



Reflections

staff photo by Peter Rocha

The sweltering weather is enough to make anyone want to take a dip in the fountain in front of the

Chemistry Building. Senior Tim Widdison, a physics and journalism major from College Station, pauses to

gaze at the fountain. It sure looks better than finals.

Unless Reagan intervenes

Railroad strike could begin Sunday

WASHINGTON — Unless President Reagan intervenes, a crippling nationwide railroad strike could begin Sunday — snarling shipments of goods ranging from Kentucky coal to California fruit.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers union and the industry bargaining arm, the National Railway Labor Conference, say it is unlikely contract disputes would be resolved before the 12:01 a.m. Sunday strike deadline.

Reagan has the power to issue a 60-day "cooling off" period and appoint an advisory board that would report to him with recommendations

for settlement.

There is no indication as to what Reagan will do, but an industry spokesman expressed hope the president would move to avert a walkout.

"We're on hold," union negotiator Virgil Davis, speaking from Cleveland, said Tuesday. "They (union members) are in a state of readiness for July 11."

He said: "Unless the president appoints an emergency board, the employees will proceed to withdraw their service. It would be pretty devastating."

All U.S. rail traffic, with the exception of Amtrak, the government-run national passenger service, and Con-

rail, the quasi-government freight and commuter system in the Northeast, would be subject to the walkout by the locomotive engineers and firemen.

The union estimated 35,000 members would be involved in such a strike.

Although Amtrak's and Conrail's services, concentrated in the Northeast, may sustain only minor disruptions, the walkout would paralyze freight shipping in the rest of the nation.

Roland Quinn, executive secretary of the National Mediation Board said the board is preparing a recommendation to Reagan regarding designa-

tion of an emergency board.

"I think that we would apprise the White House of any input that we have before the end of the week," Quinn said.

To date, 14 of 16 unions that negotiate with the National Railway Labor Conference have reached agreement on new contracts, leaving only the Locomotive Engineers and the United Transportation Union without pacts.

The conference represents 117 railroads.

The last nationwide rail strike occurred in 1978 when the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks union called a work stoppage to emphasize its dis-

pute with Norfolk & Western Railway.

Among the contract disputes is the industry's refusal to grant any increase in special allowances that supplement basic wages, especially additional pay for engineers operating on runs of more than 100 miles.

Under the current agreement, engineers doing rail yard service — about 45 percent of the membership — get \$11.41 per hour for an eight-hour day. Though freight engineers doing over-the-road work on four-unit diesels get \$10.86 hourly, but switch to 79 cents per mile when they hit 100 miles.

Heart transplant patient doing well

HOUSTON — A 43-year-old heart transplant patient probably will have to take a new anti-rejection drug for the rest of his life, an associate of Dr. Benton Cooley said.

Cooley and a team of surgeons performed the transplant early Monday morning using a new drug, Cyclosporin-A, which helps the body avoid infection by suppressing the immune system.

The recipient spoke with his wife and doctors Tuesday, the second day after he received the heart with the new anti-rejection drug, a spokesman for the hospital said.

"He's doing very well," Hazel Babby, of St. Luke's Hospital, said. He has been awake, spoken with his wife and is alert."

One of Cooley's associates said the patient will probably have to take the drug for the rest of his life.

The names of the recipient and his donor were not released. The transplant was the first of an estimated 35 operations Cooley, Dr. Barry Kahan and Dr. O.H. Frazier will do at the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's during the next two years.

The heart transplant patient, who was brought to Houston for the operation, had been hospitalized last week

suffering from heart disease. He has had heart surgery in the past to correct his problem at another hospital, but Frazier said his case was terminal and he has been bedridden for quite some time.

Frazier described the patient as "a young man who had a lot of hope and a lot of courage." Other than heart disease, the patient was in good health, he said.

The donor, who also was not from the Houston area, was located and brought to St. Luke's Hospital at 2 p.m. Sunday. The recipient was given the drug Cyclosporin-A and eight hours later surgery began. By 2:30 a.m. Monday, the heart was pumping in the recipient's chest.

Within 12 hours of the operation, doctors removed the patient's tubes which had been assisting him with his breathing.

Doctors at Stanford University in California have used the new drug in 80 kidney transplant patients over the past year. More than 80 percent of those patients are still alive, Kahan said.

Since November 1981, 27 heart transplants have been done at Stanford, and Frazier said 24 of those people are still alive.

Economic crisis attacks College of Agriculture

by Cyndy Davis
Battalion Staff

Food crops are getting bigger and better. Agricultural technology has advanced to the point that diseases which once destroyed crops and threatened herds of cattle are almost nonexistent.

But some say American agriculture hasn't been in worse condition since the Great Depression.

And the Texas A&M College of Agriculture is feeling the effects of this economic crisis, as are other agriculture colleges across the nation.

The Texas A&M college has suffered a 34 percent decrease in enrollment since 1976.

Ironically, the more agriculture suffers in the current economic crisis, the more it's going to need formally trained managers in the future, H.O. Kunkel, dean of the college, said.

According to a national manpower assessment study by the Office of Higher Education of the United States Department of Agriculture, a shortage of trained professionals is expected by 1985 in several areas.

Kunkel agreed.

"Serious manpower shortages could become acute before the end of the decade if the current trend

continues," he said.

In 1976, 5,399 undergraduate students were enrolled in the University's College of Agriculture, as compared to 3,563 enrolled today.

This semester, only 10 percent of the students enrolled at Texas A&M are agriculture majors, while the 1976 enrollment in the college comprised almost 20 percent of the University enrollment.

In contrast, University enrollment has increased by 22 percent over the same period.

University enrollment for 1976 was 27,547. In the spring semester, 35,146 students were enrolled.

Kunkel said that in the late 1960s and early 1970s, agriculture enrollment was so high that the college couldn't handle all its students — a sharp contrast from today.

But while undergraduate enrollment is slipping, graduate school enrollment is increasing.

Sophomore agricultural economics and animal science major Jeff Underhill said advisers in the college are encouraging students to get graduate degrees. "They (advisers) say farming is a business that isn't paying off right now," he said. "You just can't afford to go into agriculture. We're encouraged to hang on. They say there'll be plenty of jobs

later."

Kunkel said that by the time 1982 graduates receive master's degrees, the agricultural job market should be clear of depression.

"If it doesn't (clear), we're going to be awfully short of food," he said.

Twenty percent of the college's 1981 graduates went to graduate school or professional school.

High interest rates, high production costs, bumper crops and declining retail prices are main causes of the depression, Kunkel said.

Congressman Charles Stenholm, D-Stamford, agreed.

"The enrollment problem is a direct result of a decline in the economic condition of the average American farmer," he said. "When a farmer is struggling, his son or daughter isn't going to want to pursue the same career to possibly face the same thing."

Kunkel said in many cases the parents can't afford to send their children off to school.

"A large number of our students come from rural areas," he said, "and if the rural areas are economically poor, they're not going to send their students away to college."

For the second straight year in

(See AGRICULTURE page 8)

PLO rejects U.S. aid

United Press International
Israeli jets bombed west Beirut today for the first time in four days and hopes for peace dimmed with the PLO rejecting a U.S. offer to send in Marines to evacuate 6,000 Palestinian guerrillas from the besieged Lebanese capital.

Shattering a 24-hour ceasefire, Israeli tanks and artillery in east Beirut opened fire Tuesday on PLO forces in the west. Witnesses said Israeli troops followed up with machine-gun fire.

Later, Israeli warplanes swooped low over the Fakhani section of west Beirut, striking areas and dropping flares around the headquarters of the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

Under world pressure, Israel earlier restored water to Palestinian-held west Beirut. Lebanese television said the Israelis also promised to restore electricity — but by midnight Tuesday the city was still without normal power.

The PLO accused Israel of starting an intensive artillery exchange Tuesday that caused heavy civilian casualties.

President Reagan said Tuesday he had agreed to contribute "a small contingent" of American troops to a peace-keeping force to help evacuate Palestinian guerrillas from Beirut, "subject to certain conditions."

Reagan, speaking to a group of local officials in Los Angeles, said the Lebanese government had not formally requested U.S. troops be stationed in the capital, adding: "Obviously there is still much work to be done."

PLO chief Yasser Arafat rejected the evacuation plan in an interview today in The New York Times.

"Definitely I will not accept it," Arafat said. "We are not in need of American help. The weapons and the 6th fleet that helped kill my women and children cannot protect us."

Arafat, however, did not reject U.S. participation in an international peace-keeping force to disengage PLO guerrillas and Israelis around Beirut — something desired by Israel.

But a senior official in Jerusalem said the plan would be acceptable to Israel, and would involve the U.S. 6th Fleet and two battalions of U.S. Marines and French soldiers — if eventually approved by Lebanon and the PLO.

The official said U.S. envoy Philip Habib introduced the plan in his mediation efforts in west Beirut the past few days.

Reports from Cairo said the PLO guerrillas initially could be taken by ship to the Syrian port of Latakia. Later they would be split up, with different groups sent to Iraq, Syria, Algeria and Egypt.

But the PLO issued a statement today saying it would not agree to leave on American ships because they carry "the flag of a party to the ongoing massacres" — a reference to U.S. support for the Israeli invasion forces.

Deputy White House Press Secretary Larry Speakes said it would "serve no useful purpose to comment" on the PLO rejection.

inside

Classified	8
Local	3
National	5
Opinions	2
Sports	9
State	3
What's Up	3

forecast

Today's Forecast: Partly cloudy, hot and humid. High today of 95. Low tonight of 75. Highs and lows continuing the same through Thursday.

almanac

United Press International
Today is Wednesday, July 7, the 188th day of 1982 with 177 to follow.

The moon is full. The morning stars are Mercury and Venus. The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

On this date in history:
In 1898, President William McKinley signed a joint resolution of Congress authorizing the annexation of Hawaii by the United States. Hawaii formally became the 50th state on Aug. 21, 1959.