

THE BATTALION

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Monday, November 9, 1981
College Station, Texas

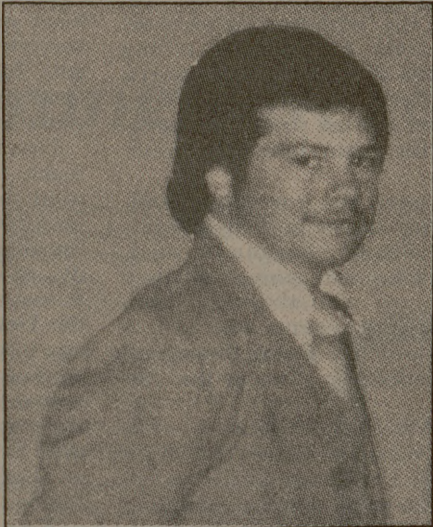
USPS 045 360
Phone 845-2611

The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	67	High	68
Low	43	Low	45
Chance of rain	10%	Chance of rain	10%

Half-mast flags, quiet honor student today

By DANIEL PUCKETT



Wiley Keith Jopling

Quiet hours will be observed on the Quad today and flags flown half-mast in honor of a student who died Friday night after being run over by a tractor near the bonfire cutting site. In addition, cadets will observe a moment of silence during supper, Todd Jopling, Corps public relations officer, said Sunday.

Wiley Keith Jopling, 19, a sophomore agricultural economics major from Nacogdoches, died after a tractor on which he and two other students were riding hit a bump at about 6:40 p.m. Friday, riding on the left rear fender, which was crushed beneath the tractor's left rear wheel, said Trooper William Kuhle, of the Department of Public Safety.

The tractor, driven by Richard Savage, a sophomore mechanical engineering major from Houston, was eastbound on the Old San Antonio Road three to four miles west of the cutting site, Kuhle said. The cutting site is about 12 miles northeast of Bryan on Old San Antonio Road.

The other passenger, Michael Dunn, senior mechanical engineering major from Sugarland, was not hurt.

Jopling was rushed to St. Joseph Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at about 7 p.m., Kuhle said. He said no charges have been filed in connection with the incident but that an investigation of Jopling's death is still under way.

Savage and Dunn could not be reached for comment. However, Art Reese, head stack (coordinator) of the bonfire, said the bonfire committee has

begun taking extra precautions to prevent a repetition of Friday's incident.

He said no one is now allowed to ride on the tractor fenders. Instead, passengers must ride behind the driver, so that if they fall, they fall behind the tractor and not in front of its wheels.

In addition, no students are allowed to ride flat-bed trucks out to the cutting site and tractors are no longer driven there, but hauled on trailers.

Reese said he would not be able to comment further until after a meeting with University officials, a meeting he expects sometime Monday.

Jopling's father, Floyd Jopling of

Nacogdoches, said his son was actively involved in agriculture and communications. He worked part-time for a College Station agriculturalist and kept his own cattle near Nacogdoches.

"He was an enthusiastic Aggie, and we were very proud of him," his father said. He said Jopling was academically above average, graduating 22nd in a high-school class of 305, in addition to filling several offices in the Nacogdoches Future Farmers of America.

His employer, Bob Franke, said Jopling, an extremely reliable worker, did various jobs for him and tended his cattle. "When I first met Wiley, I was so impressed that I found a job for him; the longer he worked for me, the more impressed I was," he said.

Franke added that Jopling was planning to advise financial institutions on agricultural loans after graduation. "He wanted to give sound advice to the banks and to the people applying for loans," he said.

Jopling's roommate, Luis de la Reza, a junior civil engineering major from Bolivia, said Jopling was dedicated to the bonfire and always happy. "I never saw him depressed; he was friends with everybody," de la Reza said.

Tracy Cox, head resident at McInnis Hall where Jopling lived, said Jopling was very active in dorm affairs and chief of the McInnis cutting crew. He said McInnis cutters wore black arm bands in Jopling's honor this weekend.

The family requests that memorial donations be made to the Wiley Keith Jopling Memorial Scholarship Fund in care of the Former Students Association.



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

A tough job

Mark Belcher, left, from Company M-2, helps another bonfire worker chain on a tractor-load of wood at the bonfire site northeast of Old San

Antonio Road. Muddy conditions at the site caused trucks to get stuck, meaning the wood had to be unloaded and pulled out by tractor.

Lawsuits against A&M unresolved in courts

By TIM FOARDE

Although the Gay Student Service Organization's lawsuit has captured most attention recently, previous highly publicized suits against Texas A&M University are still unresolved.

Lawsuits involving Texas A&M have kept University lawyers arguing in the courts about alleged sex discrimination in the Corps of Cadets, freedom of information and the University's right to copyright Texas A&M logos.

The sex discrimination suit

The class action sex discrimination suit began in 1979 with former cadet Melanie Zentgraf, Class of '80.

Zentgraf charged the University with sex discrimination because at that time women were excluded from the Aggie Band, Ross Volunteers, Fish Drill Team, Rudder's Rangers, Parson's Mounted Cavalry and the Brigade Color Guard.

Women are still excluded from the Aggie Band, Ross Volunteers and the Fish Drill Team.

James Bond, System vice-chancellor for legal affairs, said a Houston District Court has determined that Zentgraf's point is moot (because she has graduated) but has preserved her right to represent women at Texas A&M in her same situation.

Bond said the Justice Department intervened on the premise that there were civil right violations, but the court has restricted the department's involvement to questions concerning 14th Amendment violations.

Should the court decide in Zentgraf's favor, Bond said, the University could be forced to change any policies in the Corps determined discriminatory and may be required to pay attorney's fees incurred by Zentgraf.

The freedom of information suit

The University filed an appeal Thursday after an Austin District Court ruled against the University in a freedom of information suit filed by the Bryan-College Station Eagle.

The Eagle in February requested disclosure of a search committee's preliminary list of candidates to succeed former Texas A&M President Jarvis Miller.

The Board of Regents refused to disclose the list of names and the Eagle sued the University for violating the Texas Open Records Act.

The Texas Open Records Act provides access by the public to information in custody of governmental agencies and bodies, with exceptions involving "unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

The district court ruled in favor of the Eagle following Texas Attorney General Mark White's opinion that the list was a matter of public information, Bond said.

White has said there could be harmful results in a liberal interpretation of the Open Records Act but he interprets the law to say the information should be public.

However, the University still refused to disclose the list and Thursday appealed the decision.

If the appeals court does not decide in the University's favor, Regents Chairman H.R. "Bum" Bright has said the case will be taken to the Texas Supreme Court.

"This case is of crucial importance not only to the University but to every government agency in the state," Bond said. "It says to cities, counties, universities and state agencies that they must go through the process of receiving raw data (such as prospective personnel) tot-

ally out in the sunshine."

This would not allow agencies to get highly credible nominees at an early date and investigate raw data concerning them, Bond said. If names can't be kept confidential, he said, people would not permit their names to fall into the system and get instant notoriety.

Bond said this would pressure candidates in a premature fashion, "long before they are even a serious candidate, or even give consent to be considered."

Officials from both the University and The Eagle said in early August they would pursue the matter even if a University president was named before the dispute was resolved. This became reality when Dr. Frank E. Vandiver was named president Aug. 26.

Both sides have kept their word and the case is still in court.

The copyright case

No progress has been made aside from the filing and answering of charges in a suit about the copyrighting of Texas A&M logos. Bond said the next step will be interrogatory hearings to gather information from both sides.

The University is being sued by four local bookstores and a manufacturer who protest the University's decision to copywrite the Texas A&M insignia and emblems.

The University has registered with the secretary of state the letters TAMU in any form, the ATM symbol, the A&M crest and seal, the "Gig 'em Aggies" slogan, the raised thumb symbol and the drawing of Old Sarge.

Other universities including the University of Texas have their logos copyrighted Bond said.

"There is nothing abnormal, unnatural or atypical about a university copywriting their logos. The University is very secure in its position."

Solidarity, Polish government

Wildcat strike settled

United Press International
WARSAW, Poland — Solidarity union negotiators reached agreement with Poland's communist government today to end a nearly three-week wildcat strike by 200,000 people in the western province of Zielona Gora.

Although other strikes persist around the country, the Zielona Gora walkout was the biggest, longest and most bitter, complicating chances for the resumption of national negotiations between Solidarity and the government.

Union officials in Zielona Gora, the capital of which is 270 miles west of

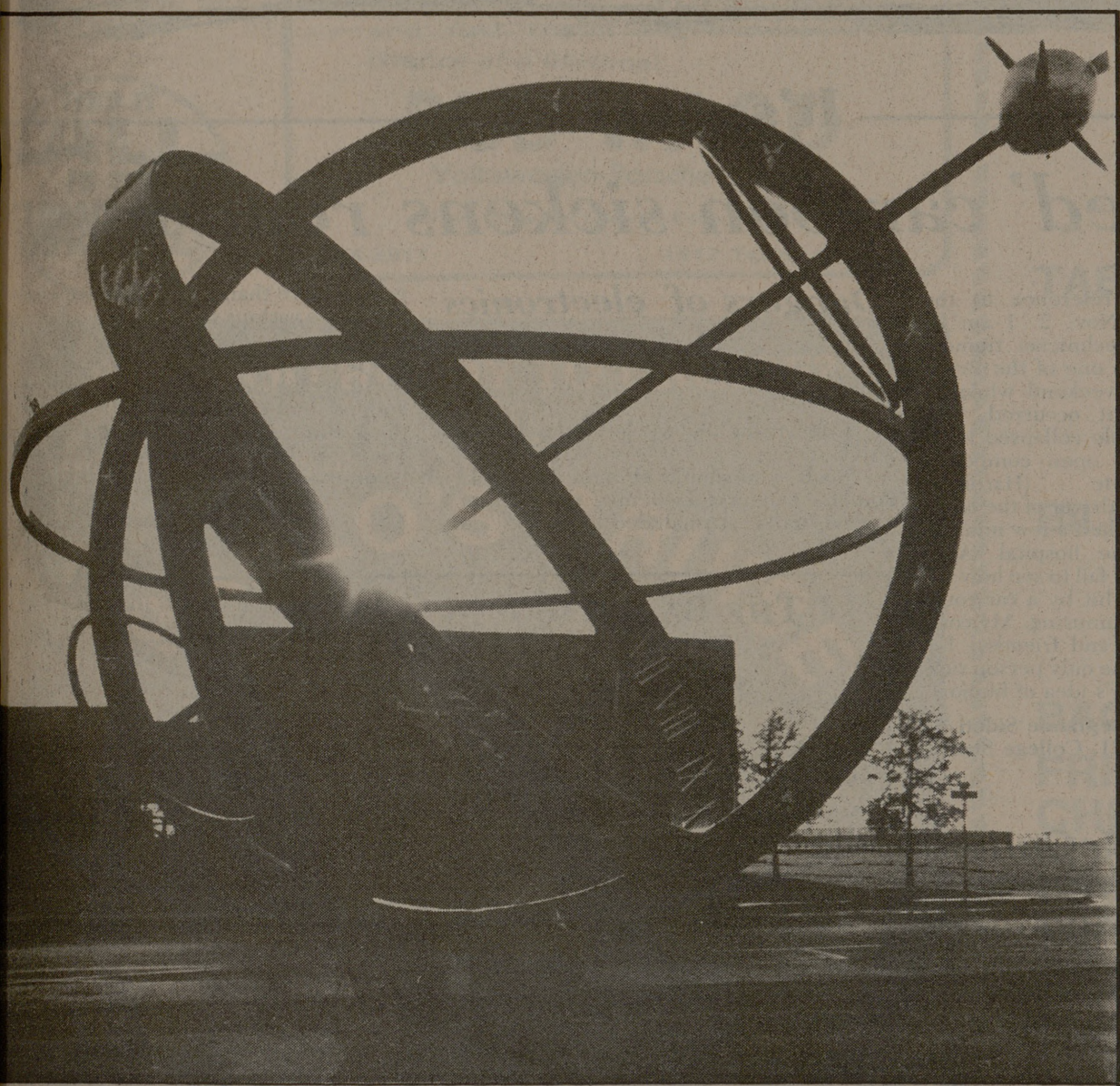
Warsaw and near the East German border, withheld complete details of the agreement until a signing ceremony could be arranged later in the day.

But a spokesman at Solidarity's national headquarters in Gdansk said the workers won their chief demand — removal of a state farm manager whom they accused of anti-union activities.

The workers also won full back pay for the period of the strike which began 19 days ago. The spokesman said the union's national fund would pay 50 percent of the strikers' wages, with the government making up the other half.

The union's press spokesman in Zielona Gora, Marion Podzada, confirmed the outline of the tentative agreement. He said representatives of Solidarity and the government must still sign documents making formal their understanding.

The state farm director, Henry Lesniewski, was a delegate to last summer's Communist Party Congress and is a member of the provincial party leadership. His removal obviously was a difficult point to agree on, but Solidarity in Gdansk said the agreement guarantees his ouster.



Staff photo by Colin Valentine

Sun's out at last

After several gloomy hours of rain and overcast skies Sunday, the sundial across from the

KAMU studios was finally rewarded with the brief appearance of the sun.

Changes may be on the way for leadership in Soviet Union

United Press International
MOSCOW — The absence of two prominent Soviet politicians from the annual Revolution Day parade in Red Square has Kremlin watchers speculating that important changes may be afoot in Moscow's leadership.

The Saturday parade marked the 64th anniversary of Communist control in Russia, and was used to deliver a stern message to the United States that achieving a military edge over Moscow was impossible.

But the message broke no new foreign policy ground and Western observers were more intrigued with the absence of ideologist Boris Ponomarev and Viktor Grishin, controversial chairman of the Moscow city Communist Party.

Neither was standing atop the mausoleum of V.I. Lenin, where the Soviet leadership traditionally reviews the military march.

Western analysts said only illness or impending political downfall could account for their failure to appear on a Soviet red-letter day. Neither the Soviet Foreign Ministry nor Tass news agency could explain their absence.

The incident took on special significance since a plenary session of the Communist Party Central Committee, at which changes in the ruling Politburo are normally announced, is expected within the next 10 days.

Most sources agreed that Ponomarev, 76, one of the leading party ideologists, was politically secure and probably was ill during the weekend.

But Grishin, 67, has been out of the public eye for more than a month. His last major assignment was representing the Kremlin at the Polish Communist Party congress in July, when Stanislaw Kania was re-elected its chief. Kania

was deposed last month.

Grishin was caught in an embarrassing incident at the 1979 Mayday parade that has never been officially explained.

The newspaper Evening Moscow — which Grishin's party organization publishes — printed a picture of Soviet leaders atop Lenin's tomb that omitted Andrei Kirilenko, now 75, the man most often mentioned as a successor to Leonid Brezhnev.

In an altered photograph, Grishin was shown in the picture one spot closer to Brezhnev than he had actually been standing. The next morning other newspapers published a photograph of the leadership that included Kirilenko.

Kremlinologists surmised at the time that Grishin, a dark horse candidate to succeed Brezhnev, had made a clumsy attempt to embarrass Kirilenko.