

Battalion Classified

HELP WANTED

COLDWELL BANKER COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES will be interviewing during Spring Break in Houston, Texas for **DATA BANK RESEARCHERS** during the summer. Duties will include a physical survey with follow-up phone work. Candidate must possess excellent phone technique, be self-directed and highly detail oriented. To schedule an interview, call Julia Houghtlin at 713/840-6513.

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WANTED: Rock bass guitar player. Call Dean: 696-3471 or J.B.: 764-8086, 775-3983. 10655

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Battalion Classified 845-2611

Boston University battles campus measles epidemic

Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston University officials, fighting a campus measles epidemic that has stricken 53 people, urged students Wednesday to avoid crowded elevators, planes and even intimate dinner parties.

The school has called off all plays, art exhibits and large lectures, and is warning students to stay away from crowded dormitory rooms and dining halls. Classes were not affected because of mid-term examinations.

Fans have been barred from all BU sporting events. And school and government health officials have said they are concerned students will spread the disease from coast-to-coast when the week-long vacation begins Friday.

They have asked students to travel by car if possible. Students whose admission forms do not indicate they have been inoculated will not be allowed to return to school without written proof of immunization, university spokesman John Keller said.

Medical authorities have estimated that about 5,000 of the school's 28,000 students are vulnerable, either because they were not inoculated as youngsters or because they were vaccinated before a longer lasting dose was developed in 1968.

"There was a rumor going for a while that we were going to call in the National Guard to surround one

dorm," said Keller. "We've been busy running around, pasting up posters saying, 'There will be no quarantine. There will be no National Guard.'"

Keller said doctors from the state and city departments of health, as well as an epidemic specialist from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, are helping the school operate vaccination centers.

Hundreds of students crowded three new clinics offering free inoculations. By Wednesday afternoon, about 2,500 students had received shots to prevent measles, a virus that causes an itchy rash and flu-like symptoms.

At Principia College, a Christian Scientist school in Elsah, Ill., two students died during a measles outbreak, apparently after refusing medical treatment. Since the measles outbreak hit Principia several weeks ago, 79 of its 712 students have caught the disease and school officials declared a voluntary quarantine. The religion teaches that sickness is only cured through prayer.

Dr. John Frank, a medical epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control, said U.S. cases of measles have decreased from 24,000 in 1975 to about 2,500 in 1984. He said most outbreaks occur at schools because 5 percent to 10 percent of college-age students are vulnerable to the disease.

Challenger launch delayed once more

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The launch of space shuttle Challenger, with a crew of seven that includes Sen. Jake Garn, will be delayed at least three more days, until March 7, to give specialists time to troubleshoot a hydrogen leak and a balky satellite battery, reliable sources said Wednesday.

Additional delay is possible if the problems aren't resolved in time, said the sources, who spoke only on condition they not be identified. NASA said it expected to have a statement later in the day on status of the launch.

The flight originally was set for

Feb. 20, but has been pushed back gradually by a series of technical problems.

Technicians have been analyzing the small leak in a valve between the orbiter and its external fuel tank, National Aeronautics and Space Administration Administrator James M. Beggs said Tuesday in Washington. The mission may be possible even with the leak, he said.

Beggs also said a battery on one of two satellites to be launched from Challenger may require replacement.

Garn, R-Utah, is chairman of an appropriations subcommittee that oversees NASA funding.

Syrians hijack plane, surrender in Austria

Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Two Syrians being deported from West Germany today hijacked a Lufthansa airliner carrying 43 people on a flight from Frankfurt to Damascus and forced it to land at the airport in Vienna, officials said.

The hijackers left the plane and surrendered to authorities after nearly five hours of negotiations, according to a statement from Lufthansa headquarters in Frankfurt.

They had previously released all 33 passengers after about 2 1/2 hours of negotiations, said an airport spokesman. The eight-member crew had remained aboard the Boeing 727.

The hijackers were believed armed with knives and a broken bottle, and had threatened two flight attendants, Schwechat Airport authorities said.

After one hour of negotiations, 21 of the passengers were released, and the rest were set free an hour and a half later, as the result of negotiations between the air pirates and Lufthansa officials, said airport spokeswoman Hildegard Ehmsen. They were taken immediately to a closed-off waiting room, and reporters were not allowed to contact them.

Equal access aids AT&T competitors

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Millions of Americans soon will be spared dialing 12 or more extra numbers to use one of American Telephone & Telegraph Co.'s competitors for long-distance telephone calls.

Companies such as MCI, Sprint and hundreds of other competitors are hoping that the gradual switch to "equal access" to the long-distance circuits will bring them some of the \$11.27 billion in interstate telephone calls that AT&T handled last year.

MCI's Don Campbell calls it "the greatest single opportunity MCI has ever been faced with."

Charleston, W.Va., was the first city in the nation to implement equal access. Under the system, begun in July 1984, long-distance telephone calls are automatically switched to the company chosen by the consumer.

Gone are the days of dialing a dozen numbers to connect to an AT&T competitor. Now, all it takes is dialing the area code, the number and maybe a "1."

Sophisticated new switching devices give all long-distance companies the same direct quality connections that AT&T has had.

So far, about 5 percent of the more than 60 million connections to equal access have been made, and starting in a few weeks, millions of Americans a month will be asked to choose a long-distance company.

By Sept. 1, 1986, two-thirds of each telephone company's lines must be converted.

However, equal access may never come to areas served by smaller telephone offices that are too small to convert economically.

As Charleston prepared to make the switch, the alternative long-distance companies swooped down on the city, launching intensive marketing campaigns in an attempt to draw consumers away from AT&T.

Since then, the companies have toned down their sales effort. MCI, for example, does a mailing a month during the three-month pre-subscription period.

There are an estimated 400 companies offering long-distance service in the United States. About a dozen join each battle.

For example, in Bethesda, Md., where eight exchanges will convert next Sunday, 11 companies offered to serve area homes. Four sent literature to households and one, AT&T, called consumers soliciting business.

The others were listed on the local phone company's mailing, but made no other solicitations.

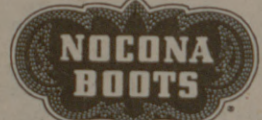
In six states, the local company sends a ballot with the list of participating long-distance companies. But in most cases, only the list comes. To sign up for a service, the customer must notify the long-distance company.

Customers who make no designation usually are hooked to AT&T.

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