

# What's up

## WEDNESDAY

**UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL:** The candlelight vesper service begins at 10 p.m. at the center, 315 N. College Main.

**WATERBURY ASSOCIATION:** The Holy Eucharist service at 6 p.m. and a supper will follow. Meet at the Episcopal Student Center, 902 Jersey.

**REC SPORTS:** Enter the field goal kicking contest at 7 p.m. Kyle Field.

**PROTESTANT STUDENT MOVEMENT:** The David Meece concert will be at the Bryan Civic Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door or \$4 if purchased in advance at Scripture Haven or Brazos Valley Christian Books. There will be an Old Testament Bible study from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. with a \$1 per following at the A&M Wesley Foundation.

**ADIAN CLUB:** A get acquainted meeting will be at 8:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder Tower.

**WILSON HOMETOWN:** We will meet at 7 p.m. in 607 Rudder Tower.

**CAN-AMERICAN ENGINEERING SOCIETY:** Jim McGee will speak on IBM's involvement with the NASA space shuttle at 7:30 p.m. in 104C Zachry.

**WATERBURY CLUB:** We will be making plans for the Lake Somerviling, Oct. 21-23, at 7 p.m. in 510 Rudder Tower.

**WATERBURY Y:** Sign up for the Apollo Club at Janie's desk on the 4th floor of the Pavillion by Oct. 17. The club meets and dines with faculty and staff members.

**WATERBURY GOVERNMENT-EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** We will discuss the Christian Children's Fund and Aggie Olympics at a meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 140 Memorial Student Center.

**WATERBURY ANGELO/WEST TEXAS AGGIE CLUB:** A general meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. in 137A in the Memorial Student Center.

**WATERBURY CAR CLUB:** We will discuss the Aggiecross and this year's Autocross at 7 p.m. in 607 Rudder Tower.

**WATERBURY D CAMPUS MINISTRY:** Join us for fun, food and fellowship from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the A&M Presbyterian Church.

**WATERBURY SURFING CLUB:** We will discuss the Galveston trip at 8 p.m. in 607 Rudder Tower. Check the activities screen in the Memorial Student Center or Rudder Tower lobby for the room number.

**WATERBURY BEE & SIRLOIN:** Members are encouraged to help guide the beef, swine, sheep, horse, dairy and poultry centers from 8 a.m. to noon through Friday. Local kindergarten and grade students will tour the centers to see the animals.

## Defense says racial slur biased jury

# Mistrial denied in AGRI court case

**United Press International**  
DES MOINES — A judge in the conspiracy trial of AGRI Industries Tuesday denied a motion for a mistrial sought by defense attorneys, who were stunned by a prosecutor's racially related query to a witness.

U.S. District Judge Harold Viator dismissed the mistrial request after taking it under advisement Tuesday at noon. In making the ruling, the judge said U.S. Attorney Richard Turner had the right to ask a defense witness about the firing of AGRI employee Roger Jones.

AGRI and the five company executives on trial are blaming Jones for a shipping error that forced the company to take

\$500,000 worth of government wheat from a Fort Worth elevator.

Turner was trying to find out if Jones was fired because he was black. Defense attorneys said Turner's questions may have prejudiced the jury, which includes two black women.

Company officials have stated Jones made the grain error because he was using cocaine and went into a drug rehabilitation program right after the mistake.

In the disputed question, Turner asked defense witness Wayne McCalla, "And isn't it also true you discussed it and said, 'Remember, Roger's a black'?"

McCalla denied the state-

ment, but Viator quickly ordered the jury out of the courtroom and heard several motions for a mistrial.

Earlier Tuesday, Viator announced he had denied earlier defense motions to dismiss the case. However, he did take under advisement new requests by attorneys for three defendants — Michael O'Dowd, Pat Kevlin and R.F. Nelson — to reconsider the dismissal motions.

AGRI and five of its top officials are on trial for allegedly conspiring to steal 133,000 bushels of government-owned wheat on May 5-6 to meet a shipment deadline and avoid penalties totaling \$6,000 a day.

Charged in the case are Ke-

lin, 51, executive vice-president; Jack Wyard, 43, of West Des Moines, grain division chief; Tom Williamson, 38, of Clive, transportation director; O'Dowd, 30, of Houston, head of Texas operations and son of company president B.J. O'Dowd; and Nelson, 51, Fort Worth warehouse superintendent.

Viator dismissed charges last Thursday against Glenn Feilner, superintendent of the Houston warehouse because of insufficient evidence.

With McCalla, an AGRI grain superintendent from Houston, on the stand, defense attorneys tried to show the complicated process AGRI goes through to

load ships and blend the exact grade of grain to fill orders.

Viator said he had "real problems" with the amount of background the defense was presenting in the case to justify the grain shortage, which AGRI officials claim led to the use of the government grain.

Objecting to numerous defense exhibits and questions, Turner said he believes whatever reason the grain was short was irrelevant. "It's not a justification or defense for taking the government grain from Fort Worth," he said.

However, defense attorney Carroll Vance of Houston said the background information goes to the "heart of the case."

## Snake found, but has to go

**United Press International**  
VICTORIA — Time is running out for a nine-foot-long python, who was missing for 20 months but turned up recently in a bar, scaring the patrons who stood on chairs holding beer bottles in their hands for protection, officials said Tuesday.

Alan Haas, the python's owner, would be in violation of a city ordinance which prohibits residents from keeping wild animals in their homes, if the python is returned. City officials, in this south Texas city said the reptile will be put to sleep if a new owner — preferably a zoo or snake farm — is not found by mid-week.

"This doesn't surprise me at all," said Haas, 25. "The general population's reaction is to see a snake and kill it. Most people have no knowledge that some snakes are good."

Haas said in March 1982 the snake — named "Big Snake" — escaped from its 9-foot long cage in the Haas home. It prompted a massive snakehunt for the brown and white reptile, alarming residents over its whereabouts, but it was not found.

"My mistake was reporting it in the first place," Haas said. Friday, Victoria police received a call that a snake was in the the Copa Cabana bar, where the frightened patrons jumped on chairs and threatened the animal with beer bottles. Paramedics soon arrived and the

python was coaxed into a large body bag and taken to the city's animal control office.

The Copa Cabana is two blocks from Haas home.

Haas said he was informed by city officials that he could no longer keep the animal in his home, because of the ordinance passed when the 10-year-old python originally was lost. The snake was a Christmas gift from a friend.

"I've called zoos and organizations, but no one wants it. They are very common," he said of the \$300 python.

Despite being missing for 20 months, "Big Snake" appears to have been eating well. Haas said he probably was feasting on birds and mice.

He said he wanted his pet back because "I've known the snake practically its whole life." He knows, however, it does not recognize him.

"He doesn't know me. They recognize the human scent, but otherwise their intelligence is very basic," he said. "The city considers it a wild animal because it has reverted back to the wilds. But if it did anything wrong, they would come running to blame me."

Assitant City Attorney Mark Taylor said he will have the animal put to sleep if Haas does not come up with an acceptable new home. County officials said he could live outside the city limits and keep his snake, but Haas said he cannot move in one day.

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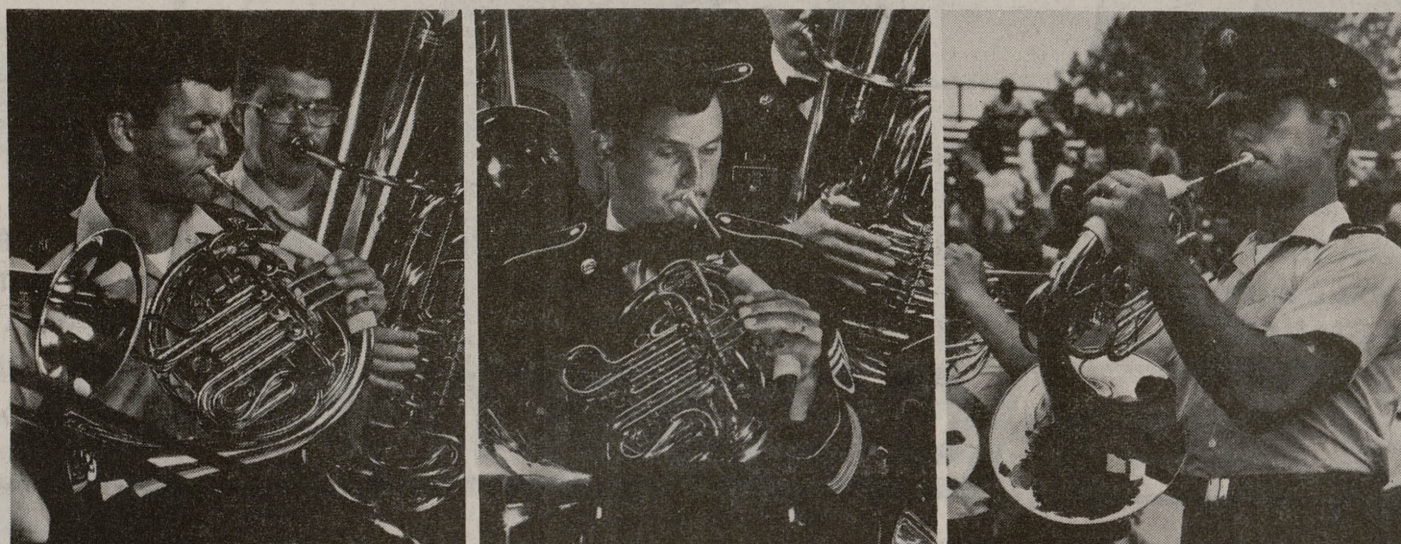
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## Mattox attacks Bell's requests

**United Press International**  
DALLAS — Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. has sought payment for expenses it incurred in its divestiture from American Telephone & Telegraph Co., Attorney General Mattox said Tuesday in a pre-filed with the state's Public Utility Commission.

Southwestern Bell is requesting that the Texas Public Utility Commission shelter the company from a golden umbrella at the expense to replace the AT&T, Mattox said.

Mattox said he planned to personally argue against Bell's case during upcoming hearings. "I believe the commission should cooperate with the company in limiting losses in income but it should not anticipate unknown reduction in revenues, in response to the company's pleas, to eliminate stockholders' risk and maintain their confidence," Hopper said.

Other expert testimony filed by Mattox said Bell should receive a 13.25 percent return on investment instead of the 17 percent requested by the company. Mattox said the lower investment return could save consumers millions of dollars.

Also filing pre-filed testimony were the Texas Municipal League, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Texas Retailers Association and the public counsel of the PUC.

**United Press International**  
BUFFALO — Bad weather hindered search efforts in finding a pilot missing since a flight from Buffalo, N.Y., on Tuesday.

Wyoming Civil Air Patrol Lt. Brian Olsen said the weather was becoming a factor in the search for Kruse, and said only one CAP plane was able to carry on the search north of a snowed-out to New Mexico storm which hit the southern part of Wyoming Tuesday.

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