

The Battalion

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1893 - A Century of Service to Texas A&M - 1993

Monday, July 26, 1993

Weekend wrap-up

Nicaraguan gov't quells insurrection

ESTELI, Nicaragua - The government of Violeta Chamorro put down this week's insurrection but appears far from solving the economic and political problems at its roots.

The estimated 150 rebels who fought in vain for control of Esteli last week say theirs is a battle over broken vows. About 50 people were dead when the fighting ended Thursday night.

The rebels raided the city's three banks and reportedly got away with about \$4 million, enough to finance a movement for some time.

El Salvador's guerrillas started essentially the same way in the 1970s, building a war chest from ransoms for kidnapped diplomats and businessmen and launching a revolution that lasted 12 years.

Somalis attack U.S. troops in ambush

MOGADISHU, Somalia - Gunmen ambushed American military vehicles Saturday, wounding two U.S. servicemen in the latest attack on U.N. personnel. Two Somalis were killed in the return fire.

The gunmen fired on two Humvee all-purpose vehicles as the peacekeepers were returning from the airport to U.N. headquarters, said Capt. Jonathan Dahms, a U.N. spokesman.

Other soldiers in the attacked vehicles shot back, killing the two Somalis. Three or four other gunmen apparently escaped, Dahms said.

Sgt. Maj. Patrick R. Ballogg, 42, was shot in the right shoulder and hand, and Sgt. Michael D. Bower, 28, was shot in the right knee. Dahms said both were in stable condition at a U.S. army field hospital.

Iraq concedes to U.N. surveillance

MANAMA, Bahrain - A team of three U.N. inspectors arrived in Bahrain on Saturday en route to Iraq to install surveillance cameras at two missile-testing sites.

Iraq had been blocking installation of the cameras, but relented last week after negotiations with Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission overseeing the destruction of Iraq's weaponry.

The cameras are intended to ensure Iraq does not try to develop long-range missiles, which are prohibited under the terms of the 1991 Gulf War ceasefire.

Under a compromise worked out by Ekeus, the cameras will be installed but not immediately activated. In turn, Iraq has agreed to notify the United Nations if it plans to test short-range missiles.

Texas Capitol now closed to public

AUSTIN - The Texas Capitol, which opened for state business in 1888 and has survived fires, storms and raucous meetings of the Legislature, is being closed to the public for awhile.

The State Preservation Board that oversees the Capitol's restoration announced Friday that the pink granite building - one of the state's most popular tourist attractions - has been shut down for repairs.

It's the first time in 105 years that the historic building has been closed, said Dealey Decherd Herndon, the board's executive director.

Herndon said plans call for reopening parts of the building next summer and having it ready for the next regular Legislature, in January 1995.

-The Associated Press

Regents to review A&I name change issue

By LISA ELLIOTT

The Battalion

After an hour of emotional arguments concerning the scheduled name change of Texas A&I University to Texas A&M University-Kingsville, the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Friday vowed to review the issue and possibly set a date in the near future to vote

again on the A&I name change.

A crowd of about 40 Texas A&I alumni and students attended the regent's meeting to express their anger at the Board for voting to change the name of A&I without consulting the community of Kingsville or the alumni and students of A&I.

The meeting was held in response to a lawsuit filed by five Texas A&I alumni and one current student alleging the

Board of Regents violated the Open Meetings Act when they failed to post notice of their March 5 meeting at least 72 hours in advance.

Dick Watson, A&I class of '61, said Thursday he was very angry at the way the Board was treating the issue.

"They said they'll give us just 10 minutes to speak," he said. "But we have a surprise for them, we're going to take a lot

more than 10 minutes; we're bringing in the troops."

Watson presented a T-shirt to the Board Friday to express the way he and other members of the alumni felt. The T-shirt was burnt orange and said "The University of Texas at College Station" and depicted the longhorn emblem.

In addition to his participation in the lawsuit alleging the Board violated the

Open Records Act, Watson filed a lawsuit against the A&M System claiming they violated his constitutional rights. He said Article I, section 13 states every person for injury done him, in his reputation shall have remedy by due course of law. Watson said he is being forced to be an Aggie without his consent.

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Center to develop public leadership

By LISA ELLIOTT

The Battalion

Aspiring politicians at Texas A&M will have an opportunity to improve their leadership skills thanks to the new Center for Public Leadership Studies approved by the Texas A&M Board of Regents Friday.

The center, which will be administratively located in the College of Liberal Arts, will be a part of the George Bush Presidential Library Center and will work with both undergraduate

and graduate programs, University President William H. Mobley told the regents.

"This is a unique program, and it's one of the actions that attracted the attention of the President when we decided to build the library," he said.

The new center will serve as a consultant to public agencies, as well as conduct research on public leadership using perspectives from social science, education, business management and other fields.

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Greenwood gets 10 years probation

By JENNIFER SMITH

The Battalion

Sherron Dante Greenwood walked away from Judge John Delaney's 272nd courtroom Friday a free man.

Greenwood was sentenced to 10 years probation for the March 26 murder of classmate Billy C. Williams Jr. in a Bryan school cafeteria.

Greenwood, 16, who was convicted of the murder Thursday, faced a possible sentence of five to 99 years or life in prison.

He was released to his family on a \$5,000 personal bond pending a sentencing hearing July 30.

It took the jury, which was composed of nine women and three men, a little over two hours to decide Greenwood deserved probation.

District Attorney Bill Turner had argued that Greenwood deserved a harsh sentence and urged jurors not to let sympathy overwhelm them.

Defense attorneys argued Greenwood could indeed be rehabilitated, and had a better chance of success, without going to prison.

Greenwood was certified to stand trial as an adult in May because of what prosecutors said was the adult nature of the crime.

The defense in the case argued Greenwood had acted in self defense when he stabbed Williams in the upper chest with a kitchen paring knife. But the prosecution proved that because Greenwood brought the two knives to school, his actions were premeditated.

To convict Greenwood of voluntary manslaughter, the jury would have had to believe Greenwood acted under the immediate influence of a sudden passion arising from an adequate cause that rendered him incapable of cool reflection.

Jurors deliberated for over 11 hours Wednesday and Thursday before they returned a verdict of guilty of murder.

Testimony throughout the week-long trial indicated that Greenwood and Williams had both been associated with members of two rival gangs.

The night before the stabbing, a fight at a track meet between members from the two gangs occurred.

Witnesses testified Greenwood was present at the track meet, but Williams was not.

Greenwood said in the trial that his life was threatened during the fight at the track meet, and he brought a knife to school to protect himself.

Greenwood testified during the trial that he did not mean to kill Williams and was trying to protect himself.

"I just meant to defend myself," Greenwood said. "If I hadn't used a knife, maybe they would have killed me."

Fields vs. NSI:

Representative opposes aid program

By J. FRANK HERNANDEZ

The Battalion

U.S. Rep. Jack Fields, R-Humble, told 30 people Saturday at a town meeting in Bryan that he is against the \$7.5 billion student financial aid program proposed by President Bill Clinton.

Fields said he does not support Clinton's National Service Initiative (NSI) because it is a new cost that cannot be justified.

The NSI consists of two pieces of legislation. The first bill, the National Service Trust Act, will allow students to pay back loans with one or two years of community service. The second bill, the Student Loan Reform Act, will allow students to borrow money directly from their college.

Fields said the plan would spend \$5,000 per student per year, with the government paying 85 percent of the student's costs plus a stipend.

"I don't think the government can provide everything to everyone," he said.

Fields said he supports the current student financial aid programs and noted that he worked his way through college and law school.

Fields said he voted against Clinton's economic package because it is the largest tax increase in U.S. history.

The increase in taxes will come now, but any deficit reduction will come in the future, he said.

"I think this is a fundamentally flawed plan," Fields said.

Fields expects the final economic package to have a gasoline tax, a corporate tax and some form of energy tax.

Previous plans have resulted in tax increases but not deficit reductions, he said.

A plan Fields presented in response to President Clinton's State of the Union address to Congress would result in a \$383.8 billion reduction in federal spending over the next five years.

The proposal includes a 2 percent cut in all federal entitlement programs except Social Security and veteran's programs. The cut would save \$107 billion, he said.

Fields said this cut could be achieved by eliminating all federal arts and humanities programs, eliminating the Department of Labor's Jobs Corps program and requiring all food stamp recipients to work in exchange for their benefits.

This is probably going to cost you...



BILLY MORAN/The Battalion

Jim Faulkner of Special Equipment Services, Inc. works on the dead alternator of the Cypress Creek Fire Department's 75-foot ladder truck Sunday evening. The truck was part of a static display of fire trucks located next to the Read Building. The exhibition was timed to coincide with the annual fire training school at Brayton Fireman's Training Field.

Tuition increases, but still low

By JAMES BERNSEN

The Battalion

Although the cost of attending Texas A&M is increasing, the cost of attending Texas schools remains among the lowest in the country, according to a recent study conducted by the Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB).

Dr. Jerry Gaston, executive associate provost, said it is not surprising that Texas schools are still among the most inexpensive in the country to attend.

"Texas has a long tradition of providing higher education at the lowest cost possible to the largest number of students," he said.

Tom Taylor, A&M assistant vice president and controller for finance and administration, said the tuition rates of public universities in Texas are set by the state legislature, and are often not very responsive to change.

"Since 1986, higher education funding has received a smaller percentage of the state budget," Taylor said. "About that time, the legislature began setting higher tuition rates."

Taylor also said there is little built into the system of funding to account for inflation.

"The state is giving, for the next biennium, about the same amount as for the present one," he said.

This forces the legislature to make up the funds with higher tuition, Taylor said.

Gaston said the legislature has decided that students should have to pay for some of the increasing costs.

"There's not much we can do about inflation," Gaston said. "The most the administration can do is to try to find the most efficient way to deliver services."

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- Weekend Wrap-up and Golf Update

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OPINION

- Column: Anorexia, Bulimia threaten young women
- Column: Texas businesses fail to comply with disabilities act

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WEATHER

- Monday: mostly sunny, early morning cloudiness, mostly sunny and hot

- Forecast for Tuesday: mostly sunny and hot, mid 90s to near 104

TEXAS LOTTO

- Saturday's lotto numbers: 21, 11, 5, 27, 24, 50
- Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: \$11 million