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The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	67	High	68
Low	43	Low	45
Chance of rain	10%	Chance of rain	10%

Saber-wielder suspended; no SMU charges

By DENISE RICHTER
Battalion Staff

Greg Hood has been suspended from the University until the end of the semester for brandishing a saber at the Texas A&M-Southern Methodist University game. SMU cheerleaders say they will not press charges against the cadet.

"I feel like he and A&M have been disgraced enough," SMU Head Cheerleader David Schmidt said Monday night. "As long as he regrets what he's done, that's enough. I don't want to rub salt in his wounds."

Last week, Schmidt said the cheerleaders would wait until Texas A&M took disciplinary action against Hood before they decided whether to press charges.

The decision to suspend Hood was reached Monday after a 3½-hour closed hearing, chaired by University Administrative Officer William L. Kibler.

Hood had been charged with assaulting SMU students, improperly using a weapon and creating a disturbance. Possible punishment ranged from academic suspension to expulsion.

After the hearing, Hood said: "Looking at the University, I felt (the suspension) was a relatively fair position. Having the positions I've had, I understand more of the broader concerns that go into making the decision. My main concern is to do what's best for the University."

Before his suspension, Hood served as the chairman of the Student Government Judicial Board and was a member of the Cadet Court and the Traffic Appeals Court.

He has three class days to file an appeal with the University Disciplinary Appeals Panel. But, he said Monday

night that he does not plan to file an appeal at this time.

Hood will be able to re-apply for admission to the University in January. However, re-admission is not guaranteed.

"What a student is given at the time of suspension is a guarantee that his case will be reviewed," Kibler said.

Concerning the courses that Hood was taking this semester, Kibler said he will receive grades of "withdrew passing" or "withdrew failing."

"A suspension does the same thing that withdrawing does," Kibler said, "but a notation (concerning the suspension) goes on the student's permanent record."

Hood said the suspension will delay his graduation by a semester. He said he had planned to graduate in May but now will graduate in August or December.

"I do, most definitely, plan to return (to Texas A&M)," he said. "This is my school and I plan to graduate from here."

"I still feel the same love that I always have for the University ... the decision has no effect on my feelings toward the University, the administration or the way we conduct things down here."

The incident occurred Oct. 31 in front of more than 62,000 fans after the SMU Mustangs scored a touchdown in the second quarter. The male cheerleaders ran onto the field to spell out S-M-U with their bodies.

Hood, who was standing on the sidelines as an officer of the day, drew his saber as he ran onto the field to order the cheerleaders off. He was tackled by Schmidt but jumped up again.

As Schmidt again grabbed Hood's legs, the cadet kicked another cheerleader. However, no one was injured.



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

A blustery day

Students who basked in the sun last week are bundled up in thick winter clothes this week.

The cooler part of the fall season may have finally arrived to stay.

Friday fatality second bonfire-related death

Wiley Keith Jopling was not the first student to be killed in a bonfire-related incident.

In 1955, cadet James Edward Sarran was struck and killed by a car on the old Highway 6, now Wellborn road, when he pushed another student out of the path of an on-coming car. Sarran, 18, had been standing watch at the bonfire site, which at that time was on the main drill field.

The Texas A&M student body dedicated the Texas A&M-University of Texas football game to the cadet that year.

Col. Joe E. Davis, then commander of the Corps, said Sarran's death was the first bonfire-related fatality.

Jopling, 19, a sophomore agricultural economics major, died Friday night after he was crushed beneath the rear tire of a tractor. He and two other students were taking the tractor to the bonfire sitting site on Old San Antonio Road when Jopling fell off its rear fender.

Trooper Bill Kuhnle, of the Department of Public Safety, said Monday that the student's death is still being investigated.

Director of Student Affairs Ron Blatchley said he will meet with the bonfire committee informally tonight to check on the bonfire's progress and to discuss whether any additional precautions need to be taken at the cutting site.

However, he said he did not have any specific changes in mind and absolved bonfire coordinators for Friday's accident.

"When you've got a project as big as bonfire with as many students involved as you do in bonfire, you've got to count on ... people to use good common sense and not to do careless things," Blatchley said.

"No one could possibly monitor all that might happen," he said.

Blatchley said, however, that he will still continue to consider suggestions for making bonfire safer.

Senate Republicans peddle budget

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans are making a final pitch for President

Reagan's support of controversial austerity measures which they say could balance the budget by 1984 — a goal Reagan recently shelved.

The new plan totals \$163 billion in budget cuts and tax hikes over three years, including \$27 billion in defense spending reductions, \$48 billion in tax increases, \$40 billion in cuts in entitlement programs such as welfare, Medicare and food stamps, and \$33 billion in other domestic spending.

It was presented Monday to Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, budget director David Stockman, White House chief of staff James Baker and congressional liaison Max Friedersdorf at a Capitol Hill meeting.

President Reagan said last week the goal of a balanced budget was no longer in reach because of deteriorating economic conditions. Sources said the administration team was "cool" to the idea because they feared rejection by the Democratic-dominated House.

Earlier, Regan said balancing the budget was only fourth on the list of White House priorities after the need to cut back the size of government, pass tax cuts and strengthen the country's defense.

Career Center alters hours Wednesday

The Texas A&M Career Planning and Placement Center announced Monday that it will be closing its office three hours earlier beginning Wednesday.

The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Previously it was open until 8 p.m.

Placement Center Night Supervisor Jay Wheeler said students primarily used the center's evening hours to sign up for interviews since the office is usually less busy at that time than during the day. Interviews are conducted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The center schedules interviews for students with prospective employers. Students may sign up for interviews up to two weeks in advance but no later than one day before the interview.

Bonfire, intramurals on Duncan field

Building not to disturb activities

By NANCY FLOECK
Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M University Press building, planned for construction on Duncan field, will not interfere with bonfire or intramurals, University officials say. Yet, some Texas A&M students and staff members disagree.

Construction of the 24,000-square-foot building is scheduled to begin March 1.

Paul Stephens, manager of facilities and planning, said it will be on the east corner of the field behind Duncan Dining Hall, by Lewis Street and parking annex 40.

"That's a steep slope area and not good for athletics," he said. "But it does give the proper access desired for the press building."

After reviewing the plans last week, Dennis Corrington, director of intramurals, said although the location won't directly interfere with sports, it will create problems.

Playing room on the field will be tight, especially during construction, he said. Balls from intramural sports could be lost around the area and others could break windows or cause other damage, he said.

"I'd rather it not be there," he said, "but that's a personal feeling."

Similar sentiments have been expressed by the Student Senate. The Senate passed a bill Wednesday night recommending that an alternate site be found for the building. Furthermore, it recommends that no future construction on Duncan field be considered because of the possibility of jeopardizing intramurals and bonfire.

Stephens said that plans call for the University Press building to be constructed a safe distance from where bonfire is usually located. However, he said he does not know exactly what that distance will be.

Al Link, junior head civilian (for bonfire) and student senator, agreed that bonfire probably could be continued at its traditional site if the building is constructed, but he expressed concern that the University Press will start a precedent.

"We think it would open the door for future construction," he said, "and that's what scares us."

Additional buildings on the field would cause bonfire to be moved off-



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Awaiting construction of a new building proposed for Duncan field, the University Press is

currently housed in several trailers located north of Hotard Hall, behind the Northgate Post Office.

campus, which would hurt participation, Link said.

Student Body President Ken Johnson said students probably also are concerned that the remaining grassy areas on campus will be destroyed by construction.

Johnson recommended that sites on the University's west campus be reconsidered.

The site on Duncan field was approved last spring by the Texas A&M System Board of Regents, based on a recommendation of the regents' planning and building committee.

Regent Clyde H. Wells of Granbury said Duncan field and two other sites on Texas A&M's west campus were considered for the University Press; howev-

er, Duncan field was chosen because of its proximity to the Sterling C. Evans Library, the post offices and the academic departments that work with the press.

University Press employees are eager to be on the main campus because of these advantages, he said.

Wells said the regents probably would consider changing the location, but that such a request would have to show "strong advantages for such a proposal."

Noel Parsons, editor of the press, said changing the building's site to the west campus would inconvenience press employees, who need access to faculty and the library for research.

Saudi Arabia chases away Israeli jets

United Press International
JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia demonstrated its growing aerial might by intercepting and forcing back Israeli warplanes that had penetrated up to 100 miles inside Saudi airspace on the eve of a defense meeting today of Arab Gulf states.

Israeli jets reportedly cross into the desert kingdom on training and surveillance flights frequently, but Saudi Arabia took the unusual step of pursuing them Monday and publicizing the violation for the first time.

Israel refused comment.

Crown Prince Fahd briefed the Saudi cabinet on the incident in advance of today's summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, which is meeting to study plans for joint regional defense, Riyadh Radio said.

Summit sources said the Israeli violation highlighted the need for the six nations to study strategies for regional defense, without involvement by the superpowers.

White House deputy press secretary Larry Speakes urged restraint, saying: "We urge all parties to avoid any actions that tend to raise tensions in the area."

Israel has stepped up its denunciation of Saudi Arabia recently following U.S. approval of the sale of AWACS radar planes to Riyadh and international recognition of a plan proposed by Fahd as a substitute for the 1978 Camp David peace accords between Israel and Egypt.

"Israeli warplanes violated our airspace in the northwestern sector of the kingdom," a Saudi military statement said. "Our planes intercepted the enemy planes and forced them out of our airspace."

The Saudis gave no further details. They did not say if shots were fired nor what kind of planes were involved.

In Washington, administration officials said Israeli planes violated Saudi air space twice during the day. The officials said the Israeli planes flew up to 100 miles across the border, skirting the Saudi airbase at Tabuk.

Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, who last week said the "darkness of the Middle Ages reigns" in Saudi Arabia, has said Fahd's peace plan is aimed at Israel's "liquidation" and added Monday it had no chance of succeeding.