

Brazos assistant DA hired

District Attorney Travis Bryan III announced Wednesday that Jim W. James, 24, has been hired as the new assistant district attorney of Brazos County. James has just received his law degree from the University of Texas in Austin. James will be sworn in and start work on Thursday.

STATE

Farmers march to Austin

Saying they can't afford tractors to drive to Washington, 10 members of the Texas Farm Workers Union continued a 43-day march to Austin from Lubbock in hopes of dramatizing their desire for collective bargaining rights. The marches are protesting the failure of the last Legislature to pass the Agriculture Labor Relations Act, which would have granted such rights. The group began its fifth day in a 10-degree early-morning chill.

INS asked to delay deportation

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, said Wednesday he has asked the Immigration and Naturalization Service commissioner in Washington to delay deportation proceeding against 553 Mennonite immigrants who seek permanent residence in Texas. Two Mennonite colonies emigrated to West Texas in February 1977, one from Manitoba, Canada, seeking cheap land, and another from Cuauhtemuc, Mexico, fleeing religious persecution and threatened land expropriation. The Mennonites used tourist cards to enter the country but assumed a \$2.6 million investment in land and farm machinery would qualify them for permanent status.

NATION

Farmers head to Washington

Three thousand farmers, wanting a voice in farm policy, headed from Columbus, Ohio, toward Washington Wednesday in their CB-equipped tractors decorated with American flags and protest signs. The 25-mile-long tractorcade is sponsored by the American Agriculture Movement. The farmers hope to arrive in Washington this weekend and meet President Carter, but they do not have an appointment with him. Kansas farmer Lyle Davidson said farmers are asking for 90 percent parity.

N.Y. City seeks federal aid again

New York City re-entered the public money market Tuesday — the first time since the fiscally troublesome days of March 1975. However, Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal is pessimistic about the city's receiving federal aid as it is seeking to close its budget gap. Comptroller Harrison Goldin formally closed the \$125 million offering of city notes, the first successful sale of city securities in the public credit markets in nearly four years. The notes will pay investors 8 percent on June 29.

Virginia shipbuilders picketed

An estimated 1,000 boisterous but orderly striking steelworkers Wednesday picketed outside the Newport News Shipbuilding Co. in Virginia. USWA Local 8888 President Wayne Crosby said he feels the strike is a success. "We're keeping the people out and we're doing it peacefully," he said of the walkout. The strike was staged to pressure Virginia's biggest private employer to recognize the steelworkers as the bargaining agent for 15,500 blue collar workers. The management of the shipyard company has refused to bargain with the steelworkers.

WORLD

Italian premier resigns

Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti submitted his minority Christian Democratic government's resignation to President Sandro Pertini Wednesday, saying it was unable to continue without support from the powerful Communists. Andreotti turned in his cabinet's resignation to Pertini at the presidential Quirinale Palace after an emergency cabinet meeting. The Communists with 1.8 million members, the largest Marxist party in the West, pulled out of the government's parliamentary majority Friday, making the Andreotti government resignation inevitable.

Iran's army kills more protestors

Army units loyal to the shah staged a massive show of strength in Tehran Wednesday on the eve of the return from exile of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, architect of the year-old protests that forced the monarch to leave the country two weeks ago. Two more protesters were killed and at least 24 others wounded by troops of the imperial bodyguard armed with a formidable array of tanks, armored personnel carriers, automatic weapons, mortars, recoilless rifles and anti-tank guns. Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar — the man Khomeini scorned and threatened to oust upon his return — again warned in a radio interview that he would resist any move to topple his government.

WEATHER

Cloudy with a chance of rain Thursday. High Thursday upper 40s. Low early Friday upper 30s.

THE BATTALION

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Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.
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Reflections

Kim T. ...

Time for action — now

The "Waggies."

Letters have poured in regularly to the Battalion office since one woman cadet complained about their lack of representation in many of the Corps of Cadets' special units. Since then a lot has been written in the letters section of *The Battalion*, both pro and con, on the "Waggies" and the situation they face as members of the Corps.

LAST SEMESTER I received a phone call — a call that gave me a view of the kind of enemy the women in the Corps are facing.

My call came at 2:30 a.m., a time when you'd think a caller should expect anything but a decent reply. The caller said there was something going on at the Bonfire site, a number of people were upset and I ought to see what was happening.

Curious, I decided to go.

It was freezing outside; the Bonfire site was alive with crews working on last touches of the fire built each year to represent all Aggie's "burning spirit." This seemed rather ironic to me later.

From the Bonfire stack I heard someone call down, "Go home Waggies, get out of here."

A group of about 20 "Waggies" were upset, sitting on a log in protest. Why were they so upset?

It seems they'd cut a log for Bonfire to go on the stack just like other Corps units cut to specially represent them on the fire. But those in charge of the Bonfire had refused to put the women's log up. They said it didn't belong on the stack.

INSIGNIFICANT, you might say. Why should anyone get so upset about a log?

It's because it represented the real enemy of the women in the Corps — the attitude "you don't belong."

From the comments I heard that night and since, it's a very frustrating feeling when you try to do your part, join in and have people refuse to recognize your right to be there.

This frustration stems from acts like finding an obscene note on your door, having to guard your dormitory against pig manure attacks, hearing rude remarks when you pass to go to dinner, or passing lowerclassmen who refuse to recognize you as one of their Corps peers.

BUT THIS REJECTION is nothing new — it's happened long before the "Melanie Zentgraf" letter stirred a number of readers to come out for or against "Waggies" or their membership in certain Corps organizations.

The question Zentgraf raised was treatment of the women in the Corps. Should "Waggies" have to take this attitude — be excluded?

She asked why they weren't allowed in the Aggie Band, Ross Volunteers and Parson's Mounted Cavalry — all showpieces of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets.

The Band is housed together and says it can't accommodate them; RVs are selected from previous members who haven't chosen to include a "Waggie;" the Cavalry is supposedly modeled after the traditional cavalry, yet officials say they don't exclude other minorities not in the original cavalry.

Some say "If you don't like it, just get out."

SO WHAT'S IT going to take to make things right with the "Waggies" — to make them happy? Some women in the Corps say they don't care to join these Corps organizations, they just want to be treated like human beings.

Others say they just want a fair chance to be a part of some of the more prestigious Corps units.

The Corps staff says changes will just take time.

Well it's been five years now, and "Waggies" are still putting up with this brand of treatment.

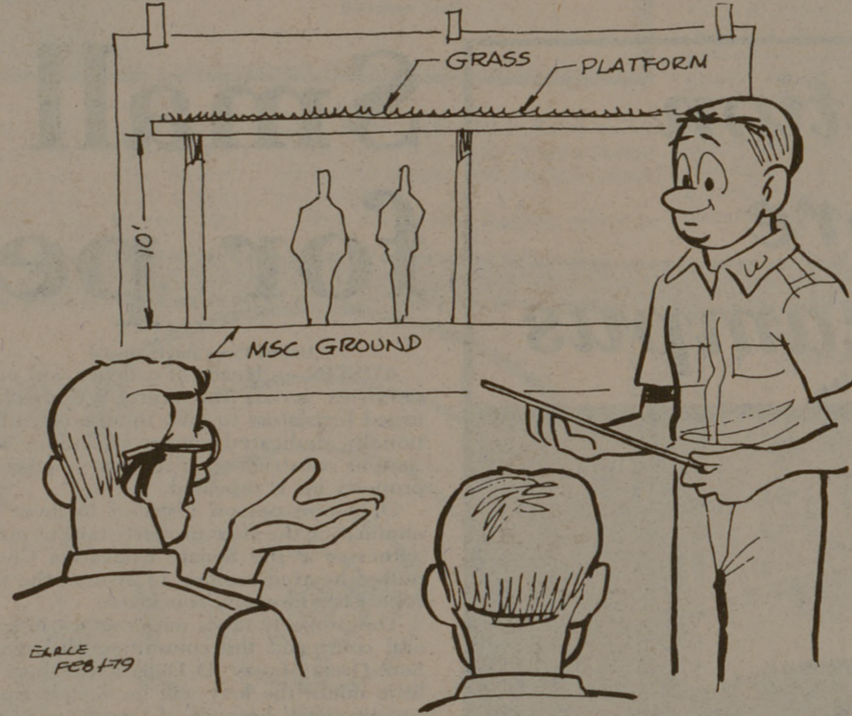
A special Corps committee including women has been organized recently by the University administration to study their problems. However, the effectiveness of this group has yet to be seen. This committee should make decisions before the university must take the matter into its own hands.

Is it going to take a lawsuit much like the one that let women into the school to settle it?

The women have heard enough talk — they deserve some action.

Slouch

by Jim Earle



"BUT HOW DO WE KEEP THEM FROM CLIMBING ON TOP AND WALKING ON THE GRASS?"

Teng's visit to U.S. — take it sweet or sour

By DAVID S. BRODER

WASHINGTON — As anyone who has met him can testify, Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping is a politician whose personality easily transcends the barriers of language and nationality. For that very reason, his visit here this week is both a prize and a problem for President Carter.

Teng is a tiny man who easily dominates a roomful of people two heads taller. Whether joking about his non-stop smoking habits (Joe Califano, beware!) or discussing on the Soviet danger, he is a compelling figure.

An American who knows him well compares him to Richard J. Daley. Like the late mayor of Chicago, Teng is a master of his own bureaucracy and a man whose instinct for the use of power is so clear that it exerts a gravitational pull on anyone who comes into his orbit.

He has impressed virtually every American who has seen him in Peking, and it is absolutely predictable that he will have that effect on the American public during his visit this week.

In that sense, he really is a prize for Carter's diplomacy. Simply by being the direct, powerful — and recognizably political — man he is, Teng will put flesh and blood into the abstract concept of "normalization."

And unless all the advance signals are wrong, Teng's comments on the Taiwan question will tend to reassure those critics of "normalization" who fear an imminent Communist move to annex or subjugate the island. His visit should help, not hinder, acceptance of Carter's decision.

Why, then, does one have to say there is also an element of danger for Carter in Teng's visit? Because there is a fierce tendency in both the American press and public to romanticize or glorify a new figure — and what he represents — into something he and it cannot really be.

Specifically, there is a danger of converting Teng into the ruler of a powerful, friendly country, with whom the United States can build a beautiful future. That notion is wrong — probably dangerously wrong.

First of all, Teng is not the ruler of China. He is the current dominant figure in the intricate court politics of Peking, a shrewd survivor who has, for now, managed to outwit both his nominal superior,

Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, and the Maoist ideologues who are an important part of the party cadres. But he is 74 years old, and he is in a frantic race to produce enough tangible results from his pragmatic program of economic development to secure his own position and strengthen his allies' prospects for succession.

Second, while China is obviously a great power in terms of population, it is, in most other respects, a backward nation, struggling still to feed itself and desperately short of the capital it needs for modernization. There are important inherent limits on the role it can play in the next two decades in either the world balance of power or the commerce and diplomacy of the United States.

Third, while there are important areas of common interest between the United States and China — in both the economic and political realms — there are also clear areas of divergence.

Obviously, Chinese communism does not meet the standards of internal freedom by which Carter has chosen to classify the nations of the world. More pertinent, the Chinese view of the international order is not one the United States wishes to — or can afford to — adopt.

Chinese doctrine holds that war is inevitable between the Soviet Union and America. Peking's interest is not to prevent that confrontation, but only to see that the United States is heavily enough armed not to lose too easily.

The Chinese view as darkly as any dihard Cold Warrior the prospects of detente or arms agreements between the United States and Russia.

Because the Soviets have a paranoia about China as great as China's about the Soviet Union, it is imperative that the hospitality for Teng be expressed by Carter and his associates in ways that make it clear that the United States is not accepting Teng's view of great-power relations.

Indeed, without being inhospitable, Carter and Co. must make it plain that our relations with China are not — and cannot be — of the same degree of importance as our relations with the Soviet Union.

That is tricky business, especially when Teng's personality and the media magnification will conspire to make this the most sensational foreign visit to America in many a year.

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Letters to the Editor

Creationists' theory should be taught

Editor:

As shown in last Thursday night's debate, creationists have stopped pounding the pulpit and started synthesizing the sciences. As a result, the theory of creation is now a scientifically viable, academically equitable theory which should be taught in the classroom.

For those who are concerned about the separation of church and state as it relates to freedom of thought and religion, I hasten to point out that such will not be attained UNTIL the creation theory is taught in the classroom.

What freedom is there when a system of administrators prejudicially excludes one of two philosophically and academically acceptable world views from the classroom? A person's choice of religion is predicated by the world view he or she accepts, yet no choice has been offered or even acknowledged in the classroom. Instead of a choice, students have been fed a naturalistic world view which claims that time, chance, and matter are the sole components of our universe. This has resulted in an intimidating, discriminatory situation which actively discourages belief in a supernaturalistic world view.

According to the ruling in the Scopes monkey trial, any view of recognizable academic merit has the right to contend for acceptance in the classroom's "arena of truth." The creation theory has academic merit. Textbooks, teacher's guides and other sources of material which teach both theories on a comparative and non-religious basis are readily available.

To continue to exclude the creation theory from the classroom would not only violate the ruling handed down in the Scopes trial, it would also constitute a most hypocritical departure from scholastic ethics.

Freedom of thought and religion may be elusive goals, but we will make no further progress toward achieving these goals until both theories are given an equal chance in the classroom and the students are left with the decision about which to believe.

Anyone who wishes to discuss this matter may contact me at 845-3897.
— Fallon Foster, '80

Good days, and bad

Editor:

This letter is aimed at the person who took my billfold from my warm-up suit in the locker room at the pool Tuesday night. This is the second semester for me to be an Aggie, and during that time I have had nothing but good experiences with the school, faculty and most of all the student body.

Until I crossed "your" path, that is. Even a person such as you cannot blemish a school as great as Texas A&M.

By the way, the reason you found no money is because of the fact that I am broke. I cannot replace the I.D. card, the credit cards are canceled, and you also got phone numbers of friends that are invaluable to me. Please be compassionate enough to return it to either the intramural office or the Memorial Student Center desk.

—Todd Hill, graduate student

No place for 'Wags'

Editor:

This note is directed towards Mr. Brock and the other four CTs who feel the same way he does. No matter how one looks at it, the Waggies have no place in the Corps. Sure, women are important assets to the military and definitely have a place (which includes respect), so why can't they simply attend school here and wear their uniforms whenever going to military classes?

Don't get me wrong, women are probably the best thing that ever happened to the University and definitely nothing better has happened to mankind, but there are some places where they absolutely do not belong.

After all, I seriously doubt I would be totally welcome in a garden club or a quilt circle. Call me a male chauvinist or what you will, but I feel women are to be treated with respect and gentleness and shouldn't want to compete with men, try to dress like men, and "act" like men.

What are the Waggies trying to prove?

Sure, they've shown everyone they can take it, but when they secretly cry because of abuse (I hope some of them did) shouldn't they throw in the towel and try to see the message behind it all?

A Waggie in the Cavalry, in the Aggie Band, the Ross Volunteers?
I sincerely hope I don't live to see such disasters.

Texas A&M is a military school, but ultimately an institution of tradition where Wags have no place. Waggies in boots? No.
Girls in Fowler? Yes.
—Bob Williams, '81

Questions, anyone?

Have a question about University policies or procedures? The Battalion has a reader's letter section to give students more access to the newspaper and the University. Address questions to "Talk with Dr. Miller," The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald. Names and phone numbers are required on all questions and President Miller has the option to decline to answer a question or request others on the staff or faculty to answer it.

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