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Texas A&M The Battalion

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Hang on...

Mike Pfeuffer, a junior electrical engineering major from New Braunfels, assists Erik Adams, a sophomore general

studies student, in righting himself during the Outdoor Recreation Committee's kayak roll session at Wofford Cain Pool.

Photo by FRANK IRWIN

Student killed in car accident

By ROBIN BLACK
Senior Staff Writer

One Texas A&M University student was killed and another injured Thursday night in College Station when their car was struck by a train.

The women's car, a brown Volvo, was travelling east on W. Luther Street shortly before 9 p.m. when it crossed the railroad tracks and was hit broadside by a Southern Pacific freight train, College Station police said.

Police said the car was dragged about 100 feet after the collision.

The passenger was pronounced dead at the scene and the driver, a 22-year-old woman, was taken to St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan. This morning she was listed in stable condition with a fractured collarbone.

Police have not yet released the names of either women, pending notification of the families.

Two Texas A&M student identification cards were found in the Volvo, and the car had a blue University student parking sticker on it.

"The women were eastbound on Luther near Wellborn Road and apparently did not see the train coming, crossed the tracks and were hit broadside by the train," College Station police Lt. Greg Lewis said.

There are no warning lights or safety gates at the crossing on Luther Street, which is just south of Jersey Street in College Station. There is no lighting near the intersection, and the only railroad crossing sign is almost completely obscured by trees.

No alcohol was found in the car and was not a factor in the accident, police said.

Sergeant William Stark of the College Station Police Department is conducting an investigation of the accident.

Lebanon

Pro-Iranian terrorists bomb U.S. Embassy

United Press International

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Two pro-Iranian terrorists drove a truck through a hail of bullets to the U.S. Embassy Thursday and set off a huge explosion that killed 23 people, including two American servicemen, and dug a crater 9-feet deep.

Police set the overall toll at 23 dead and 71 injured in the attack — the third against an American installation in Beirut in 17 months. At least 20 other people were reported missing, rescue officials said. State-run Beirut radio said the death toll could rise to 40 as rescuers searched through the rubble.

U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew, 48, was among 25 Americans injured. He was pinned under rubble in his 4th floor office and evacuated by British Ambassador David Miers, who was visiting him, witnesses said. Bartholomew's injuries were described as minor.

The Pentagon said the two servicemen killed were Army Chief Warrant Officer Kenneth W. Welch, 33, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Ray Wagner, 30, of Zebulon, N.C.

President Reagan was awakened at 5:50 a.m. and informed of the attack. He called the bombing a "painful reminder" of a worldwide terrorist network.

The Islamic Jihad organization, a pro-Iranian underground movement bent on pushing "the last American out of Lebanon," claimed responsibility for the blast in a tele-

phone call to a Western news agency.

"We fulfill our promise," the caller said. "Not a single American will stay on Lebanese soil."

Two weeks ago, a person identifying himself as a spokesman for the Islamic Jihad warned of an attack on a U.S. installation.

The estimated 330 pounds of TNT in the truck detonated just 20 feet short of the six-story embassy building, near a crowd that gathered at the visa section. The embassy was damaged but none of its walls collapsed.

A State Department official said the dead included four or five Lebanese employees of the embassy.

Three other American servicemen were wounded and hospitalized but their injuries were not life-threatening, the Pentagon said.

"There were bodies scattered round the building, some limbless and some headless," said a resident who arrived minutes after the blast. "I just thank God he didn't turn into the building — but blew it up outside."

State Department spokesman John Hughes said U.S. diplomatic posts around the world were put on heightened alert as a result of the attack, which he said was linked to a U.S. veto in the U.N. Security Council of a resolution on Israel's continued occupation of southern Lebanon.

Investigations showed the two men drove up a tree-lined road in the suburb of Awkar, 6 miles from

Beirut's city center and stopped at a series of waist-high concrete blocks on the outer perimeter of the grounds, security sources said.

"They argued with the local guards and then fired at them and drove around the teeth," an embassy source said. "They then drove on and were fired at by U.S. Marine guards, a British bodyguard of the ambassador's and the local guards."

The truck accelerated along the straight 100-yard road and its load of TNT exploded as it passed in front of the stone building, gouging out a crater 9-feet deep and 24-feet wide.

Lebanese military officials said the driver was shot and killed and the other man was presumed to have died in the attack.

"The bomber was apparently more or less vaporized," a security officer said. "We have found no trace of him and only bits of the engine of the truck we were told he was in. The only thing we have is the crater."

Embassy vehicles were flung along the road by the force of the explosion, which sent girders tumbling out of the building and on to the road, damaged dozens of cars and shattered hundreds of windows.

Thursday's explosion at the new embassy, which opened just seven weeks ago, was the third attack on a major U.S. installation in the Lebanese capital since April 1983 and Islamic Jihad has claimed responsibility for all three.

Rings passed down by former students

By LORI BROOKS
Reporter

Imagine... Upon receiving your senior ring you not only get a piece of metal, but also a piece of Texas A&M's history.

One special piece of Aggie history is on the hand of Gary G. Klein, an industrial distribution major from Fort Worth. The 1984 graduate's new Aggie ring is made from the gold of the 1951 Aggie ring worn by his father, George J. Klein.

Gary Klein is the recipient of the first Aggie ring recycled through the Lipscomb Anderson Perpetual Ring Program. The program was created at the request of Lipscomb Anderson, a 1927 A&M graduate.

Klein said the ring is "real neat" and he plans on passing it down to his own children. Klein said he read about the program in the Texas Aggie.

"I thought it was a neat idea. As soon as I read about it I knew that's what I wanted to do," the elder Klein said.

The Lipscomb Anderson Perpetual Ring Program went into effect in January 1984, since the first donation by George Klein there have been 29 other rings donated.

Any former student or former student's family can donate an official Aggie ring to be remade by

Any former student can donate an official Aggie ring to be remade for an A&M student.

the L. G. Balfour Company for either a designated or undesignated A&M student. The ring is remade at no cost to the donor or recipient. When the ring is finished, the name and class year of the original owner, as well as the name of the new owner will be inscribed inside the ring.

Most of the rings donated are for family members or friends, but some of the rings are donated at random. Recipients of the random rings are selected through an impartial drawing.

All students who have placed a ring order during the period in which a donated ring is available are eligible.

The first random ring was received by Floyd Kaminski, a 1984 graduate. "It really touched something inside," Kaminski said. "You get caught up in Aggie spirit at yell practices and games, but this gave me a personal feeling with it. I feel very lucky and proud to be part of a new tradition," he said.

Kaminski's ring was donated by Jack Idol, a 1926 graduate.

Idol said, "I thought it would be a good idea to let someone else wear it. I hope he enjoys it as much as I did. I was very proud to wear it."

The other random ring was donated by John Cruickshank, a 1922 graduate.

Cruickshank said he wore his ring continuously and it became very worn, so his son gave him a new one.

"I saw the article about the ring organization in the Aggie News and thought my ring would do a student some good," Cruickshank said. "I didn't have anyone to name for it (the ring), so I left it to the ring committee to decide."

The Lipscomb Anderson Perpetual Ring Program was created by Jack Fritts, a 1953 graduate. Fritts said, "Lipscomb Anderson originally talked to me about starting a program because he was concerned about what he would do with his ring. He didn't want to be buried with it, and he had no children or grandchildren at A&M."

"The association has problems with people wanting to leave their rings to them. It seems sacrilegious to melt the rings for value. With the input of several people, the association organized a program that allows Aggie rings to be passed down," he said.

The program now is handled through the Ring Office in The Pavilion.

In Today's Battalion

Local

• Low rainfall in Texas has caused a 7-foot drop in the water level at Lake Somerville. See story page 4.

• The Sailing Team is getting five new boats which will enhance its chances in future competition. See story page 5.

• The College Station Planning and Zoning Commission approved an ordinance that regulates the location of sexually-oriented businesses. See story page 7.

Proposition 2 to decide future of PUF

By KARI FLUEGEL
Staff Writer

"Proposition 2: The constitutional amendment to create from general revenue a special Higher Education Fund for construction and related activities, to restructure the Permanent University Fund and to increase the number of institutions eligible to benefit from the Permanent University Fund."

When Texas voters cast their ballots on Nov. 6, they will be deciding the future of the Permanent University Fund and the future of 26 Texas colleges and universities.

If Proposition 2 passes, the new constitutional amendment will open the PUF to all units of the Texas A&M and the University of Texas Systems. It also will create the Higher Education Assistance Fund, a constitutionally dedicated fund for

the 26 state institutions outside the A&M and UT systems.

The PUF was established by the state constitution in 1876 to provide support to two "flagship" universities — UT and A&M. The endowment now consists of 2.1 million acres of land in 19 West Texas counties.

As of August 1983, the main body of the dedicated fund was worth \$1.9 billion and was growing at a rate of 8 percent annually. The body of the fund cannot be spent, only the investment earnings.

The revenue from the PUF is called the Available University Fund. In 1982, the AUF provided about \$156 million to be distributed between UT and A&M. The AUF is constitutionally divided with two-thirds going to UT and one-third going to A&M.

The bonding capacity currently is limited to 20 percent of the cash value of the PUF. Bond proceeds are limited to new construction and restricted to those units of the UT and A&M systems designated by the constitution.

A&M system institutions designated by the constitution are A&M, Prairie View A&M, Tarleton State University, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, the Texas Agriculture Extension Service, the Texas Engineering Experiment Station in College Station, the Texas Engineering Extension Service and the Texas Forest Service.

UT system institutions designated by the constitution are UT-Austin including the Marine Science Institute at Port Aransas and the McDonald Observatory at Fort Davis; UT-El Paso; the UT Health Sciences

Center in Dallas; the UT Health Sciences Center in Houston including the Dental School; the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the School of Public Health; the UT Medical Branch at Galveston and the UT-M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute.

"We would have had a hard time during our growth of the '70s if we wouldn't have had the use of the PUF and AUF," Dr. J. Malon Southland, assistant vice president for student services, said. "It (the PUF) has been a most valuable tool."

If the amendment is approved, the bonding capacity will be raised to 30 percent of the cash value of the PUF. If it passes, A&M will add three units and UT will add nine units to the list of institutions which

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