

Drive safely over Thanksgiving

THE BATTALION

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College Station, Texas

USPS 045 360
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The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High 50	High 49
Low 32	Low 32
Rain 1.14 inches	Chance of rain good

Snowstorm sweeps Texas

The storm that brought Lubbock a one-month snowfall record moved through the Hill Country of central Texas today, slickening roadways with its deposits of snow and ice.

Travel advisories stretched from the Panhandle through the South Plains and into the Austin-San Antonio area, which was shivering under icy precipitation and temperatures in the upper 20s. Snowfall had ceased in west Texas.

At 5 a.m. today, the National Weather Service said melter advisories would remain in effect for parts of central and southeast Texas throughout the day. Rain mixed with light snow and sleet was scattered over eastern half of the state as well as eastern portions of west Texas.

Pre-dawn temperatures were mostly in the 30s across the state. Extremes at 4 a.m. included 8 degrees at Amarillo and 43 at Beaumont.

Skies were mostly cloudy. Some clearing was reported in the northwest and extreme west.

Today's forecast called for cloudy skies with rain, snow and sleet for the eastern two-thirds of the state, with increasing cloudiness in the west. Temperatures were expected to range in the 30s and 40s, although highs in extreme southern portions were expected to be near 50.

The 11 inches of snow that fell on Lubbock Tuesday combined with last week's 10.6 inch snowfall to give the city a new monthly record, the National Weather Service said. The previous record of 16.8 inches was set in February 1956.

Still winds of up to 25 mph piled the wet West Texas snow into drifts as high as 3 feet, and snow-encrusted roads were near impassable. No major accidents and no fatalities were reported, however.

Aggies see snow

An early-season snow fell on the Bryan-College Station area Tuesday night, and local weathermen say there could be more snow flurries today.

The Flight Service Station at Easterwood Airport recorded 0.01 inches of snow Tuesday. A spokesman said that although there could be some snow flurries today, temperatures should prevent any snow from sticking on the ground.

A spokesman for the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation said roads in the immediate area are wet, but are not experiencing any icing.

Although local highways are in good condition, local residents and students going north for the holiday weekend should listen for weather advisories, she said, because they will run into both ice and snow. Reports on how far south the ice and snow conditions extend were not available as of 10 a.m. this morning.

Lubbock-area schools were closed for the second day today, and some 23,000 Texas Tech students started the Thanksgiving holiday early as classes were dismissed until Monday.

The snowfall transformed ordinarily pedestrian neighborhoods into gorgeous snowscapes of flocked pines, firs and elms. Dollops of snow sculpted flat lawns.

The beauty was lost on some people, like highway department workers, who battled the drifting snow and skating rink-slick roadways.

Mel Pope, a district engineer for the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation in Lubbock, said 110 trucks were on the roads in the 17-county area, blading snow, salting bridges and hills and the areas where ice normally accumulates.

"But they're having extreme difficulty," he said, "with the snow drifting behind the equipment."

About 5 inches of snow, a numbing wind and temperatures in the upper 20s created hostile conditions at Amarillo, "but we've just had minor fender-benders," said a Department of Public Safety dispatcher.

A jackknifed truck on U.S. 287 near Dumas caused minor traffic problems in the Panhandle, but Lubbock seemed to be taking the brunt of the storm, just as the weather service had predicted.

"It's just all roads packed solid with ice and blowing snow. It's colder 'n blue blazes, and everybody wants to go to grandma's house for Thanksgiving," said Lubbock DPS officer Bert Sinclair.

"We have a jackknifed truck, well, one that slid off the road in (nearby) Idalou. We're working on getting a wrecker to it, but the wrecker got stuck," he said.

Lubbock Regional Airport was open today, although some flights were running late, said a Braniff Airlines spokeswoman. Tuesday morning, one-eighth-mile visibility, stiff winds and poor braking action had thwarted commercial pilots trying to traverse the snow-covered runways.



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

A storm traveling across the state brought enough snow to the Bryan-College Station area Tuesday night for one resident to make this snowwoman. Local weathermen say there is a possibility of flurries again today.

Regents emphasize development of marine programs

A major new commitment to attainment national and international leadership in marine-related programs was underscored Tuesday by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents — a commitment similar to that presently accorded agriculture and engineering.

The Board of Regents hereby reaffirms its commitment to the development of marine-related programs within the Texas A&M University System, with an express goal to serve the growing needs of students and other citizens of the state in this important area and to achieve national and international recognition for excellence in the field, the regents said in a formal statement after accepting a report compiled following a year-long study of TAMUS marine activities.

A team of nationally prominent consultants compiled the report. A companion study was conducted by a 15-member internal advisory committee.

The overall picture that emerges is that marine-related programs of the Texas

A&M University System are diverse and broad, are representative of many areas of knowledge and encompass all the facets of a modern university in terms of teaching, research, extension and public service," Chancellor Frank W.R. Hubert told the regents.

"The complexity of the marine-related programs within the system is similar to the complexity of programs found in the agricultural and engineering fields," he added. "However, the consultants have noted that the marine programs lack the institutional focus that is enjoyed by the programs in agriculture and engineering."

The agricultural and engineering emphases stem from Texas A&M University's land-grant designation. Texas A&M now has the nation's largest student enrollments in both fields, and TAMUS agencies conduct research and extension programs which rank among the best in the country, Chancellor Hubert said. Texas A&M now also has sea-grant designation with a federal

mandate to provide leadership in marine and related activities.

"The ocean is important to Texas. Ocean resources — oil, gas, fisheries transportation and recreation — all enhance the state's economy," noted the report accepted by the regents. "Continued growth of the population of Texas accents the need to understand the adjacent marine environment. Increased reliance on an unspoiled ocean will require public wisdom based on knowledge and understanding of that environment."

"As the land-grant and sea-grant institution in the State of Texas, the Texas A&M University System has the opportunity and obligation to serve the ocean-related needs of the people of Texas," the report continues. "Recognition of this role is evidenced by the many related marine programs within the system."

The Texas A&M University System currently invests about \$25 million annually in marine programs, the study showed.

Recommendations made by the consultants include a proposal to nurture Prairie View A&M University's unique role in providing access to marine employment for minority students.

In other business, the regents appointed Mayo J. Thompson of Houston and Lawrence D. White of Fort Worth to the board of consultants for Texas A&M's Center for Education and Research in Free Enterprise, an economic think tank. Thompson, an attorney, is a former member of the Federal Trade Commission and was instrumental in founding the privately financed center. White is president of an architectural and engineering firm. Both men are Texas A&M graduates and have held alumni board positions, with Thompson serving a term as president.

John William Caple of Fort Worth was named to the board of visitors for Texas A&M University at Galveston. The founder and president of Trailer Equipment Warehouse, also a Texas A&M graduate

and past president of the alumni association, was appointed to a three-year term on the advisory board for the president of the marine-oriented institution.

The regents awarded four contracts totaling \$13 million for construction projects throughout the system, and appropriated an additional \$548,000 for six other projects.

A \$10,235,725 contract was awarded to Allen M. Campbell Co., General Contractors, Inc. of Tyler, for construction of a 167,075-square-foot, three-story engineering laboratory center at Texas A&M.

Century Builders of San Antonio received a \$1.27 million contract to construct an office-classroom-shop building for the Texas Engineering Extension Service's South Central Training Center at San Antonio. T. D. Howe Construction Co. of Houston received a \$977,100 contract to renovate a recently purchased nine-story building adjacent to the Texas Medical Center in Houston for use in the Prairie View A&M nursing program. The sewage treatment

plant will be expanded at the Mitchell Campus in Galveston under a \$245,950 award to Medina Engineers & Constructors, Inc., of Texas City.

Appropriations include \$300,000 for purchase of a sea-going vessel by the Texas Engineering Experiment Station for use in its environmental engineering program. Other appropriations: \$120,000 to purchase furniture and shelving for the Sterling C. Evans Library; \$60,000 for design work for expansion of cyclotron facilities and \$43,000 for design work to convert the animal pavilion into a registration and add-drop center and student lounge, all at Texas A&M; \$25,000 for design work to air-condition three dormitories at Prairie View; \$10,000 for a feasibility study for construction of a new dormitory and renovation of existing dormitories at Tarleton; and \$15,000 for design of an addition to the headquarters building at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Lubbock.

Centerpole falls early

Aggie traditions hold true, it will be a normal game against University of Texas this weekend, since the bonfire centerpole fell before midnight.

Tradition has it that if the centerpole remains standing until midnight, the Aggies will beat the Longhorns.

A smaller than usual crowd stood through rain, sleet and snow Tuesday night to watch the bonfire burn and the centerpole collapse about 9:30.

However, the pole fell before midnight this year, and that didn't stop the Aggies from beating the Longhorns 13-7.

A strong north wind kept one side of the back from catching for almost 30 minutes and kept the outhouse on top of the stack from burning.

Another tradition says that yell practice cannot be held until the outhouse col-



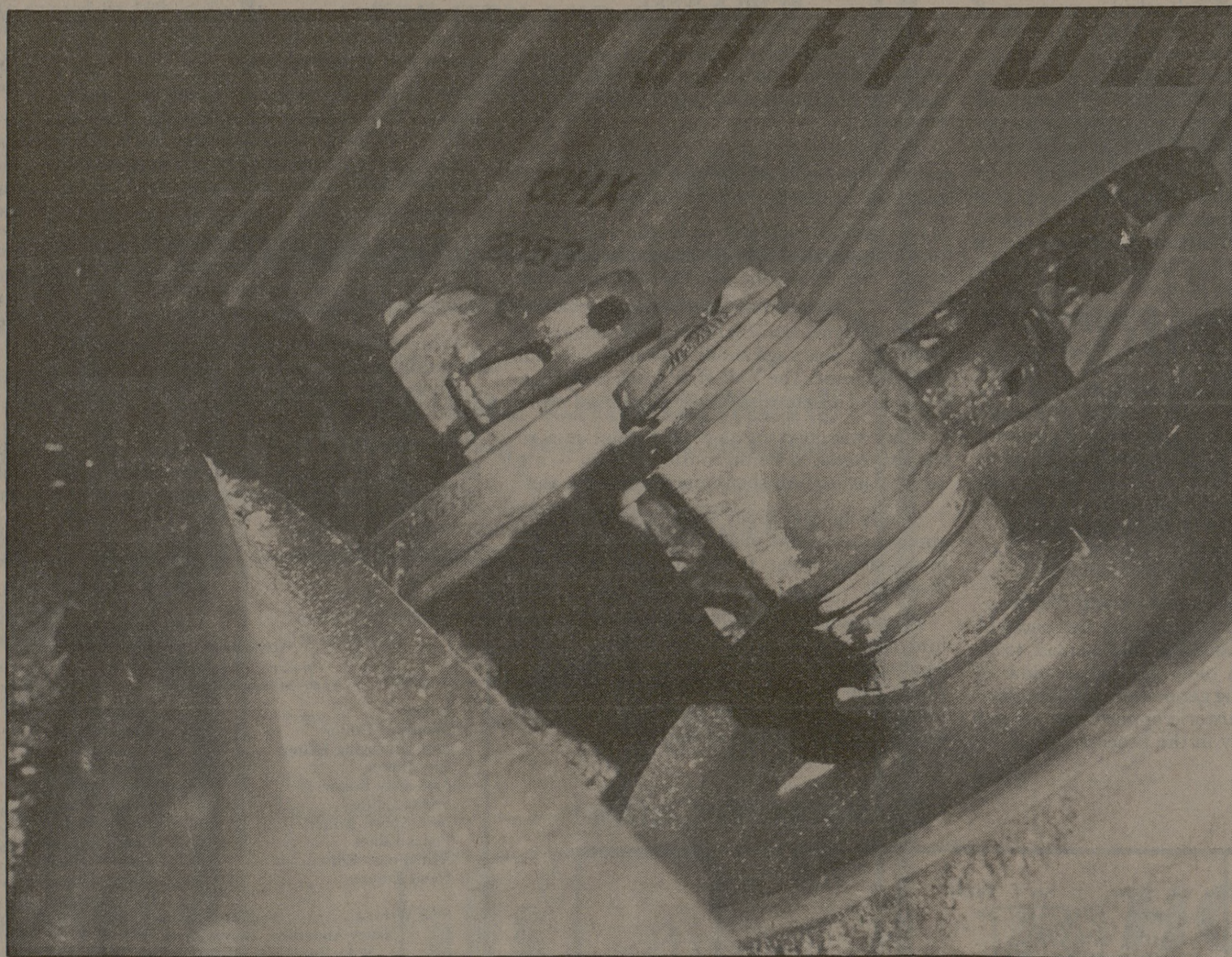
lapse, but because of the weather, yell leaders decided to start early.

During yell practice, Acting President Charles Samson, Head Coach Tom Wilson and quarterback David Beal addressed the crowd.

Wilson acknowledged that although the season had been disappointing to most, he believes his actions have laid the groundwork for a strong program in the future.

Beal said the football team has come together more now than he has ever seen in the past. He said the team is ready for the game this weekend.

"We're going to Austin with only one thing in mind," Beal said, "and that's beating the hell outta Texas."



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Train derailment

While Aggies were making their way to bonfire Tuesday night, traffic was slowed somewhat on Wellborn Road as passing motorists observed some Missouri Pacific Railroad cars that derailed across from the Kyle Field Stadium. Police said the accident, which caused no injuries, occurred about 6:15

p.m. Railroad workers described the incident as a "washout," but declined to make any comment on the cause of the derailling. Wreckers were called in from Houston, but investigators are not scheduled to make an announcement on the accident's cause until today. The cars were carrying sand and gravel.

Iran threatens release in stages

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Iran's parliament speaker Hojjatolislam Hashemi Rafsanjani warned the United States today if Iran's demands for freeing the hostages are met only in installments, the American captives will be released the same way — in stages.

The United States said publicly late last month any piecemeal release of the captives was "unacceptable," and also warned Iran at the same time of "grave" consequences if any of the Americans were put on trial in Tehran as spies.

The strong statement came by Rafsanjani came hours before an Algerian delegation, Iran's go-between in the hostage crisis, was to arrive at the State Department to explain Iran's position on the release of the captives, who on Thursday will spend their second Thanksgiving in captivity.

The Algerian envoys — Abdelkarim Gheraib, Algerian ambassador to Iran; Redha Malek, Algerian ambassador to Washington; and Mosstefai Seghir, head of Algeria's central bank — were to meet with Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Rafsanjani, on the last stop of a four-nation Arab trip to win support for Iran's war effort against Iraq, told a news conference in the Lebanese capital Iran will not compromise on its conditions for the release of the Americans or ending the war with Iraq.

He said the same non-negotiable demands for freeing the Americans, who have been held for 389 days, apply to the incoming administration of Ronald Reagan and warned the hostage crisis "could remain with us as long as Washington does not do anything about it."

"There is no differences between Reagan and Carter," Rafsanjani said. "Whoever meets our demands, will get the hostages. If our demands are met by installments, then the hostages will be released by installments."

"The Americans and the Iraqis are the aggressors, and there could be no compromise with the aggressors," Rafsanjani said. "Our demands for the release of the hostages and ending the war are clear, and unless these demands are met, neither crisis will be settled."

The Iranian hostage release demands are a pledge of noninterference in Iranian affairs, the return of the late shah's wealth, the release of Iran's frozen assets and the cancellation of all legal claims pending against Iran. Washington has indicated that all but the first demand of a non-interference promise entail legal and financial complications.

Tuesday night, the Algerian delegation arrived in Washington with a list of questions from Tehran about the U.S. reply to Iran's conditions. The Iranian message brought to Washington apparently asked for specific U.S. actions to fulfill the Iranian demands.

But the delegation's arrival also was the first indication of a genuine give-and-take on the negotiations for release of the hostages. U.S. officials, however, expect it will take several days of intense discussions to produce the "clarifications" Iran has demanded.