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Formula not missing

by Robert McGlohon
Battalion Staff

For a moment, it sounded like a chapter out of a spy novel. But it turned out to be a good deal less than that.

Paul Harvey, in a newscast Wednesday, said papers concerning hydrogen fuel production process developed by a Texas A&M research team were missing for several hours Oct. 7, the day the hydrogen discovery was announced, and implied that corporate espionage was suspected. The FBI and CIA are investigating, Harvey said.

However, Lane Stevenson, director of the Texas A&M Office of Public Information, said the report was false and was caused by mixed-up information.

"The patent application (for the process) was misplaced for several hours on the day of the announcement," Stevenson said. "The FBI and the CIA just happened to be here at the time."

Bill Craven, manager of the Texas A&M Hydrogen Research Center, said the FBI and CIA were here to interview Dr. John O. Bockris, the head of the research team that made the hydrogen discovery, about an upcoming trip to the Soviet Union.

Bockris has made several trips to the Soviet Union. CIA and FBI interviews before each trip are routine, Craven said.

The mix-up occurred when Craven had an interview with a Detroit radio station Tuesday, he said. During the interview, he told the radio station reporter the patent application for the process was missing for about four hours on the day of the original announcement. Later in the interview Craven told the reporter the CIA and FBI were present during the press conferences.

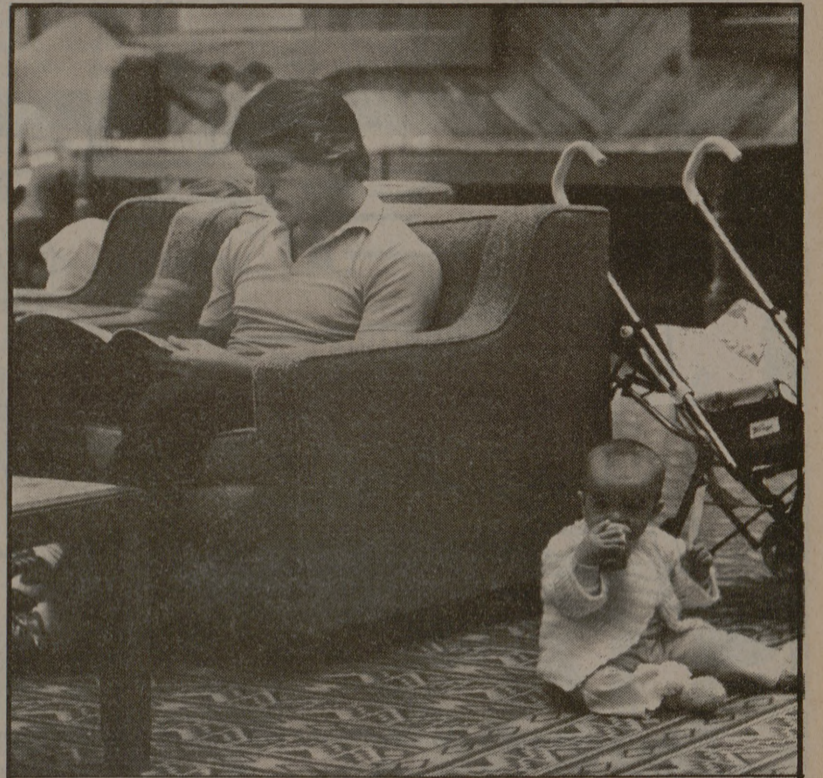
"I firmly believe that the fellow I

talked to from the Detroit radio station stretched it out of proportion to make it sound interesting to Paul Harvey," Craven said.

"Paul Harvey is a good man. I listen to him all the time. I'm surprised he didn't call us to check the facts."

Lillian Bockris, speaking for her husband while he is out of the country, said Harvey also reported the researchers are producing hydrogen for 50 cents a gallon. That is false, she said.

"The figures as quoted in the original interviews are still active and correct," she said.



Staff photo by John Ryan

Starting off young

Eight-month-old Amelia Mease from Bryan starts off early in the rigors of studying as she mimics Sammy Reese, a freshman architecture major from Houston, with the best object she could find — her bottle.

American economist given the fifth 1982 Nobel prize

United Press International
STOCKHOLM, Sweden — At a time when economic difficulties have spread throughout the world, the Royal Academy of Sciences Wednesday was revealing this year's winner of the controversial Nobel Economics Prize.

The Economics award was instituted only in 1969 and is officially called the Bank of Sweden prize in economic sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel, who patented his invention, dynamite, in 1862. The prizes were begun in 1901.

Like the prizes in other fields, the award this year is worth \$157,000.

The prize was first given at a time when economists confidently predicted monetary trends on the

domestic and international fronts.

Over the years, however, economics has lost some of its luster as theories have not stood up in practice, and laureates themselves have derided the Nobel award.

The 1974 winner Gunnar Myrdal, whose wife Alva Myrdal won this year's Nobel Peace Prize, has called for the withdrawal of the economics honor.

Myrdal said economics is a "soft," or inexact, science, meaning economic theories cannot be proved the way hypotheses can be tested in physics or chemistry.

He apologized for accepting his award, pleading he was practically asleep and "off my guard" when noti-

fied. He did not explain why he did not decline in the three months between the announcement and the award ceremony.

The Nobel committee defends the prize despite the inevitable mix of politics with economics. When Milton Friedman, the apostle of hard-line monetarist economic policy, won in 1976, there were street demonstrations in Sweden.

The 1981 economics honor went to American James Tobin for his analysis of financial markets and how investment decisions are made.

Americans have swept the field since 1969, taking 10 of the 19 prizes handed out. Britain trails a poor second with three winners. No

woman has won a Nobel Economics Prize.

This is the fifth of this year's Nobel award announcements. The final one, literature, falling this year on Alfred Nobel's 149th birthday, will be announced Thursday.

This year's medicine prize, announced last week, was won by Sune K. Bergstrom and Bengt I. Samuelsson of the Karolinska Institute in Sweden, and Dr. John Vane of Wellcome Laboratories in Britain.

The Peace Prize was awarded to Mrs. Myrdal of Sweden and Alfonso Garcia Roblez of Mexico. On Monday, the physics prize went to Kenneth G. Wilson of Cornell University, and the chemistry prize to Aaron Klug of Cambridge University.

Study of alternate bonfire sites recommended due to hazards

by Rebeca Zimmermann
Battalion Staff

As Texas A&M University administrators and students prepare for bonfire this year, one question is being asked: Is it safe?

The Environmental Health and Safety Committee says the bonfire at its present location "presents a serious hazard to surrounding buildings, violates fire safety and building code regulations and should, therefore, not be located at its present site."

The advisory committee — made up of faculty members from various University departments — has recommended a study of alternate bonfire sites to Howard Vestal, vice president of business affairs.

James H. Marsh III, chairman of the committee and a building construction professor, said the group has discussed both safe and unsafe aspects of bonfire.

Log cutting and tractor use are safe, Marsh said.

Tractor safety was brought into question last year when Wiley Keith Jopling, a sophomore agricultural economics major, fell from a tractor and was killed during work on bonfire.

A bonfire safety study, completed

in September, was set up to identify, evaluate and control hazards. To protect against tractor accidents, a no-rider policy is being enforced this year.

One of the dangers of bonfire this year could be the proximity of buildings — especially the new University Press Building — to the bonfire site, Marsh said.

The committee hasn't found any specific violations, but is concerned primarily with overall safety, he said.

"We certainly didn't recommend cancelling the bonfire," he said. "We talked about alternate sites."

College Station Fire Chief Douglas W. Landua agreed the current bonfire site endangers nearby homes and property.

A different site might pose less danger to College Station residents, he said.

The west campus and Texas World Speedway, south of College Station on Highway 6, have been mentioned as alternate sites.

"I would definitely like to get it out of the city limits," Landua said. "It creates a problem no matter where it is. It's definitely hazardous to city residents if we have a north wind. It all

depends on which way the wind blows as to whose property is endangered.

"All we can do is try our best to prevent things from getting out of hand."

If the wind blows from the north, homes along Jersey Street are in the line of fire, whereas a south wind could threaten University buildings.

"I do receive continuous complaints each and every year from citizens on the south side (of College Station)," he said.

"No matter where you have it — if it's dry and windy — you're going to have a problem."

Landua said he is not aware of any fire code violations because the University is exempt from College Station ordinances.

Elmer E. Schneider Jr., assistant chief of operations for the University Police, also said he isn't aware of any fire code violations.

Charles R. "Chuck" Cargill, vice president for operations, said the pros and cons of bonfire have been discussed many times.

"This has been brought up every year," Cargill said. "It's an emotional issue. We need to continue to discuss it."



staff photo by David Fisher

U.S. senator John Tower from Texas discusses his upcoming question and answer session for Political Forum with (left to right) George Bernhard, program

director for Political Forum, David Alders, student senate member and Beverly Rutledge, national programming director. See related story on page 3.

Israeli forces plan long stay

United Press International
Israeli forces built a military warning station, paved roads and erected winter shelters for a long stay in Lebanon, posing new obstacles to U.S. hopes for the early withdrawal of foreign forces from the war-ravaged nation.

Israel's Bahane armed forces magazine said Wednesday the station went up on the 6,600-foot Jabal al Barouk mountain — in southeast Lebanon at the edge of a proposed 25-33 mile demilitarized zone Israel seeks north of its border.

Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, on a tour to the United States, France and Italy in search of support to rebuild Lebanon, arrived today at Rome's Ciampino military airport for a 24-hour visit.

Police — edgy over a terrorist bomb that damaged the Lebanese Embassy in Rome Wednesday — increased security precautions both for his departure from Paris' Orly airport and for the arrival in Rome.

Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo greeted Gemayel, who im-

mediately was whisked off to a visit with the pope.

Before leaving the airport, Gemayel, who reportedly will invite Pope John Paul II to visit Lebanon during Christmas, said the pope would be safe in Lebanon because "everybody loves him."

Asked what he thought about the bomb attack, Gemayel said, "No problem. That's something usual for us."

In Washington, officials said Tuesday President Reagan was "seriously" considering a request from Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to bolster U.S. peace-keeping forces in Lebanon.

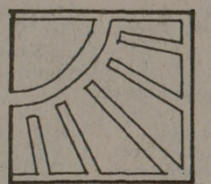
Israeli troops delayed a pullout from Lebanon's battle-scarred Shouf mountains Tuesday because of fears the Lebanese army could not quell bloody factional fighting.

Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Holi, former director of Israel's Mossad intelligence agency, was to be the first witness in today's opening hearing on the Sept. 16-18 Palestinian massacre, a commission spokesman said Tuesday.

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forecast



Continued clear and dry through the weekend. High 70, low tonight in mid 50s.