

Court needs funds

By SUSAN WEBB
Now with the final approval by the Legislature and the creation of the 272nd District Court, Brazos County finally has its badly needed additional court. But even with that, some problems just never seem to cease. And with that justice cannot prevail.

Although the idea of this additional court is to alleviate our overburdened court system, more problems have erupted.

County commissioners have to come up with the adequate space and a competent staff. They have to find somewhere in the budget the funds necessary to construct and operate the new court.

And according to County Judge Dick Holmgreen, the proper funding simply does not exist in this year's county budget.

So, without this funding, Brazos County is functioning with only one district court.

And the current problem of the immense number of court cases will continue for at least another year.

The people who are affected directly by the delay are the inmates of the county jail.

If an inmate is not financially able to pay the bail that has been set for him, he must wait in jail, guilty or not guilty, until his trial can appear before a judge or jury. This wait can last a month, a year or maybe longer.

The inmate, while spending time in jail, loses many things in life as a result.

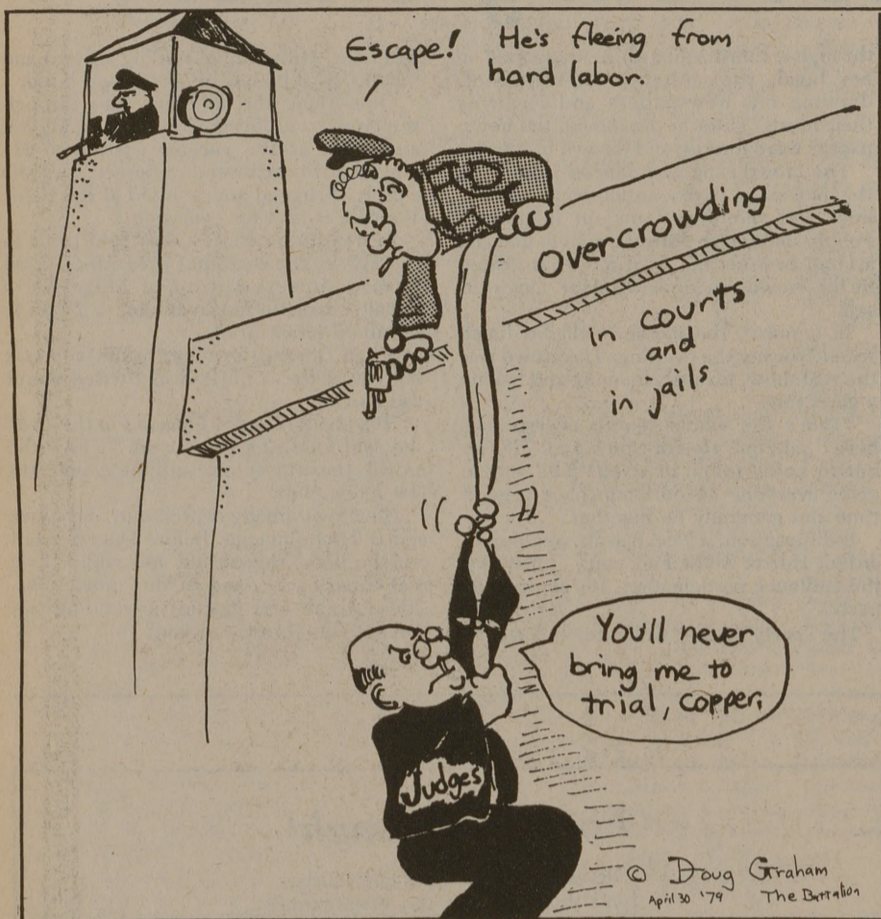
He suffers emotional distress, financial drain and at times loss of friends and family support. And some inmates believe they will suffer negative repercussions for a lifetime due to the disgrace and embar-

Reader's Forum

Assessment of spending time in jail. Perhaps with this second district court the amount of mental anguish and time of an inmate waiting in jail will be cut in half.

But until the 272nd District Court can be completely functional, the scales of courts justice will take time to balance.

Webb is a journalism major at Texas A&M University.



Brig. Gen. Joseph E. Wesp, command surgeon at Randolph Air Force Base, will address Texas A&M Cadets today in the annual Air Force dining-in. Wesp, a 36-year military veteran, attended Texas A&M three years, then entered Baylor college of Medicine and graduated in 1947. The dining-in will involve senior and junior cadets and Air Force personnel assigned at Texas A&M. It will revive an old tradition, the Air Force Ball, to be held immediately following the dinner, according to Col. Kenneth Durham, professor of aerospace studies at Texas A&M. Wesp, who serves in the Air Training Command at the San Antonio base, enlisted in the reserve in early 1942 while an advanced ROTC cadet at A&M. He was called to active duty before graduation and was sent to medical school under the Army Specialized Training Program. He was reviewing officer for the Corps of Cadets' Kyle Field review before the Baylor football game last October.

Animal Science endowment made

Corpus Christi rancher and oilman Richard E. "Dickie" Haas has given Texas A&M University more than \$300,000 to establish the Litterst-Haas Cattle Teaching Endowment Fund in the University Department of Animal Science. The gift will also be used to establish the Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Haas President's Endowed Scholarship in Animal Science. The \$25,000 endowment funds an annual \$1,500 scholarship to student majoring in animal science. In addition, a portion of the gift will establish the Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Haas Unrestricted Endowment within the Texas A&M University Development Foundation, reports Bob Rutledge, Texas A&M's director of development. Haas is a 1945 graduate of Texas A&M. Frank Litterst, a 1943 graduate, manages the University's beef cattle center and is an instructor in the Animal Science Department. He said the teaching endowment will be used to upgrade livestock and equipment at the cattle center.

NATION

Mrs. Bayh's rebirth celebrated

National and state leaders and hundreds of ordinary people Saturday joined in fulfilling Marvella Bayh's last request for a celebration of rebirth, not a sorrowful tribute to her death. Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), her husband of 27 years, closed the unusual service for the courageous woman who fought an eight-year battle against cancer and, in the process, taught others how to live with it and, ultimately, showed thousands how to accept death with dignity. Mrs. Bayh died Tuesday in Washington. She was 46. "She had definite ideas about what we should be doing on this occasion," Bayh said. "She said let there be hope in the air and so there is. We commemorate not death but rebirth of one we love."

Judge quits snake assault case

A Los Angeles municipal court judge has withdrawn from the Synanon rattlesnake assault case, further delaying a preliminary hearing for the aging founder and two members of the drug rehabilitation group. Court sources said a new judge will be assigned to the case Thursday, and testimony will have to start again to determine if Charles Dederich, Lance Kenton and Stan Musico, should stand trial for plotting to kill an attorney who opposed Synanon by planting a rattlesnake in his mailbox. Municipal Court Judge Vincent Erickson made the decision late Friday after a closed session with prosecutor and defense attorneys to discuss a private meeting he held last week with Dr. Findlay Russell, an expert on snakes who was called as a prosecution witness. Erickson and Russell apparently talked for an hour after the herpetologist finished his testimony and Russell then made a 31-minute tape recording, discussing both his comments in court and his private talk with the judge. In the tape, which he mailed to prosecutor John Watson, Russell said he thought he had been too vague in some of his testimony and specifically referred to the issue of snakes' hibernation periods. The discussion apparently raised the possibility that whoever planted the rattlesnake in attorney Paul Morantz's mailbox last October may have been trying to scare the attorney, not kill him.

VW raises prices of all models

Volkswagen of America is raising prices on its entire Volkswagen, Porsche and Audi lines an average 2.5 percent effective immediately. The price increases, announced Friday, include a \$102 increase on Rabbits built at the firm's plant near New Stanton, Pa., and a \$275 increase on imported models. Prices on optional equipment are unchanged. A spokesman said higher prices were needed to offset unfavorable international exchange rates as well as increases in material and production costs. Under the new schedule, the base price of a U.S.-built Rabbit goes to \$4,799, a \$102 increase; a Rabbit Custom Diesel to \$5,599, a \$202 increase; Dasher to \$7,228, up \$278, and Scirocco up \$240 to \$7,090. The new price of the Audi 5000 is \$9,725, up \$330, and the Porsche 911 SC climbs \$750 to \$22,960.

WORLD

Mexico studies illegal aliens

Mexican Foreign Minister Santiago Roel will visit U.S. detention centers and Mexican consuls along the border to survey the situation of undocumented Mexican workers, the foreign ministry said Saturday. A press bulletin from the ministry said Roel will leave today for a visit from Brownsville to San Diego, Calif., at the direction of President Jose Lopez Portillo. Roel will also visit other Mexican consulates in California and in Seattle, Wash. The bulletin said that Roel will hold meetings with Mexican consuls to tell them they should give priority to the protection of Mexicans without neglecting promotion of trade, culture, tourism and science, adding that Roel will meet with 25 Mexican accredited consuls.

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy and warmer with a slight chance of thunder showers. High today 70 and a low of 60 with winds from the East at 10-15 mph. There will be a 40% chance of rain today and a 30% tonight.

THE BATTALION

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Thatcher and Kemp have same views

By DAVID S. BRODER

LONDON — No one had told me that Margaret Thatcher is really Jack Kemp dressed up to look like Mrs. Miniver. Nor had I been warned before coming here to watch the windup of the British election campaign that the Tory leader has an on-camera smile which could chill a daffodil, a tight drawing back of the lips that makes Jimmy Carter's tooth-showing exercise a model of spontaneous friendliness, by comparison.

Finally, no one had suggested that the lady the polls say is only a week away from becoming Britain's and Europe's first female prime minister is quite the tough and skillful politician she obviously is.

So there was a triple lesson for this visitor in the 40-minute "Ask Mrs. Thatcher" BBC television program the other night that served as my introduction to the campaign.

What I had heard was that if the Tories won the election on May 3, it would be despite Mrs. Thatcher and not because of her. Indeed, the polls do show that Labor Prime Minister James Callaghan is more popular than the opposition leader, despite the disenchantment with the policies of his government. Given her public stiffness, as symbolized by that tight-lipped smile, it is easy to see why.

But the woman who showed up for that long, unrehearsed television quiz show the other night was no

slouch. Quite the contrary. She handled a series of pointed and probing questions from some obviously well-coached voters with a skill few American politicians could match. Watching her, you could see why she was one of the youngest Tories elected to Parliament in the 1959 election and the first of her freshman class to achieve cabinet status.

Listening to her is like hearing a Jack Kemp who had gone to Oxford instead of quarterbacking the Buffalo Bills. They are equally convinced that the good society — to say nothing of the good life — will surely result from the proper cultivation of the profit motive.

Whereas Rep. Kemp is still struggling with other young Republicans to convince his party elders that tax-cuts are more politically potent than balanced budgets, Mrs. Thatcher has swung the Tories to her own admittedly doctrinaire economic theories and seems on the verge of persuading the country that it must reward the economically strong instead of forever nursing the weak.

"What I want to see," she told a viewer asking about her policies for "ailing industries," "is Britain building more successful firms. The help for ailing firms only comes from successful firms, and if you're going to drain away all the resources from the successful firms to help the ailing firms, what you're going to get is far too few people creating wealth and far too many consuming

it. Temporary help is fine, but you can't keep yesterday's jobs going forever."

Her economic policy — like that advocated by Kemp and some of the other "new breed" Republicans — is based on a sharp cut in income taxes, to be partially offset, she says, by an increase in consumer taxes.

She takes this line with the same square-jaw, non-nonsense manner with which she advocates a curb on unions and a cutback in the immigration of nonwhites — two other controversial stands on which she is basing her bid for power.

There are some here who want to make her gender, rather than her policy, the issue. But Mrs. Thatcher is having none of that. On the television program, a voter named Ann Hartley-Jones said that, "My husband, although a committed conservative, is also a male chauvinist. He feels a woman's place is in the kitchen, not the House of Commons, and I'm afraid he'll abstain, rather than vote for a woman."

Mrs. Thatcher, cool as ever, asked Mrs. Hartley-Jones to remind her husband that "One of our great success periods in this country was under Queen Elizabeth I. 'Why, great heavens,' she exclaimed, 'if my husband had thought the same thing then, we might never have beaten the Spanish Armada.'"

And she smiled a real smile that time.

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Letters to the Editor

Nature treats golden gods and 'dead fish' equally

Editor: Summertime, time for the sand and surf, bikinis, and suntans. As soon as the sun is out and the temperature up, everybody grabs a towel and heads out for an open spot on the lawn. The fillies are out to brown up those flanks and legs. The guys are out to bronze those rippling muscles. All this sunning to acquire a golden tan that catches the admiring glances of each other. They are admired by more than each other, though, but also by the few cringing, whimpering figures in the shadows.

Those who are sitting in the merciful shade are those that have been cheated and marked for life by their genetic heritage. They are of the ultra-white sect, those with skin as white as the belly of a dead fish. They lack the pigment, melanin, needed to tan and protect them. If so much as a bare toe is left in the sun too long, it will turn into a bright pink digit of dilated blood vessels and a bundle of pain. In a few days the epithelium will peel away in more layers than a dictionary has pages.

So they scuttle from shade to shade as though a soldier under fire and dope on the sun screen as though a bullet proof vest to keep from burning their white-as-boiled-cabbage skin. All the while, the golden goddesses and gods look upon them as unfortunate white grub worms.

Yet, in the latter years time tends to tell early on the sun worshippers. There are those lines and creases at the corner of the eyes and mouth that show up prematurely. The sebaceous glands of that lovely tan skin dry up, and the skin becomes dry and scaly, giving the appearance of a lizard basking in the sun. The skin loses its resilience and hangs loose and pendulous like a turkey wattle. Most of all, ultraviolet rays tend to cause carcinomas. The projections of the face are subject to most of the harm. That persistent lesion on the tip of the nose or ears turns out to be malignant. A trip to the dermatologist and "whack," off it comes, a middle-aged person with a nice, dark tan and no nose.

Isn't it nice to know that Mother Nature distributes her wares so evenly?

—Curtis Dillon

Aggie spirit?

To the "Good Ag":

I must congratulate you on a great job! Last week you graciously ripped off my roommate's bike. This past week you outdid yourself and relieved my neighbors of two more bikes. A feat I thought couldn't be topped! But this weekend I fully realized your true spirit. How thoughtful of you to bash in the windows of our car! I couldn't have done a better job. Thanks. You have made my stay at A&M one I will

not soon forget.
Could someone please explain again what this "Aggie Spirit" is?
—Ruth Grant, '80
Rosie Longoria, '80
Gerry Simmons, '80
James M. Casmus, '81

Notice the good

Editor: In response to Mark Barnard's letter (April 23), we would first like to say that we are sorry about the bad things that happen here at A&M. Perhaps Mr. Barnard should reread his own letter with an "open mind" as he suggests we do. For one thing, he should consider that not everyone living in College Station-Bryan is an Aggie. He assumed that all of his mishaps were brought on by Ags. Could he possibly be wrong?

Also, the University system is run by humans, and therefore not completely infallible. Unfortunately, mistakes can and do happen, but Mr. Barnard, these did not affect you just because you are you. Please, be more reasonable.
On the other hand, Mark, did you ever

notice anything nice about this place? We, too, are new to A&M this year, and couldn't be happier. But we do not only look at the bad things. No one ever said the world was a bed of roses, so you just keep taking what comes and role with the punches, and if you'll pardon the phrase, keep on truckin'. Presumably, they call that optimism.

Yes, Mark Barnard, you notice the good things, not the bad. You respect the traditions, attempt to meet people, make friends, get your education, and learn to love A&M. Perhaps, then, you could be happy. In other words, get out and do something about your problems instead of sitting back and feeling sorry for yourself.

—Leah Whitby, '82
Susan Engelke, '82
Susan Moseley, '82

Burned by Ags

Editor: I know this letter isn't going to help me find the guilty party, but I feel it should be written. I was at G. Rollie playing volleyball for an hour or so and during this time my car (a convertible) was parked on

Houston Street. When I was finished I came down, got into the car and much to my surprise, found that someone had put their cigarette out on the seat of the car. My complaint isn't the cigarette burn in the seat but the inconsideration shown by my fellow Ags. This is just one instance of uncalled for actions. Since I was writing this letter some friends asked me to mention a few other instances where we should be considerate of other peoples' property. Leaning up against someone else's car and possibly scratching the paint, not opening the car door carefully enough not to dent the car next to you, and just having some consideration for other peoples' belongings. So Ags, I'm asking you to be a little more considerate of someone else's property...

—Mark Montgomery, '80

Correction

In the series of foreign investment articles that were published last week the Texas Real Estate Research Center was incorrectly identified as the Texas Real Estate Research Commission. The Battalion regrets the error.

