

Texas A&M The Battalion

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First bootline of '86 to form on Saturday

Class of '86 bootline will make its debut Saturday during halftime at the Texas A&M-Northeast Louisiana football game.

During bootline, a tradition at all A&M home football games, seniors are invited to the south end of Kyle Field, where they will form a spirit line and hold a mid-game yell practice.

"We're the only school that lets a part of the student body come on the field this way," says an Rigas, student representative of the athletic council.

Because of this, Rigas says, seniors must be careful to follow a few rules. Seniors should enter the field at the southeast gate. Traditions Council members will be at the gate to make sure only seniors get to the field-area. They will check for senior tags and student I.D. numbers beginning with the numbers 82 as proof of senior status.

Rigas says any student can be denied permission to get on the field if he is "too rowdy."

Bootline will be formed from the seniors' locker room around the back to the back of the south end gate. The yell leaders, officers of the band and the Traditions Council will lead the seniors form the lines.

Rigas says no one will be permitted to stand on the actual playing field in case the second half kick-off is before all seniors are back in the stands.

"We certainly don't want to penalize the team with a flag because students are on the field," he says.

Once the line has been formed, seniors will then "hump it" for the "Gig 'Em," "A-G-I-E-S," "Farmers Fight" and "Beat the Hell."

After the team runs through the spirit line, seniors are requested to leave as orderly and as quickly as possible back into the stands, Rigas says.

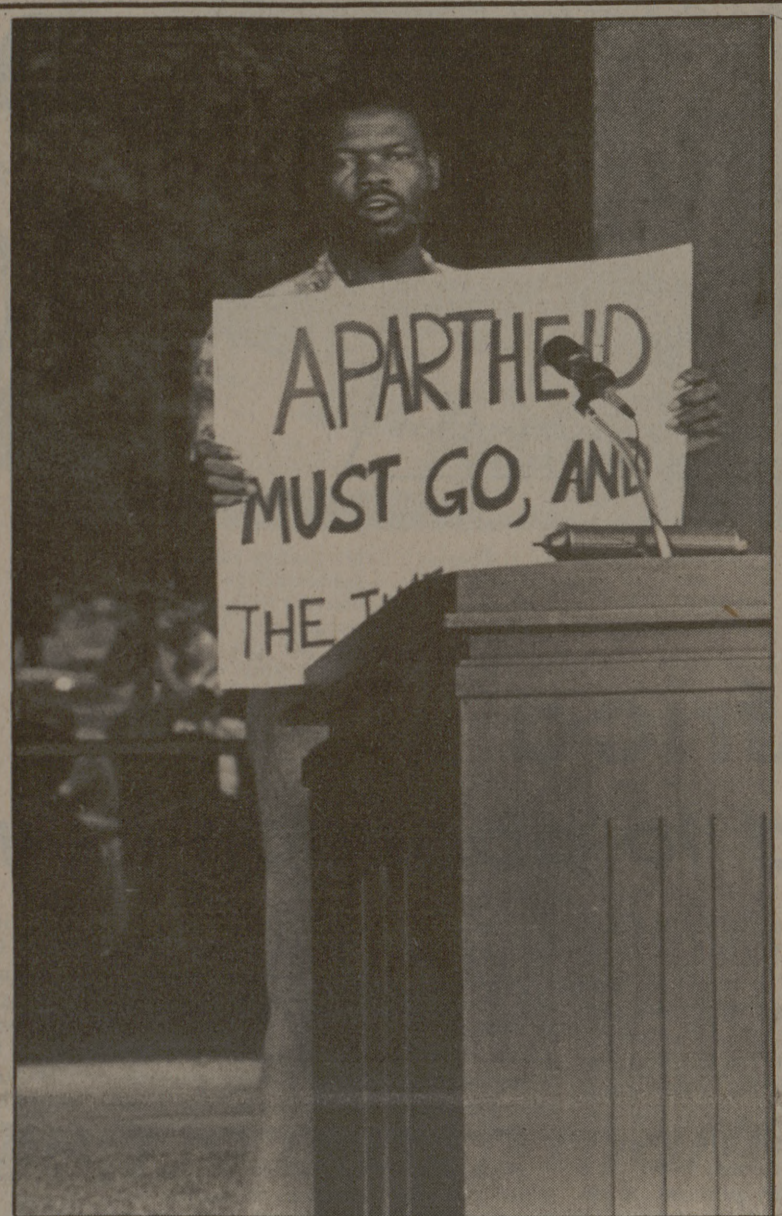


Photo by Greg Bailey

Freedom to Speak

Sam Aletan, vice president of Students Against Apartheid, holds a sign saying, "Apartheid must go, and the time is now." Aletan's group participated at a speaker's forum sponsored by the Texas A&M Civil Liberties Union Thursday. Other student organizations who voiced their opinions at the forum included Green Peace and Amnesty International. See story page 7.

Quake devastation rips central Mexico

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A devastating earthquake struck central Mexico on Thursday morning, toppling buildings, triggering fires and trapping hundreds in rubble in the world's most populous capital. Police said at least 170 were dead and thousands injured, but a far higher toll was expected.

Hours later the army and police patrolled ruined streets against looters as fires still smoldered in Mexico City, 250 miles northeast of the quake's center on the Pacific Coast. President Miguel de la Madrid, declaring a national disaster emergency, toured stricken neighborhoods and appealed for people to remain calm and stay indoors.

"Unfortunately there appear to be many dead," de la Madrid said on Mexican television. "All of the hospitals are on a state of alert to take care of the injured. The army is in a state of alert."

Dozens of aftershocks rattled the area through the day. Reports on

The Texas A&M Mexican Students Association will have a table near Rudder Fountain today to take donations of food, clothing, etc. for people in central Mexico who have been affected by the earthquake.

Oscar Pier, the secretary of the association, said Thursday that the group would be at the table from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Pier also said that if people could not come by the table today, they could call him at 693-2965 or the association's president, Angel Gonzalez, at 693-1638.

The Mexico City TV station Televisa said buildings continued to collapse and debris from others was falling into streets hours after the quake.

By nightfall half the city lacked electrical power. Local telephone service had been restored but international telephone lines were still down.

Mexico's Channel 2 monitored in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa reported 770 people, including 140 children, had died. The report was not attributed and did not say how many of the victims were in Mexico City.

At least 60 were dead in Mexico

City, a city of 17 million people, where schools, hotels, hospitals and high-rises were flattened and snapped gas and power lines touched off dozens of fires.

In the state of Jalisco, 100 miles to the northwest, 110 to 150 people were killed and about 1,500 injured. Lt. Juan Manuel Sanchez head from the fire department's headquarters in the state capital of Guadalajara.

The Mexican Embassy in Washington reported damage in the states of Guerrero and Michoacan, which lie to the south of Jalisco along the coast.

Kidnappers demanding release of 17 prisoners

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Rev. Benjamin Weir said Thursday that he was let go to warn that his Lebanese kidnappers "are not willing to wait much longer" for the freedom of 17 men imprisoned in Kuwait — the terrorists' sole demand for releasing their six other American hostages.

He said he was given no timetable for action.

Weir said he saw four of the six Americans before he was freed Saturday after 16 months in captivity.

He said the four — Terry Anderson, David Jacobsen, the Rev. Lawrence Jenco and Thomas Sutherland — all appeared well. But he said he knows nothing about the other two, Peter Kilburn and William Buckley.

Wearing a yellow ribbon on his left lapel, the 61-year-old Presbyterian minister comfortably answered questions from reporters at a 50-minute news conference.

"A window of opportunity has been opened at least a crack and the opportunity for negotiations should be seized," he said. "I fear that op-

portunity may not last long."

He said he was expected "to make this message known to the U.S. government."

After the news conference, Weir met privately with the families of the hostages.

The 17 were convicted in Kuwait of a series of bombings on Dec. 12, 1983, that included an attack on the U.S. embassy. Three have been condemned to death by hanging, seven others have a life sentence, the others have terms ranging from 15 years to two.

Crossing still controversial

CS negotiating with railroad

By TAMARA BELL Staff Writer

On Sept. 20, 1984, Katherine Mosley was killed at the intersection of Luther Street and Wellborn Road when a Southern Pacific train struck her as she was riding in.

The next night, Lynn Cash McDonald was killed when his car collided with a Missouri Pacific freight train at the same intersection.

One year later, the railroad crossing remains the same.

For about four years the City of College Station was negotiating with

the Missouri Pacific and the Southern Pacific railroads to close the Luther Street crossing as a public crossing, said David Pullen, College Station city engineer.

"The close of the Luther Street crossing has been an on-going project for the last three or four years, when development in the Woodway Village area, south of Luther Street, began," Pullen said.

One of the problems with the closing of Luther Street, he said, was the amount of time a train can block a public crossing as opposed to a private crossing.

"A public crossing is very restricted as to how long the tracks can be blocked with a train," Pullen said. "Only for a short period of time, maybe five minutes, can a train block a public crossing such as Luther Street. A train stops to either add trains or disconnect them."

"In a private crossing a train can block the tracks for 30 minutes. The railroad didn't want a public crossing at Holleman Drive and at Southwest Parkway.

"Two years ago, we began to come to agreements about the closing of Luther Street by agreeing not to

open a public crossing at Southwest Parkway."

It usually takes two years to get a signal crossing because the railroad puts in many signals across the country, Pullen said.

Because of the accidents, the railroad has moved up the time commitment to complete the Holleman Drive crossing to February 1986, he said. At that time the Luther Street crossing will close, he said.

"It shows concern on the part of the railroad to change priorities and to say to other people in the country that they're not as important as Col-

Student parking changed for A&M football games

Special parking regulations will be in effect at Texas A&M this weekend because of the football game, a spokesman for the University Police said Thursday.

The A&M Motor Vehicle Regulations state that "All vehicles registered by students must be moved from Parking Areas 37, 46, 48, 49, 56, 60, 62, 63 and 69 by 10 a.m. on days when there is a

home football game."

These parking areas include the staff, student, and park and ride lots surrounding Kyle Field.

Also included are the Rudder lot and the lots bordering Penberthy Intramural Complex and Olsen Field.

Students who do not move their cars from these lots before 10 a.m. Saturday will be ticketed.

lege Station," Pullen said.

Another problem with the closing of the Luther Street crossing was deciding who would pay for the development of the Holleman Drive crossing, Pullen said.

The cost estimate for the Holle-

man Drive crossing is \$160,000. About \$30,000 will be paid by the city, he said.

"The developers of the property on the west side of the railroad will help fund the additional cost of about \$128,000," Pullen said.

Food services director says 7-day board plan best value

By MICHAEL SHRIRO Reporter

More than 7,000 students are on one of the various board plans at Texas A&M, says Fred W. Dollar, director of the Food Services Department.

Dollar says 3,388 students use the seven-day plan, which costs \$658 a semester or \$2.16 per meal.

The five-day plan, which costs \$613 a semester or \$2.62 per meal, is used by 1,363 students, he says.

And the any-12-meals plan, which costs \$595 a semester or \$3.25 per meal, is used by 2,637 students.

These board plan prices compare with the cash prices per meal of \$2.75 for breakfast, \$3.75 for lunch, \$4.75 for dinner and \$6 for special dinner entrees such as steak, shrimp, cordon bleu and the steak and fish combination ("Surf and Turf").

The Aggie Point Plan is used by 4,627 students. This is not a board plan but a prepaid cash plan encoded on the back of a student's I.D. card.

Dollar explains that a board plan meal always will cost less than paying cash for a

meal because it costs more to serve than a student on board plan, particularly the seven-day plan.

Therefore, if every student on board plan ate all of his meals the price of board plans would be higher. But Dollar points out that food services has calculated the percentage of meals skipped by students on each board plan, which is figured into the price of the plans.

This percentage is called the missed meal factor. The seven-day plan has a missed meal factor of 30 percent and the five-day and any-12 plans have a missed meal factor of 20 percent, he says.

Dollar says he believes the seven-day plan is still the best value.

"If you are here on limited money, you want to eat most of your meals and know you are going to get a good meal," he says. "You can stretch your money further by buying the seven-day plan."

Dollar says providing quality-balanced meals that students would want to eat at a reasonable cost is the goal of the Food Services Department.

"We do our best within the amount of money we get to stay at the highest quality

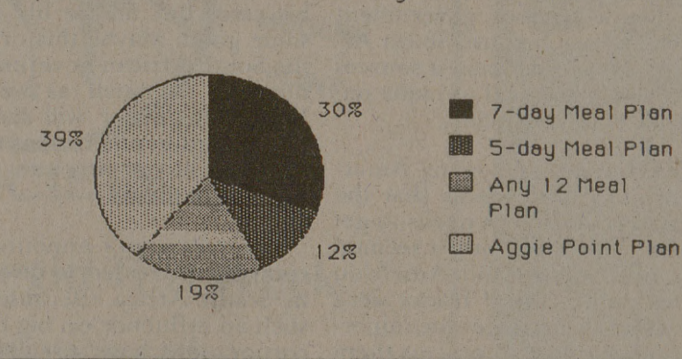
that we can achieve," Dollar says. "Years ago my old boss said, 'Come up with a slogan,' so I said, 'All right, quality first.'"

Dollar says part of "Quality First" is student input in menu selections through the menu boards at each of the dining facilities, Sbis Dining Hall, Duncan Dining Hall and

the Commons Dining Hall. The menu boards, made up of five students appointed by the student body president, meet every month to approve menus for the coming five weeks and to select new menu items.

Dollar says he believed food service was attractive enough for students that he rec-

Types of Meal Plan Bought in 1985-86



ommended seven years ago that board plans become non-compulsory for dorm students.

"I do not want to force anyone to eat when they don't want to," Dollar says.

Food services also runs the Memorial Student Center Cafeteria, the Tower Dining Room, the Underground Deli and Store, and eight snack bars around campus including the new Bus Stop Snack Bar scheduled to be completed in Fall 1985.

Dollar says food services decides where to put a new snack bar based on observation and traffic studies. Food services also uses mobile carts to gauge need and to provide temporary service until a snack bar can be built.

All the facilities run by food service use a tremendous amount of food each year. Mike Heath, buyer for food services, says the department uses more than 200,000 pounds of french fried potatoes, 230,000 pounds of lettuce and 290,000 pounds of hamburger meat.

The A&M Department of Food Services is the third largest university food service department in the nation.