

Slow start
gives way
to Cheap
Trick's hits

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Aggie
fullback
Smith
looks to the
future

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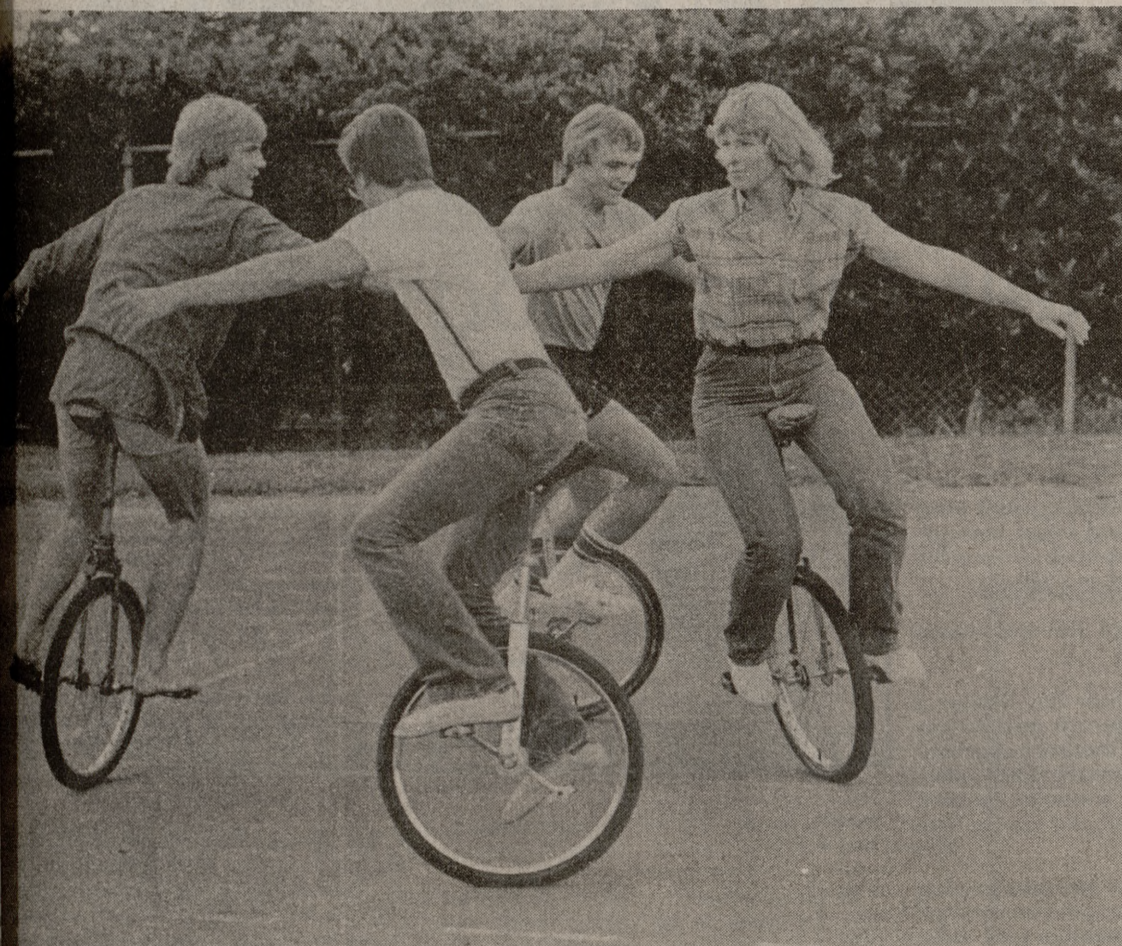
Texas A&M The Battalion

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Aggie fourwheeling

staff photo by Guy Hood

C.J. Johnson, Paul Schliesing, Chris Fitzgerald and Kitty Swoboda practice maneuvers Wednesday in the Grove after the TAMU One Wheelers Club meeting.

Senate approves holiday for King

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Senate voted 78-22 Wednesday to create a new national holiday in honor of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., whose dream of racial equality in America once was bitterly denounced.

The legislation goes to President Reagan, who has promised to sign it despite reservations about the cost. It will establish a national holiday on the third Monday in January starting in 1986.

"We have waited more than a century, since the end of the Civil War, for this moment of reconciliation," Sen. Charles Mathias, R-Md., said.

King's widow, Coretta Scott King, watched the vote with black leaders and blind singer Stevie Wonder in seats overlooking the Senate. She called it "a great day for America and for the world" and said pointedly she would be waiting until Reagan signs the bill.

Two days of tense debate ended with more senators than expected voting against Martin Luther King Jr.

Day, which won House approval earlier. Eighteen Republican senators and four Democrats cast 'no' ballots.

There was no doubt the measure would pass. But Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., stubbornly refused to abandon his losing battle against the bill. His stalling tactics included a filibuster, a federal lawsuit and proposals honoring Thomas Jefferson, Hispanic Americans and Marcus Garvey, a turn-of-the-century black leader who said blacks should consider Africa their homeland and return there.

Helms dug up decades-old charges that King was influenced by communists, infuriating some senators so much they abandoned the Senate taboo of never criticizing a colleague.

Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, a fellow Republican from Kansas, called it "character assassination."

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass called it "a smear campaign." Moments before the final vote, Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., stood to give a scathing denunciation of Helms and his North Carolina colleague, Republican John East.

"I hear their rationalization; you're not against black Americans, you understand, just Dr. King," Bradley said bitterly, then ticked off their

votes against extending the 1965 Voting Rights Act or the Civil Rights Commission.

"I wonder how much courage they'd have in the face of an angry mob or the onslaught of night sticks or the fusillade of rocks or the threat that the next church will be bombed?" Bradley asked.

Shortly before the vote Helms told reporters, "I'm not a racist. I'm not a bigot. You ask any black who knows me."

He claimed senators were terrified of losing black political support if they voted against the holiday.

A Baptist minister, King came out of Georgia to galvanize the national conscience with his sonorous voice and non-violent assault on segregation. He began his public battle against racism in the mid-1950s, leading boycotts and marches. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1963. In the spring of 1968, at age 39, he was killed in Memphis by a sniper.

Only one other federal holiday honors a citizen — Presidents Day, which originally marked George Washington's birthday. Library of Congress records show 17 states now celebrate King's birthday with a legal holiday.

First 1,000 days discussed

President reviews progress

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan said Wednesday the first 1,000 days of his administration have been "sure and steady progress" in achieving economic stability and he appealed to Congress to hold the line on spending.

The president noted inflation and unemployment are down and taxes have been cut.

"We have the chance to build the kind of lasting economic expansion that this nation has not enjoyed since the 1960s," he said.

The federal deficits now being run are the "product of too many years

of tax and tax and spend and spend," Reagan said, not of his administration's policies.

The president defended the use of covert U.S. aid to anti-Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua, a matter scheduled for debate in the House Thursday.

"I do believe in the right of a country when its interests are served to practice covert activity," he said. But he said secrecy is necessary: "You can't let your people (the public) know without letting the wrong people know — those in opposition — to what you're doing."

Reagan also said the United States is going to stay the course in Lebanon.

"We're going to keep on what we have been doing, trying to complete the plan we launched a little more than a year ago," he said.

The United States knew the peace-keeping mission was "a hazardous undertaking," he said, but trying to stabilize the Lebanese government is a worthy goal.

Of the peace process, he said, "We are doing everything we can to try to persuade Syria to stop being a roadblock in this progress." But he said, "It all is kind of hinging" on stabilizing Lebanon.

Six Marines on the multinational peace-keeping force in Lebanon have

been killed by shelling or sniper fire in Lebanon since August.

The president declined to flatly reject charges by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., during debate on a national holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., that the civil rights leader pursued Marxist goals.

"We'll know in about 35 years, won't we?" Reagan said. "I don't fault Senator Helms' sincerity with regard to wanting the records opened up. He's motivated by a feeling that we should know everything there is to know about an individual."

Midterms

Mid-term grade reports will be distributed to students in the Pavilion Wednesday through Oct. 28. Students must have picture identification to receive a report.

Centerpole

The centerpole for bonfire will be raised today at 4:03 p.m. at Dunbar Field.

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Fewer students admitted for '83-'84 school year

by Christine Mallon
Battalion Staff

About 300 fewer students have been admitted to Texas A&M for the 1983-84 school year than at this time last year, the dean of admissions and records said Wednesday.

"It's way too early to be making any definite predictions concerning enrollment for the spring and fall semesters," Edwin H. Cooper said. "Although there have been fewer students admitted than there were at this time last fall."

The admissions office makes a weekly report to the dean with figures of how many high school students

have applied and been accepted to the University.

In the mid 1970s, Texas A&M increased enrollment by almost 10 percent each fall semester. Around 1980 the increase was about 5 or 6 percent and for the 1983 fall semester the increase over last year was less than 2 percent, Cooper said.

During the big enrollment growth at the University, about 2,000 new students entered every fall semester, he said.

"The higher admissions requirements have definitely controlled our enrollment," he said.

Cooper said he expects the enrollment for the spring semester to be about 2,000 to 2,500 students less than the fall semester because of graduations.

Not as many transfer students have been accepted for the spring as there were for the 1982 spring semester, Cooper said.

Even though it appears that admissions may be down for next year, Cooper said, there won't be a decrease in enrollment at the University anytime in the near future.

"We will have somewhat of an increase next fall, but it should only be about 1.5 percent," Cooper said.

Satellite system researched here

by Chris Cox

Battalion Reporter

A satellite-based navigation system for use in space and aircraft operations currently is being researched for accuracy by Texas A&M, and should be operational by 1988, Dr. Philip Noe of the electrical engineering department says.

The system will do just about everything in the way of navigation including survey-type observations that use great accuracy, he said.

"These satellites provide a form of navigation capability that is very much like navigating by the stars," Noe said. "The main difference between radio navigation and navigation by the stars is that these satellites are always visible."

Noe said Texas A&M currently is conducting research on the accuracy of the system. The defense department presented him with the idea this summer while he was in Washington D.C.

Noe said within six orbital planes will be three satellites, which will give full world coverage. The satellites then can be used in space or aircraft operations, he said. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration plans to use the system on board the space shuttle, Noe said.

"From the standpoint of the fact that the satellites use radio signals rather than light signals, one can simply tune in to the radio to these signals anytime one is in the sky," Noe said. "The system is used some-

what today and has even been used in search of the Titanic."

Operations began on the system in 1972. In 1977, the first satellite was launched. By 1988, there will be 18 satellites orbiting the earth.

Noe said the system is so accurate that it will be a primary tool in the next major geological survey of the earth. And, he said, all kinds of civilian applications will use the equipment including Ford and General Motors Corp.

Noe says that in the near future the system equipment will be more affordable.

"The equipment now would run anywhere from \$80,000 to \$150,000 depending on the model," he said. "By the time the system is fully operational in 1988, many people believe there will be \$2,000 to \$5,000 receivers available. The government is currently coming up with means to make the equipment available for \$500 by the year 2000 with a pocket size receiver."

He said the small receivers will be used in cars to keep them from getting lost on the highway and to get someone from "point A to point B" in large cities. Noe said the receivers will be operated like "speak and spell" with the amount of sophistication one is willing to pay.

"It could even help one get out of the Amazon or the middle of Siberia," Noe said.

Reduced prices may cause gas bills to drop

by Rhonda Snider
Battalion Reporter

The effects of reduced prices from some of Lone Star Gas Co.'s suppliers should begin showing up on local customers' gas bills soon, a company spokesman says.

Media services representative Breck Harris said Lone Star has saved \$85 million by renegotiating about

100 of its more than 2,000 contracts with natural gas suppliers since December 1982.

The effect on individuals may vary, Harris said. Some bills may go down. Others may rise less rapidly than they would have without the renegotiations, she said.

The savings from the renegotiations could save some customers ab-

out \$70 over the span of a year or so. Heavier users of natural gas will see a larger savings, while those who use less will not see as much reduction reflected in their bill.

Last December Lone Star paid an average of \$3.86 for 1,000 cubic feet of gas, Harris said. In August the average price had dropped to \$3.63 per 1,000.

Harris said one reason the suppliers agreed to reduce their prices was because of the mild winter. Less gas was used last year so prices dropped.

Dan Webber, district manager for Lone Star's 23,000 Bryan-College Station customers, said the recent oil boom caused an extra supply of natural gas, contributing to the suppliers' lower prices.

Locally, Lone Star is regulated by the Bryan and College Station city councils. Webber said the gas company requested a rate increase last fall, but the cities did not approve the full amount.

"When we go in asking for a rate of return, we feel like it's what we need," Webber said. "Of course there will be a difference of opinion on what kind of rate of return we really need."



forecast

Partly cloudy skies, with a chance of rain. Highs in the low eighties.