

THE BATTALION

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A&M, UT to play for first place

The Aggie basketball team came back to beat Texas Tech 68-63 Saturday night and now shares the conference lead with

the University of Texas. The showdown between the two is tonight in Austin's Super Drum. See page 8.

Davis judge ready to declare mistrial

United Press International
HOUSTON — A district judge Sunday said he was prepared to declare a mistrial in the murder conspiracy case against Fort Worth millionaire T. Cullen Davis if jurors tell him they can't reach a verdict.

Judge Wallace Moore said a mistrial was likely if jurors remain split 8-4 and if each side has one juror who doubts the other could dissolve the deadlock.

"If they all say no, I'll probably wind it up," Moore said.

Defense lawyers have been requesting a mistrial since Friday when the 8-4 impasse was disclosed.

Moore said he was prepared to release Davis on \$30,000 bond immediately after a mistrial ruling.

"We have the funds available to post any

bond, whatever it may be," said defense attorney Mike Gibson.

Jurors received the case Tuesday night and said Sunday they still were "diligently" trying to reach a decision.

"I know that they're trying to reach a decision and I appreciate that," Moore said.

Nevertheless, the judge said it would be fruitless to continue if the vote remained firm. There was no indication whether the majority favored conviction or acquittal.

Prosecutor Jack Strickland said the "frustrating reality" of a mistrial had set in.

"But I'm convinced the case should be retried and convinced the case can be won."

"I'm not faulting this jury," Strickland said. "I'm disappointed and discouraged but I'm not impugning this jury. Obviously

they're taking their responsibilities seriously."

Davis was arrested Aug. 20 after he gave an FBI informant \$25,000. The informant testified the money was to be passed to a hit man as a fee for the slaying of Joe H. Eidsen, Davis's divorcee since 1974.

Davis testified he was returning the money to David McCrory, an employee and long-time acquaintance of the millionaire. Davis disputed the meaning of FBI tapes in which he and McCrory discussed having a number of persons slain.

Davis said he was just "playing along" with McCrory whom he thought was an extortion suspect.

The jury worked four hours Sunday and will resume deliberations at 8 a.m. Monday.



Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

Catching 40 winks

George Arnold, who keeps G. Rollie White Coliseum's basketball court swept clean for Aggie basketball games, finds time for a little sleep during Saturday's game between the Aggie women's team and Lamar College. The Aggie team lost that game 75-63.

Employees to buy overdue books, too

By SCOTT HARING
Battalion Reporter

Texas A&M University students have been buying their books which are expiring overdue at the library for more than a year, and faculty and staff better get out — they're next.

Emma Perry, head of the Circulation Division of the Sterling C. Evans Library, said the first letters will be mailed out to

The first letter, she explained, is a warning. It lists the books that, according to library records, are more than 15 days overdue. The recipient of the letter has three weeks to either return or renew the books with no penalty.

After the three weeks are up, the person will receive a bill, Perry said. The bill covers the cost of the books and a \$5 processing fee per book, she said.

And until the bill is cleared, Perry

added, the person loses all his library privileges.

The program has been nabbing students since September 1977, Perry said, adding, "It has been very effective."

In the 1977-78 school year the library received between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in fines through the policy. Perry also said many more students were motivated to return missing books than before.

Perry said some of the books which were returned when the policy began dated back to the late 60's.

Students who ignore their bills are reported to the Fiscal Department, where they are blocked from registering for classes or receiving transcripts until the bill is settled.

Perry said they can't do that to faculty and staff, but, "We hope they'll cooperate as much as they can."

At the end of the semester, however, the names of staff and faculty who haven't taken care of their bills will be sent to their department chairmen. Perry said she hopes that the chairmen will put a little pressure on their staffs to clear up the problem.

The new system will also help library efficiency, Perry said, because it will help the circulation division identify which books are lost for good. Once that's done, the library can take the card out of the card catalogs and reorder the book.

Mouse bites dust; man bites mouse

United Press International
ALLISAW, Okla. — Marijuana Mouse, the sly rodent whose taste for pot is said to evade dope-baited mousetraps made him a legend in the district attorney's office, is dead.

Officials say the small pothead was shot to death this week by inmates in Sequoyah County Jail.

"We're pretty sure it was him because he had quit stealing the marijuana and apparently had moved on," said Linda Callahan, a secretary in the district attorney's office. "The jail is right above our office."

Marijuana Mouse earned his name and a local reputation last summer by getting

into marijuana being stored in the evidence room for future trials. Officials decided to move the marijuana, but Marijuana Mouse found it again and again.

Officials then decided to bait mousetraps with marijuana, but that didn't work either. The mouse went after the evidence and avoided the mousetraps.

But Marijuana Mouse was not so lucky this week.

Officials said the rodent wandered into the county jail, where he was beaten to death by the inmates.

Callahan said one prisoner, a mental patient, took a bite of the mouse "before they could get it away from him."

"It made them all sick in jail," she said.

New A&M regents invested at meeting

Oath of office ceremonies for the new members of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents were administered here this morning by State Senator William T. "Bill" Moore.

Royce E. Wisenbaker of Tyler and Norman N. Moser of DeKalb were named earlier this month to the nine-member board and Clyde H. Wells, who has served as board chairman for the past 10 years, was re-appointed. The appointments were confirmed Wednesday by the Senate.

The oath of office was to be administered at 11:30 a.m. in the board's meeting room in the University Center.

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Republican National Committee meets this week to pick a site for its 1980 presidential convention, with Dallas and Detroit viewed as the leading competitors.

RNC sources say New York and New Orleans also have a chance to get the con-

vention, with Miami, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Kansas City virtually ruled out.

The RNC's site selection committee will make a final review of all the convention bids Monday evening and then meet briefly Tuesday morning to select the city they will recommend to the full committee an hour later.

The RNC normally accepts the recommendation.

As is usually the case, none of the seven locales in the running can give the Republicans everything they want, and the committee has to decide what tradeoffs can be made.

With its huge Cobo Hall, Detroit comes closest to providing everything the GOP needs, although some delegates would have to be housed in Ann Arbor, 38 miles from downtown.

"I'd say Detroit has a 50-50 shot, and I really believe that," said Ron Steffens of the Detroit Convention Bureau.

Dallas also has adequate facilities, but its convention hall is not free on the Republican's preferred date of July 14. If the GOP picks Dallas, it will have to be for its backup date of Aug. 11.

Many in the party would like to go to Dallas to showcase the fact that Texas now has its first Republican governor in 105 years.

New York City was a late starter in the race and some Republicans argue the con-

vention should not be held on either coast, or in the northeast, which has generally voted Democratic in recent elections.

"Our understanding is it's down to us, Dallas and Detroit," said a spokesman for New York's Deputy Mayor, Peter Solomon. The city is offering free use of Madison Square Garden, site of the 1976 Democratic convention.

Many Republicans would love to go to New Orleans, and the Superdome might have won hands down if it were not for a major political problem. Louisiana is one of 15 states being boycotted by women's groups because they have not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment.

The argument will boil down to whether the Republicans can politically afford to overlook the ERA problem in order to get a convention site that is both attractive and has all the facilities needed.

Miami Beach has all the facilities, but Florida has the ERA problem and a psychological disadvantage as well: Republicans can't work up much enthusiasm for returning to the city where they twice nominated Richard Nixon for president.

Kansas City was the GOP convention site last time around. There is a feeling the party would rather go somewhere else. And Missouri hasn't ratified ERA either.

Minneapolis-St. Paul is considered too small for the convention, and it also cannot offer the GOP its preferred date.

Fan can't get in, returns with gun

United Press International
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — A football fan denied admission to a tavern party where the Super Bowl was being televised returned Sunday evening and opened fire with a submachine gun, killing one man and wounding two other people, police said.

Police said the suspect, Raymond L. Wilson, 35, of Louisville, fled immediately after the shooting but returned later and surrendered to police at the scene. He was charged with one count of murder and two counts of assault.

Police said Wilson, a self-employed concrete worker, was denied admission to a Super Bowl party at Kelley's Bar earlier in the afternoon and showed up later, about 5:30 p.m., with the weapon.

"Numerous" shots from a .45-caliber submachine gun were fired into the bar from outside of the tavern. There were about 20 to 25 people inside the bar watching the Super Bowl at the time.

Police said the shooting was followed by "screaming and panic" as the patrons fled for safety.

'An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished'



United Press International
NEW YORK — "The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go, so I ran over him."

That, says the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., is among a list of explanations the company has received for automobile accidents.

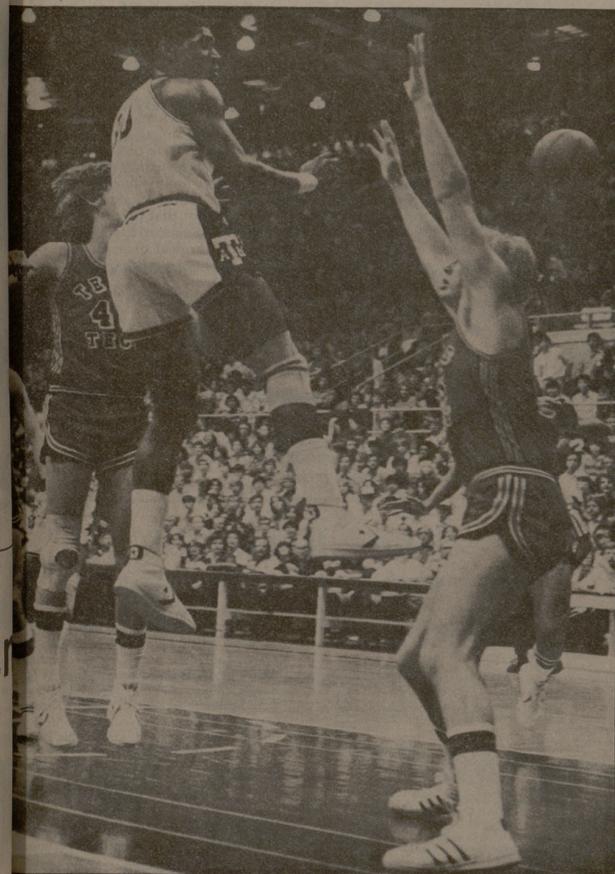
Others include: — "The other car collided with mine without warning me of its intention."

— "I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment."

— "The telephone pole was approaching fast. I attempted to swerve out of its path when it struck my front end."

— "The indirect cause of this accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth."

But Metropolitan says strangest reason of all is: "An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished."



Up, up and over

After faking a shot to draw off Texas Tech's Joe Baxter, Aggie guard David Britton (30) passes off an assist to Rudy Woods. The Aggies' 68-63 victory was seen by 7,763 people in G. Rollie White Coliseum, plus an additional 600 in Rudder Auditorium. Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.