

THE BATTALION

Vol. 72 No. 103
12 Pages

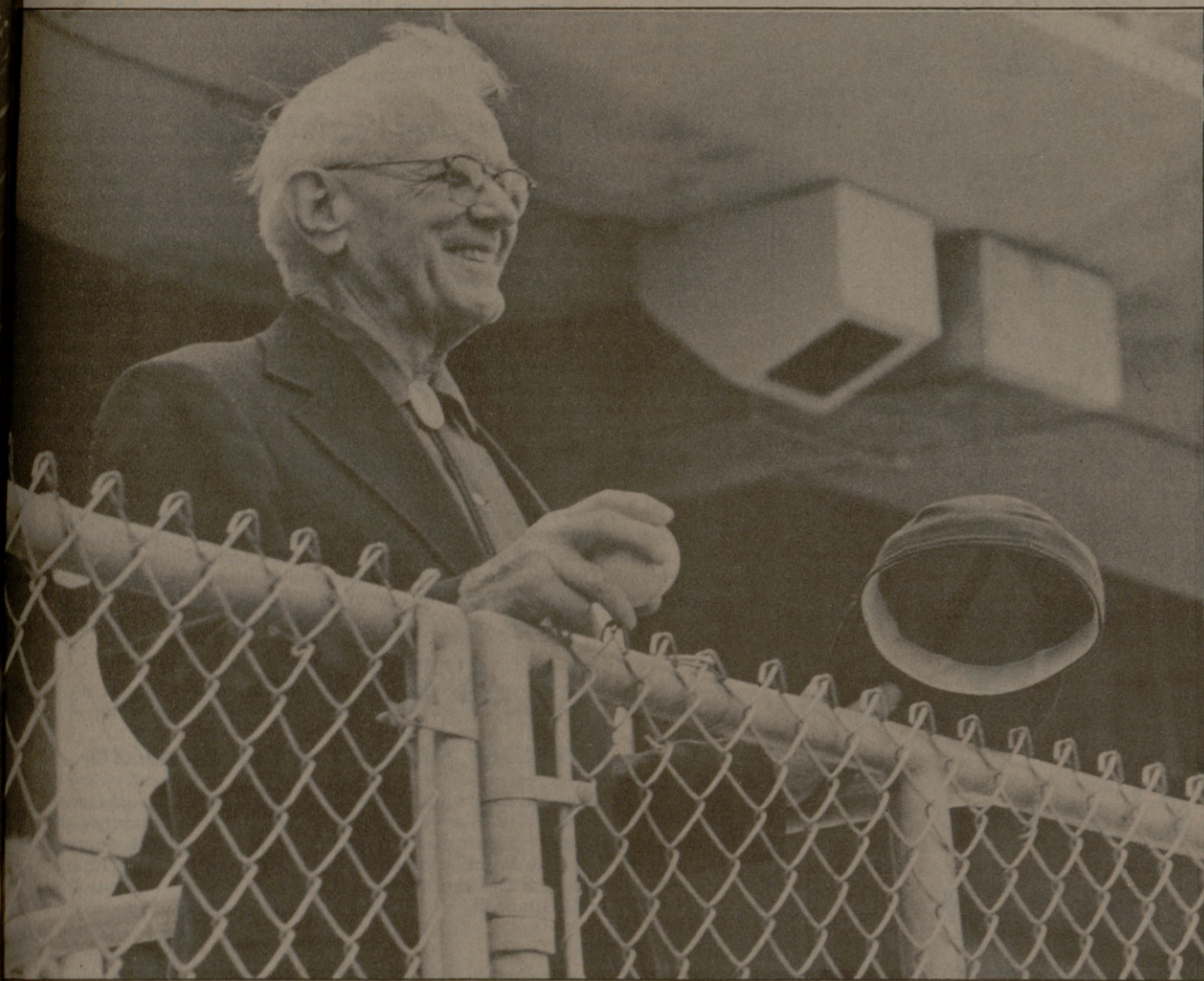
Friday, February 23, 1979
College Station, Texas

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

He's a lumberjack

About 250 Aggies in natural resources disciplines will compete March 3 in log rolling, pole climbing, crosscut sawing, ax throwing and other lumberjack's activities in

something called Skidadoo. No one knows where the name comes from, though Forestry Club President Kent Colburn says, "it is a catchy word." See page 6.



Play ball!

Only they didn't. C.E. "Pat" Olsen, for whom the Aggies' stadium is named, threw out the ball to open Texas A&M's 1979 baseball season, but the scheduled exhibition game against Japan's Hosei

University was canceled because of wet grounds. Texas A&M will play LSU at Olsen Field Saturday at 1 p.m.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leshper Jr.

Vietnam inflicts massive casualties

United Press International

Thousands of Chinese invaders and seasoned Vietnamese regulars clashed today in the heaviest fighting of the week-long war. Vietnam said it had blunted two Chinese attacks, killing 1,000 Chinese. China claimed Vietnam has refused to talk peace.

Radio Hanoi claimed that heavy fighting drove China's casualty toll over 12,000. It said 14 battalions have been badly mauled and 140 tanks and armored cars destroyed. Today's reports would push the reported casualties to 13,000.

Radio Moscow, monitored in Tokyo, said today hundreds of Chinese air force planes arrived near the Sino-Vietnamese border while a bridge to aid Chinese reinforcements equipped with heavy firearms was built near Lao Cai over the Red River, which flows from China past Hanoi.

There were also reports that Vietnam had shelled China's Kwangsi province just northeast of Vietnam with 130-mm artillery fire and that the Chinese were organizing militia groups of 18 to 35-year-olds in Kwangsi.

Vietnam's Defense Minister Vo Nguyen Giap said today in a radio report monitored in Bangkok, Thailand, that even if the Chinese widen the war Vietnam will win and he thanked the Soviet Union for "defense support and assistance."

The Japanese Kyodo news service said the official Chinese paper, People's Daily, said Hanoi has refused to talk peace with Peking. The paper quoted the Voice of Vietnam as the source for Hanoi's refusal to negotiate.

The dispatch was the first official Peking report admitting the Chinese invaded

Vietnam. It claimed the Chinese action was supported by public opinion in Thailand and Pakistan.

Radio Moscow, monitored in Tokyo, said that according to news agency reports the Chinese plan to expand the battle front and advance deeper into Vietnam. Chinese forces are now 12 miles into Vietnam engaged in the heaviest fighting of the war across a 96-mile belt of the 450-mile border between the two Communist nations.

Radio Moscow said Chinese forces plundered residents, destroyed economic establishments and killed civilians. It said the heaviest battles were around Lang Son, some 15 miles inside Vietnam, in what has been shaping as a major battle of the conflict.

Radio Hanoi, monitored in Bangkok, said said Vietnamese infantry and artillery wiped out more than 500 enemy soldiers at Lang Son, a vital rail junction, where regular Vietnamese troops have reportedly joined the fight. Previously, Chinese forces had encountered only local Vietnamese militia forces numbering perhaps 80,000.

Intelligence sources in Bangkok suggested the commitment of regular troops to the fight is just what the Chinese have been waiting for.

The best Western estimates are that China has now committed 90,000 troops to the war while holding slightly more than that in reserve. Vietnam has about 50,000 battle-hardened regulars between the Chinese invasion force and Hanoi.

Japanese news agencies quoted Chinese officials in Peking as saying China's "punitive" attack against Vietnam was not yet finished.

The Soviet Union continued to mount military pressure on Peking by dispatching three more ships to the South China Sea. The United States, reflecting growing concern over possible Soviet intervention in the fighting, called an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council.

The New York Times reported that Moscow had begun a limited airlift of military supplies to the Vietnamese.

Chinese officials in Peking were quoted as saying the invasion would continue "until Vietnam feels pain."

U.S. urges U.N. to 'defuse' Asia

United Press International

UNITED NATIONS — Strongly opposed by the Soviet Union and China, the United States urged today that the U.N. Security Council give its full attention to the rapidly developing threat of a major war in Indochina.

Britain, Norway, Portugal and Japan formally joined the U.S. move for U.N. action to defuse the new Asian powderkeg and a number of nonaligned nations indicated approval of any neutral effort to calm the situation.

In a separate initiative, U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim offered his "good offices" to all involved parties and announced through a spokesman he would go to the area if necessary.

U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young returned to New York yesterday for what promised to be a long and hard diplomatic battle.

In his absence, Deputy Ambassador James F. Leonard took the first step with ambassadors from Britain, Norway and Portugal, to request a full debate of both the Chinese invasion of Vietnam and the

earlier Soviet-backed Vietnamese move into Cambodia.

The council held a first 20-minute round of informal consultations late Thursday, then adjourned for another closed-door meeting this morning to give time to some delegations to get in touch with their governments.

The United States and its supporters pressed for a public debate to begin this afternoon and likely to last throughout next week.

Leonard said at a news conference both the Chinese and Soviets had told him "it was not desirable to take up the matter in the council."

Leonard said the United States had not yet prepared a resolution, but indicated it would follow the usual council pattern in case of existing hostilities: "To ask that the fighting stops and also to ask that troops that are on some sort of foreign soil should be withdrawn from foreign soil."

Leonard emphasized, however, that such an appeal would only be a "first step" to be followed by a "more serious and profound consideration of the whole problem."

House owners to be presumed guilty

City Council outlaws meter tampering

By KEVIN HIGGINBOTHAM
Battalion Reporter

The College Station City Council passed an ordinance Thursday to prohibit tampering with electrical and water meters.

"This ordinance addresses a problem I think is epidemic in College Station, and it is continual," City Attorney Neeley Lewis said.

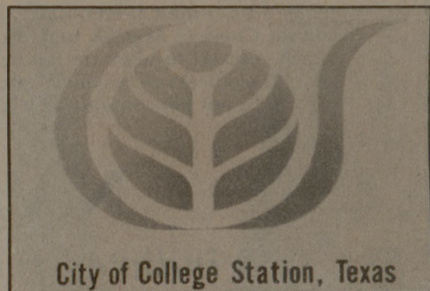
Lewis said that the owner or occupant of a home with a tampered meter will be fined unless he can prove otherwise. "We have no way as a prosecutor to find the culprit otherwise," Lewis said.

Under the ordinance meter tampering will be considered a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not exceeding \$200 for each act of the violation.

Mayor Lorence Bravenec expressed concern that people who "technically violate" the ordinance may be prosecuted. Lewis assured the council that the ordinance is aimed at those who are willfully attempting to steal utilities.

The council also approved standards to be used in reviewing Rehabilitation Grant applications.

"I think these are a superior set of standards than those first presented to the council," said Community Development



City of College Station, Texas

Planner Jim Callaway, who suggested them.

A committee will be formed to review applications submitted for the grant money. It will be made up of representatives from the structural standards committee, from the area in which the rehabilitation will take place and from the community at large, such as a member of the clergy.

The committee will have some options when reviewing the applications for the housing repair grants. The options allow the committee to stretch the income limits and the amount of the grants by 10 percent in borderline cases. The grants are

awarded according to the applicant's income level and the condition of the home to be repaired.

The city has budgeted \$50,000 for the housing rehabilitation program. The money is surplus street repair funds received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1977.

Callaway said the money was to originally be used to pave Detroit Street, which falls within one of the four areas slated for repair grants.

Under the adopted procedures, Callaway estimated that eight to 12 grants of a maximum \$5,000 each could be awarded.

Although the grant program is currently limited to the \$50,000 budget, Callaway is optimistic more HUD funding will be available to continue the project.

"I think we've made some earnest efforts to meet the HUD requirements for Community Development funding," said Callaway. "If the rehabilitation program is acceptable, I think we'll get the funds."

Callaway stressed that the grant money would not be used for "purely cosmetic improvements" such as painting, but for major repairs such as repairing leaky roofs and faulty electrical wiring.

According to Callaway, applications for the grants will be accepted in the near future, but a committee will not be selected until the next council meeting in two weeks.

Announcements will be made in the local media to publicize the grants, Callaway said.

The council approved bids totalling \$362,600 to Westinghouse Electric Supply Company for the expansion of the Gulf States Utilities' switching station.

In other business the council chose a new city logo to be used on city vehicles and other property.

The council selected the logo Bravenec called "the teapot one" from a group of five.

The mayor said he didn't like any of the choices and voted against the one selected because it was "too complex."

Scalped ticket holders lose again — now in refund process

By PEGGY C. McCULLEN
Battalion Reporter

Those who bought tickets second-hand for Boston's canceled rock show got scalped twice.

In addition to paying more than the original price for the tickets, they are losing money when they collect refunds. The box office only returns the list price.

Kevin Martin, a local high school student, paid \$20 apiece for second row concert tickets. He bought them from a scalper who was selling them to the highest bidder.

On the night of the cancellation, Martin took his date to C. Rollie White Coliseum and sat outside listening to a Boston tape in his car.

Martin will receive only \$16 in refund for the two tickets, making his loss \$24 — the list price of three reserve tickets.

Town Hall, the group which booked the concert, sells a number of tickets at the first of each fiscal year. These allow their owners to purchase tickets to events a week before they are on sale to the general public.

Many scalpers use season tickets to ob-

tain choice seats. They may legally sell the tickets to any buyer at any price.

In the case of cancellation of the event, it is up to the scalper whether he returns the money to the buyer. Most scalpers do not possess such generosity.

A count taken Thursday night indicated that 5,360 refunds had been made. About 8,200 tickets were sold, said Debbie Murray, who sold tickets to the concert when they went on sale almost a month ago.

The MSC box office will give refunds up to six months following the cancellation date.

Gas supply cuts could limit station hours

United Press International

Phillips Petroleum Co. in Bartlesville, Okla., and Shell Oil Co. in Houston both have announced cuts in gasoline supplies effective March 1.

Phillips said it will trim supplies to wholesale retailers by 15 percent — on top of a 10 percent reduction made Feb. 1 — and Shell said its refinery run will be cut by 5 to 8 percent.

Phillips said the reduction, which is likely to force some service stations to limit hours of operation, is not directly related to the cutoff of Iranian oil, but stemmed from additional cuts made "on a month-to-month basis."

Shell Vice President J.H. Denike said his company normally refines about 1 million barrels of crude oil a day, of which 45

percent is purchased from foreign suppliers.

"Shell was not a major purchaser of Iranian crude, but the Iranian production shutdown has caused those who use Iranian crude to start buying from other producing countries," he said. "We have seen a cutback in the availability of refined products that we normally can purchase from others in the U.S. and abroad."

"Therefore, in the interim, our refineries will operate at a maximum production limited only by crude availability, which we estimate will mean a 5 to 8 percent reduction."

Phillips officials blamed higher than expected demands for gasoline for its reduction.

Mexicans praise Portillo for negotiating with force

United Press International

MEXICO CITY — Legislators Thursday praised the stand taken by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo during his talks with President Carter, saying "for the first time in many years, Mexico negotiated with moral and political force" before its giant northern neighbor.

In statements published in Mexico City newspapers, Mexican legislators from two different parties praised the Mexican president.

"Without triumphalism and without arrogance, it can be affirmed that the results (of the talks) were satisfactory," said deputy Julio Zamora Batiz, of the ruling Revolutionary Institutional Party.

"Carter left Mexico empty-handed and for the first time in many years our country negotiated from a position of moral and political force before the growing weakness of Yankee imperialism," said deputy Hector Ramirez Cuellar of the Popular Socialist Party.

Partial solar eclipse to be seen Monday, but direct viewing of it could hurt eyes

By LORI MAYER
Battalion Reporter

A partial eclipse of the sun will occur next Monday and Texas A&M University's physics department will be prepared for it.

The department will set up telescopes near the physics building, the Memorial Student Center and Zachry Engineering Center, says Dr. Claud H. Lacy, assistant professor of physics. Another telescope will be placed on the west campus.

The telescopes will not allow direct viewing of the eclipse but will project the image on a screen.

"People shouldn't view this directly," Lacy said. "We don't want anyone burning his retina looking at it with sunglasses or something."

The Texas Society to Prevent Blindness recommends indirect viewing as the only safe way to watch the eclipse. If students cannot make it to the telescope sites, they can make their own "pinhole" viewer and watch the eclipse safely.

The pinhole method uses two pieces of white cardboard. A hole should be made in one of the pieces. With the sunlight at the viewer's back, the pieces of cardboard with the hole should be held so the light shining through the hole is focused on the second board. The image of the eclipse will be seen on the second board.

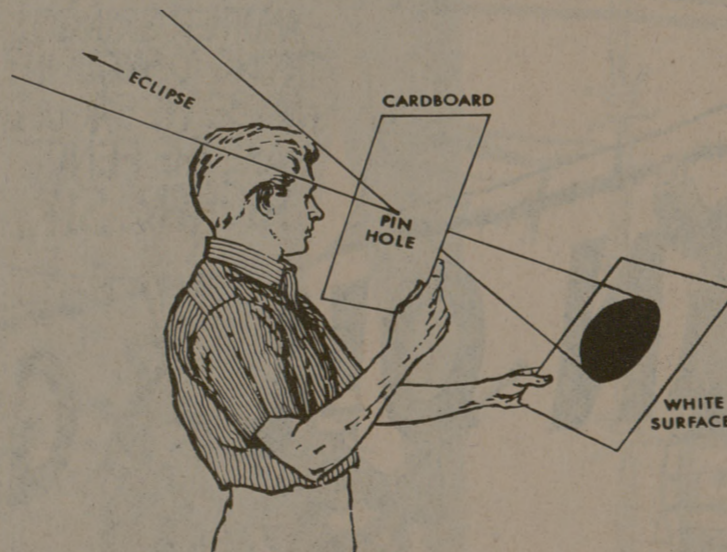
The physics department will be using 6-inch reflecting telescopes with an aperture stopped down to 1.5 or 2 inches. The eyepiece will project the image onto the screen.

"We should be able to see sunspots as well as the moon," Lacy said. Sunspots, which grow stronger and fade in 11-year cycles, are at a high right now.

The eclipse will be total in the northwestern United States and in some parts of Canada. The last total eclipse was March 7, 1970, according to the Texas Society to Prevent Blindness.

Sunglasses, smoked glass, totally exposed photographic negatives and welder's goggles will not adequately protect the eyes, Prevent Blindness says. Photographers should remember not to look through their viewfinders if pictures are taken of the eclipse.

If it rains, Lacy says, the physics department will do the smart thing. "We'll stay inside."



The Texas Society to Prevent Blindness recommends indirect viewing as the only safe way to watch a solar eclipse. The simplest way is the pinhole method, which uses two pieces of white cardboard. With the sun at his back, the viewer should focus the eclipse through a pinhole in one piece of cardboard onto the other piece. The size of the image can be changed by altering the distance between the sheets.

Courtesy Illustration