

THE BATTALION

Vol. 72 No. 87
Pages

Thursday, February 1, 1979
College Station, Texas

News Dept. 845-2611
Business Dept. 845-2611

Boy Wonders battle gravity

Today's *Focus* reports on last Saturday's Texas Teen-age Powerlifting Championships, held at Texas A&M. Success at the sport requires natural strength, years of work in a gym and a belt which, one lifter says, "keeps your guts from spilling out." See the *Focus* section.

Despite what its name might suggest, the Star of Calipali was not a sun a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away. Instead, it was a medal awarded by the Turkish government in 1915. Col. James Woodall discusses it and other medals he has collected. See page 9.

Legett Hall renovation will enable 194 more women to live on campus

By TRACEY WILLIAMS
Battalion Reporter

More women will be living on the Texas A&M University campus this fall, and the renovation of Legett Hall is one reason why.

Legett, located near the Academic Building, has been a male dormitory since its construction in 1911. But when classes begin for the fall semester, it will reopen as a women's dormitory for 194 residents.

Jerry Smith, assistant for management analysis, said there had been a choice between converting the dormitory to a classroom building or refurbishing it for a dorm.

"It was evident in evaluating those choices that there was a definite need for additional women's housing," Smith said.

Although the \$1.25 million construction project is expensive, Smith said, the cost of converting the building into classrooms would have been more expensive.

Ron Blatchley, director of student affairs, said the changes to the exterior of Legett will involve "cleaning up and re-mortaring." When construction is complete, he said, the exterior will look like Milner Hall, a classroom and office building near Legett.

The interior of the hall, on the other hand, will be subject to many changes.

Ron Sasse, associate director of student affairs, said the major changes will not involve altering the structure of the building, but rather installing new equipment in the dormitory.

This equipment includes an air conditioning system, new electrical wiring, washers and dryers on every floor, new windows and doors, telephones and a cable hookup in each room, Sasse said.

Along with these changes, he said, each room will be painted and a second closet will be built.

Due to the sizes of the rooms, Sasse said, bunk beds will be among new furniture purchases. Other items in the rooms will include two each of desks, bookcases and dressers.

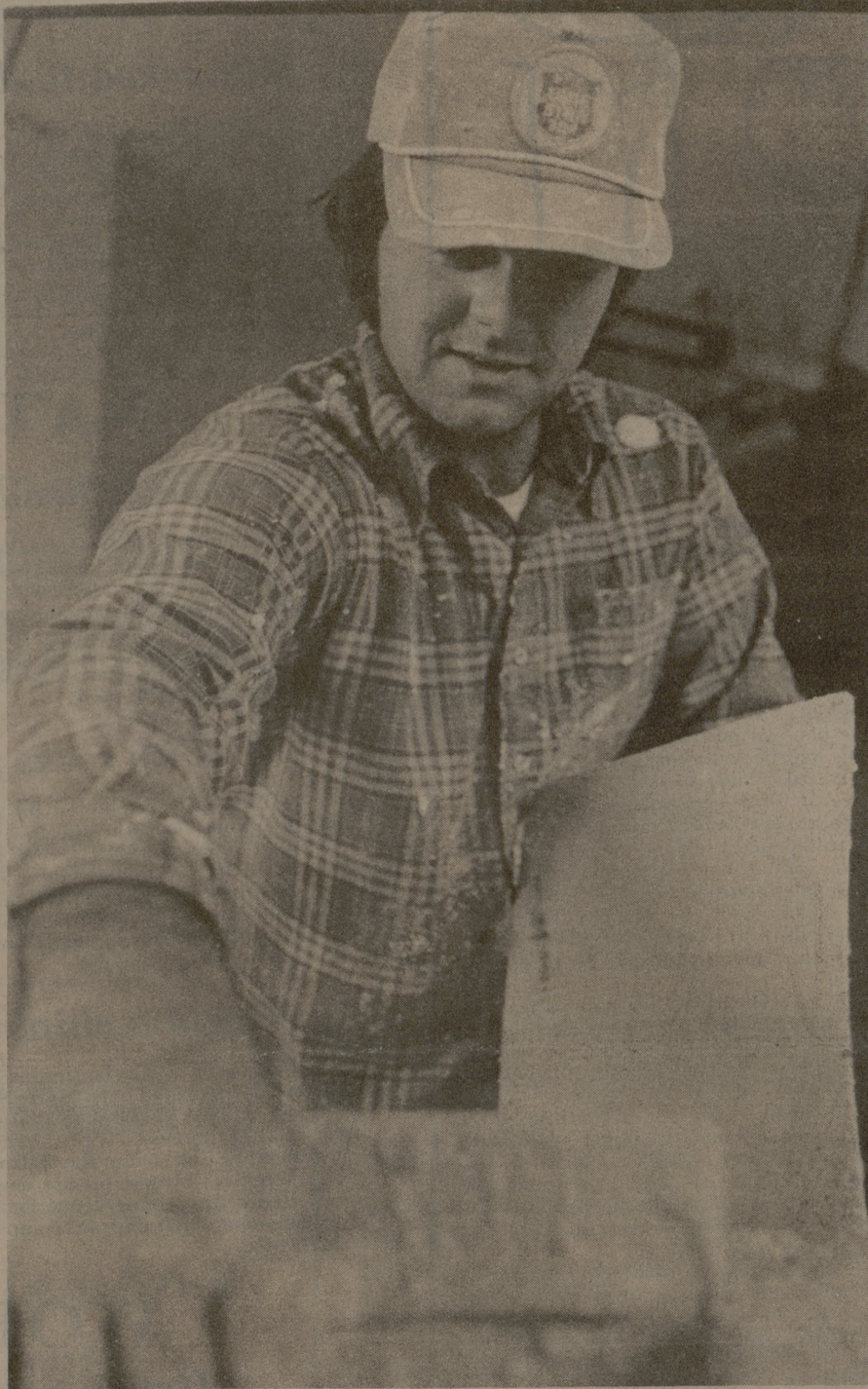
Other parts of the residence hall which are being renovated are the lounge and the bathrooms.

The lounge will occupy the basement and the living quarters will be on the other three floors, Sasse said.

The renovation of the lounge will involve purchasing new furniture, providing televisions and constructing three study rooms.

Renovating the community bathrooms will require more work.

"The bathrooms are going to be gutted and redone," Sasse said. The



Battalion photo by Lynn Blanco

Legett Hall, now under construction, is being renovated to house 194 women beginning next fall. Worker Lonnie Lenz is plastering to prepare the dormitory. Additions to the residence hall will include new closets, dressers, desks, doors and windows, and washers and dryers.

new bathrooms will have special accommodations for the handicapped, he said.
The cost for living in Legett Hall

has not yet been determined, Sasse said, but the matter "should be decided within the next couple of months."

Small schools ask for permanent fund

United Press International

AUSTIN — Heads of colleges and universities across the state Wednesday urged legislators to give them a constitutionally dedicated source of money for campus construction if the state's 10-cent property tax is repealed.

Only one person testified in favor of eliminating the state property tax but most witnesses at the Senate Education Committee hearing seemed to assume the tax repeal is a foregone conclusion.

The property tax is under attack in federal court and the committee chairman, Sen. Oscar Mauzy, D-Dallas, said there is little doubt the levy will be declared unconstitutional because of inequities in its collection.

Revenue from the property tax currently is dedicated for construction at state colleges and universities that do not share in proceeds from the Permanent University Fund — a \$1 billion fund that benefits the University of Texas and Texas A&M

University systems.

F.H. McDowell of Commerce, East Texas State University president and chairman of the Council of College Presidents, said if constitutional problems with the property tax can be worked out the Legislature "might wish to consider retention of the existing tax."

Sen. Grant Jones, D-Abilene, said if colleges and universities want revenue from the property tax they must support legislation to eliminate inequities in the collection of the levy.

"Unless you people are willing to support changes in property tax administration you're going to have a worthless provision in the Constitution," Jones said.

McDowell said a majority of colleges that do not benefit from PUF favor putting all UT and Texas A&M components under PUF and establishing a separate fund to finance construction at all other campuses.

Other sources indicated there is still some dissension among the colleges, how-

ever, and predicted the presidents council will make a new recommendation soon.

E.D. Walker, UT system chancellor, said UT supports a proposal by Sen. A. R. Schwartz, D-Galveston, to establish a separate State Higher Education Assistance Fund to provide building funds for other colleges.

The Senate Education Committee sent five bills dealing with repeal of the property tax and possible creation of an alternative fund for college construction to subcommittee for further study.

Mauzy said he will chair the subcommittee and named Jones and Sen. Lindon Williams, D-Houston, to serve on the panel.

Lyle Hamner of Austin, an advocate of senior citizens, testified in favor of repealing the state property tax — a levy that is expected to raise \$48.7 million in 1981.

"With property values doubling in three years in most instances it is fast becoming a very burdensome tax," Hamner said.

Government proposes 43% cut of Amtrak

United Press International

NEW YORK — In a new move to cut the growing Amtrak deficit, Transportation Secretary Brock Adams Wednesday recommended discontinuance of 19 passenger trains that cover 15,700 miles of track or 43 percent of the system.

Congress has 90 legislative days, roughly until May 15, to approve, amend or veto the plan.

If lawmakers agree, Amtrak essentially would be cut back to heavily traveled corridors in the Northeast, out of Chicago and in Southern California, connected by a handful of long-distance trains.

A number of major trains would be junked later this year under the Adams plan, including the popular New York-Montreal Montrealer and service between New York and Kansas City, Chicago and Texas, and Chicago and Florida.

The cuts include the Washington-New Orleans Crescent, which Amtrak takes over from the Southern Railway System Thursday.

Adams said the Montrealer and the Crescent almost were included in the system, but in the final analysis "fell off the edge" because they did not have enough ridership and were not performing a necessary social service as was the Chicago-Seattle Empire Builder that was included because other forms of travel were not readily available.

Adams said if state legislatures want to help fund passenger trains under a 50-50 federal matching program, he would be willing to ask the White House and Congress for more than the \$552 million he recommends for fiscal 1980, but the federal government can no longer subsidize big money-losing trains.

Adams said the federal subsidy for Am-

trak would rise to \$6 billion over the next five years, but his proposed out-of-pocket system would trim that subsidy by \$1.4 billion.

Congressional reaction to the plan was uncertain, especially in the climate of frugality and budget cutting in Congress now. Adams said he had indications from key congressmen that they would be willing to lose their trains if other congressmen were not granted "political trains."

Roughly half of all congressional districts would be affected by the report and five more states would be left without any

passenger service — Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Alabama and Vermont. Five states previously had no service — Alaska, Hawaii, South Dakota, New Hampshire and Maine.

Remaining in operation would be all current heavily traveled corridors, all trains subsidized partly by states and routes between New York and Florida, New York and Chicago (two routes), Chicago and Seattle, Chicago and New Orleans, Chicago and Los Angeles and San Francisco (splitting at Ogden, Utah), New Orleans and Los Angeles, and Los Angeles and Seattle.

Man can't find creditor, wants to pay 50-year debt

United Press International

INDIANAPOLIS — Paul Miller wants to pay for a suit he purchased on credit in the 1920s. But nobody knows where to send the money.

Miller bought the suit from the Union Store, which is believed to have gone out of business around 1930. He has written the Better Business Bureau from his home at San Angelo asking how to pay.

Janet Atkinson, Indianapolis BBB president, wrote back that the BBB had no information about the store and she didn't know how he could pay off the debt.

Miller said one week after he bought the suit, he was laid off his job and he returned to his hometown without making payment. He said he still remembered the debt and felt obligated to make good on it.

"I've been ashamed of it all my life and I didn't know what to do about it," Miller said in a telephone interview. "I just got the urge to find out something to pay a just debt and I don't want any publicity about it."

The BBB said the debt was probably written off many years ago and doubted Miller had any legal obligation to pay it.



Battalion photos by Jeanne Graham

A familiar sight on, near or around the Quad is drilling corps members. John Jankovich, above right, teaches Linda South drill steps. Left, the Women's Drill Team drills in front of the Quad.

Committee formed to review, advise on problems women find in the Corps

By DIANE BLAKE
Battalion Staff

Continued treatment of women Corps members "unbecoming of a cadet" by men of the Corps has led to the formation of a committee to study the problem.

The group, designed to study problems relating to women in the Corps, was appointed this month by Corps Commander Bob Kamensky. Kamensky said that the five-man, three-woman group will deal with problems caused by both men and women and make recommendations for solutions.

A report is due in late spring, before Parents Day, said Col. James R. Woodall, commandant of the Corps of Cadets.

Lt. Gen. Ormond R. Simpson, assistant vice president for student services, said in November in a report to Texas A&M President Jarvis E. Miller, "There are some things we should have done about problems we thought would dissolve by time and turnover of personnel... we must find ways to accelerate the process."

Simpson's report suggested forming the committee.

Fifty-four of the 2,100 cadets are women. They have complained about a variety of inequities ranging from bombings of their spirit signs to discrimination in leadership opportunities.

Some men have acted unbecomingly toward a cadet toward a woman," said Bob Kamensky, corps commander. "It's mostly verbal abuse, and the slighting of privileges. For instance, some seniors

have refused to meet or acknowledge the existence of the Waggies."

Col. James R. Woodall, commandant of the Corps of Cadets, said that refusing to whip out to the Waggies was "a gross violation of an Aggie tradition."

Kamensky said some of the mistreatment of the women was due to oversights on the part of the male leadership. For example, until this year, the sign-up sheets for Corps committees were posted in men's dorms.

Kamensky said that it did not even

occur to the male leaders that women could not sign up there until it was brought to their attention. "Now all sign-up sheets are posted in the guard room," he said.

Some of the women feel the problem is more serious than insults or oversights.

Aside from the bombs, the women said pig manure has been dumped in their dormitory, and that they've been insulted and spat upon.

Kamensky said bomb-throwers and

those who are disrespectful are punished — when they are caught.

The women admit they aren't the only Corps members who are the objects of pranks.

"Basically, everything that happens to us, happens to the men," said Cheryl Abbot, junior economics and pre-law major. "But it happens to us all the time."

Kamensky said some women have caused problems for themselves by not

(continued on page 9).

