THE BATTALION Page 8 Ecologists want government purchase

Hearing held to save Louisiana swamp

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Atchafalaya Basin covers 590,000 acres of mostly unspoiled south Louisiana swamp, and the task of determining its future equals its

More than 500 people crammed a 300-seat hearing room Saturday for the first of five federal-state hearings on the best method of utilizing or preserving the basin. Hundreds of others crammed the halls and stood outside in the rain hoping to move

The hearing lasted more than six hours and included remarks by 70 people. Ecologists and other sup-porters of a proposal that the federal government buy the land outnumbered opponents by a 4-to-3 ratio.

When I'm an old grandmother I want to take my grandchildren to the basin and say, This is how it was when I was 23 years old, "said Mrs. Mark Shirley.

However, basin landowners denounced federal proposals to purchase the land for preservation in its wild state and public use. "I've never heard a landowner tell

anyone in the basin he couldn't birdwatch," said District Attorney Samuel Cashio of Plaquemine.

The basin is a multi-purpose area that produces most of Louisiana's and next Tuesday in Morgan City. The plan for federal purchase as renowned crawfish crop, provides fishing, hunting and trapping spots and is a floodway that protects Baton Rouge and New Orleans from Mississippi River floods. Limited amounts of oil and gas production and an 18-mile interstate highway bridge are the primary modern in-

trusions But sediment has accumulated so much in some areas that more land is being created and the wetlands are decreasing.

Among groups represented Saturday were labor unions, hunt-ing clubs, the oil and gas industry, commercial fishermen and conservationist organizations

The Fish and Wildlife Service, which authored a controversial proposal for federal purchase of the basin, was represented on the fourmember panel that conducted the hearing. The panel also consisted of officials of the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protec-tion Agency and the Louisiana De-partment of Transportation and Development.

Similar hearings are scheduled today in Jonesville, Thursday in New Orleans, Saturday in Lafayette

well as a proposal to retain condi-tions as they exist are among the 10 possible alternatives to be considered. The most expensive would cost an estimated \$1.4 billion. The Fish and Wildlife Service

said 11 owners, seven businesses and four individuals, hold title to 80 percent of the private land in the basin.

Favoring federal ownership was Richard Jagels, a professional fores-ter who spoke of the basin's longterm assets.

'Louisianians are often blinded

United Press International John Travolta gave America Saturday Night Fever," and the re-

sulting disco phenomenon has given

many of the nation's musicians a big

Numerous small clubs which once

used live bands have converted to

disco since the fad swept across the nation a year ago. The effects on musicians vary widely in different areas, but all union officials agree

"In any area where there are dis-

cos, musicians are losing work," said

headache.

it's not good.

by the short-term importance of the petrochemical industry," he said. "People always say that there's no

place like Louisiana," said Arnold Feldman, a spokesman for the Baton Rouge Audubon Society. There is one place like Louisiana. Let's make sure that there is always

But Newman Trowbridge, an attorney for the Louisiana Landow-Association, which has ners mounted an extensive publicity campaign against a "federal land said such a purchase would grab, be disastrous.

Trowbridge said the federal gov-

Musicians losing jobs

because of disco craze

ernment will become the largest landowner in this state if the purchase takes place. "We cannot stand that here.

C.C. Lockwood of Baton Rouge, a wildlife photographer and film pro-ducer, recommended increasing water flow through the basin to preserve its wildlife.

o where have I seen the kind of wildlife as I have seen in the basin, said Lockwood, whose work has taken him to five continents. With cities and highways cutting all across the South, we should set aside this one great swamp in the middle of it," he said.

what's up

Tuesday

PLANT SEMINAR: Dr. Luther Bird of the Department of Sciences will discuss "Cotton Research in Russia" at 4 pm Room 112, Plant Sciences Building.

JSTIN FOOD SCIENCE: The Food Science Club will meet at 6:30 pm h in t Room 113, Kleberg Building. for two

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NUCLEAR SOCIETY: The American Nuclear Society will mer oth Texas 7:30 p.m. in Room 104B, Zachry Engineering Center, for of Texas monthly meeting.

HORSEMEN: The Texas A&M Horsemen's Association will mence before 7:30 p.m. New members are now being accepted. Plans will at is true. be made for the semester's activities. before ng gunsl ley and th

TAMU RACQUETBALL CLUB: All members are encouraged e Super D attend this meeting for a discussion of upcoming tournament e this thi p.m. in the MSC.

MANUFACTURING ENGINEERS: The Society of Manufacture he Aggie Engineers will discuss the trip to the Houston Tool Showdron. The s its meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 103, Zachry Engineering exas sei ter. New members are welcome from all engineering concern Jim Kriv orns b

Wednesday

- PARENTS' DAY PLANNING: The student government Parme. "I do Day committee will place survey forms on the first floor and of a dif MSC. Students are asked to stop by and fill them out to a clubs. B Thursday
- ARTS COMMITTEE: The MSC Arts Executive Committee e couldn't meet at 5:30 p.m. in Room 216, MSC. All officers must attee anyon. Br He's a f
- PRE-VET SOCIETY: There will be a general meeting at 7:30 pa Room 226, MSC. Dr. Hanselka will speak on "Equine Surger" New members are welcome.
- HILLEL CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Foundation Bl 800, Jersey, College Station.
- STUDENT GOVERNMENT PARENT'S DAY COMMITTEE have survey forms available on the 1st floor, MSC. Stu should stop by and fill them out today and tomorrow.

BASKETBALL: The Aggies will meet Texas Christian Universit p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

- AUSTIN HOMETOWN: The Austin Hometown Club will met USTIN 7:30 p.m. in Room 402, Rudder Tower. d to A
- nd give DANCE ARTS: The Dance Arts Society will meet at 7:30 pm Room 267, G. Rollie White Coliseum. Modern jazz, ballet men's exercise and muscle movement class will be offered ir first defe

AGGIE CINEMA: Gene Kelly stars in the 1951 musical comed American in Paris," which concerns an ex-GI who wants to the Horns Paris to pursue his career as an artist. Showtime is 8 p. ack-pack of Rudder Theater.

- TAMU EMERGENCY CARE TEAM: Will meet at 7:30 pages in their Room 308, Rudder Tower.
- MSC ARTS: New and old members are urged to attend a meetinfor guard 8 p.m. in Room 140A, MSC. The meeting is open to the publied to box
- 28 points METHODIST STUDENT MOVEMENT: Will have a general ing and special topic study at 7 p.m. in Room 350, MSC. e two sen TAMU HUMAN FACTORS CLUB: Andrew D. LeCocq from Tehe Longhol Instruments will speak on "Product Development and He two were of
- Factors Data in Product Design" at 8 p.m. in Room 342, 72 he Aggies" pickpoo All are welcome FRESHMAN AIDE POSITIONS OPEN: Those interested stabil four t
- apply for an interview in Room 216C, MSC. ng defer TAMU MEN'S SOCCER TEAM: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in M really th ster her 140, MSC
- Abe Le STUDENT GOVERNMENT POSITIONS OPEN: Senate vacuated off the are now open for College of Science at-large, College of Engine we started ing, Jr., College of Geosciences at-large and Moody College e playing v
- right nor CEPHEID VARIABLE: "House of Dark Shadows," in which there are s nabas Collins, the 175-year-old resident of the Collinood et season and searches for his lost bride in the continuation of the popular into a hur opera Dark Shadows, will be shown at 8 and 10:30 p.m. "But the Basement Coffeehouse. Admission will be 50 cents. nel to cor

GET YOUR BASKETBALL SHOES AT THE LOCKER ROOM - All court high top canvas 1995 nike - All star high top canvas - All star high top leather 3395 OPEN 9:30-6:00 The OC IT Locker Room "SPORTSHOES UNLIMITED" ACROSS FROM MANOR EAST MALL 779-9484 **AGGIES!** M Douglas Jewelry offers Student ID Discounts! 15% off of \$50°° or more 10% off of under \$50°° CASH PURCHASE ONLY We reserve the right to regulate the use of this privilege 212 N. MAIN 822-3119 DOWNTOWN BRYAN

Victor Fuentealba, national presi-dent of the 300,000-member Musicians Union. "We're hoping it's just a passing fad, but although it varies rom area to area, it has adversely affected our business in most areas. One of the hardest hit areas is Southern California, particularly Los Angeles where, for now, disco is king. Vince DiBari, vice president of the Los Angeles musician's local, said the number of musicians working clubs in his area is off 30 percent from a year ago and he blames disco. would cost them \$1,600 a week for a trio, but they can get some guy to come in and spin rec-ords for much less," DiBari said. "As much as I dislike it, it works when it's done right. They say they're making it.



DiBari said his objection is not with the full-scale, first class discos, but with the smaller clubs he said are taking advantage of the fad. 'Disco is nothing new. It began in

Europe and it's been here for a number of years. That movie 'Saturday Night Fever' made it a True disco is done with a lot of class, equipment and special effects.

But what's happening down here is a lot of clubs just turning up the jukebox or hiring some guy to play records. They put up some neon and call themselves a disco.

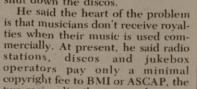
"They're looking for the mostest with the leastest by playing records and calling it disco but, fortunately, most of those are taking a bath and dving.

Fuentealba said the union's main thrust to counter disco is trying to get clubs to combine live music and disco or use live bands that play disco music.

'We've noticed in some areas that

have to do something different to meet the competition," he said. Many musicians in Southern California are wearing "MAD" buttons: "Musicians Against Disco." In addition, their cars sport bumper stickers bearing similar sentiments.

In Denver, the local picketed dis-cos last year. But the local's president, Tasso Harris, said the picket lines were designed to protest "playing without paying" rather than to



two major distribution syndicates. "We wanted to make people aware of the fact these people were parasites, making money off the sweat of musicians because of bad

The unfortunate part about it is

copyright laws.'



1 & 3rd Tues. - to be announced (60 oz. pitchers of beer \$1.75)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BEER BUST **BAND** "The Debonairs" Men \$4

Women \$2

shut down the discos.

more and more of the discos have brought back live music because there are so many discos that they we're the only profession I know of who make the product that puts us out of work," Fuentealba said.

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Thursday

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| LATHE | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 12 - MAR.5 | |
| STAINED GLASS A | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 12 - MAR. 26 | |
| DRAWING | 7:30-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 19 - APR.2 | |
| CAKE DECORATING | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 19 - APR. 16 | |
| | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | APRIL 2- 16 | |
| SUNCATCHERS | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | | |
| TUESDAY | | 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | |
| GLASS ETCHING | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 13 - MAR.20 | |
| SILKSCREENING | 6:00-8:00 P.M. | FEB. 13- MAR. 27 | |
| SAND TERRARIUMS | 7:00-8:30 P.M. | FEB. 13 - MAR. 27 | |
| QUILTING | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 13- MAR. 27 | |
| POTTERY A | 1:00-3:00 P.M. | FEB. 13 - APR. 10 | |
| POTTERY B | 7:30-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 13 - APR. 10 | |
| BASIC FURNITURE | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 20 - APR.3 | |
| WATERCOLOR | 7:30-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 27 - APR. 24 | |
| STAINED GLASS C | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | MAR. 20 - APR. 24 | |
| EMBROIDERY | 7:30-9:00 P.M. | MAR. 20-APR. 24 | |
| FRAMING & MATTING | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | APRIL 3 - 24 | |
| FRAMING & MATTING | 7.00-7.001.111. | and all the many | |
| WEDNESDAY | | | |
| SHOP SAFETY A | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 14-21 | |
| NEEDLEPOINT | 6:30-7:30 P.M. | FEB. 14 - MAR.7 | |
| CROCHET | 7:30-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 14 - MAR.7 | |
| BATIK | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 14 - MAR. 28 | |
| BASKETS A | 7:00-8:30 P.M. | FEB. 21 - MAR. 21 | |
| NOMAD FURNITURE | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 28 - APR. 18 | |
| ANTIQUE REFINISHING | 7:30-9:30 P.M. | MAR. 21-APR. 11 | |
| DECOUPAGE | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | MAR. 21-APR. 18 | |
| BASKETS B | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | MAR. 28-APR. 25 | |
| THURSDAY | | | |
| SHOP SAFETY B | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 15 - 22 | |
| MACRAME | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 15 - MAR. 29 | |
| CHINA PAINTING | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 15 - MAR. 29 | |
| STAIN GLASS B | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 15 - MAR. 29 | |
| SPINNING & NATURAL DYES | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | FEB. 22 - MAR. 29 | |
| POTTERY C | 5:00-7:00 P.M. | FEB. 22 - APR.19 | |
| POTTERYD | 7:30-9:30 P.M. | FEB. 22 - APR. 19 | |
| UKRANIAN EGG PAINTING | 7:00-9:00 P.M. | MAR 8 - APR. 12 | |
| STAIN GLASS MIRRORS | 7:00-9:30 P.M. | APR. 5 - MAY3 | |
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