

Energy saving month proclaimed in CS

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Republicans debate no tax increases

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Brisco-Hooks takes second gold medal

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# Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol 78 No. 186 USPS 045360 8 pages

College Station, Texas

Friday, August 10, 1984



Photo by Brent Mozingo

## Whiling the day away

Elado Rivera (in tree) and Perez German used some shopping carts as a ladder so both could enjoy the shade of a sycamore tree near the Married Student Apartment complex where both live.

## Six charged with assault

By SARAH OATES  
Staff Writer

Six Texas A&M students were released on bond Thursday night after being charged with criminal assault and false imprisonment for an attack Monday on a student in their dormitory on campus.

John S. McDonald, 18; Evalegos Lorentzatos, 19; Jason Bailey, 18; Ernesto Rodriguez, 17; Manuel Gardea Jr., 21, and Philip E. Shaw, 21 had been arrested for what one University Police official termed a "malicious attack" on a student.

"Apparently, these boys just didn't like the victim," said Bob Wiatt, director of security and traffic for the University Police Department.

Bailey refused to comment and the other men were not available for comment. The men are residents of Underwood Hall.

The victim, who was found by College Station Police as he walked

down Texas Avenue wearing only his underwear and covered in molasses and feathers, told police he was invited to another student's room to share a pizza.

When he entered the room, police said, he was stripped of his underwear and bound and gagged. Police said he then was carried outside to a pickup where he was struck several times and blanketed with molasses and feathers.

Police said the student was driven to Tinsley's Restaurant in College Station, where he was left after unsuccessful attempts to chain him to a light post in front of the restaurant.

He was discovered by College Station police, who notified the University Police Department.

University Police found a pickup truck in Parking Annex 24 that matched the description given by the victim. A jar containing either honey or molasses and the remains of a feather pillow were in the back of the pickup, police said.

## Pay fees today

Today is the last day to pay fees to avoid preregistration cancellation.

A box is set up outside the cashiers' office to ease fee payment. Students who want to avoid standing in line can place their money in the provided envelopes and drop them in the box. A paid fee receipt, I.D. card, and schedule will be mailed to the student's permanent address.

Students who have lost their fee slips can obtain a copy from the cashiers in the Coke Building.

Students who are recipients of scholarships, grants, or loans (including the Guaranteed Student Loan) through the office of Student Financial Aid may pay fees from Aug. 20-27.

## Prison reforms approved

United Press International

AUSTIN — Gov. Mark White and state prison officials, searching for ways to quell a rash of inmate violence, agreed Thursday to increase incentives for good behavior, step up efforts to prosecute violent prisoners and speed the training of new guards.

White met for nearly three hours with prison Director Ray Procnunier and members of the Texas Department of Corrections board following reports of increased violence that

has left nine inmates dead from stabbings so far this year.

The governor emerged from the meeting and said Procnunier had suggested several ways to deal with the violence, including efforts to increase incentives for good behavior.

Once such incentive would change "good time" provisions, which give well-behaved inmates as much as three days credit for every day served, so it no longer can be reinstated after it is lost for disciplinary reasons.

White said the state would provide financial or legal help to counties with jurisdiction over prison units so prison assault cases can be "vigorously prosecuted."

A new classification system proposed by Procnunier will be initiated to group inmates according to the risk they present to others and hiring and training of new guards also will be stepped up. The state is considering a \$300,000 grant to TDC

## Man, girl killed in heavy rain

United Press International

EL PASO — Officials in West Texas, southern New Mexico and northern Mexico Thursday were bracing for additional heavy rains which already claimed two lives, at least one injury, the destruction of 20 homes and thousands of dollars damage to city streets.

Killed were Morayma Acosta, a 10-year-old Juarez, Mexico, girl whose house collapsed in Wednesday night's storms when a wall from a neighboring house fell down un-

der the heavy rain and hit the Acosta house below.

Police said a Juarez man who appeared to be 35 years old was drowned in a flash flood as he tried to cross a usually-dry viaduct in the western part of the border city. Officers said the victim, not yet identified, was first thought to have been a woman.

A temporary shelter was set up by firemen in Juarez to house 20 families left homeless when their adobe

homes crumbled under the heavy rains. El Paso firemen assisted a number of residents of low-lying areas, but there were no injuries or displacements there due to the floods.

City of El Paso officials estimated the rain did \$20,000 damage to city streets. A number of thoroughfares remain closed because of flooding.

West Texas ranchers, suffering from a severe drought, welcomed the rain on parched grazing lands.

## 1.9 million gallon oil spill prompts lawsuit

## Texas suing ship's owners, others

United Press International

AUSTIN — The state of Texas Thursday asked a federal court to assess damages and cleanup costs against the owners and operators of a British tanker that spilled 1.9 million gallons of crude oil in the Gulf of Mexico.

The complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Galveston did not specify the amount of damages, but the owners of the tanker Alvenus have asked the court to limit to \$3.8 million their liability for damaged caused by the oil washing ashore in Texas.

In announcing the filing of the state's suit, Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox said there was "no way" to specify damages caused by spill and the cost of cleaning up the 26 miles of beach on Galveston Island that were seriously affected.

But he said Galveston officials report the oil spill is costing the coastal town up to \$2.5 million per day in lost revenues from the tourist trade. "Our primary concern now is to get as much funds as we can get to make sure this cleanup effort takes place," said Mattox.

Owners of blackened beachfront

## Cleanup continues on Galveston island

United Press International

GALVESTON — Almost 250 dump truck loads of oil and soiled sand from an oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico were hauled from west end beaches in 24 hours, a Coast Guard spokesman said Thursday.

Workers cleaning up the beaches hauled 160 25-cubic-yard loads of liquid oil and heavily oiled sand to a Hitchcock firm from noon Wednesday to noon Thursday, Chief Warrant Officer Dale Puckett said.

Another 86 loads of sand mixed with oil were hauled to

dump sites, he said. Three dump truck loads of oil also were hauled from the state beaches on the western end of the island, Puckett said.

Tourist beaches on the east end of the island were clean, with city workers scooping up the occasional tar ball, he said.

Puckett warned tourists not to deliberately swim or surf in any remaining patches of oil for health reasons.

He said people swimming in patches of oil on purpose could accidentally swallow the substance.

leading into the Port of Calcasieu, La. Winds and currents carried the oil to the Texas Gulf Coast, forcing a massive cleanup effort in the Galveston area.

Defendants in the state's suit in-

clude the ship's owners, Lloyd's Leasing Ltd.; the charterers, Alvenus Shipping Co., Ltd., and the shipbuilder, Cammell Laird Shipbuilders, Ltd.

The complaint asks for authority to take immediate depositions from the ship's crew members before they disband, said Mattox. The attorney general said his office is "working closely" with the Coast Guard in taking statements from the crew.

"We have had attorneys in touch with Coast Guard officials hourly in a joint effort to get to the truth of what actually happened to cause this terribly destructive oil spill," he said.

The cause of the spill is still being investigated, but Mattox said, "It either had to be their negligence or the failure of the ship itself."

Mattox said he was concerned about the danger posed by the 300,000 gallons of oil that remained aboard the disabled tanker.

"That vessel is a time bomb waiting to go off as long as it sits in the Gulf with all that oil aboard," he said. "At this time, we understand that approximately half of the remaining barrels of oil have been off-loaded, but we are anxious for the rest of it to be removed."

## In Today's Battalion

### Local

- Summer orientation sessions have been attended by 5,000 freshmen so far. See story page 4.
- Local Democrats and Republicans speak out. See story page 5.

### State

- Texas GOP Party Chairman George Strake called protesters expected for the Republican National Convention "hippies, Yuppies and Dykes on Bikes." See story page 4.

### National

- The space shuttle Discovery will be given a third try Aug. 29. See story page 3.

### World

- Iraqi warplanes set an Iranian oil platform on fire. See story page 6.