

Jones, Brown join consol board; playground equipment gets OK

By KAREN ROGERS
Battalion Staff

Herman Brown and Ann Jones were sworn in as A&M Consolidated School Board trustees at the meeting Monday night while the future superintendent, Dr. Bruce Anderson, looked on.

Brown is replacing nine-year veteran Lambert Wilkes while Jones is replacing two-year veteran Rodney Hill.

The board also elected new officers: John Reager, president; Elliott Bray, vice president and Jones, secretary.

After several rounds of applause for the departing board members, the new board got down to business.

Playground equipment for South Knoll and College Hills Elementary Schools was a high priority item.

The board approved two playground concepts. The first consists of a jogging track with exercise stations and the second is a "creative play area" with climbing apparatus and tunnels.

Trustee Bruce Robeck warned the board that the money for the equipment is not available at the present and that to supply it the 1979 budget would have to be amended. The playground committee estimates that the project will require \$30,000.

The board also agreed to a \$78,500 settlement in the Lone Star

Gas suit. Lone Star Gas officials disagreed with the methods that the district used to levy and assess ad valorem taxes for the 1975-78 taxing periods, saying that the \$82,629 that the district said it owed was too high.

In other business, the board approved the "concept" of the high school curriculum changes that include additional health courses, English as a second language, pottery and basic guitar.

Brown protested the board's in-

Acting Superintendent Dr. H.R. Burnett informed the board that the district would begin accepting bids for the landscaping project at the Middle School on April 20. Completion of the project is scheduled for June 1.

Queen Cotton title winner A&M senior

Texas A&M University senior Barbara Ann Tatum of Austin was selected Queen Cotton at the 45th annual Cotton Pageant and Ball here Saturday.

Tatum, representing Krueger Hall, won the title over 106 other contestants from throughout the state.

A biomedical sciences major, Tatum is the daughter of Ruth Dannelly of 9713 Cottle in Austin.



Lance's dealings queried

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Bert Lance used his influence with the White House last year to aid two frustrated millionaires who paid an Arab official a \$1.5 million bribe for oil-drilling rights and got little in return, federal investigators have learned.

Sources said details of Lance's dealings at the White House, months after he left office, were disclosed Monday in a lawsuit to be filed in Miami against the two businessmen.

The official they allegedly bribed in a futile attempt to salvage a \$17 million investment later became secretary general of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The two multimillionaire defendants are R. Eugene Holley, 53, a former Georgia state senator and one-time political associate of President Carter, and Roy J. Carver, 70.

The government suit will seek to block them from delivering any more overseas payoffs, sources said. Lance's attempts to help Holley and Carver eventually backfired into the year-long probe that carried Justice Department fraud investigator David Addis to the Middle East for a week.

Sources said there is no evidence Lance, the president's former budget director, benefited from his actions, or that he ever knew the bribe was paid.

Lance's main gesture was a telephone call to an aide to White House adviser Hamilton Jordan, whom he asked to arrange a meeting between Holley and a State Department official, the sources said.

The resulting meeting with a U.S. diplomat allegedly led to efforts by Holley and Carver to deliver more bribe money.

Filipinos take flogging in rite for holy week

United Press International
MANILA, Philippines — Hundreds of hooded Filipinos are flogging themselves in a rite of penitential torture to mark the observance of holy week in the Philippines.

Stripped to the waist and barefoot, the atoning Filipinos can be seen in sweltering slum streets and small barrios in rural Philippines with their retinues of tormentors and hecklers.

Holy week in the Philippines — the only Roman Catholic nation in Asia — generally is observed without violence. But in the slums and the tiny wayside villages blood drips in the gory re-enactment of Christ's calvary.

Self-styled Jesus Christs, in purple robes and crown of thorns, drag heavy wooden crosses while hired torturers lash them with thonged whips. Their trails are followed by the "penitentes," who pummel their bare backs with glass-studded clubs.

In a dusty town outside the U.S. Clark Air Force Base 60 miles north of Manila, a former hoodlum has been drawing crowds the past 10 years with his crucifixion on Good Friday.

Juanito Pering, 38, vowed to impale himself on the cross every year as a form of expiation. Most of the penitentes undergo the bloody holy week rituals to atone for real or imagined sins.

The church officially frowns on the practice, brought from Mexico by Spanish colonizers in the 16th century. The tradition has flourished through the years.

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