

Aggie scores career high in victory

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Space station study could be done here

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280 dorm spaces available for women

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Texas A&M The Battalion

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APO aids disabled students

By KATHLEEN REEVES

Reporter

Volunteers from Alpha Phi Omega, a campus service organization, are like a second staff for the Handicapped and Veteran Service Center.

They drive a shuttle bus for the handicapped, help to give examinations, stand in registration lines, repair electric wheelchairs and otherwise make the work of the center easier.

Center director Dr. Charles Powell says the APO members augment his staff during peak activity times such as registration, so he doesn't have to hire extra people year round.

Alpha Phi Omega members have been volunteering their services for the past three years.

Of all those who volunteer to help the center, Alpha Phi Omega has been the most loyal and available says Powell, the center coordinator.

"I couldn't do it without them," he says.

Powell says APO started by painting curbs to mark handicapped parking spaces and wheelchair ramps.

The fraternity is on stand-by so that Powell can call on it when he needs it.

"I have a small staff and at peak periods, such as registration, APO helps out a lot," Powell said.

He says that because of APO's help, he doesn't have to hire a larger staff that would be needed only at certain times of the year.

APO members help handicapped students fill out forms during registration and drop-add and stand in lines for them.

The fraternity also helps Powell administer tests to handicapped students.

"If it is something like a Spanish or computer science test that no one on my staff is familiar with, we'll call on APO," Powell said. "They usually have someone that can help us out."

Powell says one member of APO is an electrical engineering major who helps repair the electric wheelchairs.

Brian Petty, president of APO, says the fraternity raises money for loans to handicapped students.



Photo by DEAN SAITO

Stuart Lew, a senior Mechanical Engineering major from San Antonio, helps Dennis Akins, a sophomore Agricultural Engineering student from Flat off of the van furnished as a service by the Handicapped and Veterans Service here.

Fraternity members also drive a special shuttle bus, which takes handicapped students to and from class. It is used mainly by students who are temporarily handicapped, but during bad weather, such as students with electric wheelchairs, also use the bus.

In addition to volunteering at the Center, the fraternity also works on other service projects.

APO runs a regular shuttle bus that circles the freshman parking lot and the north side dormitories Sunday through Thursday from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Both this bus and the handicapped bus plus the fuel for them are provided by Texas A&M.

Petty, APO president, says the fraternity has co-sponsored the Blood Drive. In the spring, he says APO will co-sponsor a dance-a-thon for Muscular Dystrophy.

"Our motto is service," William Scott, faculty adviser to APO, says. "I basically stay out of their way. They are adults and I figure they can handle it."

They said Moreno tried to wave them to a stop, but they saw Boyd lying beside the road, became frightened and kept driving. They said Moreno pulled a shotgun to try to make them stop.

When they did not stop, the Norrises testified Moreno jumped into a car parked beside Boyd's and pursued them at 100 mph speeds before giving up the chase in Hempstead.

They said they then went to the Waller County sheriff's office to report the incident.

Others killed in the incident were Moreno's in-laws, Juan Garza, 30, and

259th U.S. Marine killed in Lebanon

United Press International

BEIRUT — Druze militiamen battered the Marine base at the Beirut Airport Monday, killing an American soldier and wounding three others. U.S. forces retaliated with barrages of tank, mortar and machine-gun fire.

The government news agency said a Lebanese soldier also was killed and 10 civilians were wounded in the fighting, which spread from the Marine base to the southern suburbs and Christian neighborhoods in east Beirut.

The dead Marine, who was not immediately identified, was the 259th member of the American peace-keeping contingent to die in Lebanon and the first killed since Jan. 8 when a U.S. helicopter was attacked in Beirut.

The fighting erupted shortly after U.S. Middle East envoy Donald Rumsfeld flew to Damascus in a bid to halt months of warfare between Syrian-backed Moslem militias and President Amin Gemayel's Christian-dominated government.

Shellfire forced the closure of the Beirut Airport twice during the day

— once while two planes of Lebanon's Middle East Airlines were making their descent to land in the battle-torn capital.

Maj. Dennis Brooks said the Marine died of his wounds before he could be rushed in a helicopter to the USS Guam offshore for emergency surgery.

Another wounded Marine was rushed to the Guam for treatment and two others were returned to active duty after being treated on the spot for slight wounds. Brooks said 131 servicemen have now been wounded.

The attack on the Marines' base adjacent to the airport began at 9:10 a.m. (2:10 a.m. EST) when Druze militiamen opened up with rounds of sniper fire followed by a barrage of rocket-propelled grenades and automatic rifle fire, Brooks said.

The Marines returned fire with M-60 battle tanks, 60mm mortars, .30-caliber machine guns as well as M-16 automatic rifles in an 80-minute exchange that repelled an assault on the base's southeastern perimeter, Brooks said.

"We always give them something

better than we get," he said.

Several shells crashed into the airport parking lot, spraying cars with shrapnel and sending screaming pedestrians to the passenger terminal for safety.

A mortar shell exploded outside the airport terminal, wounding four Lebanese civilians.

The fighting resumed in the afternoon when the Druze retaliated with a mortar and rocket barrage that sent three shells a minute crashing into the U.S. base and Lebanese army positions in Kfar Shima, 5 miles southeast of Beirut.

The Lebanese army, using heavy artillery, joined the Marines in response to the rebel fire, which spilled over into some Christian neighborhoods in Beirut including Ain Rummaneh and Hadath, a military source said.

Brooks said commanders did not call for the use of naval gunfire, such as the 16-inch guns of the battleship USS New Jersey, because the mortars and rockets were being launched from Druze residential areas in the mountains overlooking the Marine base.

Redistrict plan ruled valid

United Press International

AUSTIN — A three-judge federal panel ruled Monday that Texas' congressional redistricting plan was valid, dismissing claims that the division of Dallas County minority voters into two districts was discriminatory.

The redistricting plan was challenged by the Texas Republican Party and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which claimed the plan approved by Legislature in 1983 was designed to limit the political strength of Dallas County minorities.

Under the reapportionment plan, minority voters in Dallas County were divided between districts represented by Reps. Martin Frost and John Bryant, both moderate to liberal Democrats.

Instead of the division, opponents of the plan said, the minority voters

should have been clumped into a single district where a minority congressman almost surely would be elected.

But the judicial panel, in a 2-1 decision, disagreed with the NAACP and GOP.

"Obviously, the Legislature concluded that the minority population in Dallas should be placed into two districts," the majority opinion said. "It does not follow necessarily; indeed, it may not follow at all, that the Legislature's decision was infected by a racial motive or that the result of the Legislature's decision is to dilute minority access to the political process."

The court also noted that Frost, who faced a black opponent in 1982, and Bryant received overwhelming support among black voters and were given 100 percent favorable ratings by the NAACP.

"There simply is no right — statu-

tory or constitutional — to be represented by a member of a particular race," the ruling said.

The majority opinion was drafted by Appeals Court Judge Sam Johnson and U.S. District Judge Robert Parker. U.S. District Judge William Steger of Tyler dissented in an opinion not immediately available.

Contacted in Washington, Frost said he was pleased by the ruling but expected it would be appealed.

"I just hope the matter will be finally resolved before too much longer," Frost said. "I feel pretty sure it will be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Everything has dragged on far too long. We need some certainty as to what the districts are going to be."

Bryant, also contacted in Washington, said he was relieved by the decision.

"I was prepared to run in whatever districts were drawn," he said.

Aggie testifies in Moreno's capital murder trial

United Press International

RICHMOND — The trial of the man accused of killing a state trooper and five others during an October rampage began Monday and included testimony from an A&M student.

Eliseo Moreno, 25, is going to trial in the Oct. 11 shooting death of Texas trooper Russell Lynn Boyd. The 25-year-old trooper was shot to death beside Texas 6 near Hempstead after stopping Moreno's car.

Boyd died of a single gunshot wound to the chest, fired through a

bulletproof vest at point blank range, investigators said.

At the time, investigators say Moreno was fleeing from College Station where he allegedly shot his wife's brother and sister-in-law after a day-long argument about his estranged wife, Blanca.

Three other people were fatally wounded in the six-hour, 130-mile-long crime spree.

The first two witnesses Monday, Lake Jackson school teachers William Norris and wife, Janey, testified they happened upon the roadside death scene shortly after Boyd was shot.

They said Moreno tried to wave them to a stop, but they saw Boyd lying beside the road, became frightened and kept driving. They said Moreno pulled a shotgun to try to make them stop.

When they did not stop, the Norrises testified Moreno jumped into a car parked beside Boyd's and pursued them at 100 mph speeds before giving up the chase in Hempstead.

They said they then went to the Waller County sheriff's office to report the incident.

Others killed in the incident were Moreno's in-laws, Juan Garza, 30, and

wife, Esther, 31; and three elderly Hempstead residents.

One of the state's witnesses testified he saw Moreno shoot Mrs. Garza at point blank range in her home with a .357-magnum pistol.

Anthony Casper, 26, a Texas A&M student, testified Monday that after the shooting at his neighbor's home, Moreno confronted him and threatened to kill him, too.

"I get out of here or I'll blow your head off, too," Casper said Moreno told him while pointing the gun in his face.

Despite objections from defense

lawyer Robert Scardino Jr., of Houston, state district Judge Oliver Kitzman ruled in favor of prosecutor James Keeshaw because he said it was necessary to establish Moreno's whereabouts on the day of Boyd's slaying.

Police said that after Boyd was killed, Moreno parked his car behind the home of Ann Bennett, 70, to try to take her car. When she told him the car did not run, police said Moreno shot Bennett. She died later.

Police said Moreno also shot Bennett's neighbor, Allie Wilkins, 79, and Bennett's brother, James, 71, in the

same confrontation. They died at the scene.

Authorities said Moreno took six hostages, including a family of five, as he tried to flee Hempstead. All were freed unharmed, but Moreno faces kidnapping charges in those incidents.

One group of hostages, the Bill Shirley family of Hempstead, said Moreno not only let them go unharmed in Pasadena but gave them his last \$6 so they could buy gas to drive the 70 miles back home.

MSC Council names new president

By Ed Alanis

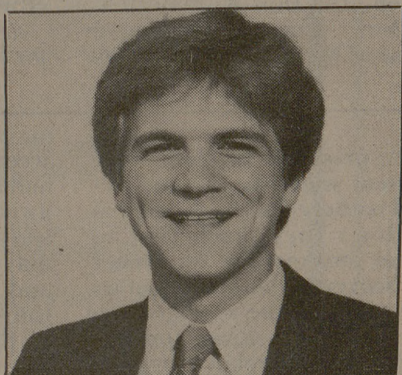
Staff writer

Pat Wood, a senior civil engineering major from Port Arthur, was chosen as next year's MSC president by the MSC Council Monday night.

Wood currently serves as the MSC executive vice president for programs, and in the past has served as MSC vice president for public relations. He will replace current MSC president Greg Hawkins in April.

Wood outlined three main goals for his term of office:

First, he said, he hopes to establish a sound financial future for the MSC programs. Through close work with Student Government, Wood hopes to increase awareness among University administrators concerning MSC funding. Currently, 30 percent of the MSC funds are supplied by a portion of the student service fee.



Pat Wood III

Secondly, he said, he plans a major campaign to promote student awareness of opportunities in the MSC. The MSC is currently the largest college union program in the world, with 35 programming com-

mittees and more than 1700 active members. With such a large student population to draw on, Wood says, he would like to see the MSC grow even larger.

Finally, Wood says he will work to increase motivation within the MSC Council. Fresh ideas are needed if MSC programs are to effectively compete for students' time, Wood says. Increasing entertainment opportunities in the Bryan-College Station area are making it more and more difficult to draw large crowds at MSC programs, he said.

"I am very proud to pass on my position to Pat," Hawkins says. "The MSC will continue to grow under his leadership."

As MSC president, Wood will supervise the 60 major student leaders involved in MSC programs. He will also serve as chairman of the MSC Council, the body which sets policies for all aspects of the MSC.

In other business:

• The council gave final approval for the creation of the International Programs Committee. The committee was established to provide a means for international students to get involved in programming at the University. This is the 35th committee formed by the MSC.

• A representative from the Endowed Lecture Series announced to the council that contracts had been made Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger. The title of the program is "Perspectives on U.S. Foreign Policy." The cost of the program will be \$65,000.

Invitations were originally sent to Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter, but both declined because of election year activities.

• A proposal to change the name of MSC Gamers to MSC Nova was passed. Under this new name the committee plans to expand into programs involving historical awareness.

In Today's Battalion

Local

- See close-up for February's SCONA on page 2.
- TAMU marketing students were chosen to help GM with a new ad campaign. See story page 4.

State

- The jury is being chosen in the trial of a Jefferson woman accused of fatally beating her 3-month-old child. See story page 6.

National

- Detroit Lions' running back, Billy Sims is in court trying to break a deal with the Houston Gamblers of the USFL. See story page 14.