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The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High 78	High 78
Low 59	Low 55
Rain 0.00 inches	Chance of rain 0%

State survey taken at time of cutting back, aide says

United Press International
DALLAS — A legislative aide says an unreleased survey in which nearly two-thirds of the state's employees said they could handle more work was conducted at about the time Gov. Bill Clements was discussing his plans to trim state expenses.

"People wanted to keep their jobs," said Kevin Sheeran. "They didn't want to take any chances about losing their jobs."

The 155-question survey was administered last March on an anonymous basis to employees of 14 separate state agencies, said Sheeran, an aide to Rep. Mary Jane Bode, D-Austin, who chaired the House Select Committee on Employee Productivity.

The survey, to be released soon, showed 64 percent of the 1,341 state workers surveyed felt they could perform additional work if given the opportunity.

Twenty-four percent of those surveyed felt they could not perform additional work and 12 percent declined to answer the question.

Bode, who was elected to the House in a special election in 1977 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Sarah Weddington, was defeated in her bid for reelection last week by Terral Smith. She was out of the country Monday and unavailable for comment on the survey.

Sheeran said in a telephone interview the survey consisted of questions designed to elicit information about

state employees' attitudes toward promotional opportunities, evaluations, training and organization.

He said the committee was charged by House Speaker Bill Clayton to "study the laws and policies of the state and its agencies that affect the training, education, hiring, classification, performance and promotion of employees to determine where changes can be made to improve employee effectiveness and productivity."

The survey showed 22.6 percent of the participants were in a technical field, 23.8 were secretarial-clerical, 21.3 percent administrative, 3.2 percent social service, 5.1 percent health service, 10 percent laborers and 13.9 percent other.



Staff photo by Pat O'Malley

The great escape

Rick Hansen, a senior from Houston, is evacuated by College Station Fire Department paramedics from the 11th floor of Rudder Tower during a fire Monday. According to CSFD Capt. David Giordano, an overheated motor in the basement of the Memorial Student Center was to blame for the fire. Parts of the MSC were evacuated as smoke from units of the electrical system was sent through the vents. Three CSFD units responded to the call.

Some Dems ready for Reagan budget

United Press International
WASHINGTON — With the lame-duck 96th Congress preparing for its final days, some Democrats are ready to let Ronald Reagan try his hand at cutting government spending — now that a \$38 billion budget deficit is in sight.

Some think he can do it and ought to; others want to hold him to his campaign promises and are betting he will fail.

With 17 members of the Senate and 20 more in the House facing voluntary or electoral retirement in January, Congress reconvenes Wednesday to finish the business set aside when it went home for campaigning in October.

Republicans will be calling for an immediate tax cut, but Democratic leaders prefer to let them wait until January, when the GOP will be in control of the Senate, to pass their own and take the credit or consequences for it.

Congress must complete work on the federal budget for the year that began Oct. 1 and pass 10 pending appropriations bills. House Budget Committee staff members predicted Monday the final draft of its panel's work would result in a \$38 billion deficit.

Under the staff's new projection, the \$613 billion "balanced budget" passed by

Congress in June would balloon to \$648 billion because of faster-than-expected spending by agencies, new programs enacted by the House and inflation. They also projected a tax cut resulting in \$5.4 billion less in revenues partially offset by more than \$2 billion in new taxes.

Rep. Robert Giaimo, D-Conn., the Budget Committee chairman who is retiring, said a \$38 billion deficit was "clearly unacceptable."

Giaimo proposed bringing the deficit down to \$25 billion with a 2 percent across-the-board spending cut, which Reagan has said he wants.

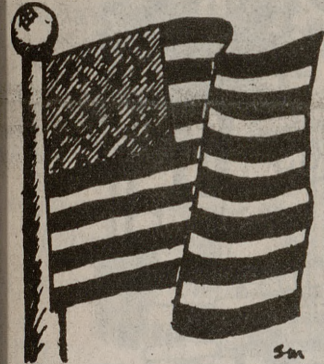
"He thinks he can cut 2 percent and I'll go along with it," Giaimo said.

Asked if he was putting Reagan in a tight spot by readily accepting a 2 percent cut, Giaimo said, "I'm not interested in calling the president's (Reagan's) bluff. I'm interested in helping him get control over spending."

Staff sources indicated, however, liberal Democrats want to force upon Reagan his own promises, which they believe he cannot keep.

"If there's waste and fraud there, there's no reason we can't get at it," said Rep. Leon Panetta, D-Calif. He said he might propose an across-the-board cut larger than 2 percent because Reagan advisers say it will be so easy to trim waste.

Veterans Day today



Area banks and post offices will be closed today in observance of Veterans Day. There will also be no home delivery of mail.

Formerly called Armistice Day, Veterans Day is the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I in 1918. The federal legal holiday, observed on the fourth Monday in October during the mid 1970s, returned to Nov. 11 in 1978.

All city offices in Bryan and College Station will conduct business as usual today.

New economy report out

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Two new government reports show higher prices and interest rates are keeping post-recession recovery farther around the corner, but a drop in oil imports holds out the promise of lower gasoline prices next year.

In reports issued Monday:
— The Commerce Department said retail sales at the nation's stores fell slightly last month, after rising for four consecutive months.

— The same department reported sales of new single-family houses fell 13.8 percent in September, as a result of high interest rates that resumed their upward climb in July.
— The Energy Department said U.S. imports of crude oil and

petroleum products fell 31.8 percent in the first 10 months of this year below comparable 1979 levels.

The retail sales and housing figures are graphic examples of the slow and weak economic recovery, and possibly stagnation, that most economists predicted would follow the recession.

In a preliminary report, the Commerce Department said retail sales fell a marginal 0.1 percent in October to a seasonally adjusted \$79.9 billion, after rising 1.5 percent in September. Retail sales were 5.7 percent above year-ago levels.

Most of the decline was due to a drop in auto sales, which fell 2.1 percent in October to a seasonally adjusted \$14.4 billion, down from September's \$14.7 billion.

Excluding car sales, total retail sales rose 0.3 percent, the department said.

Student dies in Sunday car accident

A Texas A&M University student died in a car accident early Sunday morning.

Randolph Mason Dilworth, 21, a senior agriculture economics major from Tilden, died in a one-car roll-over in Tilden. Funeral services were scheduled Monday in Pleasanton. Burial was scheduled for the Tilden Cemetery.

Silver Taps for Dilworth will be held Dec. 2.

Reason for campus blackout a mystery to officials

By DEBBIE NELSON

Battalion Staff

Seven minutes into noon classes Monday, power blacked out on campus. It was a good excuse for students to skip class, and a mystery to physical plant officials.

"We probably never will know exactly how it happened. We'll know what happened, but we won't know why," said Joe Estill, director of the Texas A&M University physical plant.

Today, all power is operating again. No similar blackout has occurred before.

Power was restored to most of the campus by 1 p.m., but parts of the West campus and scattered other areas remained without power.

All power was restored by 7:30 p.m. Monday, Estill said, but air conditioning units were not restarted until at least 5 a.m. today.

The power outage occurred when voltage arced between two four-inch copper buss bars, which opened the circuits and shut down all power, Estill said. Power does not normally jump between the bars.

Estill said some power was going to all areas of the campus, but one or two circuits were still down at 5:30 p.m.

"When this thing went down, you don't just punch a button and bring it all up again. You bring one thing onto the line, stabilize it, and then bring another thing onto the line," Estill said.

Jeff Alford, associate director of public information, said even the tie with Brazos Electric was cut off, leaving the campus with no electricity.

Early reports said all power outages would be corrected by 4:30 p.m. But Rudder Tower, the Commons and the Oceanography and Meteorology Building and parts of West campus were still

blacked out at that time.

At 4:30, a physical plant spokesman said, "We're just trying to get this thing back in operation over here."

The Corps dorms and the Commons regained power by 4:45 p.m. Monday.

Although Kleberg Center and the Soil and Crop Sciences Building had power by 2:45 p.m., the School of Veterinary Medicine remained without power.

Problems cropped up when the power was off. Several people were trapped in the Rudder Tower elevator for 30 minutes, said Arla Gammon, information center coordinator in Rudder Tower.

But job interviews continued in the tower, Gammon said, with students walking up ten flights to the Placement Office to keep their appointments.

When the power dropped, fire alarms were activated in several campus buildings, including the Sterling C. Evans Library, which was evacuated, Alford said.

College Station firemen assisted a student in a wheelchair who was trapped on the eleventh floor of Rudder Tower, Captain Dave Giordano said. Rick Hansen, a senior from Houston, had gone to the Tower Dining Room for lunch.

When the power went out, the fire department evacuated Hansen since it was not known how long the electrically-operated elevators would be out of service.

The fire department was at the Memorial Student Center, responding to a call from a minor electrical fire which sent smoke through the air-conditioning system, Giordano said.

Russ McDonald, University Police chief, said, "We haven't had any problems at all."

Food problems met with ease

By BERNIE FETTE and PHYLLIS HENDERSON

Battalion Staff

While the biggest inconvenience experienced by some students during yesterday's power outage was having to do without their TVs and stereos for a while, campus dining facilities had problems of their own to worry about.

But the problems at the dining halls were handled with moderate ease, Director of Food Services Fred Dollar said.

"By straining, we think we did an adequate job," Dollar said. In order to cope with the lack of power, the preparation methods for some of the foods had to be changed. However, the power came back on in time to avoid any big problems at Sbis Dining Hall, he said.

Besides not having power to prepare food, the power outage also prevented the use of soft drink machines and ice cream machines in the dining halls.

Monday the Corps of Cadets ate supper before dark at the request of Food Services, Dollar said, and other students who normally eat in Duncan were asked to eat their evening meal at Sbis. Students who usually eat at the Commons were also asked to eat at Sbis.

There were some minor problems at Duncan, but "nothing to speak of," Duncan Manager Carl Tatum said.

"You always have minor problems with a power outage, but we're still serving a hot meal," he said Monday afternoon.

The A.P. Beutel Health Center reported only a momentary power outage, and the Remote Computing Center was shut down during the blackout.

A spokesman for the health center said the emergency generator was activated immediately when the power went out and the lights were out only momentarily. The lights in the center's administrative offices remained out, however.

No injuries due to the blackout had been reported, and there was no serious backlog of cases, a spokesman said.



Staff photo by Pat O'Malley

Even with no lights, cashier Linda Forson kept working in the Fiscal Office in Rudder Tower Monday afternoon.

The only illumination for her booth was a candle on the counter in front of her.

Zachry 'soars' with no lights

By LAURA CORTEZ

Battalion Reporter

Where were you when the lights went out? If you happened to be in Zachry Engineering Center, you were in the middle of an air show extravaganza.

It all started shortly after the clocks stopped at 12:07 p.m. Monday. A student launched a small paper glider from the third floor, and within minutes, a barrage of paper flying objects filled the air.

While secretaries sat idly at their electric typewriters in darkened offices, professors and students swarmed to the lobby and second and third floor railings to observe or participate in the show.

Two electrical engineering graduate students were the center of attention with their variations of the circular glider (or "flying hole"), a design they claimed to have borrowed from some aerospace engineering students.

It wasn't long before more people got into the act, launching everything from traditional paper airplanes to giant versions of the flying hole.

The successful flights were met with whoops and applause from spectators, while the failures were subjected to hisses, and sometimes even hysterical laughter.

As more classes were dismissed early because of darkness, the number of spectators grew, and it wasn't long before a scoring section was formed. Its members, located on the third floor, held up signs rating the flights on a scale of 1 to 10.

The air show continued to be a success until about 1:15 p.m., when the activity was rudely interrupted by a sudden flash of light and the hum of the air conditioning system.

As students reluctantly returned to their academic routine, the lobby looked like a deserted battlefield — hundreds of paper flying vessels lay motionless on the floor.

And what had minutes before been a spectacular air show arena reverted to a simple lobby.

What did you do when the lights went out?