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Texas A&M The Battalion

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Photo by DEAN SAITO

Engineering and Physics Building construction

Work continues Wednesday afternoon on the new Engineering and Physics Building that is located behind the Cyclotron. The building will house classrooms and offices.

Alien immigration bill passes House 216-211

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The House, by a five-vote margin, approved Wednesday a historic immigration bill that would grant amnesty to millions of illegal aliens in America but discourage entry of others by penalizing employers who hire them.

The long-debated bill was passed 216-211 shortly after the House rejected a hotly contested amendment by Rep. Bill McCollum, R-Fla., to strip the legislation of its key amnesty provision.

A cheer rose from the floor when the cliffhanger vote was announced.

Rep. Romano Mazzoli, D-Ky., the chief sponsor of the bill, and other supporters said removal of amnesty would have killed the monumental measure.

But the legislation now will go to a House-Senate conference for negotiation of differences between it and a Senate bill, which passed 76-18 last year and is backed by President Reagan.

As passed by the House, the bill

would grant legal residence to aliens who entered illegally before Jan. 1, 1982, and impose fines of up to \$2,000 for each illegal alien knowingly hired by employers of four or more workers.

Under an amendment by House Democratic leader Jim Wright of Texas, adopted 247-170, the aliens would be granted temporary residence for one year and could apply for permanent residence in their second year.

To gain permanent status, an alien would have to meet certain requirements — including a "minimal understanding of ordinary English."

"We'll take a look at it when it goes to conference to see if more can be done to bring it in line with the Senate bill," White House spokesman Peter Roussel said of the House version.

The Senate-passed bill, sponsored by Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., would grant temporary residence to aliens who entered before Jan. 1, 1977, and temporary residence to

Bill could hurt Mexico

United Press International

MEXICO CITY — Enforcement of the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill would cause Mexico to lose nearly \$1 billion in revenue from undocumented workers each year, the Bank of Mexico said Wednesday.

The Bank of Mexico, the country's central bank, said that money sent back to Mexico by the undocumented workers is the third largest source of dollar revenue in the country, after petroleum sales and tourism.

those who came later but before Jan. 1, 1980. Like the House bill, it calls for employer sanctions.

House nixes Caperton's state school board plan

United Press International

AUSTIN — The Texas Senate killed plans for an appointed state school board Wednesday, while House members puzzled over two different education reform bills — a committee measure criticized as too soft and a stricter bill negotiated by House leaders.

The Senate, acting as a "committee of the whole," voted 18-14 to scuttle a proposal by Sen. Kent Caperton, D-Bryan, that would have instituted a 15-member state Board of Education appointed by the governor.

Under Caperton's proposal, the board would have reverted to an elected body in four years.

Sen. Oscar Mauzy, D-Dallas, spearheaded the drive to kill Caperton's proposal. With Caperton's proposal voted down, the Senate's education reform bill now calls for

retaining the present 27-member elected board.

However, both Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and Gov. Mark White were lobbying individual Senate members in hopes of changing their votes on the measure, which is one of the key recommendations of H. Ross Perot's Select Committee on Public Education.

"It ain't over until it's over," White said of the setback.

Hobby also indicated that provisions for an appointed board would be put back in the proposal when it is considered in Senate floor debate.

"This is a miraculous process," Hobby said.

The Senate had completed less than half its work on four subcommittee reports that eventually will comprise a single bill when Hobby unexpectedly called for the Senate to recess until Thursday morning.

In the House, all 150 House mem-

bers finally begin debate Thursday on education reform, but they first must decide which of the two House education bills to address.

House Speaker Gib Lewis and other leaders in the lower chamber are pushing a substitute measure incorporating many of the reforms struck by the House Public Education Committee from an original compromise bill.

The substitute bill, which is supported by committee Chairman Bill Haley, D-Center, reinstates proposals for an appointed state school board that eventually reverts to an elected body, mandatory pre-kindergarten for Spanish-speaking or educationally handicapped 4-year-olds and a revamped school financing program.

It also calls for a merit pay plan for teachers that would abolish a longheld longevity-based system of pay raises for each year of teaching experience.

Water safety tips offered by lifeguard

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

In 1982, 486 Texans were victims of water accidents. Often a vacation or simple outing can be turned into a nightmare because of an accidental drowning.

The Bryan boy who drowned last week in Finfeather Lake is only one of the many victims water will claim this summer.

One of the major causes of water accidents is disrespect for the water, Martha Nix, Wofford Cain pool manager, said.

Nix, who began lifeguarding 21 years ago, is Safety Chairman of the Brazos County Red Cross and Water Safety Specialist/Volunteer Consultant for the Red Cross. She also is water coordinator for the department of physical education.

"People don't remember to respect the water," Nix said. "They're having so much fun, they don't realize it's dangerous."

Temperature, currents, weather, unfamiliar areas and drug and alcohol use all contribute to water accidents, Nix said.

"Temperature is deceiving," she said. "The longer you are in the water, the colder the body gets. Don't stay in too long."

Many people engage in water activities like boating or water skiing. The wind off the water also de-

Cain pool rules 'are fair'

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

Many people often complain about rules and regulations at public pools.

The rules and regulations at Wofford Cain Pool are followed to keep the pool clean and enjoyable for everyone, Martha Nix, pool manager, said.

Admission to the pool is \$1

creases body temperature which can result in numbness and loss of control.

Water currents can cause accidents also. Undertows, the current of water beneath the surface, often surprise swimmers. The preventative measure is to know the currents in the area, both on top and beneath the water.

If a swimmer finds himself in such a situation, he should swim diagonally across the current, with the flow.

"Never against it," Nix said.

Weather conditions also should be monitored while in or around the water. While wind may make the area more wavy, the more immediate danger is lightning, Nix said.

Water acts like a magnet for light-

ning. Even though the bolt first may strike a higher area, the water will attract it. Swimmers and boaters should get out of and away from the water when lightning is in the area.

"If around water, get as far away and in as much of a sheltered area as possible," Nix said.

Water accidents also can occur because swimmers are unfamiliar with the bottom of the lake or pool. Swimmers diving into shallow water or in an area with rocks and glass can seriously injure themselves.

"Good swimmers are not immune to diving injuries," she said.

Drinking and drug use also are dangerous around the water. When drunk, a person's perception is affected so that the short half-mile swim across the lake may in actuality

be a two-mile swim.

Alcohol or drug use can confuse a diver so that he cannot tell which way to the surface of the water.

Many swimming accidents at hotel pools result from parties at which guests decide to take a swim after drinking, Nix said.

Most drownings occur because people feel they are safe in a boat and do not wear a life jacket.

"Wear a life jacket," Nix said. "It keeps you afloat and if you have the right kind, it'll turn you over face up."

"Just follow all these simple rules: never go alone, and that includes fishing, make sure you know what the currents are, check the weather and use some sense about eating and drinking."

Many near-drownings happen in areas just two or three feet away from a safe area. Lifeguards at busy beaches are busy all day long, Nix said.

Many drownings, however, happen in unsupervised areas. Drownings can be avoided if swimmers know what to do when they find themselves in danger.

First, do not panic or thrash around, Nix said. Relax. Try to float on your back, take a deep breath, look to the sky and kick your feet slowly.

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In Today's Battalion

Local

• A variety of activities are being offered this summer by the intramural department. See story page 6.

State

• Dallas Cowboys Coach Tom Landry testified in behalf of quarterback Danny White. See story page 12.

National

• The doctor investigating the death of Kentucky Derby winner Swale hasn't ruled out foul play. See story page 11.

• The average American will be 36 years old at the turn of the century, the Census Bureau predicts. See story page 4.