

THE BATTALION

Vol. 73 No. 146
22 Pages in 2 Sections

Thursday, April 24, 1980
College Station, Texas

USPS 045 360
Phone 845-2611

Athletic admissions follow SWC trend Conference grade regulations used instead of the University's

By TIM SAGER

Battalion Staff
Texas A&M University, like most other conference schools, regularly admits scholarship athletes who fail to meet the university's published admissions requirements.

of Houston, Baylor, and Southern Methodist University also use special admissions policies for athletes. Texas Tech, Arkansas, Rice, and Texas Christian University are the only SWC schools with uniform admission requirements for all students.

"The admissions office makes all admissions decisions," said Marvin Tate, A&M's athletic director. "We don't put any pressure on them, I can tell you that."

But Edwin H. Cooper, dean of admissions of the University, said Tate and the Athletic Department contribute to the admissions process of athletes directly.

with a list of people they are offering scholarships to, and we use Southwest Conference standards for their admissions," Cooper said. "We have to do this in order to remain competitive with other schools."

Admissions officials at the University of Texas, the University of Houston, Southern Methodist University, and Baylor all echoed Cooper's statement: rather than following normal admissions requirements for athletes, they employ the SWC minimum requirements.

All the SWC requires is that a student graduate from an accredited high school with a 2.0 grade point average. Rice and TCU both consider athletic ability when

admitting students, but neither school has well-defined admission requirements.

"I follow the rules and regulations of the NCAA and the SWC, just like any other school in the country," said Tate when asked if SWC and NCAA eligibility requirements took precedence over A&M's rules and regulations.

Last fall 1,327 applicants were denied admission to A&M for failing to meet the minimum Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores, or because they lacked certain required high school courses, said Dr. Billy Lay, director of admissions and records.

A regular applicant to Texas A&M University must score at least 1,000 on the SAT

if he is in the bottom quarter of his high school graduating class. All applicants must also have completed a specified number of courses in such areas as English, math, science, and social science.

Incoming athletes are not required to meet a minimum SAT score, and there are no specific high school courses required for applicants to whom the Athletic Department has offered a scholarship, Cooper said.

The requirements at most other SWC schools are similar. Texas Tech and Arkansas, however, have open admissions policies for all students; and Texas Christian

University's and Rice's admissions requirements are lax enough so someone meeting SWC standards would be admitted under the regular policy.

NCAA regulations also require that for an athlete to maintain eligibility, he must be "maintaining satisfactory progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree as determined by the regulations of that institution." Texas A&M's rules and regulations "Blue Book" defines an undergraduate as making satisfactory academic progress when "his semester grade report and his cumulative record indicates a 'C' aver-

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Academic regulations vary for school athletes

Here are the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the major athletic conferences:

Southeastern Conference: No minimum GPA is required by the conference, but students must pass 24 semester hours per year.

Big Ten: Athletes must pass 24 semester hours their freshman year and an increasing number every year thereafter. A graduated GPA scale is used, requiring a 1.65 for freshmen and increasing to a 1.95 for seniors.

Big Eight: A 1.6 GPA is required for freshmen and sophomores and a 1.8 for juniors and seniors. To maintain eligibility, each athlete must have passed 24 semester

hours in the previous two semesters combined.

Pac Ten: No minimum GPA is required. Athletes must pass 24 semester hours per year.

Western Athletic Conference: Athletes must maintain a GPA that ranges from a 1.6 as a second semester freshman to a 1.92 for seniors. They must also pass 24 semester hours per year.

Southwest Conference: No minimum GPA is required, and athletes must pass 20 semester hours their freshman year and an increasing number of hours per year after that. The number of hours required per year never exceeds 26.

Moore reneges on offer to quit

By LAURA CORTEZ

City Staff
Efforts to disassociate themselves from organized labor have put state senatorial challenger Kent Caperton and incumbent Sen. Bill Moore at each other's throats.

At a question-and-answer session sponsored by the Texas Farm Bureau Tuesday in Bryan, Moore accused Caperton of being the labor union candidate. He said a campaign publication was printed for Caperton by Futura Press in Austin, which, Moore said is owned and operated by the AFL-CIO for the purpose of getting its candidates elected.

Caperton said he does not know who owns Futura Press, but added that he pays them "an awful lot of money for printing."

Caperton also said the union bug, which signifies that the material was printed in a union shop, appears on some of Moore's original campaign material.

Moore was quick to state that Caperton's remark was not true, but Caperton stood by his statement.

In front of the crowd of about 100, Moore said, "All my printing is done here at New-

man Printing. If you'll show it (campaign material with the union bug on it) to me I'll get out of the race and urge everyone to vote for you."

But some of Moore's bumper stickers and campaign buttons do in fact carry the union bug.

In an interview Wednesday, Moore's spokesman, Jack Bowen explained: "The senator was sincere in what he said. Like any candidate, he does not mess with details of the campaign. He did not order those bumper stickers and buttons, and we had not told him about it."

Bowen said that printing for the Moore campaign is normally done by Newman Printing, but when the supply of buttons and stickers ran low, a rush order had to be put in with a local firm, which had the materials printed at a union shop.

Bowen referred to the situation as "a tempest in a teapot."

When asked by The Bryan-College Station Eagle about his offer to withdraw from the race, Moore said, "I wouldn't do that to the people of the 5th District. Sometimes you say things in the heat of battle..."

State money set to improve roads

By BECKY SWANSON

City Staff
There will be six miles of smoother highway driving here in the next two years, thanks to locally-allocated state funding.

Almost three quarters of a million dollars has been designated for state road improvement in the Bryan-College Station area in 1980 and 1981.

The \$733,000 allocated for repaving in the area constitutes 1.3 percent of the \$55.7 million to be spent by the state of Texas to improve almost 2,000 miles of state highways.

The funds will be spent on three projects, according to the Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

The following improvements will be made:

- FM 2154 (Wellborn Road) will be resurfaced from FM 60 (University Drive) to Jersey Street. This one-mile section is estimated to cost \$155,000.

- FM 1179 (Briarcrest extension) will be resurfaced from State Highway 6 East to FM 158 (Boonville Road), a distance of 0.7 mile. This work is estimated to cost \$93,000.

- FM 2154 will be reconditioned and resurfaced from FM 2518 to Wellborn, a distance of 4.2 miles. The estimated cost of this project is \$485,000.

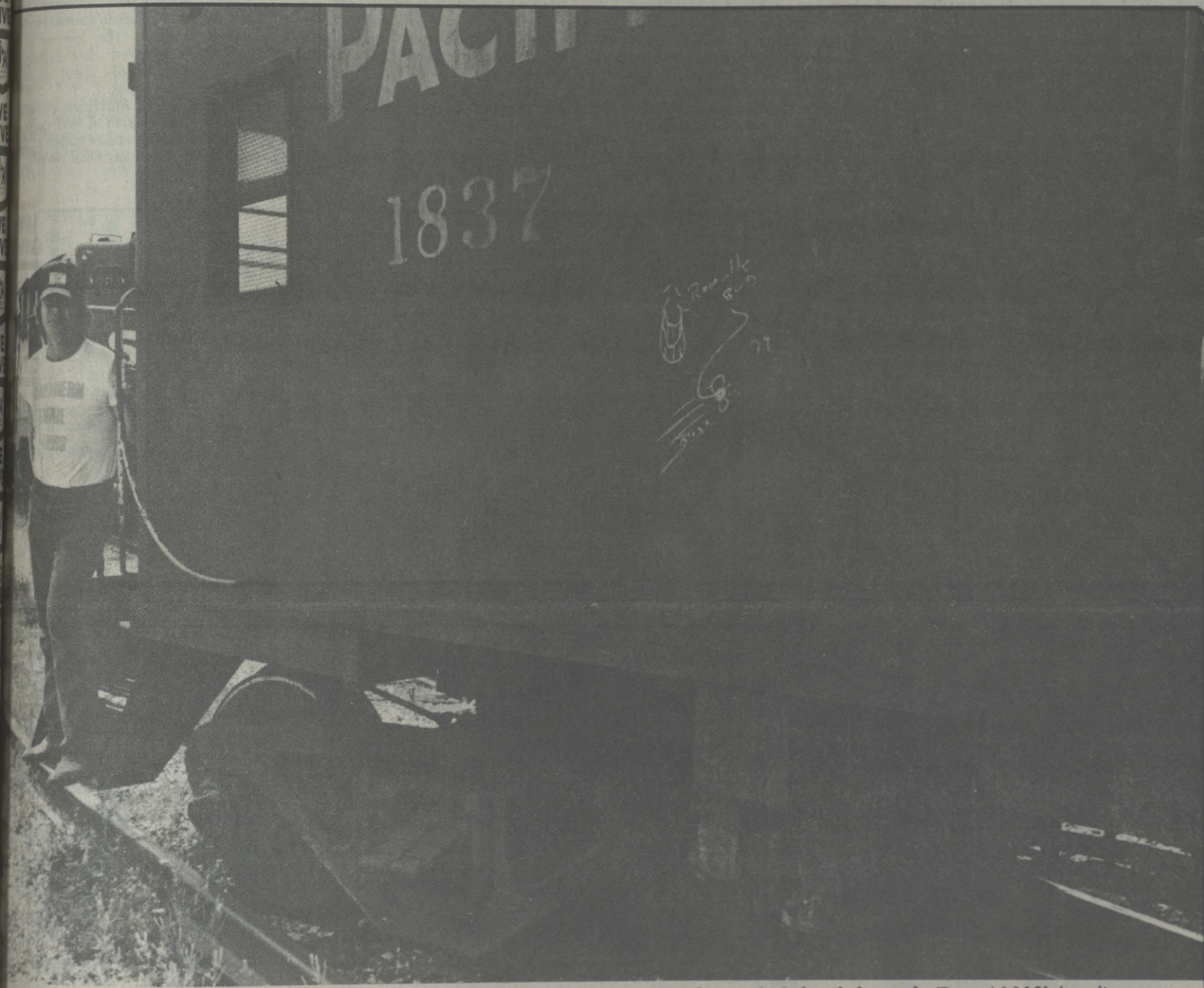
The Briarcrest extension and the College Station segment of Wellborn Road may be under construction by fall of this year, according to John Blasienz, district construction engineer.

These projects involve the use of asphalt hot mix, a type of asphalt concrete which is pre-mixed at the plant and laid over the present surface, Blasienz said.

There will be little interference with traffic from the first two projects, Blasienz said, because once the hot mix is laid, the surface is ready for travel and can be reopened after each day's work.

The third project, which will not be started until the summer of 1981, will cause some traffic problems because weak sections of the road (where water has seeped into the roadbed) will have to be torn up and replaced before a new surface can be applied.

"We're going to have to block off one or more lanes of the road and put out barricades and flagmen when we work on that section of road," he said.



Southern Pacific conductor Mike Gummelt stands on the steps of the Southern Pacific caboose which derailed near the Texas A&M University campus.

Staff photos by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

Caboose derails near Kyle Field

By DEBBIE NELSON

City Staff
A Southern Pacific railroad caboose derailed on the tracks across from Kyle Field Wednesday morning, halting rail traffic on the line until early afternoon.

Conductor Mike Gummelt said the accident occurred during the execution of an "easy railroad move." Only an engine and caboose were involved in the faulty attempt at a running drop —

switching the caboose to the opposite end of the engine.

A crane truck was sent from Houston to put the car back on the track.

In the move, crewmen were supposed to run the engine down the main line, pull the pin connecting the cars and switch the caboose to a side track. The engine could then pull ahead and drop in behind the caboose so the train could switch directions and still have the engine before the caboose.

After the engine had passed the switch point and the car connecting-pin was pulled, the switch to the side track wouldn't work. Gummelt said there was time to pull the switch back to the main track, but this was not done and the caboose derailed.

Gummelt stressed that "human error," not faulty switches or rails, caused the derailment. He also said he assumed full responsibility for the incident.

Gummelt, who was in the caboose at the time of the derailment, said in the eight years he has worked on the railroad, he has never seen a similar accident.

Five crewmen, including a conductor, engineer, two brakemen and a fireman, were on the train. No one was injured.

Gummelt said several of the crew members may lose their jobs because of the incident.

Pre-registration problems arise

Approximately 2,500 Texas A&M University students who submitted pre-registration materials to the registrar in the Rudder Exhibit Hall on Friday, April 18, were asked to return to complete an additional form to insure their registration for the fall semester.

The action was necessitated when pre-registration materials submitted Friday

were misplaced. Only those students who turned in their packets on Friday are affected, said Registrar R.A. Lacey.

"It was an unfortunate circumstance for which we are very sorry," Lacey explained, "but in transferring the material from the exhibit hall to our office, the pre-registration records for that day were lost. We are making every effort to be certain

that those students who pre-registered on Friday will have their records completed before they leave for the summer."

Lacey emphasized that if this is done, the students should expect to receive their fee invoices on or about July 10 as previously announced in the 1980 Fall Class Schedule.

Those students affected are asked to come by special tables at the Rudder Exhibit Hall between Monday, April 28, and

Friday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., to complete the paper work which will assure they are registered for the proper courses and classes.

Lacey said the form will take only a few minutes to complete and stressed that all of the students whose records were lost will have the same scheduling opportunity as they had originally.

Help sought for farmers' plight

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Saying that inflation has caused "enormous despair in rural America," a group of Democratic House members have asked President Carter to take more government actions to ease the financial strain on farmers.

After the meeting, Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Kan., said the congressmen "laid it on the line" to Carter.

other efforts to reduce inflation would help the farmers.

"As you also understand, the No. 1 problem of farmers is derived directly from the adverse impact of inflation on our nation," Carter said.

After the meeting, Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Kan., said the congressmen "laid it on the line" to Carter.

"There is enormous despair in rural America," Glickman said. "As Democrats, we're naturally concerned about the political ramifications."

Rep. Kent Hance, D-Texas, said, "This is the worst it's been in agriculture in the last 30 or 40 years."

Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland, who also attended the meeting, told the

congressmen the situation would improve as the inflation rate declines and prices rise.

Last month, average farm prices were down 5 percent from a year ago and farm costs were up 12 percent.

Bergland predicted that depressed hog prices would rise \$10 above a current depressed price of below \$30 per 100 pounds before December.