

THE BATTALION

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Weather

Gradual decreasing cloudiness today with a high near 80. Winds will be West Northwest at 15 m.p.h. gusting to 20 m.p.h.



Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper

31,331 enrolled for semester, registrar says

By CAROL AUSTIN
Battalion Reporter

Official enrollment at Texas A&M University this fall is 31,331, an increase of 3.6 percent over last year, the registrar's office said Wednesday.

The number includes 11,214 women, 35.8 percent of the student body.

The official figure is the number of students signed up on the twelfth day of classes, which was Tuesday.

The Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System bases its formula for funding state institutions on that day's enrollment, said Robert Lacey, Texas A&M's registrar.

"That just seems to be their magical day," said Glenn Dowling, assistant to Texas A&M President Jarvis E. Miller.

The ratio of male to female students is about 2 to 1. The greatest variation is in the Class of '80, which has 6,310 students, 67 percent of whom are males.

The Class of '81 is 64 percent male. It has 6,365 students overall.

The Class of '82 has 5,826 students and is the smallest of the University's undergraduate classes. The Class of '83, with 7,875, is the biggest.

Those two classes are the closest in male-to-female ratio. Thirty-nine percent of the freshmen and 38 percent of the sophomores are female.

Lacey explains that the conversion of Leggett Hall to a women's dorm and the addition of the 500-unit modular dorms account for the rise in enrollment of women.

We are not alone ... by a long shot

If you've gotten that crowded feeling the first weeks of the fall semester, it's probably because you're

sharing the Texas A&M campus with 31,331 other students — a record number.

Rains bring Houston flooding

United Press International

Thousands of residents from Houston's sprawling suburbs to the coastal city of Galveston fled their homes Wednesday night and early today in anticipation of a fourth day of steady rain. Some waterways were rising by 4-5 inches an hour. Low-lying streets became small rivers lined with abandoned cars.

More than 10 Red Cross shelters were set up Wednesday to handle displaced residents who were leaving their homes with the aid of the National Guard and Civil Defense.

In Harris and Galveston counties 25 subdivisions were ordered evacuated in the fourth wave of heavy flooding this year. Weather Bureau officials said the rain which will not let up until later today is not associated with tropical storm Henri, which currently is breaking up in the Gulf.

At least 98 roads were reported closed in the Houston area, including the west entrance of Houston Intercontinental Airport.

Some of the worst hit areas were the Houston suburbs of Alvin and League City

where up to 1,000 residents fled rising water. Water was reported in some League City and Brazoria County homes.

All residents living between Friendswood and Webster in the Johnson Space Center area also were ordered evacuated as were all those in the Nassau Bay area.

No deaths or injuries have been reported.

Officials said hundreds of motorists trying to get home during rush hour Wednesday had to abandon their cars on roads that were curb-to-curb water. Even in areas considered too high to flood, sewers began bubbling up from the excess rain.

Already this year Houston and the south Texas coast have had the worst flooding in memory. In April the spring rains were the worst in 20 years and in July Claudette dumped up to 30 inches of rain in some areas. Following Claudette, Elena, moved over the same area and brought heavy rainfall.

This time, the rain has not been hard but it is steady.

At Port Aransas the rainfall was measured at 13 inches and 5 to 10 inches fell in

most places.

Civil Defense officials said those evacuated Wednesday in Corpus Christi and Aransas Pass were reluctantly allowed to return after the showers let up there but more rain, which is predicted to be heavy today, will force more evacuations.

Flash flood warnings were in effect for the Galveston County area, for the west fork of the San Jacinto River and Spring, Peach and Caney creeks.

By far the worst flooding occurred in the

Corpus Christi area late Tuesday and Wednesday, due to the 13 inches of rain. Authorities said a total of 400 persons had to leave their homes there.

Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, acting as chief executive while Gov. Bill Clements is touring Russia, issued an emergency proclamation declaring the coast a disaster area.

On the request of Port Aransas Mayor J.M. Attaway, 20 members of the National Guard were activated. Hobby said the guard was needed to enforce a 6 p.m. to 6

a.m. curfew and help in rescue and cleanup work. No looting has been reported.

A Matagorda county sheriff's dispatcher said areas of the town of Sargent and nearby Matagorda Beach, which absorbed 13 inches of rain, were evacuated.

Authorities also worried about high tides in Nueces Bay sending water lapping over the edges of the Nueces Bay Causeway (Highway 181), which connects Corpus Christi and Portland, Texas, closing it "indefinitely."

Uranium missing from nuke plant

United Press International

ERWIN, Tenn. — An undisclosed amount of highly enriched uranium that could be used in making an atomic bomb apparently is missing from an Erwin nuclear processing plant and federal officials have shut down the facility and ordered an investigation.

The uranium was missed during a routine inventory at Nuclear Fuel Services Inc., a private concern in a mountainous region of east Tennessee near the North Carolina border. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission sent seven inspectors to the plant Tuesday.

"An intensive review of accounting methods is under way," NRC spokesman Frank Ingram said in Washington. "This

will be followed by a detailed materials reinventory." He said the shutdown meant the firm would halt the manufacturing process involving the uranium until the check is completed.

Federal officials would not disclose the amount of uranium missing, indicating the information was classified. But, under the firm's operating license, any discrepancy of 19.8 pounds or more requires a shutdown for inventory within 72 hours.

Experts do not agree on how much highly enriched uranium would be required to make a nuclear device. In 1977, however, the NRC said 40 pounds of the material would be sufficient.

Ingram said the agency is "not ignoring" the possibility the uranium could have

been stolen, but said "right now it's considered to be an inventory difference. We have preliminarily notified the FBI."

"We haven't issued an order like this before," said Ingram, who described inventory discrepancies as common. "We thought it was prudent in this case."

Last January, a construction worker removed 150 pounds of low-grade uranium from a General Electric & Co. nuclear fuel fabrication plant in Wilmington, N.C., and demanded \$100,000 in ransom. An attorney for David L. Dale said the man simply walked into the plant, picked up the uranium on a handcart, loaded it in a car and drove away. The man, now serving 15 years in a federal prison, vowed to distribute the uranium throughout a major

city if the ransom wasn't paid.

The Erwin plant's primary function is to manufacture pellets to fuel the Navy's nuclear submarines.

The plant has had its share of troubles recently. The facility was the scene of a strike earlier this year by the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers. The strike, began April 14 and ended Aug. 4 with workers getting a \$2.45 raise.

During the strike, the union charged that the NRC jeopardized public safety by permitting managerial employees to operate the plant.

In 1977, the facility was fined \$53,000 by the NRC for failing to provide adequate guard services, to test its burglary alarm system and provide security barriers.

Uganda asks Young for \$10 million aid

United Press International

ENTEBBE, Uganda — Outgoing U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young paid an unscheduled visit to Uganda Wednesday and held two hours of talks with President Godfrey Binaisa, who appealed for an immediate \$10 million in emergency U.S. aid.

Young arrived from Tanzania where he discussed the Zimbabwe Rhodesian war with "my teacher," President Julius Nyerere.

Uganda had not been part of Young's seven-nation farewell tour of Africa but Binaisa, anxious for American aid, persuaded Young to visit him at the old British statehouse which overlooks Lake Victoria in Entebbe. Young then continued to his last African destination, Senegal.

Earlier this week, Washington promised its first post-war grant of \$6.4 million

to help in reconstruction.

But Binaisa said Uganda urgently needed at least \$10 million in short-term aid and "a lot more than that" in long-term loans to put the country on its feet again after the devastating war that toppled Idi Amin.

Young and Nyerere discussed the war in Zimbabwe Rhodesia for 90 minutes.

Nyerere, asked about Young's resignation as ambassador, smiled broadly and replied, "We don't interfere in the internal affairs of the United States."

Young came to Tanzania Tuesday with a group of American businessmen. The group was on a 16-day swing through seven African countries for trade and political discussions. But the ambassador, who helped shape U.S. policy in southern Africa, concentrated most of his attention today on developments in Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

Welcome to Eden; snakes are included

United Press International

NEW YORK — Forget that mini-calculator you've been packing around in your briefcase — it's just a toy. If Geoffrey Calvert is right, by the year 2000 you'll be carrying its big brother in your head and you'll know all there is to know about everything.

Futurist Calvert, in a report titled "Shaping the Next Three Decades," predicts conversion of the average person into a genuine cyborg, with "picoprocessors," combined with memory banks, implanted in the skull and interfaced directly with the brain.

That, he says, would make "all the stored knowledge of humanity accessible to every person."

Picoprocessors, he says in his report published by the insurance and financial firm of Alexander & Alexander, will be 1 million times more powerful than the microprocessors utilized by the present generation of computers.

He also says the functions of clocks, telephones, typewriters, cameras, checkbooks and a host of other necessities all may be compressed into a single pocket-sized gadget called a "dator." It will have the capability of providing instant information, communications, entertainment and medical monitoring on command.

But as usual, there are snakes in the 21st-century Eden.

Calvert says a lot of people may wind up out of work — and worse — because of all the "Star Wars" hardware.

"Perhaps the principal danger to the public (is that) they will be concentrated in the hands of too small a segment of the population," he says. "Concentration of the flow of information can provide a basis of control far more comprehensive and efficient than developed by any totalitarian regime in the past."

The micro-revolution also may create chaos in the job market if it comes before people are prepared to live with it.

"Perhaps one-half of all occupations will in due course cease to exist, while most others will be radically altered," he says.

Tickets available for Beach Boys

About 3,000 tickets to the Sept. 30 Beach Boys concert were still available today, Town Hall Chairman Michelle Scudder said Wednesday night.

Scudder said she thought "people just assumed it sold out the first day because of the line."

Students began camping out by the Rudder Box Office Friday. Tickets went on sale Monday morning.

Ticket prices for the concert, which will be in G. Rollie White Coliseum, are \$8.75, \$9.25 and \$9.75.

Groups sponsor Healthy Baby Day

Doctor displays children's exercises

By JACKIE FAIR
Battalion Reporter

Healthy Baby Week peaked Wednesday as about 30 children and their mothers attended Healthy Baby Day at the Brazos Center in Bryan.

The event was sponsored by the Brazos Valley Chapter March of Dimes, the Brazos County Extension Service and Dr. Carl Gabbard of the Texas A&M University Child Movement Center.

Gabbard talked about motor development in children and demonstrated climbing and coordination exercises with the children.

"Children need to discover how their bodies move," Gabbard has written in a synopsis of his experiments. "They must be able to sort out one part of their body from another. They should be able to distinguish between right and left by the first grade."

Gabbard recommends "The Baby Exercise Book" by Dr. Janine Levy to help parents enhance the development of their infants.

"Designing the home and the outdoors is probably the most important factor" in helping a child develop, Gabbard said.

Gabbard holds child movement classes each semester at Texas A&M for children aged 18 months to 5 years. His class for 4- and 5-year-olds is new this semester.

Classes are also available for handicapped children and are under the direction of Pat Patterson.

"Our purpose in Healthy Baby Day is to make parents aware of what they can do to develop motor skills in their children," Patterson said.

Other groups in Bryan-College Station also participated in Healthy Baby Day, hoping not only to inform mothers, but mothers-to-be as well.

Representatives speaking for the Lamaze method of childbirth passed on information and answered questions for interested mothers-to-be.

Lamaze classes are offered at A&M Presbyterian Church. With four instructors, new classes begin about every two weeks.



Doug Graham