

# THE BATTALION

Serving the Texas A&M University community

Tuesday, November 24, 1981  
College Station, Texas

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## The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High .....	77	High .....	80
Low .....	47	Low .....	49
Chance of rain .....	10%	Chance of rain .....	10%



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

### Big as bonfire?

Davis-Gary Hall freshmen took more than four hours to construct their own rendition of bonfire and hang it outside of the dorm. The sign was made from four bedsheets and required more than eighty crayons to color it.

## Regents committee approves special events center study

By DENISE RICHTER

Battalion Staff  
Members of the Planning and Building Committee of the Texas A&M System Board of Regents Monday approved a feasibility study for a special events center if the regent backing the study can obtain the necessary funds.

Regent William A. McKenzie of Dallas, who was appointed to head the special events center funding committee, targeted the Aggie Club and Association of Former Students as potential donors of the necessary \$50,000.

"Such a structure is badly needed at this University," McKenzie said. The center would be used for academic, cultural and athletic purposes, he said.

Under the System's current five-year plan, a feasibility study for the center was not scheduled until 1985.

However, McKenzie suggested that the study be undertaken now, although the center probably won't be completed until after 1990.

Committee Chairman H.C. Bell of Austin said there was "no doubt that a special events center at A&M would be a tremendous asset to the University and to the community." But, he questioned making the center a priority construction item since the University is facing a shortage of classrooms, faculty



Regent William A. McKenzie

offices and laboratories.

Bell cited the construction of the Engineering and Physics Building and the 40,000-square-foot addition to the Halbouty Building as two items currently on the five-year plan that would be affected by construction of the special events center.

"With construction of a special events center, academic (construction) planning would have to slip," Bell said.

McKenzie said: "I recognize all that we have going and all that we need to do. I'm only suggesting that a feasibility study be commenced."

However, Board Chairman H.R. "Bum" Bright of Dallas disagreed: "A feasibility study shouldn't be made today, knowing that it will have to be changed in a few years when (construction of the center) comes up on the five-year plan."

Despite Bright's objections, the committee voted unanimously to authorize the study contingent upon McKenzie's ability to raise the funds.

The committee also discussed a \$25,000 appropriation for the preliminary design of the Biological Control Facility. Estimated cost of the building, to be constructed behind the Entomology Building on the west campus, is \$1.7 million.

Following the committee meeting, the Board met as a committee of the whole and heard reports from the Planning and Building Committee, the Committee for Academic Campuses and the Committee for Service Units.

The Committee for Academic Campuses introduced a plan designed to control rapidly increasing enrollment in the Department of Geology.

Under this plan, a minimum cumula-

tive GPR of 2.25 would be required for enrollment in junior-level geology courses. A minimum GPR of 2.25 overall and 2.25 in all geology courses would be required for enrollment in senior-level geology courses.

Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver said this is the same plan to limit enrollment that recently was introduced in the colleges of business and engineering.

Vandiver stressed that the new requirements would not affect any students currently enrolled in the University. "These requirements will take effect when ... students entering in the fall of 1982 or thereafter are ready to enroll in junior-level courses," he said.

The regents also discussed the creation of up to 12 "alumni professorships." Each professorship, funded by a \$30,000-a-year allocation from the Texas A&M Development Foundation and the Association of Former Students, would be given to an outstanding faculty member to supplement his salary and research activities.

The Board also discussed the creation of the title of "System professor" for faculty members participating in a faculty exchange program between Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M University.

## SG members say Campus Canvass effective but statistically invalid

By NANCY FLOECK

Battalion Staff  
Student Government members say their Campus Canvass is having positive effects, although biased questions make the survey statistically invalid.

The canvass is acquainting students with their representatives and giving these representatives an idea of constituency opinions, Lilli Dollinger, director of public relations, said.

"The purpose of this is not a valid statistical poll, but rather, (to get) a feel for student opinion," she said. "Senators are going to students instead of forcing students to come to us."

Each canvass — two are being conducted this semester — asks questions on campus issues, such as

whether fraternities and sororities should be granted University recognition. Representatives are to go to their constituents, talk with them about these issues and record their responses.

But, Dollinger said, the canvass doesn't just record the number and type of responses; it's also an information forum that opens communication between students and student senators.

"The purpose is not only to get information, but also to better inform students on what Student Government is doing," she said. This way senators are able to get involved with their constituency, and students know who to contact for information and input on campus issues, Dollinger said.

She said students reacted favorably to the opportuni-

ty to provide input: "People really started to let themselves go on these questions."

However, the canvass does have problems, Dollinger said. Questions on the survey are "blatantly one-sided," and senators are not able to reach all constituents, especially those living off-campus, she said.

An example of a one-sided question is the one concerning night exams: "Should exams require additional class hours?" Obviously, students will say "no," Dollinger said.

Also, there is sometimes an overlap of student opinion, since some students may be polled twice — once by their living-area senator and once by their college senator, she said.

### Cheerleaders to be sidelined on Thursday

By MARY JO RUMMEL

Battalion Staff  
The University of Texas cheerleaders will not be allowed on the playing surface of Kyle Field during Thursday's Texas A&M-Texas game, despite media reports to the contrary.

Before the game and at the beginning of the third quarter, the cheerleaders will be allowed to form a spirit line as the Longhorns come out of the locker room.

However, they have been instructed to stay on the sideline strip of turf between the field and the track, off the actual playing surface, senior Yell Leader John Nesbit said.

The cheerleaders also will have the option of performing acrobatics behind the end zone, but that area is not considered a part of the actual playing field, Student Body President Ken Johnson said.

Johnson said the UT spirit line will be set up on the curve of the track lanes and will not interfere with the Aggie boot camp held at half-time.

They (the cheerleaders) have assured us they will not go onto the playing field," he added.

Game activities were agreed upon Wednesday in a meeting between the UT Rally Advisory Committee and Texas A&M University officials and student leaders. The two universities have held similar pre-game meetings each year since the incident in 1977 involving the Texas flag.

Members of the UT chapter of Alpha Phi Omega traditionally spread a giant Texas flag on the field during half-time, but in 1977 they were chased off the field by Corps officers of the day.

This year the flag will not even be brought to town, Johnson said.

Details also were worked out at Wednesday's meeting concerning the activities of the Texas Band; the Spurs who take care of Bevo, the Longhorn mascot; and the Texas Cowboys, caretakers of the UT cannon.

Among Texas A&M representatives at the meeting were Nesbit, Johnson, Head Yell Leader Mike Thatcher, Corps Commander Kelly Castleberry, Interim Athletic Director Wally Groff, University Director of Security and Traffic Thomas Parsons and Director of Student Affairs Ron Blatchley.

### Center begun in child's memory

## Institute works in cancer research

Editor's note: This is the first of a two-part series on the Wadley Institutes of Molecular Medicine in Dallas. Wednesday's story will deal with the institute's research on interferon.

By DANIEL PUCKETT

Battalion Staff  
DALLAS — A 6-year-old boy died of leukemia in 1943.

Although tragic, children's deaths are common and so are deaths from leukemia. This death, like many others, may have passed almost unremarked in the medical field to be soon forgotten had it not been for the boy's grandfather.

Texarkana oilman J.K. Wadley, spurred by the loss of his only grandchild, decided to apply his modest fortune to cancer research and to the establishment of a regional blood bank for the Dallas area.

In 1951, the Wadley Institutes of Molecular Medicine first opened their doors. And financed mostly by private grants, they have become a world leader in cancer research.

The institutes operate a modern hospital for cancer patients and offer the latest in computers and research tools to their staff. The institutes' blood bank supplies 44 hospitals, as well as their own research facilities, with as many as 500 pints of blood a day.

One of the best sources of that blood is the Aggie Blood Drive, said Dr. Norwood O. Hill, president of the Wadley Institutes. This semester's drive, sponsored by Student Government, Alpha Phi Omega and Omega Phi Alpha, collected more than 2,000 pints of blood.

But, Wadley requires much more than that to continue operations, so the blood bank conducts a number of blood drives throughout Texas. It also operates blood collection stations in Dallas and Denton.

In all, the Wadley blood bank collected about 65,000 pints of blood in 1980, said Bob Mahurin, blood drive coordinator at the institutes. Although supplies sometimes run short, and the bank is forced to borrow blood from other banks, it normally manages to keep pace with demand, he said.

Collecting the blood is just the first step for the blood bank. Collected blood is put through the following process:

Technicians test the donor's blood-type and put his blood through antibody-screening and hepatitis checks. They label the plastic blood-bag with all information discovered and record the donor's name and his Rh factor in the computer system. The blood is then sent to the fractionating lab.

In the fractionating lab, technicians separate the plasma from the rest of the blood and divide the blood into its component parts by applying pressure to it. Blood elements, such as platelets, white cells and red cells, have different weights, and thus can be separated by gently squeezing the bag.

Plasma is put on dry ice and the other components are refrigerated.

Once fractionated and registered, the blood must be distributed. Some is sent to the research labs, but much of it eventually is distributed to hospitals in several counties around Dallas.

To facilitate distribution, Wadley provides hospitals in Dallas and Denton with computer terminals which are linked to the institutes' computer. And when a hospital needs more blood, it enters its order into the system.

Within minutes, one of the blood bank's four delivery vehicles can be sent out with the blood, Mahurin said.

The computerized system does more than make fast delivery possible, however, he said. If the blood turns out to be contaminated with a disease which escaped detection at the time of donation, the blood bank can find out the donor's name and every location to which his blood fractions were sent.

This enables the bank to pull contaminated blood from shelves before it could do anyone harm, Mahurin said, adding that the method has saved more than one life.

But whole blood is not the only donation Wadley seeks. It also maintains labs in which only white cells or platelets are extracted from donor's bloodstreams.

White cells, or lymphocytes, are part of the body's defense system against infection and foreign substances. Some patients, such as those undergoing radiation therapy or chemotherapy, have an impaired ability to produce lymphocytes, and so they must receive transfusions of the cells.

Wadley produces these transfusions in its leukopheresis laboratory. Donors

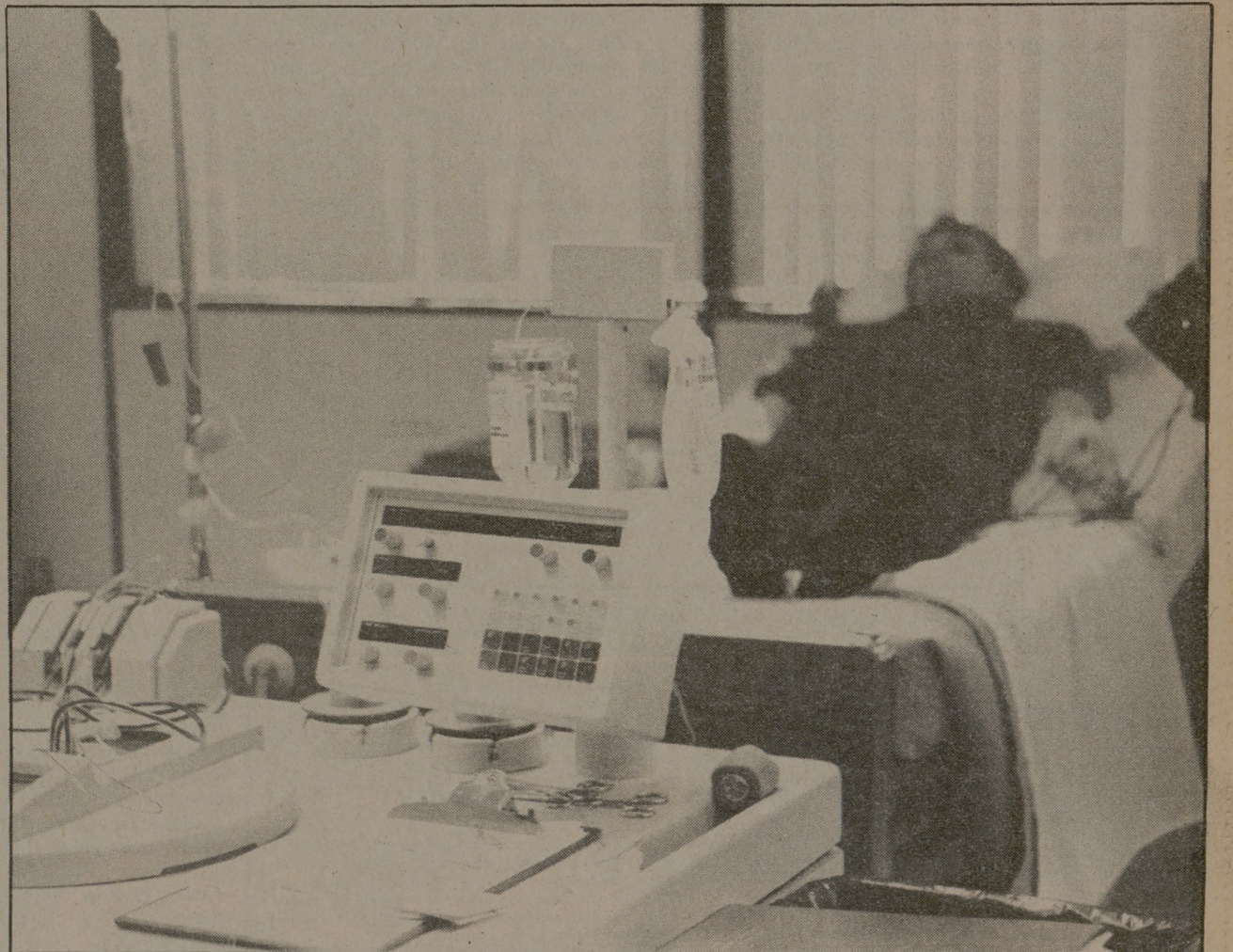


Photo by John R. Joyce

A donor gives white blood cells at the Wadley Leukopheresis Lab in Dallas. This blood-separating machine can process all the blood in

his body in two hours, filtering out white blood cells and pumping the rest of the blood back into his body.

are usually members of the patient's family because they must be plugged into a blood-separator for three hours.

The lymphocyte donor lies on a comfortable bed with a tube leading out of one of his arms. The blood is separated into its component layers and the white cells collected. The remainder of the blood is warmed and pumped back into

the donor's other arm along with an anti-coagulant to keep the blood from clotting.

In the three-hour procedure, all the blood in the donor's body is pumped through the machine one and a half times. The amount of lymphocytes obtained depends on the donor — his

white-cell count and the volume of blood in his body.

Donors in the lab said the process was painless, except for the initial prick of the needles going into their arms. Their main problems included feeling cold or