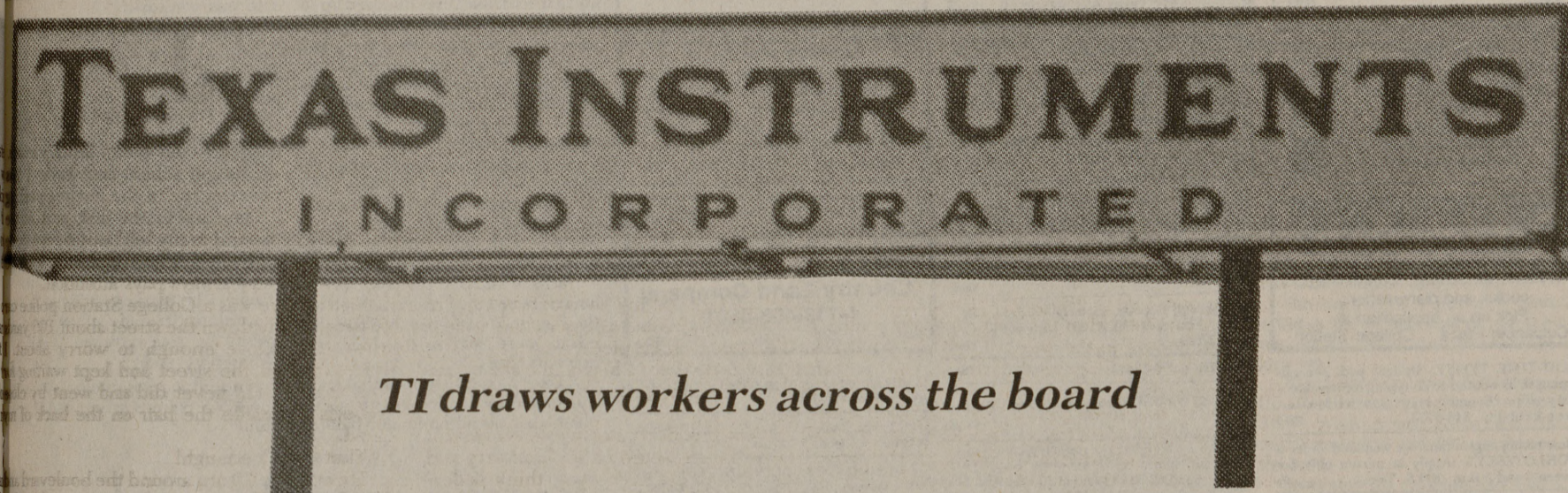


Local

Texas A&M loses skilled personnel



TI draws workers across the board

By CINDY GEE
Battalion Staff

Despite rumors that Texas Instruments is "stealing" Texas A&M University employees, the two have been working well together according to sources at both places.

"It's the kind of high technology company that we like to have in our backyard," said Dr. Robert Page, dean of the College of Engineering at Texas A&M.

Bill Brown, personnel director for T.I., said he thinks the

company has a "very positive" relationship with the University. T.I. has initiated an engineering development program with Texas A&M which allows employees to work part time and attend Texas A&M while earning up to a full day's wages, he said.

Brown said the local plant has more than 100 employees and hopes to expand on its 250 acres and employ over 1,000 people within the next five years. The plant is located about one mile east of State Highway 6 on SH 30.

The local branch of T.I. began production last March, and completed its first product, a mini computer, in April, naming it the Aggie 1.

Brown said one of the reasons T.I. opened a plant in this area was because they felt Texas A&M could provide technical applicants from the College of Engineering.

One of T.I.'s best-known inventors serves as a consultant to the engineering college, Brown said.

Although unemployment in the Bryan-College Station area is currently only 3 percent of the labor force, Brown said the company also felt the area had an untapped labor market.

Rita Keneipp, employment manager for Texas A&M, said expanding industry in general has an impact on every employer, and Texas A&M feels that.

"T.I. did attract some very skilled people from the campus,"

she said. "We lost a few of our skilled and tenured secretarial staff, and a few people with technical expertise in data processing. We constantly look at our pay plan as it compares with industry, but if a private industry has had a very successful year, they can probably afford to pay more."

Brown said the firm has been able to offer employment to people who have not had jobs before. He said the firm offers competitive wages, but that it's a matter of personal preference whether someone wants to work for the University and have holidays off, or to work for T.I.

Walt Baker, manager of the local Texas Employment Commission, said T.I. came along at a time when this area needed new jobs. He attributed this to cutbacks in construction due to the economy.

"The vast majority of people hired (about 85 percent, according to Brown) came from this area," Baker said, "and local residents are spending the money they earned in our community."

Baker said another positive aspect of the company being in College Station is that when a quality company moves into an area, it becomes obvious to other companies that it's a quality location. It tells them that they should take a good look at that area, he said.

Students charged with decapitation, corpse abuse

Two Texas A&M University students have been charged in connection with the decapitation of a corpse found Dec. 21 in a field off Normand Drive in College Station.

Charged with abuse of a corpse were William H. Ishee, 20, 1601 Holleman Drive, and Brian Russell Loggins, 21, 1412 Bermuda St. Ishee is a sophomore management major and Loggins is a junior psychology major.

The body was identified as James M.C. Hollie, 52, a black male buried in November, 1978, in Nelson Chapel Cemetery. The body had been mutilated and parts were missing from the decomposed body when it was found, according to police reports.

College Station Police Detective Gary Norton said the head and foot have not been recovered but are believed to have been put in a plastic trash bag and thrown in the Trinity River in Liberty County.

The two men are free on bond awaiting trial for the Class A misdemeanor which carries a maximum \$2,000 fine and/or one year in jail.

"Dancin'" comes to Rudder Saturday

Dance and music fans should take note of the upcoming MSC Town Hall presentation of "Dancin'."

Bob Fosse's hit Broadway musical includes choreography ranging from classical ballet to modern dance. Music to accompany the dances varies from Cat Stevens to John Phillip Sousa.

Fosse is known for his Academy Award-winning film, "All That Jazz." Two performances will be held Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

Tickets are still available in the MSC Box Office. Ticket costs are \$10, \$8 and \$6 for non-students; and \$8, \$6 and \$4.50 for students.



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