

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Dean says birds not killed for research

by Kelley Smith
Battalion Staff

A study by the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine of about 130 imported Bolivian parrots has received criticism from individuals and conservation groups that claim the researchers are "butchering birds." However, Dr. George C. Shelton, dean of the college, said that no birds have been or will be killed for the research. "There will not be any birds butchered," Shelton said. "We have no intention of harming them." At Texas A&M, The Exotic Birds Research Association, a Bolivian veterinarian school and the Bolivian government agreed to have the parrots imported for research purposes. The birds are privately owned and housed near the University by the research group. The purpose of the research is to establish experimental breeding colonies of the birds in captivity and to study the diseases and problems of

the birds in captivity, Shelton said. Of the seven or eight species of macaws, some are known to breed well in captivity, Shelton said. Currently, some zoos are breeding certain species in captivity, but it is not known how well the other breeds will reproduce, he said.

Some species of macaws, including some that are here for research, are close to being on the endangered species list, Shelton said.

University President Frank E. Vandiver also defended the research in a news release issued last week.

"The fundamental purpose of our research is to stop the continuing drain on a precious resource — the wild bird population," Vandiver said. "Of course, we hope our research also will give us the information to aid the growth of macaws in the wild."

Shelton said that nutritional or climatic changes in the move from the wild to captivity can cause some macaws to die. However, once the birds are established in a new environment, they usually will survive, Shelton said.

Texas A&M received a shipment of 179 macaws three weeks ago. Of the 179, 19 died of natural causes in the shipment, Shelton said. Thirty-four of the birds are still in quarantine.

Shelton estimates that about 500 birds will be used in the research that should begin in a few weeks. The researchers still are stabilizing the birds and trying to find out which are capable of breeding. The birds will be returned to the association when the research is completed.

Critics of the research also claim Texas A&M plans to import as many as 3,000 macaws. Shelton said this is not true. "It's a matter of communication," he said of the confusion over the research. "Nobody knows the whole story."

Faculty from the veterinary medicine college will be conducting the research. Students also will work to treat sick birds and keep the rest healthy.



photo by Mimslynn Hillhouse

That's the size of it

While others around campus took finals last week, Mike Vitek, an employee of the B-F-W Construction Co., worked on the new Halbouty Geosciences annex. The expansion site is located on campus behind the Reed McDonald Building.

Summer school difficult for some, easy for others

by Scott Griffin
Battalion Staff

About 13,000 students will be enrolled in each six-week session of summer school at Texas A&M but many of them won't consider the weeks to be a piece of cake. While many may consider summer school to be easy, others feel it's difficult because an entire semester's work is crammed into six weeks. Christopher Borman, head of the educational psychology department, said the difficulty of a session depends on the nature of the courses offered. "In classes that require a lot of laboratory work and research, it may be difficult to have a course that lasts longer," he says.

"The courses in the summer are naturally more condensed and there's more stress," Borman says. "The fall and the spring are more conducive to both the students and instructors — there's more time for outside work. I personally prefer the regular semester."

Donald Carter, associate registrar says summer school may actually be better for some people.

"Lecture-type courses can be taught just as well in a summer session as in a semester," he says. "You're going to class every day — it's a repetitive process and you're not likely to forget the material as you might with a couple of days rest."

Carter says many professors who are hired are given the option of

teaching in the summer. "They usually need the extra money, and with the split sessions they can take some time off, too," he says.

Another reason for the two terms, Carter says, is that public school-teachers can work on a master's or doctorate degree for a session before they have to report back to work for the fall.

But for those who don't like the short terms, have no fear. Students may also register for an 11-week session in some courses.

While he says the summer terms are more popular that the 11-week version, Carter adds that courses with labs should be taught in the 11-week session.

Israeli troops to leave Lebanon says accord

United Press International
Israeli and Lebanese negotiators today signed a historic U.S.-mediated pact designed to bring home the Jewish state's 30,000 troops from Lebanon as "a step towards a just and lasting peace" nearly a year after the Israeli invasion.

In the northern Israeli town of Kiryat Shmona, the negotiators signed the English and Hebrew versions of the pact. The Arabic and French versions of the accord were signed earlier in the southern Beirut suburb of Khalde.

The French and English versions of the document are the binding versions of the American-mediated

agreement. The twin ceremonies in Lebanon and Israel finalized the signing procedure.

Despite the signings, implementation of the accord was threatened by Syrian President Hafez Assad, backed by the Soviet Union. Syria claims the pact is a virtual peace treaty with the Jewish state.

If Syria agrees to withdraw its troops from Lebanon, the Israeli troops are expected to pull out in eight to 12 weeks.

Antoine Fattal, head of the Lebanese negotiating team, said the agreement was needed to start the restoration of his war-ravaged country.

"If we today are signing this agreement it is because Lebanon is in need of urgent of tranquility and order. Lebanon wants to survive," said Fattal, speaking in French.

Chief Israeli negotiator David Kimche, saying the accord marked a "beginning of a new chapter in our histories," called on Assad to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, Israel's condition for implementation of the accord.

"Let him show his concern for the Lebanese people, the Lebanese independence and sovereignty by withdrawing his army from Lebanese territory and allowing peace to reign once again on its soil," Kimche said.

Goode wins Philly primary; may be first black mayor

United Press International
PHILADELPHIA — W. Wilson Goode, a sharecroppers' son making his first political bid, is favored to become the city's first black mayor in November now that he has disposed of former Mayor Frank Rizzo, who went to bed early today without conceding.

Goode, 44, captured Tuesday's Democratic primary by more than

42,000 votes Tuesday, but not without some anxious moments. Rizzo held the lead through the early evening, but Goode later surged ahead and built an insurmountable margin.

With more than 98 percent of the unofficial vote tabulated, Goode led with 312,219 votes to Rizzo's 270,115, drawing overwhelming support from black voters, who make up 44 percent of registered Democrats.

"We want most of all for this city to move forward to a strong future," Goode told more than 5,000 cheering people at a packed victory rally.

"We are not against anyone," he said. "We are for everyone who lives in this city ... those who are black, those who are white, those who are Asian, those who are Hispanic."

Rizzo, not readily willing to admit his eight years in the mayor's office might be his last, told supporters just before 1 a.m. to go to bed and hope the numbers would turn around.

"We'll go home tonight and get a good night's sleep and we'll talk a little more about it tomorrow."

Bieber election 'certainty'

UAW elects officers today

United Press International
DALLAS — The main business of the United Auto Workers' convention is conducted today with the election of Vice President Owen Bieber, the leadership's choice to succeed UAW President Douglas Fraser and a full slate of officers.

Bieber's election has been a certainty since his nomination by the International Executive Board in November for the post. The 53-year-old Bieber may face some sort of grass

roots challenge from the floor of the 2,500 delegate convention, but only once, in 1946, has such an effort been successful.

Also to be elected are seven vice presidents and 17 regional directors. Running for reelection are Secretary

See related story page 6.

Treasurer Raymond Majerus, and vice presidents Donald Ephlin, Odes-

sa Komer, Marc Stepp, Stephen Yokich and Robert White. Bill Castevens, a regional director from Cleveland, is expected to be elected to replace the retiring Martin Gerber.

The convention scene undoubtedly will feature parades, banners, balloons and all kinds of demonstrations. Depending on whether a grass roots effort is made to defeat Bieber, the election is expected to be conducted in late afternoon.

Regents to discuss possession of alcohol on System property

The Texas A&M Board of Regents will discuss amending the Texas A&M System rules and regulations, which prohibits possession or use of intoxicating liquors on Texas A&M System property, at its regular meeting May 22, 23 and 24.

The amendment would allow Texas A&M officials to establish regulations concerning the consumption of alcoholic beverages on University

property under certain circumstances.

The regents also will consider the recommendations of the Target 2000 Project Committee. The 250 members of Target 2000 have spent 22 months analyzing and making recommendations for the University for the year 2000.

Also to be discussed is a recommendation to raise the maximum student services fee from \$43.50 per semester

to \$51.50 per semester beginning the fall semester 1983.

A non-agenda item concerning the 3rd Court of Appeals ruling that requires Texas A&M to disclose the names and qualifications of candidates for the University presidency may be discussed at the May meeting. The court's ruling concerned a suit filed against Texas A&M in July 1981 by the Bryan-College Station Eagle.



staff photo by Bill Schulz

Oh, those tired feet!

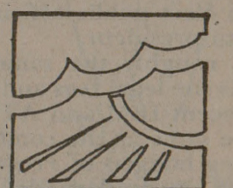
Patrick Taylor, a recent Texas A&M graduate who earned a degree in chemistry, relaxes and reads a novel while soaking his feet in the fountain by the Chemistry Building. Taylor is a resident of Bryan.

Summer sign-up begins May 30

Registration for the first summer school session will be Monday, May 30. Card packets will be available in DeWare Field House before noon. Classes begin Tuesday, May 31.

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forecast

Mostly fair and cool today with a chance of rain. Low tonight in the low 60s. Partly cloudy Thursday with a high in the mid-80s.