

THE BATTALION

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A name is a name is the same

The new name would have been "College Station Independent School District," but A&M Consolidated decided to stick with the old traditional tag for now. See page 3.

Today is a holiday — World Hello Day. See page 8.

Details of the more than 600 deaths in Guyana are slowly becoming known. See page 5.

Residents escape Nicaragua threat

United Press International
MANAGUA, Nicaragua — A stream of Nicaraguans poured out of their troubled country Monday in cars and trucks, on foot and donkeys, in anticipation of a resumption of civil war within 48 hours.

"In the past 30 days I have given out about 15,000 passports, three times the normal amount of passports in a given 30-day period," said an official in the Immigration Department of Managua, where long lines form every day.

The Sandinista Liberation Front, which fought a two-week civil war against the forces of President Anastasio Somoza in September, have vowed to renew the warfare if Somoza does not resign by Tuesday.

Political observers said they believed the Sandinistas were only waiting for the expiration of the deadline to launch their much-anticipated anti-Somoza offensive.

But the 53-year-old Somoza told thousands of cheering supporters Sunday that "God willing" he would serve out his term until 1981. And a panel of mediators attempting to head off a resumption of warfare reported their deliberations were deadlocked.

In a brief news conference with foreign correspondents after the rally, Somoza said he believes violence will resume "but we are prepared for it."

Diplomatic sources and Red Cross officials in Managua estimate that since the September civil war at least 70,000 Nicaraguans have fled the country. They say at least 15,000 to 20,000 are now living in disease-ridden refugee camps, mainly in the Choluteca area of Honduras.

There are few foreign tourists in Nicaragua because of the crisis situation

and many of the estimated 5,000 American residents already have left. Sources at the U.S. Embassy also said they are reviewing a longstanding evacuation plan.

The rate of departures has increased as a deadline for Somoza to resign nears.

"What people are afraid of," said a military source, "is not the Sandinista offensive but the reaction from Somoza's National Guard."

The Inter-American Human Rights Commission charged the Guard with atrocities against civilians in the September uprising but Somoza's government countered with charges that the Sandinistas also violated human rights.

U.S.-led mediators and opposition leaders met late Sunday but came to no agreement to solve the civil crisis that has cast a pall over Nicaragua, ruled by the Somoza family for four decades.

Mediators from the United States, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic met for one and one-half hours with leaders of the Broad Opposition Front at the archdiocese office on the outskirts of the capital.

Opposition leader Alfonso Robelo, 39, said the mediators again asked what the opposition thought of a U.S. plan to hold a national plebiscite on whether Somoza should stay or resign.

"We told them that the Opposition Front had unanimously agreed not to discuss the plebiscite (idea) at all," Robelo said.

"How could the mediators propose a plebiscite to see if the man that is responsible for a genocide goes to a referendum instead of jail?" he asked.



From open air to office space

Robin Roark, an employee of Acme Glass Co. of Bryan, is installing windows in the first floor of the Harrington Education Center. The center is being enclosed to alleviate an office space shortage for the College of Liberal Arts. Offices are planned for Cooperative Education, Continuing Education, Modern Languages and General Studies on the south side of the enclosure. The north side will house a student lounge.

Battalion photo by Phil Martinez

New DA promises fewer plea bargains

By JAMIE AITKEN
Battalion City Editor

Travis Bryan III pledged an open door to firm hand in his campaign for Brazos County district attorney, and he repeated that promise to some 200 friends who watched his swearing-in Monday at the Brazos County Courthouse.

Bryan, 31, ran unopposed Nov. 7 to win the district attorney's office on the Democratic ticket. He told supporters in the packed District Courtroom that his office will try more cases and use less plea-bargaining in criminal prosecutions.

"The tendency in plea bargaining is for prosecution to recommend probation," he said. "I think there's been too much probation given in Brazos County."

Bryan said a tougher stand should be taken against violent crimes such as rape and assault, as well as with cases of drug handling and burglary of the home.

"You have to take a look at each individual case," he said. "But in violent crimes and delivery of drugs I would be hard-pressed to give anyone probation."

Bryan was given the oath of office by Judge W. C. Davis at noon, and took office immediately after the ceremony.

Also sworn in Monday was Assistant District Attorney Bill Torrey. Torrey was appointed by Bryan to fill the position vacated by former Assistant District Attorney Larry Catlin. Catlin resigned last month to enter private law practice.

Train derails, causes blaze

Three tank cars of the Sante Fe line derailed at Somerville early Monday morning. Two cars carrying flammable liquid caught fire and burned.

Families in half a dozen nearby homes were evacuated at about 1 a.m. when liquid in one of the cars poured over the tracks and ignited.

No one was injured in the incident and residents were able to return to their homes at 4 a.m. after the blaze was extinguished.

A spokesman for the railroad said late Monday that the train was pulling a number of cars from a siding when a wheel under one of the tank cars broke, causing a valve at the bottom of the car to scrape the tracks and break. He said a spark probably set off the leaking chemical liquid.

The fire quickly spread to an adjoining tank car, but firemen were able to control the blaze shortly after it started.

The railroad spokesman said losses totaled about \$56,000.

Gas truck crashes into river bank

A Houston man was taken to Grimes Memorial Hospital Monday after the tractor-trailer rig he was driving plunged off a river embankment on U.S. Highway 6 just north of Navasota.

Cleveland Gordon, 45, of 603 Nest in Houston told police he lost control of the gasoline tank rig after his right front tire blew out. The rig crashed through a retaining rail and flipped sideways into the Navasota River bank.

The empty trailer crushed the cab of the Mission Petroleum Company rig. Police at the scene said Gordon may have suffered only a broken leg.

Gordon was trapped in the cab for about 30 minutes before rescue officers were able to pull him from the wreckage. He was returning to the Mission Petroleum plant in Houston after a trip to Temple.

A spokesman for the Department of Public Safety reported that U.S. Highway 6 in the area of the Navasota river has been the scene of many accidents in the last few days due to rain and slick roads.

And now, forming at both ends of Kyle Field . . .



By DILLARD STONE
Battalion Staff

"To drill the impossible drill" might well describe this weekend's halftime activities by the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band.

The band traditionally performs a late season "cross-through." This year, the drill will be done with an added twist.

For its halftime performance at the Texas A&M-Texas Christian University football game, the band will divide into four groups, one in each corner of Kyle Field. Each group will march toward midfield.

As each group approaches midfield, it will first cross through the group that had originally been on the same half of the field. Each group will maintain its direction, thus crossing through another group on its way out of the formation.

For several years, the band has

performed its now famous midfield cross-through, where the band divides into two groups and performs a single perpendicular cross-through at midfield. Involving four rather than two distinct groups, this week's drill is an elaboration of the one done in years past. Cadet Col. Will McKerral, commander of combined bands, designed the TCU drill.

Although this drill is more complicated than the old one, head drum major Larry Haag said the concept of a perpendicular cross-through carries an interesting story with it. Every once in a while, Haag said, Aggie Band drills are designed by computer. When this drill was conceived, the band had it checked by running through the University computer.

"The computer threw it back out, said it wouldn't work," Haag said.

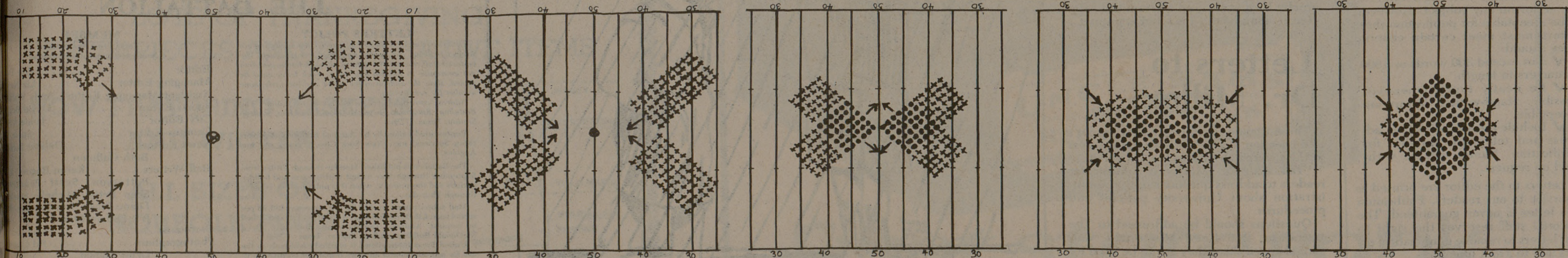
"The drill calls for two people to be in the same place at the same time. But we figured that since we're human, we could fudge a little," he continued. He said the band accomplishes the "impossible" formation by each member placing his right foot in the middle of someone else's stride while in the cross-through formation.

In the past, the band has performed its cross-through at the University of Texas football game.

However, Haag said, the decision was made this year to perform the drill at the last home football game.

"We wanted all the people who weren't going to be able to go to Austin to see it in Kyle Field," Haag said.

"Besides," he added, "we're doing it as a salute to the students, not for a bunch of tea-sips."



Saturday during the Texas A&M-TCU game, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band will perform their last home drill of this season. The traditional late season "cross through," however, will have an added twist. The band will divide into four groups instead of two, one in each corner of Kyle Field,

(see diagrams above) then march toward midfield. The groups will merge with the on-coming group on the same side of the field, then cross through another group. Although rejected by a computer as a non-feasible drill, the band accomplishes the "impossible" by each member placing his right

foot in the middle of someone else's stride while in the cross-through formation. Top, Monday the Aggie Band practiced the formation developed by Cadet Col. Will McKerral, commander of combined bands.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.