

Gas surplus creating lower prices

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115⁸
UNLEADED
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Thursday is no longer Focus day. Because of The Battalion's increased volume of advertising, Focus, the weekly entertainment supplement, now will be published on Fridays.

Today's television schedule is on page 7 of The Battalion, so you won't miss a day.

You'll still find this weekend's entertainment listings and features in Focus. But you're on your own for tonight. See Focus on Friday

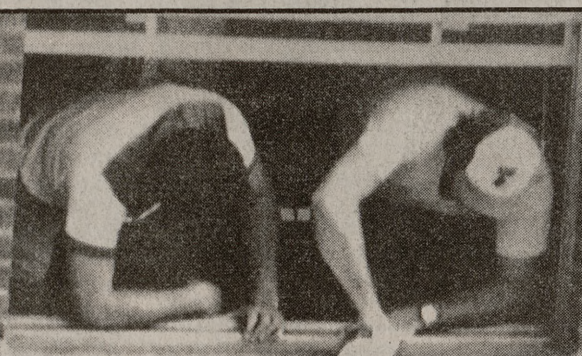
Texas A&M The Battalion

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Keeping cool

photo by Rick Robinson

Robert "Gonzo" Nieman, a freshman computer science major from Seguin, cools off an unsuspecting Craig Parnell, a sophomore engineering technology

major from Houston. Both are residents of Moore Hall. Parnell, who got the wetting Tuesday, said the cool water felt good.

Three-judge panel to rule on removing White from case

United Press International
DALLAS — A three-judge panel charged with drafting legislative redistricting plans is considering motions by the Texas governor and House speaker to remove Attorney General Mark White as their lawyer in the case.

The panel is expected to make a ruling on the motions late today.

Both Gov. Bill Clements and Speaker Bill Clayton are named as defendants in a redistricting suit that was pending before the court when the Justice Department declared the state's House and Senate districts invalid.

The Justice Department said the plans illegally diluted the voting strengths of blacks and Mexican-Americans.

Clements was named as a defendant because he is the state's highest political figure and Clayton because he was a member of the five-man panel that drew the new House and Senate districts because of problems with the plans passed by the Legislature.

After the adverse ruling by the Justice Department, the court agreed to redraw the districts and to take suggestions on the configuration of the districts from all parties involved in the original suit.

The original lawsuit was filed by two Republican lawmakers, several people active in the Texas GOP and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund. They contend the districts discriminated against Re-

publicans, minorities and urban residents.

Clayton, Clements and Secretary of State David Dean all have been openly critical of White's handling of the case, saying he has taken actions with the court without consulting them.

White and Dean have had a particularly heated exchange, with Dean contending that White has kept state officials in the dark about the case and White countering that the state has only one interest in the case and one lawyer — himself.

The motions by Clayton and Clements are both pending before U.S. District Judge Jerry Buchmeyer. Also on the panel are U.S. District Judges Carolyn Randall and Barefoot Sanders.

Senators designate sites for upcoming elections

by Cyndy Davis

Battalion Staff
Student senators Wednesday night designated nine polling places for upcoming spring elections after considerable debate about the ninth location.

Senators approved these locations proposed by Election Commissioner George Crowson: the Academic and Agency Building, Zachry Engineering Center, the Memorial Student Center, Harrington Classroom Center, Sterling C. Evans Library and Sbsa Dining Hall for the two-day elections. The Kleberg Animal Science Center and the Veterinary Medicine Complex will be polling sites for one day only.

Crowson said the commission chose places that are accessible to the most students, emphasizing academic rather than living areas of campus. An exception was made for Sbsa since one-fifth of the student population eats there, he said.

However, those polling places were later recalled for consideration by Senator George Boozalis who said a south campus polling site was needed also.

Senator Mark Ely agreed, saying, "The point is to get people involved, we want people to get out and vote."

Senators then approved the addition of Heldenfels Hall to the list of polling locations for March 30 and 31.

In other business, senators voted down a bill calling for support of the MSC Council's electronic message center. Senator Greg Hood said senators need more information about the project before they can support it.

The Department of Census and Research Organization Bill, recommending formation of such a department to provide a statistically valid method of gathering student viewpoints, passed unanimously.

Senators conducted campus canvasses last fall which failed to provide representative student responses to survey questions.

Also approved was the Dead Week Library Bill, a proposal that the Sterling C. Evans Library stay open until 2 a.m. beginning May 1. The bill also allocates \$190 for the project.

The Parking Research Bill was introduced and passed, asking that an

external research group conduct studies on campus parking, traffic and pedestrian problems. The bill also calls for recommendations to be made to the University's five-year master planning committee.

"This problem has been seriously neglected for so long," Chris Langford, student vice president for student services said. "The time has come to deal with it."

Langford said research by an external firm would have more emphasis with the Texas A&M System Board of Regents than would research conducted by the System.

Senators also appointed the following students to senate seats: Mary Ann French, Keith Carmichael, Mark Jameson, Robert Ruiz and Debbie Moy.

Judicial Board Chairman Lance Wright announced that the College of Liberal Arts Senior senate seat is open and that Matt Woodruff, who was the only original applicant for the position, will be considered. If Woodruff is not appointed, additional applications will be accepted.

Magna Carta to be on display in the MSC

Vandiver welcomes document to U.S.

by Steven B. Larkin

Battalion Reporter
"Everybody who is interested in liberty is going to be touched by this document," said Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver Wednesday, as he welcomed the arrival of the Magna Carta at Houston's Intercontinental Airport.

Vandiver was part of a University delegation that met the Very Rev. Oliver Finennes, dean of the Lincoln Cathedral in England, who accompanied the ancient parchment on its flight to the United States.

"Seeing a 750-year-old document concerned about the basics of human freedom is a great experience for anyone in the West," Finennes said. He has brought the document to America on previous visits.

The Magna Carta, carried by three armed guards, was protected by a specially designed case and was never opened for exhibit at the press reception. Information concerning the location of the 13th century document is being kept confidential until it arrives for display at the University campus Sunday.

The fragile parchment will be open for public exhibit at the Memorial Student Center Sunday through Tuesday.

About 8,000 visitors are expected to view the document during its stay on the campus, says J. Wayne Stark, special assistant to the University president, specifically for cultural development. Stark has served as head of the committee responsible for bringing the document to the University.

Texas A&M is the initial stop for the 14-week nationwide tour that will take the historical document to Mississippi, Tennessee, North and South Carolina and Virginia. This is the fifth time the document has been on public exhibit in the United States.

Signed and sealed by King John in an historic meeting at Runnymede in 1215, the Magna Carta was a treaty between the king and his barons that guaranteed the rights of all people and made the king subject to law. Some of the provisions of the Magna Carta provided that no one could be deprived of his right to life, liberty or property without due process.

The \$14,750 needed to bring the Magna Carta to the University was raised through private donations, a \$1,650 grant from the Texas Commission for Humanities and a \$2,000 donation by the city of College Station.



staff photo by David Fisher

University president Dr. Frank E. Vandiver greets the Very Rev. Oliver Finennes, dean of the Lincoln Cathedral in England, at Houston's Intercontinental

Airport Wednesday afternoon. The Rev. Finennes accompanied the Magna Carta — sealed in a special case due to its age and condition — to the United States.

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forecast

Today's forecast: Overcast and rainy with temperatures in the mid-50s. Friday's forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with cool temperatures and a 50 percent chance of rain.