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Military schools get together to discuss common problems

By TERRY DURAN
Battalion Reporter

Wednesday evening, 6:30. "The Aggie War Hymn" echoed off the Quad dormitory walls. About two dozen college representatives from across the country watched as the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets passed by.

The event was the fourth annual meeting of the American Association of Military Schools, bringing together representatives of the United States' six traditional military schools.

University presidents and professors of military science came from the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va., the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, Va., The Citadel in Charleston, S.C., North Georgia College in Dahlonega, Ga., Norwich University in Northfield, Vt. and Texas A&M University came to discuss problems peculiar to their institutions.

Texas A&M is classified as a "traditional military school" — along with Virginia Polytechnic Institute — even though participation in military training activities is not mandatory at the two, as it is at the other four institutions. Capt. Charles J. Green, coordinator of the convention, says this is because the definition of the term is to have a full-time cadet corps that lives together on campus.

The other four colleges — VMI, The Citadel, Norwich University and North Georgia College — have retained their requirements for all students to be enrolled in some form of military instruction, although North Georgia College allows female students to enroll without participating in military training.

Green, a Texas A&M Army instructor, said the association was formed four years ago to promote the common interests of the schools.

"We (the six military schools) feel we provide more than the normal share of officers for the armed services," he said. He pointed out that although the six schools only have about two per cent of the total number of students enrolled in ROTC in the nation, they furnish about seven per cent of the officers that are commissioned through college programs.

The officers and administrators that attended the conference arrived Wednesday afternoon and attended a dinner at Dr. John Koldus' home after watching the Corps pass by at evening formation. Business meetings began Thursday morning, Green said, as the attendees discussed such problems as:

— uniform procurement. Four of the six schools wear distinctive uniforms found nowhere else, and keeping a sufficient stock of uniforms on hand can sometimes be a problem.

— increased scholarship opportunities for cadets. Here again, Green said, it is felt by the association that they "deserve a little more" than a regular civilian school that has an ROTC program where the cadets only wear a uniform to class and don't live together.

— recruiting. In some cases, a student of the school is automatically in the cadet corps there; in others, Green said, the students "have to be fought for to a certain extent," since participation in cadet activities is not mandatory.

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American illustrators display work here

Three American illustrators will have their work on display in the Rudder Exhibit Hall today through Nov. 14. The exhibit, "American Illustration in the Eighties," will include the works of John Collier, Jim Sharpe and Richard Sparks.

Their works include illustrations on the cover of Time magazine and the designing of the W.C. Fields and Will Rogers commemorative stamps, as well as illustrations in Sports Illustrated magazine. A reception honoring the artists

will be held in the exhibit hall this evening from 7:30 to 9.

The exhibit will be open daily through Nov. 14 from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. and is sponsored by Texas A&M University Art Exhibits.

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Vet classes get a break

College of Veterinary Medicine students and staff got an unexpected vacation from classes Thursday morning.

There were some electrical problems which required the electricity to be turned off for a few hours, said Lyndon Kurtz, assistant to the dean of Veterinary Medicine.

"We were told it would take two to four hours to repair, so we told everybody to go home and be back at noon," he said.

The power was turned back on at 10 a.m. and classes resumed at noon.

Ray requests absentee vote in November

United Press International
PETROS, Tenn. — Tennessee's best-known prison inmate, James Earl Ray, wants to cast a ballot in the upcoming Nov. 4 election along with many other convicts in the state's prisons.

State officials confirmed that Ray, serving a 99-year sentence at Brushy Mountain State Prison for the slaying of Martin Luther King Jr., had requested an absentee ballot and asked prison authorities not to release any information about his application.

However, John Parish, press secretary to Gov. Lamar Alexander, provided confirmation of the application.



Photo by Bonnie...

Down on the farm

Brenda Davidson, a freshman agriculture journalism major from Dumas, holds a baby pig for Albert Contreras, one of 2400 children participating in the annual Children's Barnyard, sponsored by the Saddle and Siroin club on Wednesday through Friday of this week. Students in the first grade and kindergarten from 30 area schools visited all the livestock centers on the Texas A&M University campus.

3rd team enters Three Mile plant

MIDDLETOWN, Pa. — A five-member team Thursday completed the third human entry into the contaminated Three Mile Island nuclear reactor building, performing the first maintenance since the March 1979 accident.

The entry was the longest to date, with two men emerging from the building after 90 minutes inside. The other three left the building after about 55 minutes.

Initially, plant operators planned to have two technicians exit the building after about 25 minutes, while the others stayed for about an hour. The longer stay indicated radiation levels were lower than expected, plant officials said.

"As far as I can tell it went very well, just based on the fact that all of them stayed in longer than the predicted times," a plant spokesman said. "All of them said they feel fine."

Plant spokesman David Delzinger said the team was able to complete one of its goals — opening an access door to the outside of the building that had been jammed since the accident.

The team was also to take extensive photographs and radiation tests inside the building to aid cleanup efforts.

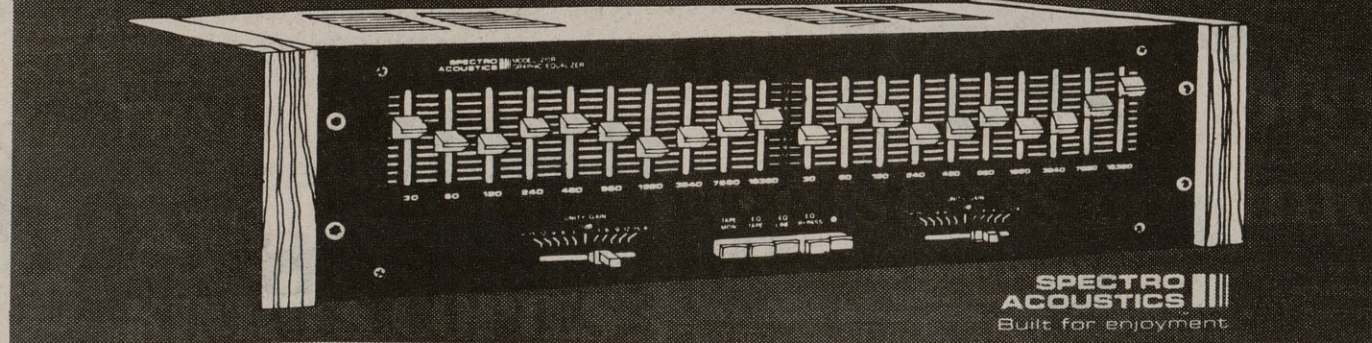
Members of the team included four employees of plant operator Metropolitan Edison Co.: Larry Eberly, 44; Guy Wise, 45; Richard Croll, 28, and Peter Keegan, 27. The fifth person, Sam Griffith, 28, is employed by a plant subcontractor, Nuclear Support Services Inc.

Each was dressed in protective boots and coveralls and carried a battery-powered oxygen pack. None wore the firefighter-like protective coats used by members of earlier entry missions, Met-Ed spokesman John Fidler said.

In Harrisburg, Pa., the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Wednesday started hearing into whether Met-Ed can restart the undamaged Unit No. 1 reactor at Three Mile Island.

the speaker warehouse

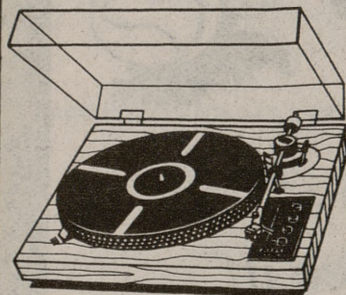
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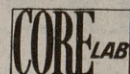
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