

# THE BATTALION

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## The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High .....	88	High .....	85
Low .....	62	Low .....	63
Chance of rain .....	40%	Chance of rain .....	30%



Trick or treat

Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Ronnie Hallenberger and Phillip Smith, both from Walton Hall Ramp H, give candy to a trick-or-treater outside their dorm. On-campus Halloween festivities were held Thursday night.

## Reagan looks ahead following arms victory

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — President Reagan, following his dramatic Saudi arms deal victory, is underscoring U.S. commitment to a concerned Israel and is pressing a relieved Saudi Arabia into the Middle East peace process.

At the same time, Reagan's staff is hailing the president's ability to get what he wants from Congress, comparing his political prowess on Capitol Hill with that of a former master, President Lyndon Johnson.

"We would argue forcefully that he has been the most effective president since Lyndon Johnson with respect to his relationships with the Congress and his ability to get legislation through the Congress," White House Chief of Staff James Baker said.

Reagan took no bows Thursday and instead sought to mend relations with Israel, which staunchly opposes the \$8.5 billion sale, and tried to get more activity from Saudi Arabia in Middle East peace efforts.

The president sent a letter to Israeli

Prime Minister Menachem Begin underscoring the U.S. commitment to maintain Israel's military superiority in the Middle East.

He also sent a letter to Saudi King Khalid, stressing the importance the U.S. attaches to the security and strength of the oil-rich monarchy and urged close cooperation between the two countries in the search for peace.

Begin was not appeased by Reagan's letter, saying the sale poses "a new and serious danger" to his nation's security.

Sheik Faisal Alhegelan, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States, was cautious in linking the sale to peace moves. "We are buying these planes to defend our country," he said.

The Senate Wednesday, by a vote of 52-48, cleared the way for the sale of AWACS radar planes and other aircraft equipment to Saudi Arabia — a deal Reagan billed as vital for Middle East security.

Just a few days ago, the sale seemed headed for Senate defeat. But Reagan, as he did last summer with his budget

and tax cuts, managed to use his power of persuasion to turn foes into supporters.

Baker told reporters that the Senate approval of the package should send a strong signal overseas that Reagan is a strong leader.

Added national security adviser Richard Allen: "We think this is a significant undergirding of our foreign policy."

Allen said the administration does not expect Saudi Arabia to join in the Camp David peace negotiations, but said an emphasis was being put on an eight-point plan drafted by Saudi Crown Prince Fahd.

Reagan told reporters the most significant part of the plan is that it recognizes that Israel is a nation to be negotiated with.

There was growing speculation the plan may offer a basis for a new initiative after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in April under the Camp David accords.

## Official says 20 cent postal rate was needed in May

By RANDY CLEMENTS

**Battalion Staff**  
The new 20-cent postal rate, effective Sunday for first class letters, should have been implemented last May instead of the 18-cent price, Ralph Stewart of the U.S. Postal Service's Washington office says.

In April 1980, the postmaster general asked the Postal Rate Commission, for a 5-cent postal increase from 15 cents to 20 cents. However, the independent commission appointed by the president granted only a 3-cent increase, Stewart said.

The 18-cent price set in March was implemented under protest because it wasn't enough, he said, adding that the Postal Service incurred a \$126 million deficit the first five months the rate was in effect.

But, the new 20-cent rate should be sufficient to run and operate postal services for at least two years and should provide a \$100 million surplus by the end of fiscal year 1982, he said.

Clifford Caffey, manager of customer services for the Bryan Post Office, said the recent increases are an effort to help the post office keep up with the inflation rate.

"There is a 40 percent inflation rate, and 18 cents (for a first class stamp) is only a 20 percent increase, leaving a 20 percent deficit," he said.

Caffey was quick to point out that the Postal Service is not supposed to be profit-making but that it is supposed to break even. However, inflation is making that difficult.

For example, if gasoline prices increase another one cent per gallon the Postal Service, which owns 118 thousand vehicles, will have additional operating expenses of more than \$1 million, Caffey said.

In addition to fighting inflation, the 2-cent increase will help decrease Congress' annual subsidy of the Postal Service, he said. The service should be self-supporting by 1984, he said.

Even though the cost for the first ounce of a first-class stamp is going up, the cost for additional ounces is the same as the old rate — 17 cents per ounce.

The rate for parcel post will also remain the same, but piece rates for third-class bulk will have an average increase of 23 percent and second-class mail will have an average increase of 1.9 percent.

C.L. Matcek, postmaster of the College Station Post Office, said the service is as good as it can be. The increase only covers the cost of the service being rendered now, he said.

"The rates have gone up quite a bit over the years, but the increase is not out of line," he said. "The Postal Service is still one of the cheapest services left in the country."

Matcek said people are more prepared for the increase this time than they were when the 18-cent stamp went into effect. "We won't have as much confusion because we had more time to get prepared," he said.

In contrast, the Postal Service only had one week to prepare for the May increase, he said. Preparations for the 20-cent rate having been underway since that time.

Caffey predicted the public will take the increase in stride. Some people won't like it, he said, but most people understand the need for the increase.

Both Matcek and Caffey urge everyone to beat the rush by purchasing 20-cent stamps before the rate increase goes into effect.

## Communists, Solidarity move on strike collision course

**United Press International**  
WARSAW, Poland — The Polish Communist Party vowed to press for a ban on strikes at today's session of parliament, but Solidarity said it would never allow the government to remove its hard-won right to strike.

However, the union also said on the eve of today's debate it wanted to discipline its own union members who have been staging wildcat walkouts in defiance of the government and Solidarity.

At least 282,000 workers were on strikes over food shortages and other grievances despite Wednesday's one-hour national strike that Solidarity had hoped would channel protest into a single short stoppage.

The session of the Sejm, Poland's parliament, faced several important matters, including a ban on strikes and proposals to at least indirectly draw Solidarity and the Roman Catholic Church into government.

Politburo member Stefan Olszowski reiterated to a provincial party meeting on the eve of the session that the Communist Party would introduce a motion calling for banning strikes and temporarily returning to the six-day work week.

"Nobody can deprive us of the right to strike and the union will never let anybody do it," the union national executive said in a statement read over

Polish television.

But, announcing it wanted to control strikes itself, the union leaders said, "It is ourselves that must program the use of this weapon, and we must do it in a planned and thought-out way."

The union's 107-member national commission will meet Nov. 3 to discuss "limitations of the right to strike and establishing the union's disciplinary measures for those responsible for the weakening of the union's unity and discipline."

Union appeals to the local chapters to halt strikes have gone unheeded.

General strikes paralyzed Zielona Gora province, where 150,000 people have been striking for more than a week, and Tarnobrzeg province, where 120,000 have been striking for a week.

In Zyrardow, near Warsaw, 12,000 workers — mostly women — were into the 19th day of a strike demanding more food, and Solidarity said taxi drivers and city transport workers also had joined the walkout.

Faculty and students at Warsaw University struck for four hours Thursday to support faculty and students at an engineering school in Radom staging a sit-in to over the choice of school rector.

Some 2,400 coal miners in Sosnowiec, in southern Poland, went on strike Tuesday after poison gas bombs were thrown from a passing car, sending

more than 50 miners to a hospital.

And 65 construction companies struck Thursday for two hours to protest shortages of building materials.

## Two programs hold up local crime

By DANIEL PUCKETT

**Battalion Staff**  
Burglars are striking more local homes than ever, but residents can now strike back, says Lt. Bernard F. Kapella of the College Station Police Department.

Kapella said two new crime-prevention programs already have proven very effective in other cities. Home Security Surveys can help deter burglars from entering a participant's home, and Operation Identification can help in returning stolen goods after police recover them.

Citizen participation in at least one of the programs is urgent, he said, because of the massive increase in home burglaries. While police recorded 478 home burglaries in 1979, they reported 691 in 1980 and 635 in 1981 as of Sept. 30.

Kapella attributes the rapid rise in home burglary to College Station's growth and the transient nature of a large segment of the population.

"This is not a small town anymore and people have to start taking big-city precautions against big-city crime," he said.

The first program is a Home Security Survey, which is an inspection of the house or apartment by a police officer trained in crime prevention. The inspector looks for security problems and makes suggestions for correcting them.

"While no lock on earth will keep out a determined burglar forever," Kapella said, "a good one can discourage him enough to make him leave your house alone. A good lock makes a burglar work to get in and most burglars hate to work."

The second program, Operation Identification, involves engraving the owner's driver's license number on most valuables, especially stereos, television sets and radios. Items which cannot be engraved, such as antiques and rare stamps or coins, should be photographed and described in detail

on the back of the picture.

Engraving is much more difficult to erase than most product serial numbers, and having the owner's driver's license number makes it much easier to return his property, Kapella said.

Engraving tools, which the public can borrow, are recent gifts from the Brazos Savings Association and the College Station Bank. Each of the financial institutions donated \$100 for the program.

Kapella said 12 engravers are available, and the public can check them out for up to one week at no charge. Residents can arrange to take part in either program by contacting Kapella at the police station.

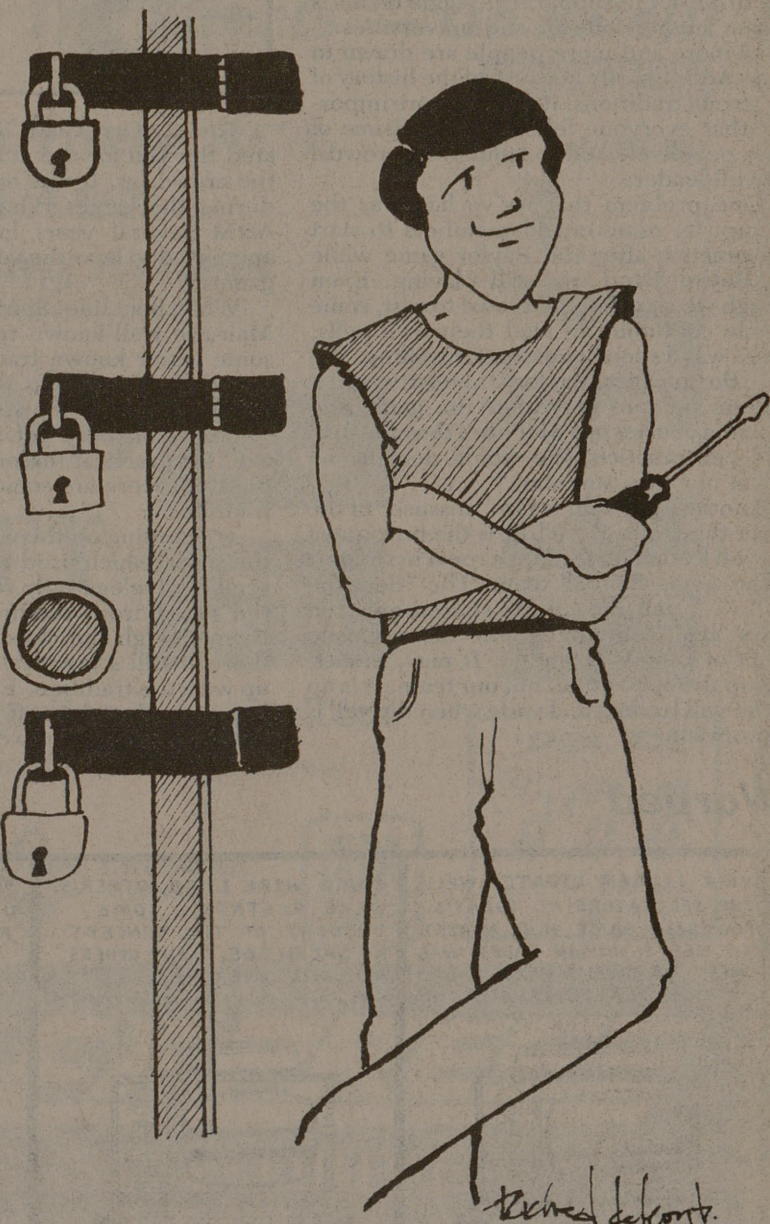
Dorm residents, too, should take more precautions against burglary, Chief Russ McDonald, of the University Police, said. He strongly recommends that on-campus students keep their doors locked when out of the room and that they participate in Operation Identification.

Unlocked doors and valuables left in plain sight are the main problems in dorm burglaries, he said. No force was used in 77 percent of the burglaries on campus last year; that is, the burglar either entered through an unlocked door or had a duplicate key. And valuable jewelry was often left on desks or counter-tops, making the burglar's job faster and easier.

"If you bring expensive items to school, secure them somewhere out of sight," McDonald said. A burglar is much less tempted to break into a room if he is not sure it contains anything of value.

But if a burglary does occur, the most important step is to report it.

"We can't return your property if you don't tell us it's gone," he said. Police recover a large number of stolen items during the year but they must sell them at auction because owners either did not report the theft or cannot identify the property.



## Aggie Band marching across TV screen tonight

Aggie fans don't have to wait until Saturday to see their favorite marching band perform a halftime drill.

The Fighting Texas Aggie Band will be featured on PM Magazine tonight at 6:30 on KBTX-TV Channel 3.

The 6-minute segment will feature the preparation and performance of the band's halftime drill of last month's Texas A&M-Louisiana Tech game, Rick Bradford, PM Magazine executive in Waco, said. The segment will be aired during the first part of the show, he added.

Camera crews for PM Magazine spent the Thursday before the game filming the band's practice on the drill field and interviewing Col. Joe T. Haney, band director, and members of the Aggie Band. Then Saturday, the PM crew came back for the game and filmed the result of the week's work.

The segment was produced by Jack Smith, co-host of the Waco-based show. "The show is centered on the uniqueness of the band," Bradford said.

Although Texas A&M University has no music department the band is one of the largest military bands in the United States, he said.

The television segment will show the band performing wedge drills, and a series of oblique drills ending with the traditional block T.

After the segment is shown locally, a copy will be sent to the PM Magazine home office in San Francisco where a decision will be made whether to syndicate it for national broadcast, Bradford said.

The Dallas division of PM Magazine aired a feature on the yell leaders and Aggie spirit last week in Dallas.