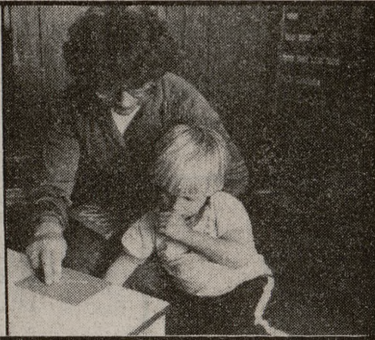


Montessori gives children extra edge in education

See page 7



Shakespeare brings out laughter

See page 4



Texas A&M

# The Battalion

Serving the University community

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College Station, Texas

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## When The Lights Went Out

staff photo by Peter Rocha

These students probably thought that they would get out of their exams Thursday afternoon in the Chemistry Building because of the power outage. The professor changed that. See related story page 6.

## Poland lashes out at Catholic Church

**United Press International**  
WARSAW, Poland — Poland unleashed its harshest attack in 12 years against the Roman Catholic church and reportedly readied a list of priests to be arrested, some of whom have urged resistance to martial law.

The criticism in a Warsaw Radio commentary Thursday was directed at local priests but hit hard at Polish Primate Archbishop Jozef Glemp.

"It was the first such major attack in 12 years," said one source close to the church.

The report criticized "irresponsible statements by the representatives

of the Catholic clergymen of lower rank" in connection with "religious symbols put in public places, state institutions and schools."

"Sometimes it is done in a perfidious way," the report said. "For example, in northern Poland one of the priests appealed to parents to resist the removal of the cross from schools even if guns and cannons were fired."

"The appeal is perfidious and formulated in a tricky way and the whole problem is made up since, starting from 1961, by law crosses have not been hung in state schools."

The episcopate declined immedi-

ate comment.

Last month Glemp criticized the removal of crosses from public places and in several sermons he has spoken in support of the more than 4,000 martial-law internees.

In West Germany, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said Thursday in a report attributed to a reliable source in Warsaw, Polish authorities are "preparing a dramatic escalation."

"Polish security authorities have compiled a list of priests in the whole country who are to be arrested abruptly in two to three weeks," the newspaper said.

## Vandiver concentrates on University finances

by Daniel Puckett

**Battalion Staff**  
In a speech billed as a State of the University address, University President Frank E. Vandiver avoided discussing recent events which have brought the University to national attention.

Vandiver spoke Thursday night about the University's need for a better graduate school, a better library and more computers; conspicuously absent was any mention of the controversy surrounding the hiring of Athletic Director and Head Coach Jackie Sherrill.

The Brazos County A&M Club sponsored the speech; admission to the address and the buffet preceding it was \$9 a plate. About 200 people attended the dinner in the MSC Banquet Room.

Vandiver emphasized the University's excellence as well as its needs for improvement. Specifically, he discussed an undersized computer system, an insufficiently funded graduate program and an understocked library.

The University's computer system, Vandiver said, is its biggest problem. While computer training should be available to all students, the University can accommodate about only 25 percent. The solution, he said, is more money; estimates show the school needs about \$50 million over the next four years with \$10 million to \$20 million needed in the first year of expansion.

The graduate school is also in trouble, Vandiver said. Fewer and fewer graduate students, especially in en-



photo by Todd Woodard

Dr. Frank E. Vandiver

gineering and other business disciplines, are entering graduate degree programs. Instead, they are going into the business world, where they can earn more.

He said the graduate school needs more money to fund graduate student stipends and a first-rate faculty.

Another necessity is the expansion of the library. The Sterling C. Evans Library contains about 1 million volumes; Vandiver said it needs about 4 million. Although the state Legislature allocates money specifically for the library, it is not enough for the University's needs, he said.

To meet those needs, he said, the University must protect the funds it receives now and raise millions of dollars more.

He said the Legislature must be persuaded to pay for the University's computers, and to preserve the pre-

sent structure of the Permanent University Fund.

The PUF is a permanent endowment from the state of Texas; its current assets are about \$1.5 billion. That money is invested and the income from that investment, the Available University Fund, is split, one-third to Texas A&M and two-thirds to the University of Texas.

But Vandiver confined his speech mainly to financial matters. Missing from the address was a discussion of Texas A&M's policies and leadership, which came under fire recently when Sherrill was hired and Head Coach Tom Wilson was fired.

Sherrill signed a contract reportedly worth more than \$2 million, and became one of the highest-paid employees of an American university. The amount of Sherrill's contract and the method of his hiring have been the subject of national publicity.

The abruptness of Wilson's dismissal also stirred up local controversy; Vandiver himself twice offered to resign over the handling of the affair.

However, Thursday night he avoided any mention of the incident or of his own resignation offers. He also failed to mention the hiring freeze and cutback on department operating expenses which he ordered just before Christmas.

Instead, he spoke of his plans for an international conference on food and water, which he said will meet here in 18 months. He said the conference will further the University's attempt to become a world-class institution.

## Governor, local leader want New Federalism

by Bill Robinson

**Battalion Staff**  
New Federalism, as proposed by President Ronald Reagan in his recent State of the Union message, appears to be gaining support among Texas conservative leaders.

I agree with the proposal in concept, Republican Gov. William P. Clements said in a speech given in Under Theater Wednesday.

The president's proposal calls for states to take over the controversial basic welfare program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children and the administration of food stamps.

"These programs can be run better the state," Clements said. "We can provide better service to the reci-

ipients at a lower cost."

The administrative costs of the programs could be reduced by about 25 percent under state control, he said.

Clements said the federal government must provide the money to run these programs, while decreasing their regulation over them.

However, the governor said Texas won't be able to develop a plan of action until Congress has acted on Reagan's proposals.

"We are working to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the state government," he said. "We took bureaucracy head-on and reduced its growth."

Rep. Bill Presnal (D-Bryan) agrees with Clements on the concept.

"We would like to have control because we could operate the programs more efficiently than the federal government," Presnal said in a telephone interview.

"The concept is something legislatures have been asking Congress for over the years."

"There are some programs they can run better than the state, but others, such as food stamps, we could run much more efficiently."

"We send a lot of money to Washington every year and get very little of it back."

Like Clements, Presnal said he feels the state must wait to see what Congress does to the program before taking any action.

## Miniature city teaches safety to kids

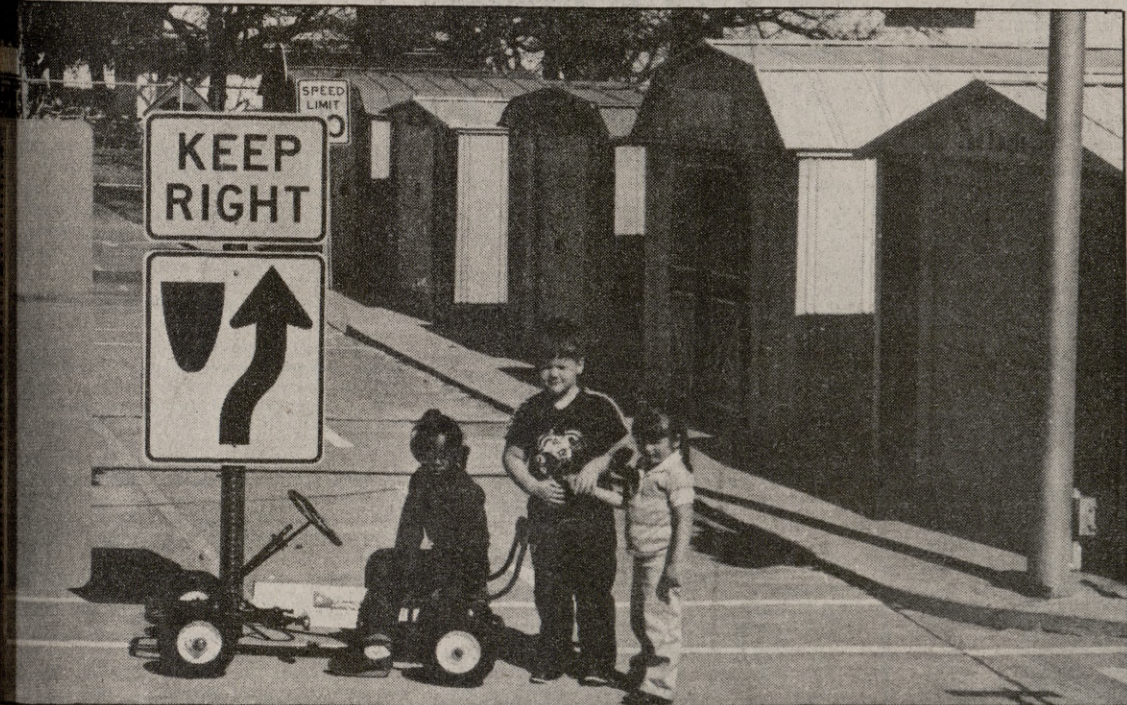


photo by Michele Rowland

Daisy Garrett, left, Jerney Burns and Robin Benning rest after pedaling and walking through Safe City. With its stop signs, U-turn signs, stop light, railroad

warning, and miniature aluminum buildings, Safe City behind Oakwood School is the ideal "city" for a police officer to teach children about safety.

by Amy Polk

**Battalion Reporter**  
Children of College Station learn safety rules through experience when they visit a miniature city on Timber Street, one block south of Jersey Street.

Safety City contains street signs, street lights and small buildings resembling area businesses and organizations. It includes one and two-lane streets, a cul-de-sac, left-turn lanes, railroad tracks, a school and a city hall.

"We want to make the children more responsible pedestrians and bicyclists," said Danny Stribling, director of Community Education.

Kindergarten through fourth grade students attend Safety City once a year. Stribling said approximately 1,800 students "wait all year to get to go."

The students begin the program with a classroom lecture on safety from their teacher. A College Station police officer comes to the classes for one day and speaks to the children for about an hour.

At the completion of classroom instructions, students spend 45 minutes with a police officer and volunteers at Safety City. The children either walk, ride bicycles or ride specially designed Safety City vehicles through the streets of Safety City. After finishing the program, the children

receive a Certificate of Completion.

The entire project was donated by various organizations. Traffic signals and signs were provided by the Texas State Department of Highways and Public Transportation. The College Station Independent School District donated the land and a "little red schoolhouse," and the city of College Station gave \$15,000. Area businesses and organizations donated structures to serve as city buildings.

Some schools such as Bryan and Brenham used Safety City with help from a grant furnished by the Highway Department, Stribling said. He also said they have received out-of-state requests to send audio and video tapes about the unique project.

The program officially opened on Oct. 5, 1978 after the College Station Safety Committee requested that a Bicycle Safety Curriculum for elementary-aged children be developed.

A policeman is present at all times to help the children. "It gives the kids an opportunity to relate to policemen in a positive attitude," Stribling said.

Safety City is not used during the winter, but Stribling said it will start operation again in March.

The curriculum is altered slightly each year so the children will benefit from new experiences each time they participate in the program, Stribling said.

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## forecast

Today's forecast: Partly cloudy skies with a high near 70; low tonight in the low 50s. Saturday's forecast calls for more of the same, with a 30 percent chance of rain.