

THE BATTALION

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...hotdogs, apple
pie

The field may have been soggy, but the Aggies played ball — finally. And they played well, taking two for two from the LSU Tigers. See page 9.



American vanishes; Iran says arrested

United Press International
TEHRAN — An American and three Britons working in an Iranian desert gas field have vanished after a revolutionary announcement that "four Americans had been arrested" while trying to escape, a company spokesman said today.
A spokesman for the Iranian subsidiary Fluor Corp. of California said the American and three Britons were the only Americans among the 200 workers at the gasification plant near Aghajari, southeast of Ahwaz, one of the main oil cities in southwestern Iran.
They were due to travel to Tehran today for repatriation," said spokesman Shambayati. "When we heard the announcement we tried to contact them by radio from Ahwaz but were told they had already left."
The radio said that "last night four Americans working for a foreign company near Aghajari were arrested while trying to escape. They were handed over to (Ayatollah Khomeini's staff by Islamic revolution fighters."
Shambayati said the non-Iranians due for repatriation were American John Casland and Britons W. Walsh, P. Detrez and Thompson.
The spokesman said that attempts to get confirmation from Khomeini aides in

Tehran and in the area of the reported arrests had proven fruitless.

British embassy officials, meanwhile, tried to secure the release of two British civilian armored school instructors imprisoned at Tehran's grim Ghasr central jail.

Two other Britons detained who have Iranian wives were allowed to leave Tehran for London this morning on a regular British Airways flight.

The government radio originally announced the Britons were being held for "misappropriating national funds," but diplomats indicated two are being questioned about the tanks on which they were giving instruction.

The British community in Iran has dwindled to about 1000 and the American community to some 4,000 since the evacuation ordered after the assault on the embassy. There were once 41,000 Americans in Iran.

In Tehran Sunday, Khomeini said ousted Premier Shapour Bakhtiar has fled the nation, and revolutionary sources announced the formation of commando hunt squads to bring "criminals" back from abroad, including the exiled shah.

Khomeini, the 78-year-old leader of Iran's revolution which ousted Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, gave no details of Bakhtiar's escape, but said simply: "He has fled."

In a talk with a delegation from Lebanon Sunday, the Moslem leader branded Bakhtiar a "criminal" and appealed to foreign governments to hand him back.

He accused Bakhtiar, who eluded a nationwide manhunt, of issuing orders for a massacre. "He himself claimed that nothing was done without his orders," Khomeini said of Bakhtiar.

Bakhtiar's escape may ease a dilemma of Premier Mehdi Bazargan, who in pre-revolutionary days was a close friend of the former premier. Leftwing spokesmen had accused the premier of shielding Bakhtiar's whereabouts.

A spokesman for the revolutionary government said it planned to send the "right kind" of men to bring back the shah from his closely guarded hideout in Morocco.

Only four days before Khomeini was scheduled to retreat to the holy city of Qom, he took the occasion of a meeting with Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Vinogradov to warn foreign powers to keep their hands off Iran.

To stem the exodus of persons fearing more bloodshed, the government said only certain categories would be allowed to leave the country, including those under 18, students at foreign universities and the sick who cannot receive adequate medical treatment in Iran.

Fire hits A&M press

Chancellor's home burns

The old Board of Regents Quarters burned early this morning.
Fire damaged offices of the Texas A&M University Press and the apartment Dr. Mrs. Jack Williams were living in. The chancellor and his wife were not hurt.
The second floor and roof of the structure, which were under renovation, were damaged. No formal cause of the fire has been found, but the College Station fire officials say it started on the north side of the second floor.
Thomas McDonald, chief of University Police, said a University officer and a College Station officer both saw flames coming from the roof of the two-story house on Preston Street about 2:45 a.m.
The University officer, Michael Mueck, broke open the door to the Williams' apartment and told them to evacuate, McDonald said.
They were the only occupants of the house.
McDonald said the College Station Fire Department controlled the fire by about 10:30 this morning.

The Williams are staying in the Memorial Student Center until a new place is found for them, said Howard Vestal, University vice president for business affairs.

"That building is a total loss as far as I can see," Vestal said. Plans for relocation of the Texas A&M University Press are

still undetermined. Offices were on the first floor of the house.

Vestal was unsure how much of the Press' materials were destroyed.

"I'm not too optimistic," he said.
Firemen were able to salvage much of the Williams' personal belongings, moving them to the sidewalk across the street.

Knesset to decide if Begin joins talks

United Press International
Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin said Monday he is not disappointed that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat will not participate in a forthcoming Middle East summit.

"The issues are between the two countries, not the individuals," Begin told a

group of visiting Dutch newsmen.

Begin seemed to imply he would accept President Carter's invitation to attend a summit with Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil, but that the decision rested with his Cabinet. The Cabinet will convene in special session today.

Begin was asked by a reporter whether he was disappointed Sadat would not participate in another summit as he had at Camp David in September; he replied: "No. Why should I be disappointed? It's up to President Sadat to come or not to come."

Asked whether Sadat's participation was necessary, Begin said, "I don't think it's a question of anybody's personal participation. In our country there is a democracy. The government and the Knesset make the decision. In Egypt, of course, President Sadat is the man who makes most of the decisions."
Egyptian sources said Carter's bid to ask only Begin to the negotiations puts the onus on Israel in the Middle East peace negotiations.

MSC Council chief favors electric signs

By LOUIE ARTHUR
Battalion Reporter

The walkway signs in the Memorial Student Center that advertise upcoming events may be replaced by electronic display signs.
Ray Daniels, president of the MSC Council, said the purchase of the new signs is still in the research stages and has not been submitted to the administration for approval.
The signs would be controlled by a small computer with a keyboard and a memory, and would be able to project words, pictures and designs. One control unit could operate up to 16 signs at the same time.
Daniels said purchase of the control unit and two outdoor signs would cost about \$110,000. The system could be leased for \$1,800 per month.
"This will alleviate the cost of the walkway signs for student organizations, since the new service will be free for them," Daniels said.
MSC Council Vice President of Administration Ron Woessner said there is a great demand for the signs. People could buy the space as an alternative to radio and newspaper advertising, he said, and the signs could also be used to advertise athletic events and the food service menus.
The advertising service, offered by American Sign and Indicator Corp., is currently being used by several universities in Texas, including the University of Texas at Austin.
Woessner said he talked to the people at UT about their system, and they are happy with it.
"They have had a few mechanical difficulties but the maintenance service was very good," Woessner said.
The signs, similar to those used in newer football stadiums, are made by companies other than American Sign and Indicator Corp.
Woessner said the University would take bids on the job if the proposal is approved. The University would then accept the lowest bid on the system that meets its specifications.
Daniels said the walkway signs have been presenting problems for the MSC administration, without much benefit.
"People don't take care of the signs," Daniels said. "They are left up for weeks after the events happen. We also are very limited in the amount of storage space we have for the signs."
Daniels said another problem with the walkway signs is painting them. The signs are now painted on the cement apron outside the Former Students Association office and are left there to dry.
"When they return for their signs, many times they find them either gone or run over by a forklift."
Woessner said the new signs would probably be placed near the University Center Complex. The signs will be unbreakable so there should be no problem with vandalism, he said.
Woessner said the cost of the system is justified by the greater revenue that will be generated when more messages reach more people. He added that he is not sure where the money for the electronic signs will come from, but that funding will be decided if the new system is approved.

Teachers upset with Clements

United Press International
AUSTIN — Gov. Bill Clements' decision to eliminate a proposed 5.1 percent teacher pay raise from his budget recommendations proves he does not understand the problems of education and could result in chaos in the public school system, a teacher representative said Monday.

Virginia Allred Stacey, president of the Texas State Teachers Association, said Clements conceded in his budget message that inflation was 9 percent last year and is expected to be the same in 1979.

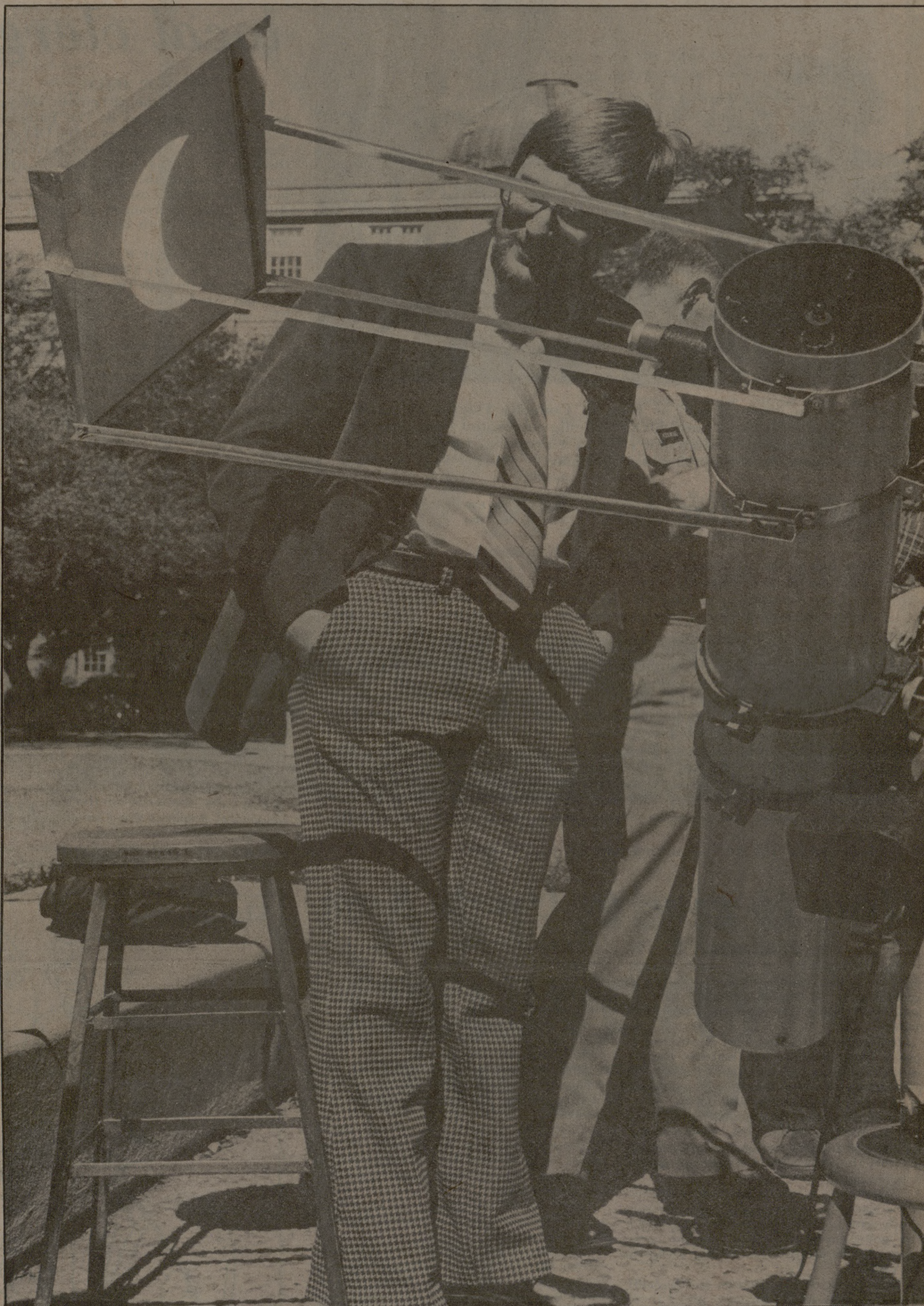
"Yet he eliminated the minimal 5.1 percent annual pay increase proposed by the Legislative Budget Board, saying the teachers already will get lower raises under existing law," she said.

She said TSTA was seeking a 9.8 percent pay raise for teachers in fiscal 1980, and an additional 5.2 percent in 1981.

She said Clements' proposals to limit local school districts' ability to raise local revenue and return state funds to the districts would effectively put caps on both state and local revenue sources.

"Ultimately, we would have poverty and chaos in a school system which is already under financed."

She said Texas teachers in 1977-78 received an average salary of \$12,534 per year, compared to the national average of \$14,247, ranking Texas 31st among the states in teacher pay.



Mooned near the Academic Building

Dr. Claud Lacy, a Texas A&M physics professor, shows passers-by the last solar eclipse to be visible in North America in the 20th Century. The moon began passing in front of the sun Monday just after

sunrise in the eastern Pacific. The moon passed directly between the Earth and sun and reached a total eclipse at 10:09 a.m. CST. Please see related story page 5.
Battalion photo by Jeanne Graham

Mansion narrowly escapes House

Governor avoids showdown

United Press International
AUSTIN — Texas House members have killed their first legislation of the session, and come within a step of handing Republican Gov. Bill Clements his first disappointment in dealing with the Democratic-dominated Legislature.

House members Monday overwhelmingly rejected a proposal by Rep. Forrest Green, D-Corsicana, to make political candidates subject to a \$2,000 fine and one-year jail sentence for advertising endorsements without written consent of the persons involved.

And a resolution initiated by Clements authorizing a study of the restoration of the Governor's Mansion narrowly escaped House defeat, surviving only after a Republican legislator stopped debate on a parliamentary technicality.

Final action on the resolution was delayed until later in the session.

The proposal establishes a committee composed of House and Senate representatives, as well as members appointed by the governor, to study restoration of the mansion. Clements included \$2 million for mansion restoration in the budget he sent to the Legislature.

Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, said Clements' demands for belt-tightening and austerity in state government should be applied first to the mansion, and offered an amendment preventing appropriation of any funds for the mansion project until the general state budget for the next two years is passed and becomes law.

"With \$2 million, at \$40 a square foot we could build four governor's mansions," Wilson said. "I don't think we're talking about a matter of courtesy, we're talking

about a matter of economics and fiscal responsibility."

Rep. Bob Davis, R-Dallas, moved to kill Wilson's amendment but his motion failed.

Rep. James Nowlin, R-San Antonio, then blocked further debate on the resolution, raising a point of order that the proposal was ineligible for House consideration because it had not been channeled through the Local and Consent Calendar Committee.

Speaker Bill Clayton quickly sustained Nowlin's objection, sparing the governor

an embarrassing defeat on a relatively minor issue which had cleared the Senate without objection.

Green said his bill would end the practice of political candidates using the names of prominent constituents in ads claiming their endorsements, when the constituents had not given permission for use of their names.

The bill failed 46-94 on its first House vote, apparently killing it for the session. It is the first bill since the Legislature convened Jan. 9 to reach the floor of either house and then be killed.

Henryetta dance halls take a few steps forward

United Press International
HENRYETTA, Okla. — An ordinance banning all public dancing inside the city limits was replaced Monday night by one prohibiting such activity near schools, churches and taverns and requiring dance halls be licensed.

License fees under the new law range from \$300 to \$500 and city officials decreed no dance hall could be located within 300 feet of any establishment selling alcoholic beverages or 500 feet of a church, school or residential neighborhood where more than 50 percent of the residents object.

The ordinance also requires all buildings used for public dancing be well-

lighted in all rooms and meet health and safety regulations.

Private organizations that operate dances within their own premises for their own members were exempted from the ordinance.

Controversy over the old ordinance arose last summer after a businessman from Eufaula spent several thousand dollars renovating a vacant downtown Henryetta building for use as a discotheque before he learned of the prohibition on dancing.

City officials had said they planned to change the law because they feared the old ordinance might be ruled unconstitutional.