

Local

Most freshman in decade

Band size ideal

By MARCY BOYCE
Battalion Staff

An extensive recruiting program seems to have paid off this year for the Aggie Band, which in recent years past has suffered a dwindling membership.

With 323 cadets, the band is now at an ideal marching size of 303. It has 300 players, three drum majors and 20 alternates, senior Cullen Shiffrin, commanding officer of the band, said.

"Since I've been here, this will be the first time we'll be able to maintain that marching size the whole semester," he said.

"Normally we would have had to march with some holes in the band by mid-semester as people drop out of the band or the Corps."

But this year, with extra freshmen to serve as alternates during halftime of each game, the band should be able to consistently maintain a mar-

ching size of 303 cadets throughout the year, Shiffrin said.

Shiffrin attributed the increase primarily to the sophomores, juniors and seniors in the band who returned to their hometown high schools during Christmas and spring break last year to show films and talk about the Aggie Band.

There are 143 freshmen in the band, the largest freshman class the band has had in about nine or 10 years, Shiffrin said. Last year at this time the band had only 100 to 105 freshmen. And even before last year, he said, normally the band only had 110 to 120 freshmen at the maximum.

Unlike the freshman class, however, the senior class of the band is unusually small with only 47 cadets.

This creates a problem, Shiffrin said, because the band must have at least 63 seniors in order to have boots

all the way around its perimeter. As a result, some juniors are marching on the outside of the band with the seniors this year.

"We're graduating a small class of seniors and leaving behind a large class of freshmen, so we're leaving the band in better shape than we (the seniors) were," Shiffrin said.

This year's senior class of the band is also leaving behind a gift of 12 brand new bugles to replace the band's 15-year-old bugles.

The new bugles are being used only for halftimes, march-ins, parades and reviews, while the buglers will continue to use the old ones for rehearsals.

Shiffrin said the Aggie Band Class of '81 wanted to leave "some kind of a mark on the band," so during the summer they secured enough loans from the Aggie Band Association to buy the bugles, worth \$2,300.

More birds killed to stop disease

United Press International
HOUSTON — Animal disease fighters have killed 550 more exotic birds at a local residence to try to stop the spread of Exotic Newcastle Disease, a threat to poultry flocks.

The killings at the home of Sam Wisialowski — who had bought the birds from a wholesaler for resale at an open air market — raised the total of birds killed locally to more than 6,000.

U.S. Department of Agriculture officials said they hoped that with the weekend killings they had stopped the disease in Houston.

"We're going to send a few veterinarians home," spokesman Don Nielson said. "We thought that once before and had to pull people back. But as of now, we're close to working ourselves out of work and that's the name of the game."

Wisialowski bought the birds from Exotex Inc., which lost its entire inventory of more than 5,000 exotic birds last week because of Newcastle Disease exposure. More than 500 birds were killed earlier at Pet Shop and Bird Clinic.

USDA reimburses bird owners for their loss and has agreed to pay more than \$1 million in recent weeks for birds killed in 26 states to try to stop the disease.

Exotic Newcastle Disease causes flu-like symptoms in humans. In birds, it causes diarrhea, weakness and death. Although it is a minor threat to humans, it is highly dangerous to poultry flocks.

Spokesmen for Exotex Inc. said they thought their exposure to the disease came from California. A spokesman for Pet Shop and Bird

Clinic said they thought their exposure came from Florida.

After diagnosis of cases in local bird populations, they have suffocated exposed birds by covering their cages with plastic and pumping in carbon dioxide gas.

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BCC tables lawyer's request

By STARR MOORE
Battalion Reporter

The Brazos County Commissioners tabled the county attorney's request for additional help Monday and said they needed more time to consider two new appointments.

John M. Barron Jr. asked the court to appoint the city attorneys of Bryan and College Station as assistant county attorneys. As assistants, they would help Barron prosecute the backlog of appeals in the county court.

Commissioner Bill Cooley agreed with Barron. He was the only commissioner to oppose the motion to table the matter.

He said many misdemeanor cases are appealed to the court, simply because those involved know too much time will elapse before their case comes to trial, and the case will be thrown out.

The Speedy Trial Act allows only 60 days for prosecution to take place.

However, Commissioner Bud Cargill said he was angered by the fact that this was the first time he had heard of the proposal.

He said he was unaware that city attorneys Lowell Denton and Charles A. Bluntzer have already been assisting Barron without the commissioners' court approval.

Commissioner Walter Wilcox said the court just needs time to consider all the facets of the issue.

He said though the assistants are volunteers and would receive no payment, someone may have to be hired to assist the county judge when all the extra cases are included in his present workload.

Barron's request will be considered again by the commissioners court after the court has been discussed with the County Court At Law judge James Amos.

In other business today, the commissioners court approved amendment to the 1980 budget.

The amendments concerned additional money needed to finance items in construction of the new Brazos County courthouse that were not budgeted before.

United Way drive jumps to 44% of goal

The Brazos County United Way has raised \$107,532.44, or 44 percent of its \$242,395 goal so far.

It is in the sixth week of its 1980 fund drive.

This was an increase from the reported returns of 27 percent from the week before, and publicity chairman

Ann Bell called it an end of the campaign effort.

"Some of the money had been collected," she said, "but it just hadn't been reported."

Bell said Texas A&M University and the public employee division were big contributors last week.

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| .45 | BRILLIANT | AAAA | 1485 | .50 | MARQUISE | AAA | 1325 |
| .46 | BRILLIANT | AAA+ | 1540 | .71 | MARQUISE | AAA | 2094 |
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| .66 | BRILLIANT | AA+ | 1710 | .58 | PEAR | AAA+ | 1740 |
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