



PHOTOGRAPH: Pat James

**Discovering History**

**Johnny Herrera**, an A&M maintenance worker, strips away layers of paint from Fish Pond fountain to reveal the insignia of the Class of '38.

**Texas executes man convicted of triple slaying**

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — An oil-field yard worker was executed Tuesday for the 1987 slayings of three people, including a 10-year-old girl and an ex-boss he claimed got him fired.

Eddie James Johnson, 44, was pronounced dead at 6:34 p.m. CDT, seven minutes after an executioner released a lethal dose of drugs into his arms.

The condemned man professed his innocence in a final statement, turning to three members of his victims' family who watched through glass a few feet away.

Johnson, the 23rd inmate put to death in 1997, was the second condemned killer marched into the Texas death chamber this week and the seventh this month.

Another execution was set for Wednesday as Texas extends a record year for carrying out capital punishment.

**Correction**

In the article that ran in The Battalion on June 4 titled "Bar awaits ruling in TABC case," Doug Sparks' age was incorrectly identified. Sparks was 30 years old at the time of the incident. Also, charges filed by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission were against Mansard House, Inc. In addition, bartenders are not required to be TABC certified; certification is an option for liquor license holders.

**IRA**

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John Graham, 34, and David Johnston, 30, were the first Northern Ireland Protestants killed by the IRA since it resumed hostilities against British rule 16 months ago.

"It undoubtedly looks like the IRA have gone in for this brutal, cynical device, deliberately to raise tensions, running up to the 6th of July," Graham said.

The British minister responsible for governing Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, shuttled Tuesday between Orange leaders and Catholic protesters to try to win a consensus. Both sides said nothing had changed.

Mowlam also stopped in neigh-

boring Lurgan where the policemen were gunned down Monday to sign a book of condolences.

Bouquets and handwritten notes — one of which said "My blood runs cold at this dreadful act... From a local Catholic family" — lined the sidewalk where the men were killed.

Police raided several homes in Kilwilkie, Lurgan's biggest Catholic neighborhood where the gunmen's car was abandoned, and one man was arrested for questioning.

Northern Ireland has a long history of trouble over marches. In 1995, while the IRA was observing a cease-fire, Catholics began blocking marches through Catholic neighborhoods, led mostly by figures associated with the Irish Republican Army.

**Tobacco negotiations stall**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tobacco negotiators hit a major impasse Tuesday over how much legal protection to offer cigarette makers and how strictly the government will regulate nicotine.

"The tobacco industry must be punished for past misconduct, must maintain their liability for the future... and nicotine has to be regulated by the FDA," said Mississippi Attorney General Michael Moore. "They will give us what we want, or we will go to trial."

What exactly is punishment? The attorneys were short on specifics.

"They are going to really and truly hurt," pledged Florida Attorney General Bob Butterworth, angry that tobacco companies were even resisting calls to admit their products are dangerous under the settlement.

"They have to be punished for

all their past activities. Period. Punished, punished, punished."

But privately, one negotiator said "punishment" actually means a compromise one faction is pushing: A lump-sum payment that is part of the estimated \$300 billion settlement, to go either to the states or for some "good deed" like health care for uninsured children. The industry then would be liable only for punitive damages for future wrongdoing.

"It's not a cave-in," said one person close to the talks. "It's a settlement for past conduct."

But another source said enough negotiators had rejected such a compromise that tobacco foes were preparing to walk away from the talks as early as Wednesday unless the industry offers a more viable counteroffer.

**RANKING**

Continued from Page 1

Bryan-College Station did not rank well in air pollution and restaurants. The area was ranked 295th out of 300 cities with the worst air pollution. Also, the area was ranked 228th out of 300 in professional sports teams.

Morrison said that even though Bryan-College Station ranked higher last year, being ranked among the top 300 cities in the nation is an honor.

"To be in the top 100 is still significant," Morrison said. "We haven't changed dramatically since last year."

Morrison said quality of life was a key factor in the ranking. Cultural activity and transportation improvements are among the factors that increase the quality of life.

Also, he said next year's rank should improve because of special additions to the area.

"I think there's a good possibility that we will be ranked higher," he said. "The George Bush (Presidential) Library opens in the fall, and Reed Arena will follow that in the next year."

Texas A&M University acts as a major part of the economy and

lifestyle of Bryan-College Station.

Mary Helen Bowers, deputy director of University Relations at A&M, said the University adds to the quality of life in the region.

"A&M greatly improves the quality of life and the economy for Bryan-College Station," Bowers said. "It is a nice marriage between the two."

**"A&M greatly improves the quality of life and the economy for Bryan-College Station."**

**Mary Helen Bowers  
Deputy director  
of University Relations**

Bowers said Money changes what city is ranked first every year to spread the honor around and increase magazine sales.

"It is a fun thing for them to do," she said. "There are a lot of nice places to live in this country other than New York, Washington and L.A.—like here."

**RESEARCH**

Continued from Page 1

A mobile unit is on loan from the National Severe Storm Center in Oklahoma City. Jerry Guynes, the senior research instrumentation specialist for the meteorology department, said the mobile unit allows researchers to get a close-up view of storms.

"When a storm system is located on the radar," Guynes said, "a chase team is sent out to send up a weather balloon and take a 'thermodynamic picture' of a piece of the atmosphere."

Two sounding systems, which launch the weather balloons, are available.

Several faculty members and A&M students are involved in the project.

Svelta Veleva, a graduate student in meteorology, said she is working on the project to get valuable field experience.

"We have seen many different storm systems, including the tornadoes in Jarrell," Veleva said. "It is very exciting. We are having hands-on experience and are part of the decision-making team. It is a great opportunity."

But this past March, during an upgrade of the radar dish's antenna, the bearings in the dish were found worn beyond specifications. A small chance existed that the one-ton dish could crash to the ground if it posed to too much movement. The dish was temporarily removed for repairs.

Guynes said the faulty dish could have proved disastrous for TEXACAL.

"If we could not have had the dish fixed in time, NASA would have backed out and not returned to A&M," Guynes said.

The first estimate of repair costs was \$100,000 for the crane needed to lift the dish off of its pedestal and \$25,000 for the repairs, according to Dr. Gerald North, head of the Department of Meteorology.

Guynes contacted several companies to locate a crane capable of reaching the roof of the O&M building. A 350-ton boom crane was found for \$24,000, less than half the estimated cost.

Funding for the project and repairs came from approval by the provost and donations from groups in the meteorology department.

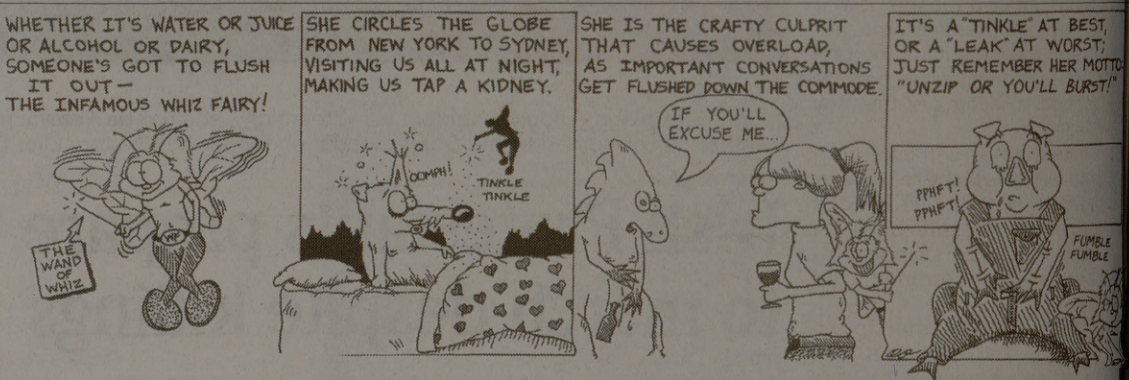
The entire operation cost less than \$50,000.

**WEATHER OUTLOOK**

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy High: 94° Low: 75°	Partly Cloudy High: 94° Low: 75°	Partly Cloudy High: 94° Low: 75°

**Sketch**

**By Quatro**



**HURRICANE BAR**  
313 S. COLLEGE  
846-3343

**WEDNESDAY SUMMER SWIMSUIT SHOWDOWN**

- \* Ladies compete for \$1500.00 cash
- \* Prelims every Wednesday in June
- FINALS JULY 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- \* 50¢ bar drinks \* 75¢ Longnecks 8-10 p.m.
- \* \$2.25 24 oz. Budlight Chuggers all night (Ladies sign up at Harry's Wednesday nights)

For more info call 846-1724  
**THINK WHEN YOU DRINK...DESIGNATE A DRIVER!**

**TAP WOODSTONE CENTER**  
693-8498

**Wednesday**  
Shrimp Boil \$1<sup>50</sup> Doz. 5 p.m. - ?  
\$3.75 Pitchers \$1.50 Pints & \$1.50 Bar Drinks 5-9 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Crawfish Boil \$1<sup>50</sup> lb. 5 p.m. - ?  
\$3.75 Pitchers \$1.50 Pints & \$1.50 Bar Drinks 5-9 p.m.

**Friday**  
Free Burgers & Dogs 5 p.m. - ?  
\$3.75 Pitchers \$1.50 Pints & \$1.50 Bar Drinks 5-9 p.m.

**: Remember, Think When You Drink :**

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