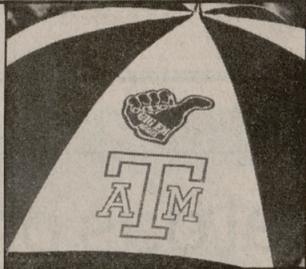


Aggieland logos mean big business

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At Ease tells all



Texas A&M The Battalion

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College Station, Texas

Friday, November 12, 1982

Walesa freed; no longer a 'threat'

United Press International
WARSAW, Poland — Lech Walesa, the charismatic leader of the outlawed Solidarity union, was freed today by Poland's military regime after nearly 11 months of internment, the government said.

"The order of the Interior Ministry (releasing Walesa) is being carried out right now," a Justice Ministry spokesman said. "He is packing, saying goodbye, if he wants, getting himself spruced up."

The government spokesman's office later confirmed the order releasing Walesa had been carried out. Officials said this did not mean Walesa had left the plush government hunting lodge at Arlamowo in south-east Poland where he had been held. But other sources said Walesa probably had already been taken somewhere else.

There was no immediate word on when Walesa would go to his home in Gdansk, or whether he would stop in

Warsaw or elsewhere before returning home to the Baltic port city of Gdansk. Although officials expected him in Gdansk by Sunday, his family had no concrete word of plans for his release.

Walesa's wife, Danuta Walesa, said she was "full of joy and fear" at the news.

"Fear because I can't imagine the crowds of people who will want to see him," she said.

Government spokesman Jerzy

Urban said Walesa, the fiery strike leader who led the 10-million-member Solidarity union for its entire 16 months of existence, was no longer considered "a threat to internal stability."

Urban announced at a news conference Thursday the charismatic leader of the banned union would be released "within a few days." Walesa has been interned since martial law was imposed Dec. 13.

The spokesman said no conditions

had been attached in exchange for Walesa's freedom, but he stressed that, like anyone else, Walesa could be interned again should he begin activities deemed harmful to the state.

The move was the strongest indication yet that authorities feel the country is under their control and that they have the confidence to meet their stated goal of ending martial law by the end of the year.

Walesa's release order followed a

meeting with Interior Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak.

The release order, dated Nov. 10, apparently was delayed one day to see how Poles would react to the underground's call for a general strike and mass street demonstrations to protest the Solidarity ban.

The response was muted, and authorities declared total victory, despite street clashes in three cities in which about 40 people were hurt.



Empty now, but not Monday

staff photo by David Fisher

Rudder Exhibit Hall normally is full of art, but Thursday it was empty in preparation for the beginning of pre-registration Monday. The lines will probably be long, so be sure to go early.

B-CS residents protest election

by Robert McGlohon
Battalion Staff

A group of Bryan-College Station residents is sending a letter to the Texas attorney general asking for an investigation of voting irregularities in Brazos County during the Nov. 2 general election.

Gloria and Ronald Wilkins belong to the group that signed the letter. Mrs. Wilkins is chairman of the Brazos County Republican Party, but she said she did not sign the letter in that capacity.

Wilkins has no official connection to the Republican Party and was not involved in the election until the last few days, but became involved because he was "just plain getting irritated at all the crookedness," he said.

One of the complaints listed in the letter is one of class discrimination against the predominately Republican students of Texas A&M University, who generally live in the southern districts of Brazos County, he said.

"What was good in the north part of the county wasn't good, for let's say some funny reason, in the south part of the county," Wilkins said.

Discrimination was involved in re-

gistration as well as voting, Wilkins said. During registration, students were not allowed to use a post office box as their home address, he said. But in other districts, voters were allowed to use post office boxes as their addresses.

During the actual voting, students who had lost or never received their registration cards were not allowed to vote, he said.

"The main issue is when someone comes in (to vote) without the voter registration card, there are procedures to enable them to vote," Wilkins said.

If a person does not have a registration card, the pollster must allow him to sign an affidavit swearing he is a resident of the district in which he wants to vote and that he either lost or never received his card.

That procedure was not followed in districts with large student populations, he said. But in other districts, residents were allowed to vote by showing their driver's licenses or Social Security cards.

The Wilkinses ask that any student who was turned away from the polls call Launa Davison at 779-2661.

Bryan council undecided on zoning issue

by Robert McGlohon
Battalion Staff

The Bryan City Council will hold another hearing on zoning in Bryan on Dec. 13. And throughout the month, councilmen say, they will be soliciting citizens' opinions on the issue.

Of the six Bryan city councilmen, only one said he opposes the zoning proposal. The others said they haven't made up their minds.

Councilman Ron Blatchley, one of the undecided, said he sees two major advantages to zoning.

"The biggest advantage of zoning

is to be able to plan," Blatchley said. "As a city, your growth — to be able to know what's going to be located here, what's going to be located there, what kind of services, what kind of lines you need to put in to service a particular area, what kind of feeder roads as opposed to major thoroughfares.

"Simply, the greatest advantage to zoning, for the city, is the whole idea of being able to literally plan out your community and make it work with some sensible method."

Zoning is advantageous to the individual citizen as well, he added.

"On the other hand, the advantage

to the citizenry — and they make up the city — is that they're able to make plans about where they particularly have purchased a home or business," Blatchley said.

Peyton Waller is the councilman who opposes zoning.

"I just don't believe in telling people how to use their property," Waller said. "I think it's one of our rights."

Blatchley said objections based on people's property rights is a "simplistic approach."

"I don't care what land you have now," Blatchley said. "If it's inside the city limits there are going to be some

restrictions on what you do with that property. You've got to meet subdivision ordinance restrictions. You've got to meet building restrictions. There are already some controls in place.

"(Zoning) may not be any more restrictive than subdivision ordinances and quite possibly not as restrictive."

Waller also said zoning would cost too much.

"It's been estimated that it would take 16 employees to put zoning into force in the city of Bryan and they're all high-priced employees," Waller

said. "It doesn't produce anything constructive. All you're doing is directing people in the (use of) property they already own."

The 16 employees would cost Bryan taxpayers \$500,000 a year, Waller said.

Blatchley said the increase in staff would be minimal and most of the work would be done by an unpaid zoning board.

But Waller said Bryan residents already have made their decision about zoning.

"It's been in front of the voters in Bryan three times," Waller said. "All three times it's been presented to the

voters, it's been overwhelmingly defeated. I feel like we're just wasting the citizens' money and wasting their time. They've already said what they think."

Under the Bryan city charter, zoning can be enacted by a vote of the city council. The council considered having a referendum on the issue but decided against it.

Councilmen John Mobley and Ples Turner said they have not made up their minds on the issue. Mayor Richard Smith and Councilmen Wayne Gibson and Henry Seale were not available for comment.

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forecast



Today's Forecast: Clear skies today and Saturday. High in the low 70s. Low in the lower 30s, with gusty winds from the northwest at 15-25 mph.

Grading systems difficult for professors and students

by Kathleen Hart
Battalion Reporter

Assigning a letter grade of passing or failing based on the number of correct answers on a test or paper is one of the most difficult tasks facing a teacher. And understanding how the teacher arrived at that grade is difficult for many, if not most students.

But whether the student understands the grading process, once his grade is determined, it can affect his life dramatically.

How arbitrary a grade is, how difficult the class was, how inflated the grade was and how it was determined do not appear on the transcript for prospective employers or graduate schools to see. And many students are concerned about how those hidden factors affect their grades.

Dr. Bryan Cole, associate dean of the College of Education, said letter grades are arrived at in two ways: criterion referencing and normative referencing.

Criterion referencing is a statistical

measure of how much a student knows. Normative-referenced grading places students' grades on a curve and assigns letters according to their placement on that curve.

For example, a professor could say that if a student knows facts X, Y and Z, he will receive an A in a criterion-referenced situation. In a normative-referenced situation, the professor could say that the top 10 percent of the grades would be A's, the next 10 percent B's, the next 10 percent C's, the next D's and the bottom 60 percent would fail.

Normative-referenced grades often appear much more arbitrary than criterion-referenced grades. For example, a student could receive an A on a test with a 92 and on the next test, the same student could make the same number grade and end up with a B.

But one grading system is not necessarily more reliable than the other. And the type of test is another variable that must be considered.

"If all you want to know is if somebody knows a particular fact or formula, then an objective test is fine," Cole said. "If, on the other hand, you want to make certain that a person has taken that fact or information and made it a part of his own repertoire, then you would want to go to an essay-type exam, which can measure higher-order levels of thinking such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation, which a purely objective test cannot measure."

"If a person can put knowledge into some kind of new setting and draw from other areas and see how it relates to those, then it's more likely to be a part of them from then on than if it's strictly memorization and regurgitation."

Dr. Candida Lutes, associate dean of students for the College of Liberal Arts, said that one testing method is not necessarily any better than the other because much depends on the teacher's ability to make out a good

See Grades, page 8

