

THE BATTALION

Serving the Texas A&M University community

Vol. 74 No. 5
16 Pages

Friday, September 5, 1980
College Station, Texas

USPS 045 360
Phone 845-2611

The Weather

Today	Yesterday
High 100	High 100
Low 72	Low 72
Humidity 75%	Humidity 70%
Chance of rain slight	Rain 0.0 inches

150 await proper rooms

Tripling may continue through semester

By MARCY BOYCE
Battalion Staff

Of about 600 Texas A&M University students waiting housing assignments at the first of this week, only 150 women have still not been placed permanently and may not be assigned the rest of the semester.

With the exception of the 150 women and 280 men assigned permanently to new married-student housing, all the other students promised housing moved into rooms not claimed by the 5 p.m. Monday deadline, Ron Hilton, director of housing, said.

Due to the worst overbooking ever by the Housing Office (about 600 students), at the first of this week men were being housed in study carrels in Aston and Dunn halls, in vacant rooms in the Corps dormitories and three-to-a-room in North Area male dormitories temporarily. Women were assigned three-to-a-room in the four modular dormitories.

"Basically what we have left is around 150 females tripled in modular dorms (Hobby and Neely Halls) and they're probably going to be there all semester," the director of housing said. "Some of them will get spaces, but they probably will be very few," he added.

"We've moved everybody into all the no-shows' spaces. From now on it will be withdraws and those types," Hilton said, or students who choose to move off campus in the middle of the semester.

Fees will be adjusted for all three residents of a room if they have to live in a temporary situation more than three weeks. But, Hilton said, the adjustment has not yet been determined.

Students received room assignments according to the date of their housing application and deposit, with priority given to those who applied on the earliest date.

And rooms which become available later in the semester will also be allotted according to the application dates of the 150 women waiting for permanent assignments.

Upperclassmen were given priority in most cases by receiving those temporaries at the top of the list so they would be moved out of the rooms the quickest, Hilton said.

"It's probably better for the upperclassmen and better for the freshmen because freshmen usually like to be with other freshmen and vice versa," he said.

Yet, Hilton still offered some consolations to women forced to cope with the triple-occupancy situation.

"If there is going to be three to a room, they (the remaining women) have got the ideal spot by the fact that they (the modular dormitory rooms) are self-contained rooms."

The modular dormitories have private bathrooms, unlike the other dormitories on campus which have suite bathrooms. So, Hilton said, even with the temporary residents, only three women have to share a bathroom versus four women in the other dormitories.

"They're not too bad off. Those are really nice rooms over there," he said.

Hadley Hoff, head resident of Hobby and Neely halls, agreed.

"The rooms are plenty big. They each have a bathroom, and there is plenty of room to lay an extra bed out," she said.

"The only people who have complained are the parents. The girls only complain when it comes time to move out because they don't want to leave," she added.

"I don't see any big problem," Brenda Bivona, a Neely Hall resident said, "because it's not crowded. The rooms are plenty big. But I feel they should have refunded our money from the beginning because they knew from the beginning it was going to be like this."

The room fee also upset a resident in Hobby Hall.

"It's just a shame to pay that money and then have to live like this," Darla Migl said. "We're really not that crowded, but I just hope it doesn't last all semester."

"I think it's lousy. I really do," Neely resident Tammy Copeland said. "I just don't think it's right that I feel like I'm inconveniencing them (my roommates) when I'm paying this kind of money."

"I'd rather them (the housing office) tell me I couldn't come, that I couldn't be here this year than for them to reassign me later to some dorm I don't even want to be in because I want to be in the modular dorms," she said.

Other women objected to not knowing when or if they were going to move and whether or not they should unpack.

Fire victims find new homes

By TERRY DURAN
Battalion Reporter

Twenty-five Texas A&M students ousted from their Willowick apartments by fire Saturday night are settling into their new homes and getting ready for the new school year.

College Station Fire Marshal Harry Davis ruled Tuesday the blaze that romped through the two-story, eight-unit building was caused by a loose connection in a breaker box between the second floor apartments.

Jan Winniford, coordinator of the Off-Campus Housing Center, said Wednesday all but four of the students left homeless by the fire were either settled in new housing or in the process of moving. Four former Willowick residents were still staying

in the Ramada Inn; Winniford said they were still looking for an apartment they liked.

Winniford said that the fire victims had shown "a really good attitude about the whole thing."

Some of the former Willowick residents have gone to see the students' legal adviser though, she said, because the apartment complex has no insurance for renters' belongings.

Sandy Castillo, a Willowick refugee, said the apartment complex's lack of insurance for renters' belongings "kind of got me mad."

"After all," she said, "it wasn't any of the tenants' fault."

The manager of the apartment complex and her husband lived in one of the apartments destroyed by the fire, but she was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

Castillo and her two roommates — one of them her sister — have moved into a duplex now. She said they had "the hardest time" finding an apartment for the three marketing majors from Houston, and finally had to contact a realtor to find their new home.

Castillo said her parents' insurance would cover the loss of the two sisters' belongings; the third roommate's losses will also be covered by a parental policy.

Castillo said General Telephone Company has been very helpful. She said the three girls had been told they could keep their old number and that the phone would be replaced free of charge at their new location.

Daily Texan editor free on bond; photo controversy not over yet

United Press International

AUSTIN — The editor of the University of Texas student newspaper will not have to return to jail for failing to relinquish to a judge unpublished photographs of protesting Iranian and Palestinian students, but his legal problems are not quite over.

Mark McKinnon, the Daily Texan editor, was ordered released from further confinement after County Court at Law Judge Jon Wisser found 12 of 16 students guilty of disrupting a speech by a former Iranian ambassador Jan. 31 on the UT campus.

However, McKinnon still must pay a \$100 fine levied against him by Wisser when he was found in contempt. The student editor also was jailed for two hours Tuesday before being released on \$1,000 bond.

Steve McCleary, one of the assistant county attorneys prosecuting the case, told state District Judge Pete Lowry that McKinnon should be released from further penalties because the issue had become moot after Wisser's verdict.

McKinnon must appear before Wisser later this month to show cause why he should not pay the

fine, which his attorney said would be appealed. The attorney, Jim George, said there were legal problems with Wisser's show cause order.

"(But) I still got my pictures and my guy is not in jail," George said.

The trial took longer than a week to prosecute and was overshadowed by McKinnon's refusal to relinquish the unpublished photographs of the incident.

Jeff Blackwelder, who prosecuted the case, said he would recommend that the students not receive any additional jail time when they appear for sentencing on Sept. 24.

The class B misdemeanor conviction carries a possible \$1,000 fine and/or six-month jail term. The prosecutor said the students already had spent nine days in jail after their arrest, and that was enough punishment.

Bill Allison, the head of the six-member team defending the students, said he had expected the verdict and would file an appeal after the sentencing.

The attorney said McKinnon's claims that relinquishing the photographs would have infringed on the student newspaper's First Amendment rights detracted from the main issue — the guilt or innocence of the defendants.

"It was made much more difficult by Mr. McKinnon's case. The judge was not able to keep his eye on the real issue," Allison said.

Malcom Greenstein, another defense attorney, said the ethnic background of the students was a major issue in the case. He said had the students been American, the case would not have proceeded to trial.

The photographs in question were taken during a campus speech by Fereydon Hoveyda, Iran's ambassador to the United Nations under the late shah. The students disrupted Hoveyda's speech because, according to defendant Mehran Ebrahimi, they did not consider the former ambassador a true representative of Iranians.

Ebrahimi, one of the 12 students found guilty, said the university and prosecutors had tried to make a criminal case out of a "political case."

Aggie jokes promote game

By JANA SIMS
Battalion Staff

"Hello out there, you WTYX radio fans. This is your favorite disc jockey coming your way from Jackson, Miss. We'll have a word from our cuh-razy sponsor in just a minute. But first let me read this important bulletin."

"Did you know that Aggies carry turkeys around under their arms for spare parts?"

The previous blurb might be a typical broadcast from the 94.7 FM rock station in Jackson which has been conducting an Aggie joke contest for the last three weeks.

Disc jockey Terry Stenzel said WTYX is not normally a promotion oriented radio station, but the station decided that an Aggie joke contest "would be a good solution to arouse interest in Saturday's Ole Miss vs A&M game."

"I'm having a lot of fun with the contest," Stenzel said. "Did you hear about the Aggie who bought a pair of cuff links and had his wrists pierced?"

Stenzel said that just as Texas A&M University has a rival school, the University of Mississippi has a rival — Mississippi State University. So to get Jackson citizens more involved in the Texas A&M game, WTYX thought of the Aggie contest.

"Actually," Stenzel said, "we've heard so many of the jokes as Ole Miss and State jokes, that they're not really funny anymore."

The contest is open to anyone. Stenzel remarked that "in this town, everybody gets into this" as he browsed over an entry from Popeye's, a chain of fried chicken

restaurants (checking first to make sure the joke was clean).

As of yesterday evening, the station had received about 30 entries — a number which Stenzel considers normal. He said the contest was announced on the radio and had two write-ups in the city newspaper.

Entrants were requested to send a postcard with their favorite Aggie joke, hoping to be the winner chosen Friday morning. Stenzel said probably the station manager and program director will be the judges. The lucky person will receive tickets to this weekend's game and have his name placed on a banner that will fly behind an airplane as it cruises over the stadium on Saturday.

Drop-add ends

Today is the last day to register for Fall classes, add classes to existing schedules or drop classes with no record.

Registration and drop-add will continue through today at 5 p.m.

Courses may be dropped through Oct. 3, with a record of "Q" appearing on the student's grade report.

Texas ruling on schooling of illegal aliens upheld

Decision allows tuition-free education in Texas

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell Thursday cleared the way for thousands of illegal alien children to enroll tuition-free in Texas public schools, a decision opposed by the governor and state attorney general.

Powell's order reinstated a landmark ruling returned in Houston on July 21 by U.S. District Judge Woodrow Seals who declared unconstitutional a 5-year-old state law which limited public school funding to undocumented alien children and citizens. Seals said to exclude illegal aliens from public education would guarantee that most eventually will become wards of society.

Powell, in an 8-page ruling, agreed, saying: "Not only are the children consigned to ignorance and illiteracy, they also are denied the benefits of association in the classroom with students and teachers of diverse backgrounds."

Powell said delaying enrollment of the children posed greater harm for the aliens than for the affected school districts, many of which did not believe enrollment would "unduly strain their abilities to provide a customary education to all their pupils."

He said, however, if a district could show enrollment of the illegal alien children would severely tax its facilities, then a stay may be justified. He said individual school districts, or the state on their behalf, may apply for individual consideration.

The civil rights lawyer who argued the case praised Powell and

characterized the state as selfish for accepting taxes from the working parents of the potential students while keeping the children out of school.

"Justice Powell's decision . . . was received by our clients with joy and tears," said Peter Schey, director of the National Center for Immigrant Rights.

"Our long battle in federal court to establish that undocumented children are persons under our Constitution and entitled to some level of protection by the Bill of Rights has finally found acceptance in the Supreme Court."

Powell vacated a stay granted by a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals which responded on Aug. 12 to arguments by the Texas attorney general's office it was too late to enroll the aliens this year.

By then, some school districts already were registering the aliens based on Seals' ruling. No one knows how many thousands of children are in the state illegally.

A spokeswoman for the Houston Independent School District, the largest in Texas, said undocumented children would be admitted immediately.

"As far as I know, we will begin admitting illegal alien children Friday as long as they have their shot records complete and they meet the age requirements," said Geri Koningsberg, a spokeswoman for the HISD.

White labels Powell's decision an 'unfair shot'

United Press International

Texas Attorney General Mark White said Thursday a Supreme Court justice's ruling requiring the state to provide free education to illegal alien children was an "unfair shot at the state of Texas."

"The federal government does not grant any social services to aliens, so why should the state be required to provide them?" White said. "The state should not have to do what the federal government fails to do."

"I think these people should be filing the lawsuit against the federal government. I think it's unfair shot at the state of Texas by the Justice Department."

While White was predicting the state ultimately would win its case with the Justice Department, the civil rights lawyer who successfully challenged the state law denying public school funding to illegal alien children heralded Justice Lewis Powell's decision as a landmark in education.

"For the children who now find the schoolhouse gate unlocked for first time in five years, this is a magnificent day," Peter Schey, director of the National Center for Immigrants Rights, said in Washington after Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell cleared the way for the aliens' tuition-free enrollment.

"No law in this country since the times of slavery has sought to totally exclude an indefinable group of children from the public schools," Schey said. "More than being unconstitutional, the

Texas law is morally indefensible given that the state concluded the last fiscal year with a surplus of approximately \$2.15 billion and welcomes the cheap labor which migrates north from Mexico.

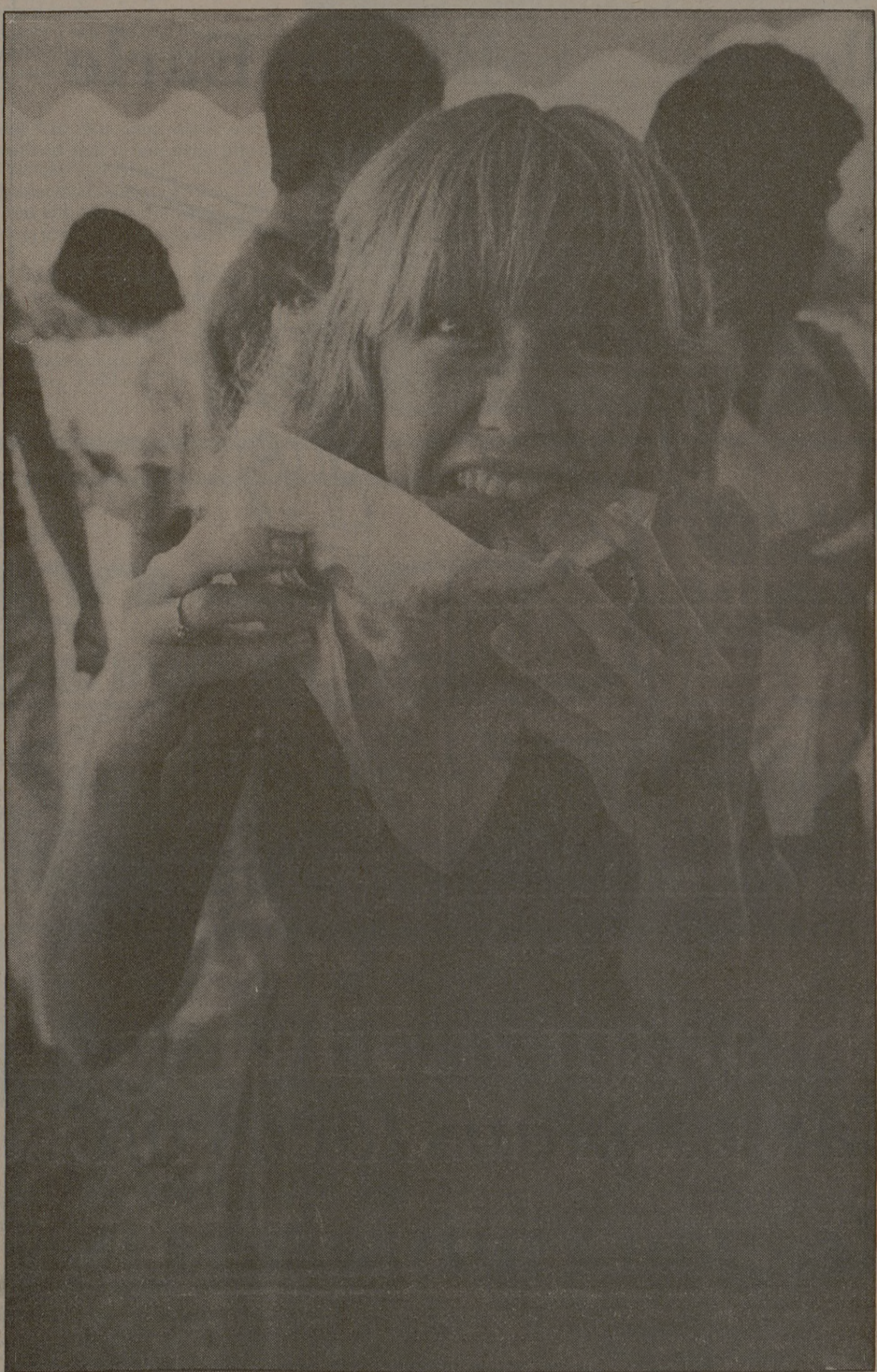
Schey filed suit on behalf of the aliens in September 1978 and argued the case before U.S. District Judge Woodrow Seals in Houston for almost two months this spring.

Ruben Bonilla, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, expressed "sheer elation" with Powell's ruling. He said the Republican Party — meeting in state convention in session at San Antonio — should adopt a resolution supporting the Supreme Court's action.

Despite Powell's decision, Dallas school officials still had no plans to begin enrolling illegal aliens until U.S. District Judge Robert M. Hill issued a ruling in a local alien education lawsuit. A hearing was set for Monday morning.

Rodney Davis, spokesman for the Dallas Independent School District, said DISD officials felt Powell's decision affected only the school systems involved in Seals' case.

"Those schools have all been charging tuition for alien students," he said. "Dallas' local policy has always been that aliens are not citizens so they have no public school rights."



Jaws

Staff photo by Pat O'Malley

Nanette Wade, a freshman pre-medicine major from League City, takes a big bite of watermelon at the Great Watermelon Munch Thursday afternoon. The event was sponsored by a group known as Oasis.