

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Quake shakes California with 6.0 reading

WESTMORLAND, Calif. (AP) — An earthquake more powerful than the one that caused heavy damage near Los Angeles Oct. 1 jolted Southern California on Monday, cracking windows and knocking items off shelves, authorities said. There were no immediate reports of injuries or serious damage. The earthquake struck at 5:54 p.m. and registered a preliminary 6.0 on the Richter

scale, U.S. Geological Survey spokesman Don Finley said in Washington. It was centered near Westmorland, about 90 miles east of San Diego, he said.

The Oct. 1 quake that caused heavy damage in the Los Angeles suburb of Whittier registered 5.9.

Early reports said the earthquake was felt over a wide area, including Los Angeles,

San Diego and Palm Springs, Calif.; Yuma and Parker in Arizona, and Las Vegas, 330 miles to the north, said Finley.

"It was shaking like crazy up here," Mike Baker, the maitre d' at the Sunset Room on the 27th floor of the Landmark Hotel in Las Vegas, said. "There was a big giant rocking motion. Our biggest chandelier in the dining room swayed for two to three minutes. The customers were sitting down, they

didn't notice much. But anyone on their feet could feel the place rocking like a big boat."

The quake knocked out traffic lights, cracked windows and rattled items off shelves in stores and homes in the desert community of Westmorland, with a population of about 1,500.

George Thomas was working in a conve-

nience store in Westmorland when the quake hit. "A couple things fell off shelves and broke," he said. "A window cracked a little bit. Other than that, not too bad."

Police Chief Robert Taylor, who commands four officers, said: "The only damage that has been reported is some merchandise falling off shelves — canned goods, bottles — and one resident whose light fixtures fell off the ceiling."

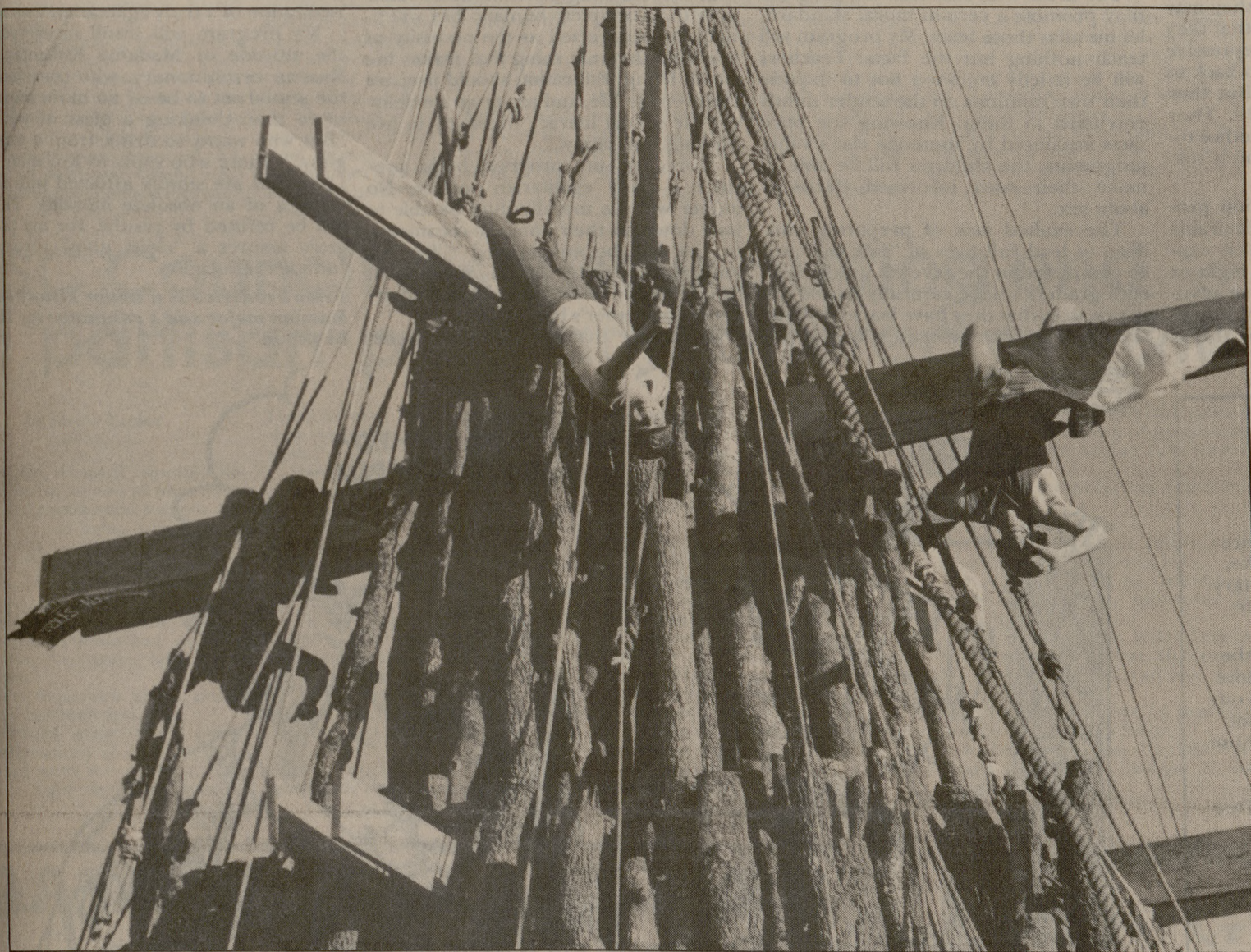


Photo by Sam B. Myers

### What goes up . . .

Steve Lawton, a senior mechanical engineering major from Houston, left; Scott Chapman, a senior animal science major from Kingwood, and J.D. Steward, a senior agricultural economics major from Veri-

best, "relax" on stack Thursday afternoon. "Push," the week immediately before bonfire burns during which Aggies haul logs to the perimeter to be pushed onto stack, began Thursday night.

## U.S. offers deal to get Cubans to stop rioting

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States offered Monday to impose a moratorium on the return of Cubans who came here illegally during the 1980 boatlift if Cuban inmates end their rioting at two federal prisons and free all hostages. Attorney General Edwin Meese III said the offer was being made in

"they're only hurting their opportunities of getting what they want," he said.

"The exact criteria . . . will have to be looked at," Alan Nelson, director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service said.

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expectation that all hostages seized by the inmates "will be safely released without delay."

Meese said that the moratorium would be in effect until each deportation case could be reviewed in a "full, fair and equitable" manner and included "all such Cubans detained in the United States."

There was no immediate word on the inmates' reaction to the offer.

The Cubans' cases would have been reviewed individually, regardless of the moratorium.

But Meese said that "there has been a great deal of apprehension, concern and tension about fair treatment . . . The clear statement we've made today . . . is to alleviate those concerns and let all of them know they will receive fair treatment."

Associate Attorney General Stephen Trott declined to say whether the government would loosen requirements to allow some of the Cubans to remain in this country. But Trott did say that "not everybody" in the two institutions "is going back (to Cuba)." By continuing the uprisings,

### Officials look for refugees after escape

LAREDO (AP) — Authorities scoured the brush country Monday with the aid of airplanes and a helicopter for Cuban refugees who escaped from a detention center, but officials said the escapees may have left the area.

Six Cubans still missing were among 17 who broke out of a minimum security detention center early Sunday.

Apparently they broke out because of fear they would be returned to Cuba, Oscar Garza, assistant chief patrol agent for the Border Patrol's Laredo Sector said.

Garza said the Cubans who escaped from the Webb County Detention Center 12 miles east of Laredo probably would not have been among the 2,500 — mostly criminals or mentally ill — that Cuba agreed to take back, according to a State Department announcement Friday.

## A&M to permit times for exams to be reset

Because Texas A&M's final examination schedule for this semester has exam times set for both a Friday and a Saturday evening, some students may find that scheduled religious activities conflict with their posted exam times.

In such cases, exams that are scheduled for the same times as religious functions will yield to the activities and be rescheduled, according to a memorandum from University President Frank E. Vandiver.

The scheduled final examinations this semester begin Friday, Dec. 16, and follow on Saturday, the next Monday and Tuesday.

Jerry Gaston, associate provost, said state law requires universities to excuse students from exams when religious events are scheduled at the same time.

The University doesn't have a policy outlining which excuses will be deemed acceptable for rescheduling examinations and which won't, Gaston said.

The decision of whether an excuse is acceptable will be made on an individual basis, he said.

The president's memo also states that faculty members who wish to attend religious functions that conflict with scheduled exams may have proctors administer their examinations to the students.

Gaston said this semester's examination schedule is a trial run to allow students and faculty members to become familiar with the schedule adopted along with senior finals at A&M.

Seniors will begin taking finals in the spring.

## Official charges student with assault in photographers' harassment case

By Lee Schexnaider  
Staff Writer

A male A&M student has been charged with assault in connection with the Oct. 30 incident in which two Aggeland female photographers said they were verbally and physically harassed at the bonfire site, Student Affairs Judicial Supervisor Brent Paterson said.

The incident occurred while the photographers were at the bonfire site for the raising of centerpole. While the pole was raised, Marie McLeod, a senior journalism major, said she was pelted with dirt while taking pictures of the bonfire from outside the perimeter.

According to University policy, the student affairs office is not re-

quired to release the names of students charged with or receiving University-related disciplinary actions. But in a telephone interview, Peter Parker Altice, a sophomore physics major from California, said he has received a letter from Paterson charging him in the dirt-throwing incident.

Altice said he will not discuss the incident until he consults with his attorney.

Paterson said the disciplinary actions the University can take range from a verbal warning to expulsion. But he said in this type of case a student is likely to be placed on conduct probation. A student on conduct probation is deemed "not in good standing" with the University. A&M University regulations state that a

student on conduct probation will receive notice of probation in his permanent file and be ineligible for the following activities:

- Holding an elected or appointed office with the University or any student organization.
- Representing the University off campus or at any University function.
- Receiving a University-administered scholarship.

Bill Kibler, associate director of student services and adviser to the bonfire, said that conclusions from his investigation of the incident show that there was definitely harassment against the female photographers going on at the bonfire site.

One point of disagreement, Kibler said, is whether male year-

book photographer Eric Swellander, a junior finance major, was allowed to return to the inside of the perimeter when all photographers were asked to leave. The female photographers present were McLeod and Jennifer Friend, a senior journalism major, who said they were unfairly restricted from the perimeter.

"One of the other conclusions I reached was that the bonfire leadership . . . is aware of the non-discrimination policy that must exist," Kibler said.

Whether the bonfire leaders tacitly or actually gave preferential treatment to the male photographer is unclear, Kibler said.

"I don't know if that will ever be resolved," he said.

## Handicapped students complain of illegal use of parking spaces

By Judy Black  
Reporter



Some handicapped students at Texas A&M say handicapped parking spaces on the A&M campus are misused by delivery trucks, University employees and students — most of whom use the excuse, "I'll only be a minute."

Sergeant D.J. Dunlap of the University Police said the campus officers issued 342 tickets to vehicles illegally parked in handicapped spaces from September 1986 through August 1987. Students must have a University parking sticker as well as a state-issued handicapped sticker to park in a campus handicapped space, he said.

The University's official penalty for parking in a handicapped space without the correct identification is

a \$50 fine and towing if possible. The state of Texas fines violators from \$50 to \$250, and also tows.

Charles Schoonover, a junior in computer science, said he thinks handicapped parking on the A&M campus generally is abused.

"Myself, being in a wheelchair,

handicapped parking is the only way that I can use my car," Schoonover said. "If I can't open my door all the way, I can't get in or out of my car."

The reason for handicapped parking places, Schoonover explained, is not to get handicapped people close to the store, but to give them enough room to park and have access to the building.

"I don't care where the parking space is, so long as I can get my door open all the way," he said.

Schoonover indicated he doesn't think police officers, University employees or students put a high priority on following or enforcing handicapped parking restrictions.

"I've even called the police," he said. "I waited over 30 minutes on one occasion trying to get a truck

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## A&M police, TABC officers to patrol bonfire to prevent alcohol consumption by minors

By Clark Miller  
Staff Writer

Plainclothed University Police and Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission officers will patrol the bonfire site Wednesday night to stop minors from drinking, Bob Wiatt, director of University Police, said.

"There will be several TABC agents, as well as our own officers, who will issue citations to any minors caught drinking or any one giving alcohol to a minor," Wiatt said.

Tickets will be issued to minors for possession of alcohol and consumption of alcohol by a minor, Wiatt said. Tickets also will be issued to people who supply minors with alcohol, he said.

Director of University Police Bob Wiatt said that there will be buses available from Olsen Field to bonfire site Wednesday night. Wiatt said the University will provide busing from the Olsen Field parking lot as well as the lots next to Olsen Field. The buses will begin running at 6 p.m. and will run continuously until after 11 p.m.

Wiatt said the citations will be Class C misdemeanors that carry a fine of up to \$200 for first-time offenders. Supplying alcohol to minors could cost a person up to \$500, he added.

Wiatt said if people 21 or older drink at bonfire, officers won't bother them as long as they are

well-behaved, although alcohol isn't authorized at the site.

Wiatt said about three-fourths of A&M's students are under the legal drinking age of 21, so officers and TABC agents will have plenty of work just concentrating on minors.

"We need to cut out the rowdiness that has been here in recent years," he said. "The last two bonfires turned into drunken orgies."

Wiatt said his office has received bonfire-related complaints of obscene language, fights and people running into other people.

"We want to keep bonfire as a family event," Wiatt said.