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Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

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Two teachers' strikes end, walkouts go on

United Press International

The longest teachers' strike of the current school year ended Monday, but strikes still kept about 40,000 students out of the classroom and a threatened walkout in Chicago could cripple the nation's third-largest district.

Teachers in Reserve, La., returned to work, ending an eight-week strike that affected about 6,200 students. A second strike was settled in Mattoon, Ill., where 4,100 students returned less than an hour after teachers signed a two-year contract.

However, teachers continued striking in five states from New Jersey to Idaho. Students in Pennsylvania have been out of school for six weeks.

In Chicago, teachers, unhappy

with medical insurance deductions, set a Dec. 3 strike deadline that could keep 400,000 children out of school.

Joe Hutchinson of LaPlace, La., said the St. John the Baptist Parish School Board met shortly after 1 a.m. Monday and accepted a contract signed late Sunday by teachers who had been on strike since Aug. 27.

The contract included a provision calling for a public referendum Jan. 19 to decide whether teachers may use the St. John's Association of Educators as their bargaining agent. The last impasse was cleared when teachers agreed to layoffs if enrollment dropped.

In Illinois, about 19,000 students

in five districts — including Waukegan, Effingham and Roodhouse — were kept out of school by strikes. A hearing is set for today to determine if the Waukegan walkout, which began Oct. 10, is illegal.

About 250 teachers in Roselle, N.J., struck Monday in a dispute over pay and fringe benefits. The school board offered raises totaling 16 percent over two years, but the teachers want 18.85 percent.

In Toledo, Ohio, the president of a teachers' association said Monday and today were key days in settling a strike by 460 teachers. The main issues in the strike, which began Thursday, are salaries, contract length and health insurance costs. About 8,000 students are affected.

Memorial services set

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

Wake and memorial services have been set for John J. Mascart, 20, a sophomore mechanical engineering major from the Woodlands. Mascart died early Sunday morning in a car accident south of College Station.

Wake services will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Earthman's Resthaven Chapel at 13102 N. Freeway (the Greens Road exit). Memorial serv-

ices will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Simon and Jude Catholic Church at 26777 Glen Loch in the Woodlands.

Police reports said Mascart had been traveling on Texas Highway 6 South about a half mile from College Station when his car crossed the center stripe of the highway and collided with a van heading north. Reports said Mascart was not wearing a seatbelt.

Mascart was pronounced dead at

3:30 a.m. at the scene of the accident by Justice of the Peace Mary Horn. All six passengers in the van were treated and released at St. Joseph Hospital.

Survivors include his parents, Jacques and Monique Mascart; a sister, Diane, all of the Woodlands; and grandparents Maurice and Josephine Garnier of Belgium.

Silver taps will be Nov. 6.

Embassy under heavy guard on anniversary of bombing

United Press International

BEIRUT, Lebanon — The U.S. Embassy was under heavy guard Monday night, the anniversary of the suicide bombing one year ago.

In recent days the embassy has cut its staff drastically because of continuing threats and fears that terrorists might stage an attack before the Nov. 6 presidential election to embarrass the Reagan administration.

Embassy spokesman Jon Stewart said the remaining U.S. diplomats were under heavy guard on the eve of the Oct. 23, 1983 suicide bombing of the U.S. Marine base that killed 41 American servicemen.

"We are following, not only as an institution but also as individuals, stringent security measures," Stewart said.

About 100 Americans were attached to the embassy until Sept. 20, when the U.S. diplomatic mission in an East Beirut suburb was wrecked by a suicide truck bomb.

Most of the embassy's functions were then moved to Ambassador Ronald Bartholomew's residence in

Yarze, another suburb of Christian East Beirut. By Friday, the number of American embassy employees had been reduced to 45.

A State Department spokesman in Washington Monday confirmed that 26 Americans employed at the embassy left Beirut Saturday and Sunday aboard helicopter flights for undisclosed destinations, reducing the staff to 19.

The official said the number of American employees of the embassy "will be in the range of 20 to 30, day to day, depending on the work that needs to be done" to improve security in the embassy compound.

Radio reports said tension in the Burj Barajneh refugee camp erupted in shooting between Palestinian factions. The reports said at least five and possibly eight people were killed and 14 others wounded.

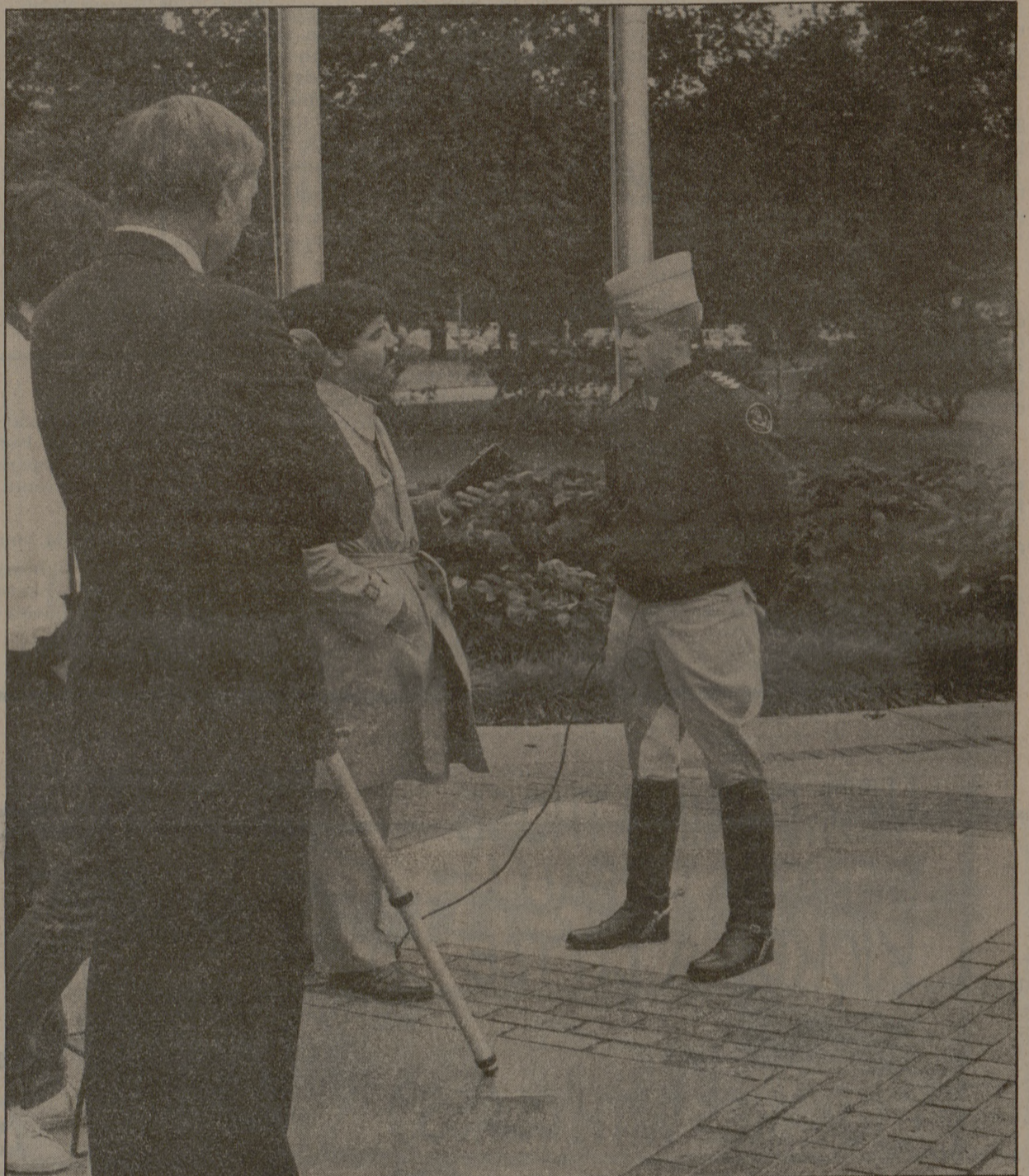
A Lebanese army unit dispatched to the camp near the airport came under machine-gun fire and the government troops fired back, the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Security forces closed the main highway leading to the city's international airport because it runs alongside Burj Barajneh. A side route stayed open and a spokesman for Middle East Airlines, the national air carrier, said air travel was not affected.

Police and radio reports said the clash pitted supporters of Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, against an anti-Arafat faction loyal to Col. Saed "Abu" Moussa, the PLO dissident who led a revolt against Arafat last fall.

The renewed violence in Beirut and tightened U.S. security came as the Cabinet ministers met to deal with Lebanon's ailing economy.

Immediately after the Cabinet meeting, President Amin Gemayel flew to Libya for an unannounced visit, state-run Beirut Radio said. The purpose of his trip was not immediately clear.



In the news

Photo by DAVID LEYENDECKER

Corps Commander Chuck Rollins Discusses the reaction of the Corps of Cadets to the events of the Bruce Goodrich case. Rollins

told Austin's Channel 7 reporter Carlos Ramirez that while the Corps will never forget Goodrich, the Corps will continue.

Former Indiana University student charged in revenge fire murder

United Press International

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — A former student who got into drunken fights at an Indiana University fraternity house was charged Monday with murder and arson in a revenge fire that killed one student and injured 30 others, police said.

Jerry Scott Zook, 23, dropped his wallet during one of two fights at the Zeta Beta Tau house homecoming party Saturday night, police said.

Officers said they called him at home in Indianapolis and he surrendered in Bloomington.

Zook, who was being held without bond, was charged with murder and arson Monday. At a second hearing, preliminary innocent pleas were entered on both counts and a public defender was appointed for Zook, who faces up to 110 years in prison if found guilty. A Dec. 17 trial date was set.

Israel D. Edelman, 19, a student at IU's Richmond campus, who joined the fraternity last year and planned to transfer to Bloomington in the spring, was killed in the blaze early Sunday morning.

Edelman was eulogized and buried Monday at Earlham Cemetery in Richmond. A busload of IU students, as well as four school administrators, attended the services.

Issues and Grievances Committee hears heated reactions to Student Government GSS resolution

By MICHAEL CRAWFORD
Reporter

The Issues and Grievances Committee of the Student Government came under heated attack Monday for approving a resolution calling on the Texas A&M Board of Regents to recognize the Gay Student Services Organization.

The resolution, which passed by one vote, is a formal expression of the will or intent of the Student Senate and is non-binding. The resolution states:

Whereas: The Texas A&M University Administration has consistently refused to recognize

the Gay Student Services Organization, and

Whereas: The GSSO provides a needed service for a special minority group of the Texas A&M community which is presently not provided by other campus organizations, and

Whereas: In other instances it has been University policy to recognize student organizations which provide services to specific minority groups and promote community awareness of such groups,

Therefore be it resolved: That the Texas A&M University Student Senate recommend that the

administration officially recognize the Gay Student Services Organization.

Wayne Roberts, vice president of student services, said homosexuality is no longer illegal and therefore the GSS should not be denied recognition. Roberts supported the resolution.

"If we didn't disregard the issue of morality the resolution wouldn't have passed," Roberts said. "I alienated myself completely from the morality because I'm a Christian, also. But, I had to think in terms of their (homosexuals) rights."

Roberts said that although the

University does not recognize social clubs, he believes the GSS is service-oriented as are hometown clubs which the administration does recognize.

Brett Shine, vice president for external affairs, said some polls showed the student body was against recognition of the GSS.

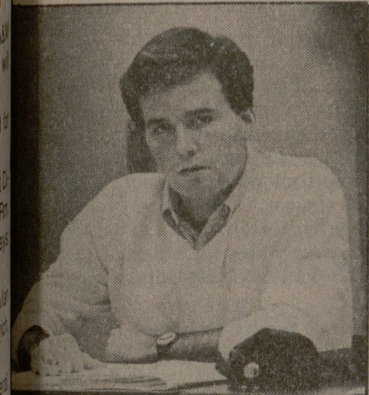
"I was ashamed of what happened Wednesday night," Shine said. "I won't support the issue, there's no way I would support it, because I have a constituency out there."

Brian Francis, sub-chairman of special projects, said he was personally opposed to homosexuality

but supported the resolution because he recognizes the rights of a minority.

"If the majority did rule, blacks would be in the same position now that they were in during the 40's and 50's," Francis said. "Women would not be here at Texas A&M University. You would be in the Corps of Cadets right now if the majority persisted. I can't say 'hey that's wrong because I don't believe in it.'"

Mike Kelley, vice president of finance, supported the resolution despite polls showing his constituents opposed its adoption.



Wayne Roberts