THE BATTALION

Today's Almanac

Nations

On this date in history: In 1960, an Eastern Air Lines

Electra crashed into Boston Har-

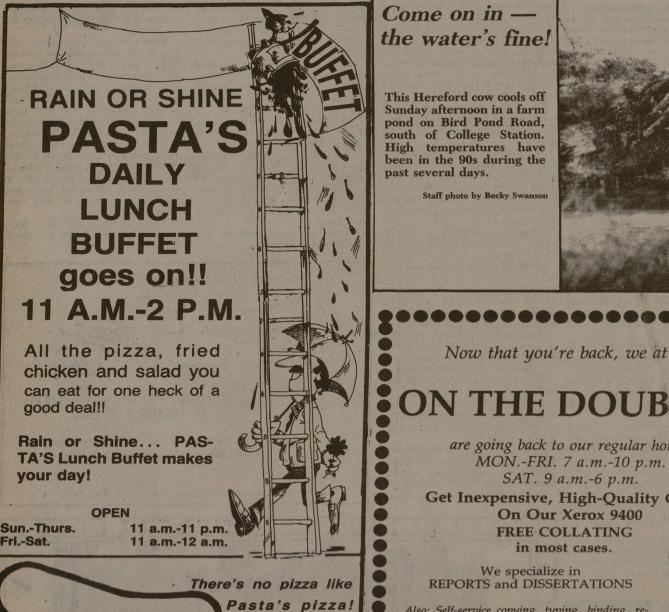
In 1965, Pope Paul made a 14-hour visit to New York to plead for world peace before the United

bor, killing 61 people.

United Press International Today is Monday, Oct. 5, the 278th day of 1981 with 87 to follow

The moon is approaching its first quarter.

The morning star is Mars. The evening stars are Mercury, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn.



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SPAGHETTI

Local

Come on in the water's fine!

This Hereford cow cools off Sunday afternoon in a farm pond on Bird Pond Road, south of College Station. High temperatures have been in the 90s during the past several days.

Staff photo by Becky Swanso



Gromets wage war weekly

ON THE DOUBLE

are going back to our regular hours: MON.-FRI. 7 a.m.-10 p.m. SAT. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

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War games an escap

By ELAINE ENGSTROM Battalion Reporter Every weekend in the deep, dark recesses of the Memorial Stu-dent Center, the world stops for 33 hours.

Battles are won and wars are lost. Ships sink and planes are shot down. Powerful beings make un-ending journeys through worlds unknown to mere mortals.

The Gromets, Texas A&M University's 100-member war gaming group, is a sub-committee of the Recreation Committee. "Gromets" stands for Game Repli-cation of Motivational Economic Tactical Situations. The \$10 yearly dues gives members access to the group's extensive collection of board games, books and hobby magazines, as well as a 20 percent discurrence meril and a forces discount on mail order games.

The Gromets have several rooms reserved in the MSC where they play war games and role-playing games like Dungeons and Dragons. During the fall semester, weekend gaming hours are shortened so members can attend yell practice and the football game

Usual gaming hours are: Friday, 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Saturday, noon to 2 a.m. and Sunday, noon to 11 p.m.

The group is eight years old but

organization, an expanded library degree in English and now and an increased awareness of the for the Texas Education A He publishes the bi-month nal as a hobby. The journa group's existence on campus, said Gromets Chairman Don Gilman. The Gromets will be working with the MSC Free University to circulation of approximate establish a Dungeons and Draclubs from as far away as gons workshop as a fall short course or a full course in the and the Virgin Islands. T issue published in March now a collector's item.

spring. "We're experimenting with new ideas," said Ann Barrier, chairman of MSC Free Universi-

ty. "It should be a good class." The Gromets also plan to play war games "by mail" with Annapo-lis, West Point and the Air Force Academy. "We'd also like to chal-lenge the University of Texas group to a tournament," Gilman

The eighth annual Warcon, the annual wargaming convention at Texas A&M, is scheduled for Feb. 5, 6 and 7. People come from all over Texas and the adjacent states to be in tournaments and to buy and sell war games.

Nick Schuessler, editor and publisher of "The Journal of World War II Wargaming," said approximately 100,000 war gamers live in the United States and others live in Canada, Britain, Australia and Germany

The Austin-based journal publishes book and game reviews, articles about conventions and editorial opinions on the art of World War II war gaming.

Gilman says war games p an opportunity to look at l and discover why thing pened in a particular way. games require problem and management skills," "If playing war games give appetite for war, then w television would give your tite for sex and violence.

The next Gromets meeting be tonight at 7:30 pm in 33 and is open to anyone int in becoming a member of the ommittee

Schuessler, 35, has a

Scheussler has been a wa

er for 20 years and says warg serves a useful purpose. "T

an undercurrent of aggre

America's youth and war

provide a better release," No one gets killed in a war

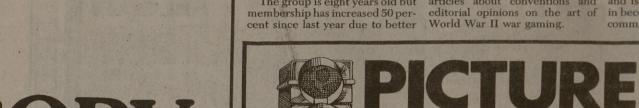
"Chess is nothing but ast war game. Over the centure

appearance changed but th

flict of two forces is still the

stigma of today's war game

their explicitness, not the conflict involved."



Page 4

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