

THE BATTALION



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Court hears case more 'important' than Bakke's

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to rule on a major new "reverse discrimination" case calling into question the legality of some affirmative action plans voluntarily adopted by employers.

Participants in the case which could prove more significant than the highly publicized Bakke decision which preceded last summer include:

- Brian Weber, 32, a white who works as a laboratory analyst at Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corp.'s, Grammercy, La., plant and sometimes wears a hard hat.
- Kaiser Aluminum and United Steelworkers of America, which negotiated an agreement in 1974 creating an on-the-job craft training program temporarily reserving half its openings for blacks.

Kaiser hoped that by adopting the program as part of an industry-wide agreement it could head off discrimination suits by blacks and comply with executive orders obligating federal contractors to take affirmative action.

But the firm wound up being sued by a white instead.

Weber, a union steward was "burned" when some blacks with less seniority got into the program that leads to better pay and job security while he was left waiting in line. "Those guys weren't discriminated against," he said.

The Supreme Court, with Justice John Paul Stevens not taking part, decided to hear arguments later on the case which poses the question: Does federal law bar a company from voluntarily setting racial quotas for applicants to an on-the-job training program without admitting past discrimination and opening itself to suits by minorities?

Last summer the court ruled 5-4 that white medical school applicant Allan Bakke was discriminated against by an admissions program that voluntarily set aside for minorities a number of openings each freshman class.

This second-generation Bakke case requires the court to interpret the 1964 Civil Rights Act's bar against racial discrimination in employment when it is invoked by white.

Masked men steal \$5 million at airport

United Press International
NEW YORK — A band of masked gunmen handcuffed 10 employees at a Lufthansa Airlines cargo hangar at Kennedy airport early Monday and fled with \$5 million in cash and some \$300,000 in jewelry, authorities said.

The money was en route to the Chase Manhattan Bank from a bank in Frankfurt, West Germany, according to a spokeswoman for the New York bank.

James Connolly, a spokesman for the Port Authority police, said the gang members gained entry to Building 261 at the airport at 3:10 a.m. by thrusting a gun into the face of one of the Lufthansa employees.

They forced the worker into an employees' cafeteria where they pistol-whipped one man and then left the group handcuffed, Connolly said.

The gunmen then went back to the cargo holding area where they took some 20 bags containing \$5 million in cash and \$200,000 in jewels and fled in a dark-colored van believed to be a Ford, authorities said.

Wanted alive: trees for Houston parks

United Press International
HOUSTON — For Christmas, instead of buying a dying Douglas fir or Scotch pine to decorate and later toss in the trash, Houstonians are being encouraged to purchase a living tree to donate to the city at the end of the holidays.

"It would be a sort of Christmas present from the citizens to the city of Houston," said Judy Vinson, a spokesman for the Citizens Open Space Taskforce.

The organization was formed this fall as a private effort to improve local parks and recreation facilities. Houston ranks 140th nationally in per capita park space. The live tree program is one of COST's first projects.

"We're encouraging citizens to use living containerized trees in their homes; then after Christmas they can deliver them to the city parks department which will plant them in open space around the city," Vinson said.

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Hart said live trees can range upward to \$80 or more although he expects the average cost to be about \$40. Chopped trees cost \$15 to \$25. But the added cost is tax deductible.

"It has to be a tree that is suitable for growing in the Houston environment, semi-tropical," Vinson said. "Varieties that are particularly suitable are juniper, east-

STUDENTS WOULD LIKE BETTER TELEPHONE SERVICE

Things have changed in 50 years

This is The Battalion, as it looked Tuesday afternoon on Oct. 11, 1938. The paper no longer has a straight vertical layout with columns rules between the columns. The editor is a woman, and a computer system is used to prepare copy for production. However, students still complain about telephone service. For other examples of the way "it used to be," please see the Editorial page, the Sports pages and pages 6 and 7.

Driver in school bus tragedy has history of violations

United Press International
MCCAULLEY, Texas — The 21-year-old driver of a truck that rammed a school bus broadside killing four students had been issued 13 traffic tickets since May 1975, according to an officer who investigated the crash.

Bill Dixon of Snyder, the driver of the oilwell service truck that struck the McCalley High School bus, remained in guarded condition at an Abilene hospital. Fisher County Attorney Rudy Hamric Monday said it may be several days before

officials decided whether to file charges against Dixon.

In McCalley, a town of 96 people located northwest of Abilene, residents buried three more crash victims.

Three of the crash victims — two teenage girls and a boy — were buried Monday near McCaulley, a town of 96 persons located northwest of Abilene. A fourth victim, Lolita Perales, 17, was buried Sunday. Trooper Albert Hataway said Monday he and his partner, Allan Arnwine, ran a routine traffic check on Dixon the day after the collision 11 miles west of Roby. Hataway said Dixon's driving record the past seven months was flawless.

But earlier Monday Richard Faught of the DPS Driver Improvement and Cor-

rection division in Austin confirmed Dixon had been cited 13 times since 1975, including seven times last year.

Included among the citations were nine violations for speeding.

Hamric has decided to allow a grand jury to consider whether charges should be filed against Dixon. The grand jury meets once a month, but can be called in special cases.

A total of 21 persons remained hospitalized in the aftermath of what the Fisher County sheriff called the worst wreck he had ever seen.

One of the survivors, Wandell Williams, said Monday apparently only school principal and assistant coach Doyle Bell saw the southbound truck closing on the westbound bus at a rural T-intersection about 1:15 p.m. Friday.

Consol board denies hearing

By SCOTT PENDLETON
Battalion Staff

A requested hearing on the recent firing of Consolidated Superintendent Fred Hopson was denied Monday by Dr. Bruce Robeck, school board president.

College Station residents Oran Jones and Bill Parker asked for the hearing last week in a letter to Robeck. The letter also asked specific questions about the school board's methods and motives in firing Hopson.

In a statement made after the Nov. 20 firing, the board said only that it terminated Hopson's contract because of "disagreements concerning educational policy and policy implementation."

Last spring, the board negotiated a new contract with Hopson that ends June 30, 1979.

Since that contract ends two years before the old one, the board agreed to give Hopson his full salary of \$34,400 for the first year and \$20,000 compensatory damages for the second year.

Hopson will also get up to \$2,500 for moving expenses and the use of a car until he finds a new job.

Robeck, in a written reply to Jones and Parker, challenged the wording of their letter.

dollars could be by a lot of school equipment."

"It would be cheaper, if the board can't get along with Hopson, to fire the board," Jones said.

In a telephone interview, Robeck said that ultimately the board has to justify its action to the district.

When asked when the board would do so, Robeck said, "I assume at election time."

Robeck said at a press conference after Hopson's firing that further comment on the board's decision would violate the privacy involved in executing personnel matters. He said the board was advised by its legal counsel that any additional discussion of the matter other than that given at the press conference might open the board to libel or slander action.

Personnel matters discussed by the board are closed to the public by law.

"I am puzzled by the use of the word 'hearing' in your letter of Dec. 5, 1978," Robeck wrote.

"I assume that you mean the appeal or fact-finding process as part of a personnel decision."

"Therefore, you do not have standing; only the employee concerned has the right to such a hearing," he wrote.

Robeck also said the board's action "will be in the best interests of the students attending school within the District and the citizens residing in it."

Jones said Monday he doesn't intend to drop the matter.

"Obviously, we will have to reapply to them in language they can understand," Jones said.

He said he will send another letter with the same questions, but reworded, as soon as he can draft and type it.

Jones said he and Parker aren't trying to get Hopson rehired.

"I think that would be great if we could," Jones said, but explained that the purpose of the hearing is "to make the board accountable for what they've done."

"The expenditure of funds is the biggest bone of contention," Jones said. "It just doesn't make sense to me to use so much money for so little purpose. Sixty thousand

Patient trades gun for matches

United Press International
LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Using the hospital intercom for negotiations, a nursing supervisor convinced an armed psychiatric patient to trade a gun for a book of matches. The patient had held authorities at bay nearly three hours.

Tommy Hoyt Williams, 30, of Jacksonville, Ark., Monday agreed to trade his gun for matches so that he could light a cigarette, police said.

Williams was charged with disorderly conduct and illegal possession of a firearm, then taken to the state hospital pending arraignment today, police said.

The siege at Baptist Medical Center began Monday morning when a student nurse saw the pistol lying beside Williams on the bed and reported it to her supervisor.

Pamela Anderson went to Williams' room and was able to talk him out of an ammunition clip but not the pistol. Williams had more ammunition in his room.

Speaking by intercom through the morning, Anderson, 33, and Williams finally arranged for Williams to place his pistol and ammunition outside the door of his room in exchange for a book of matches.

Master's thesis lost, but 'fame' found

By JULIA CRAWFORD
Battalion Reporter

What would someone do if two years of his master's thesis work was thrown out by unknowing maids? Cry, scream, or give up?

Others might have, but Art Leuterman, a 27-year-old graduate student in oceanography, took as much advantage as he could of the situation and decided to bypass his master's work and start on his doctorate.

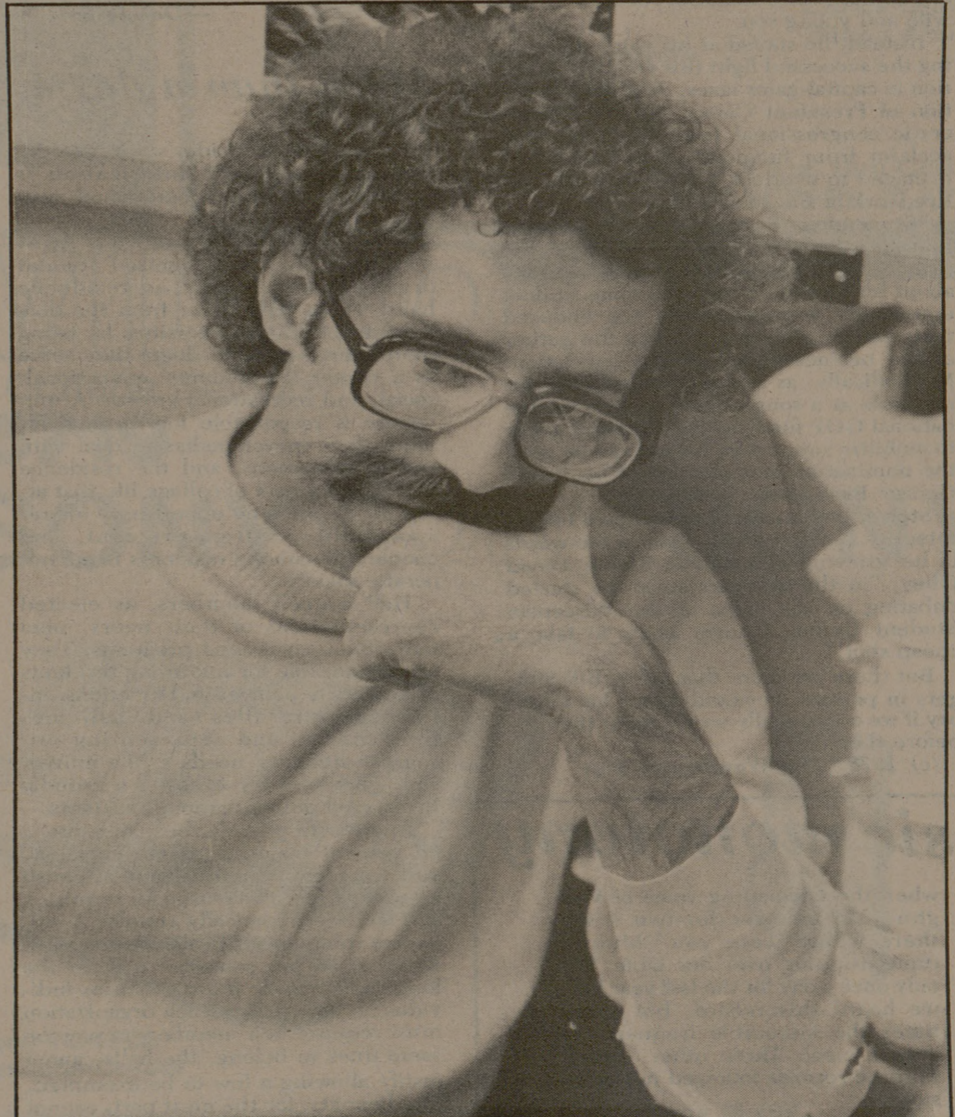
Five years ago, Leuterman was finalizing his research on marine life for his master's degree. He had all his notes compiled and had only to write them up in the proper form. He and his office partner were short of working space, so Leuterman made a makeshift table out of two garbage cans and a door. Here he laid out all his specimens and papers.

The next day when Leuterman returned to his office, he was shocked to find two empty trash cans and a table neatly stacked in the corner. The maids, thinking the papers and samples of muddy water were to be thrown out, did just that. Along with the trash the maids had thrown out two years of work and research.

"After I calmed down, I took the news to my department head," Leuterman said. "We both decided the best thing to do would be to start over again with the studies in the Gulf, but to do a more conclusive study and submit it for my doctorate."

Perhaps it was fate that promoted the maids to rid Leuterman of all his research, for during his second term of study he discovered a new species of marine life.

While re-gathering his samples in the waters off the flower garden banks south of Galveston, he found a microscopic marine creature, 0.4-0.7 millimeters in length, with a calcium carbonate shell, that did not match any of the known genera. Thinking that perhaps it was a zooid, or individual bryozoan that had been transported from foreign waters on the hull of a ship, he checked with the Smithsonian Institution and other marine biologists around the globe, yet none were able to identify it.



Art Leuterman, soon to become Dr. Arthur Leuterman, discovered a new species of marine life. Battalion photo by Ed Cummins

years and will present the defense for his dissertation entitled "A Taxonomic and Systematic Discussion of the Systematics and Ecology of Bryozoans in the Northwest Gulf of Mexico" in March.

"I'm ready to get it all finished just so I can see a book that I have written," Leuterman said. "I had this stuff in six and a half volumes of notebooks, but all I have left to do now is the pain stuff — getting the descriptions down in the scientific jargon, finishing up the photographs and matching up the plates."

As for future plans, Leuterman said that he would like to work for the Bureau of Land Management, the sponsor of his and many others' research in the Gulf.

"I'd like to think up the projects and delegate the authority," Leuterman said.

"I've also been offered a post-doctorate degree by Dr. William Banta at the American University in Washington, D.C.," Leuterman said. "There I would be doing a lot of taxonomic work under him. I'll only be making \$12,000 to \$13,000 a year, but you don't get much money if you are into academics."

Leuterman, a native of West Virginia and a 1973 graduate of Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., said that Texas A&M was not his first, second or even third college choice for post-graduate work, but that Texas A&M's facility compares quite well to others in the oceanography field.

"The main difference between this school and other fine schools of oceanography is that we don't have a seaside facility," Leuterman said.

"But if Texas A&M's Moody College continues growing, it may not be long until we are strong competitors in the oceanography field."

When asked what he is going to name his discovery, Leuterman said he is thinking about naming it *Mildredia*, after his mother.

"She is a unique individual, just like the specimen. And why not? Just don't tell her, 'cause it's a secret."

So, after a two year setback, many extra hours and dollars, and a scientific discovery, Art Leuterman will be Dr. Arthur Leuterman this March.

Then, for final confirmation of a new species, the specimen was sent to Dorothy Soule at The University of Southern California. She is considered the expert on the genus *Parismatina*, the supposed genus of the sample.

Soule, too, was unable to identify the creature, so it was decided that Leuterman had added a new member to the genus.

But Leuterman did not end his research with this discovery. He continued his research for four more