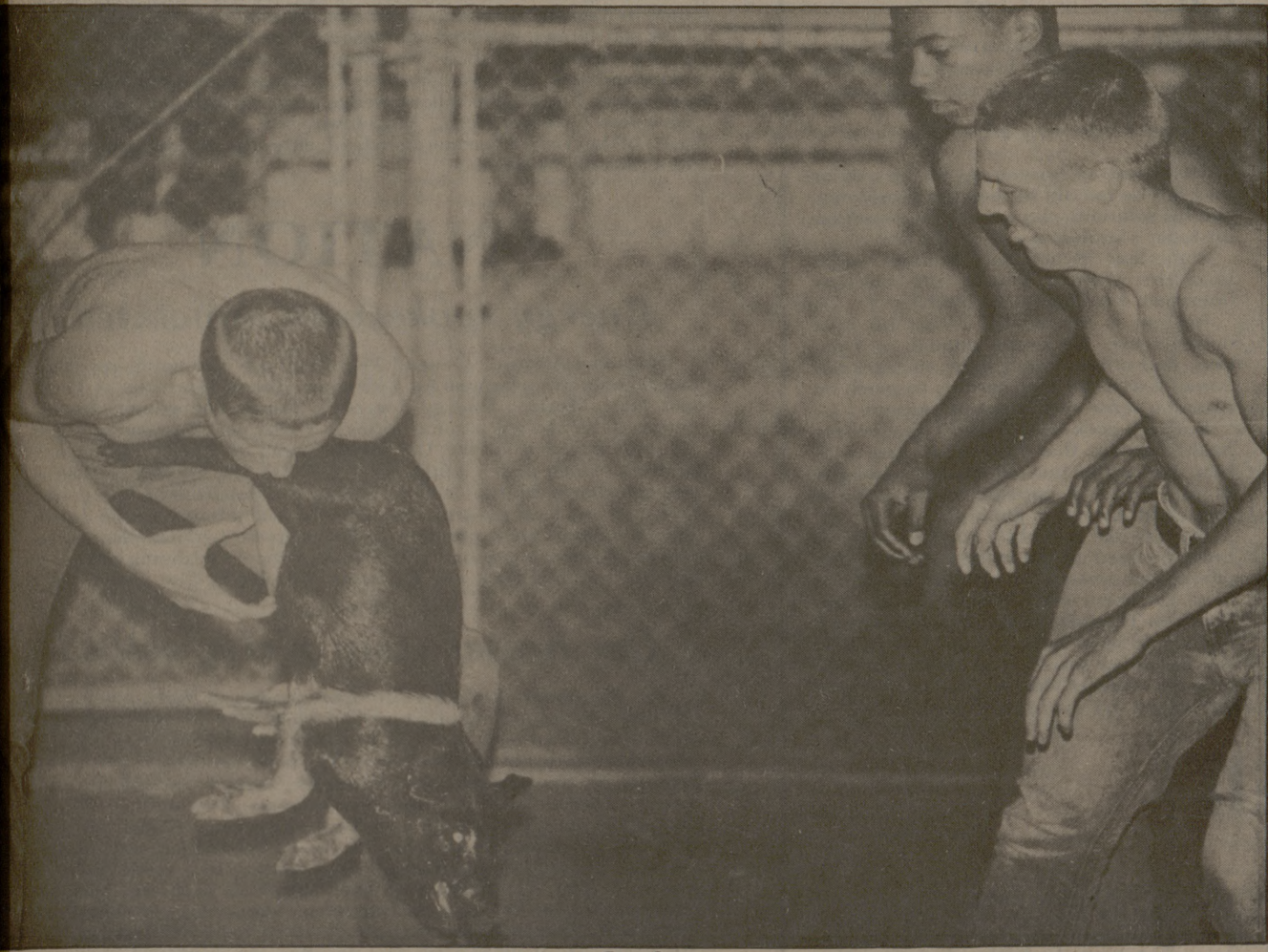
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Cagers are back!

The 1978-79 basketball team has made its debut and Coach Metcalf says they are looking good. For details see page 10.



Slip-slidin' away

These members of the Corps seem to be having trouble getting a good grasp on this pig at the greased pig race which took place at 8 p.m. Thursday night in the Animal Pavilion. Forty teams competed and Outfit D-2 took first place.

Photo by Paige Beasley

Hotline needs volunteers to train

Counselors aid people with problems

By CHARLES HARPER
Battalion Reporter

alone, depressed, and experiencing withdrawal from the drugs she's been taking. A teenage girl is driven to taking her own life. There's no one she can call, no one can turn to. She accepts the seemingly inevitable.

The case of the girl here is fictitious, but could have been real. This situation could possibly be avoided with the help of a trained volunteer on the "hotline" at the Brazos County Mental Health-Mental Retardation center.

The volunteer, trained in crisis intervention techniques, could have helped the victim of drug abuse or alcoholic addiction regain their perspective, understand their problems and to deal with them. The actions of a trained volunteer telephone counselor are designed to help such persons out of severe depressions and save lives. The MHMR center is seeking volunteers to man their crisis hotline. Volunteers are trained in crisis intervention techniques, which aid the counselor in handling personal-problem type calls. The counselor

also learns how to refer a caller to one of the several types of psychiatric help available locally.

According to Ralla Spotts, intervention resource coordinator at MHMR, the center needs at least 20 volunteers to work the hotline at least four hours each week.

"People will volunteer for different periods of time. On the average, they want to work only about four hours a week. We want to require that our volunteers work a minimum 12 hours a month," she says.

Spotts says that almost anybody can be a volunteer telephone worker. "The only restriction is a person who might fall apart under pressure. People with bad problems of their own are unacceptable." There is, however, a minimum age of 16 to volunteer. The center would like to have a large number of trained volunteers available, Spotts says. As soon as we get 20 trained, we'll get 20 new volunteers and start a new training course. We'd like to have about 60 volunteers altogether.

Training sessions for the volunteers are scheduled to start Nov. 29, running through Dec. 9. Sessions will be held Wednesday and Thursday for 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Make-up sessions for latecomers will be available but as yet remain unplanned.

At present, the hotline is being operated by the seven-member staff during regular

hours, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The service will become 24-hour after volunteers have completed the training course. Volunteers will be allowed to answer calls with a staff member present after partial completion of training, thereby obtaining practical experience handling crisis calls.

The line was started to aid in the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse, and providing a way to educate callers about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. The line also provides a telephone crisis counseling service.

"The need existed in the community for a

24-hour service," says Spotts. "The city is getting bigger."

The center offers positive, confidential service with callers remaining anonymous if they wish.

Any persons wishing to volunteer may call the MHMR center at 779-2000. Those persons who are interested, but can't volunteer for work, can help in other ways.

"People could help, even if they didn't volunteer, by simply telling us of new facilities available to people who call us." At present, there are no volunteers to fill the positions open at the center.

No warm-up show before Leon Russell

Town Hall presents Leon and Mary Russell tonight at 8 p.m. There will be no warm-up acts before the main act. Those who wish to see the beginning of the performance should be at G. Rollie White Coliseum at 8 p.m.

The next Town Hall presentation will be David Gates and Bread with Ian Matthews

as the warm-up act, on Nov. 30 at 9 p.m., immediately after the Bonfire, in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Some of Bread's more popular songs include "If," "Lost Without Your Love," "Baby I'm A-Want You" and "Diary."

Tickets may be bought at the MSC Box Office, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. General admission is \$4 for TAMU students and \$5 for the general public. Reserved seat tickets are \$6. For more information on tickets, call the MSC Box Office at 845-2916.

Delay in reporting rapes makes prosecution extremely difficult

By DIANE BLAKE
Battalion Staff

Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series discussing the medical and legal aspects of rape.

Immediate medical attention followed by a report to police should be the first concerns of a rape victim, said James W. Locke, assistant students' legal adviser.

"A long delay in reporting a rape makes it extremely difficult to prosecute," Locke said. "Since it is such a serious crime, a claim of rape after all evidence is gone, raises serious questions about consent and the rights of the defendant."

"It must be established that a crime has been committed," he said. This is virtually impossible, say, a week after the rape."

According to Texas law, a rape has been committed if a person "has sexual intercourse with a female, not his wife, without the female's consent."

A woman can be charged with rape only if she aids a man in raping another woman. A man cannot file criminal charges against a woman for rape in Texas.

There are seven circumstances under which the intercourse could be defined as being without the woman's consent.

The first is if the man compels the woman to submit by force. Another is if he compels her by any threat that would prevent her resisting.

In the late 19th century, farm spokesmen saw deflation as the chief economic evil facing farmers. Between 1865 and 1895, the cost of living indexes declined by one-third, while the prices of farm products fell by over one-half.

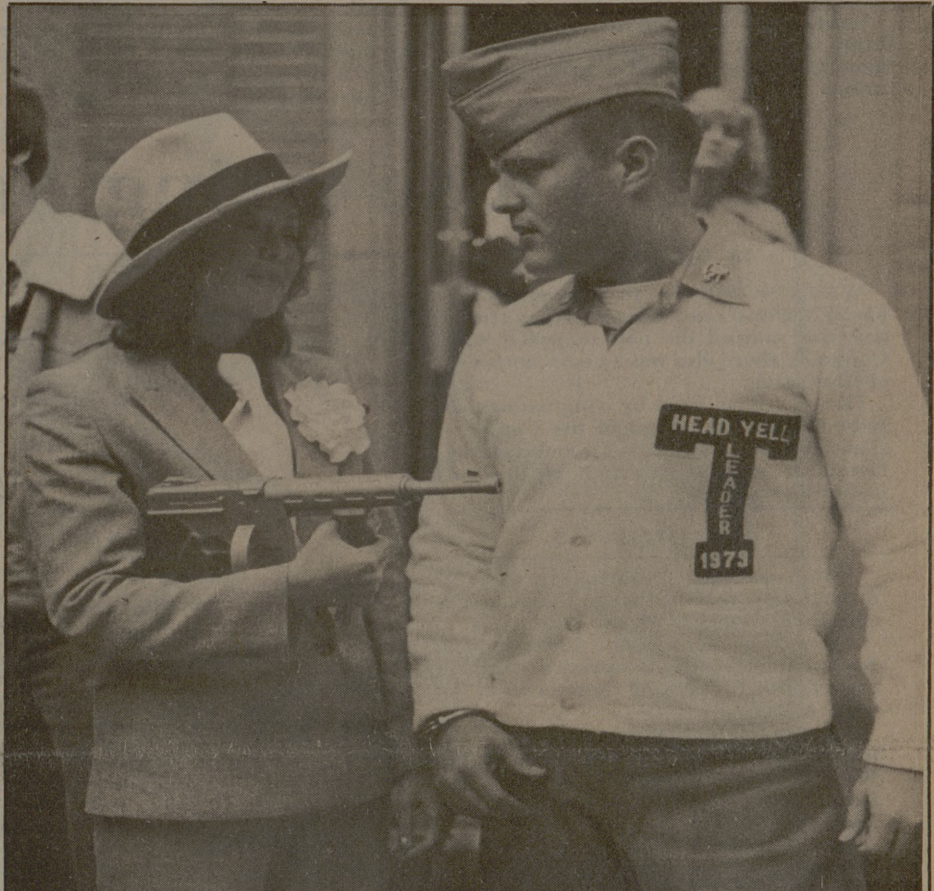
"The point of William Jennings Bryan's 'cross of gold' was that cheaper money would help farmers," he explained.

Increases in costs — such as prices for energy supplies — are a problem for farmers, but post-war data indicates the periods of increases in farming costs do not coincide with the periods of general inflation.

Gardner said the ups and downs of inflation are hardest on farmers.

Interest rates paid for large land purchases may be bargains if inflation sets in, but if inflation is curbed "the increases in land prices, as other prices, will tend to decelerate. The interest costs will not. The resulting net losses can easily be large," he said.

"The overall result is an extraordinary element of risk imposed by an inflationary environment. Farmers, like the rest of us, simply have no way of forecasting whether inflation will accelerate or decelerate in the years immediately ahead. But the economic uncertainty they face in this environment is much greater than for most of us," he said.



Battalion photo by Michelle Scudder

"Mosher mafia" kidnaps yell leader for ransom

By MARK BEATTY
Battalion Reporter

Jeff Hancock, head yell leader, was kidnapped by the "Mosher Mafia" Thursday as he was leaving his class in Francis Hall.

His reaction and first comment as four girls from Mosher, dressed as gangsters and carrying toy machine guns, approached him...well, let's just say he was surprised.

The kidnapping was an effort made by Mosher dorm to collect as many canned goods as students could muster, for his ransom. The canned goods will go to six to 10 needy families in Bryan for Thanksgiving.

The girls, Pam Freeman, Andrea Montgomery, Michelle Rowland and Joanne Xaveir, took Hancock to the Commons, Sbsia, the Quad and then over to the Memorial Student Center, where stations were set up to collect canned goods and money donations.

Contributions for the cause were taken at all four stations until 5:30 p.m. Thursday. For those students who did not have a chance to contribute, a station will be set up at the Commons reception desk today.

Hancock was released in time to go to the 5 p.m. yell practice at Kyle Field.

This was Mosher's first attempt at a service project.

Pam Freeman, treasurer for Mosher, said they are pleased with the response from the kidnap. Fifty-five canned goods and \$200 were collected.

Farmers plan first nationwide tractorcade

HOUSTON, S.D. — American Agriculture Movement (AAM) delegates from 15 states are planning a massive tractorcade in Washington to "dramatize the plight of the farmer," an AAM leader said Thursday.

Wayne Peterson, a Holabird rancher, said in a telephone interview that delegates, meeting this week in Oklahoma City, decided the demonstration would dramatize the plight of the farmer and the economic effects farm income has on the nation.

Precise details and times for the planned nationwide protest have yet to be made, Peterson said.

"We don't like to use numbers about how many people will participate," he said. "We can't even project that at this time. We're planning to make the drive to Washington last 18 days from several tentative starting points."

Peterson said American Ag Movement members plan on beginning their trip with tractors and other farm vehicles on interstate systems stretching from North Dakota to Texas.

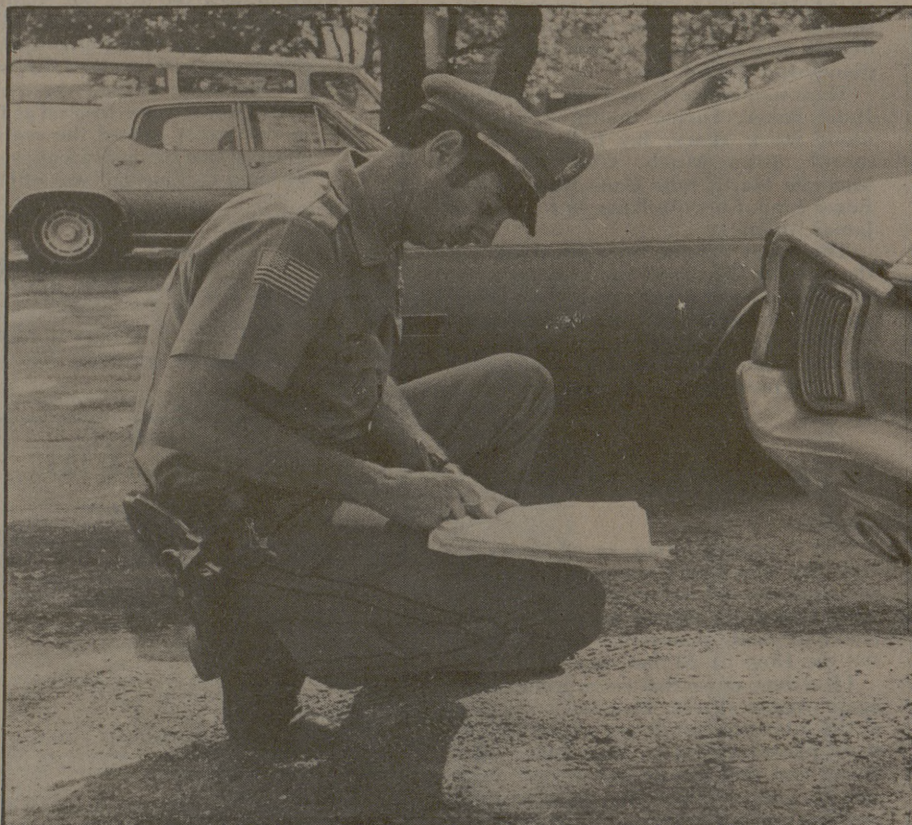
"People in South Dakota will probably use Interstate 90 while others in North Dakota will use I-94," he said.

"We're trying to get all starting points about 100 miles a day and reach Washington at the same time, coming in from all roads," Peterson said.

Delegates in Oklahoma City also criticized President Carter's action on two related measures, he said.

"We feel his action on the set-aside program and Meat Import Act reinforces our belief that the goal of this administration is to destroy the family farm as we know it," Peterson said.

The administration with its vetoes has not come right out and told us that we must convince people in rural America that this is Carter's goal."



Fine hike postponed

The Texas A&M University Traffic Panel discussed the possibility of raising the fine for parking violations from \$5 to \$10 in a meeting Wednesday afternoon.

W. G. Ferris, chairman of the Traffic Panel, said the proposal will be discussed

further at the next meeting, but he said it is unlikely that fines will be raised because there is so much opposition to the idea.

Ferris said the proposal was raised in an effort to persuade more people to park in their assigned lots.