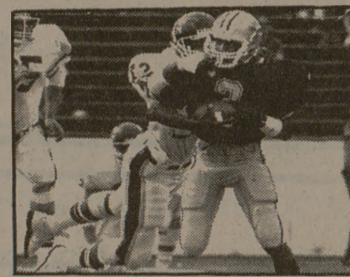




Aggie Band, C-2 outfit enact Great Pumpkin flight tonight

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Ag defense foresees season's biggest test against Mustangs

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The ^{Texas A&M} Battalion

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Four Soviet journalists to interview Reagan

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, in a pre-summit gesture to the Soviet Union, will be questioned today by four journalists from Moscow in the first interview granted by an American president to the Soviet press in nearly a quarter of a century.

The session, at 2 p.m. EST in the Oval Office, is "a unique and historic opportunity for the president to communicate directly with the peo-

ple of the Soviet Union," said White House spokesman Larry Speakes. "We hope it is a sign of a new and more open information policy on the part of the Soviet Union."

No restrictions have been imposed on the Soviets' questions, although they are likely to focus on Reagan's summit Nov. 19-20 with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva and superpower relations, Speakes said. He said the United States has not asked to review in advance what will be published.

"They will report it as they wish to report it," he said. Likewise, he said there was no requirement for the Soviets to publish the full text of the questions and answers. "We think a sufficient amount of the interview will be conveyed," Speakes said. "We have no reservations about the matter." He said the material probably will be published first on Sunday in the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia, followed by the release of a complete transcript by the White House.

In other developments related to the summit:

• It was announced that Reagan will address a joint session of Congress at 9 p.m. EST on Nov. 21, immediately upon his return from Geneva. On his way back to Washington, Reagan will stop off for two hours in Brussels to report to allied leaders at NATO headquarters on the summit.

• Reagan said he was "striving" to present a counteroffer — before the summit — to the recent arms propo-

sal from Moscow, which calls for a 50 percent reduction in strategic nuclear weapons. In an interview with Britain's BBC radio, Reagan said the Soviet proposal contains both "seeds to nurture" as well as "some things that we believe are so disadvantageous to us that they should be negotiated and some changes made."

• Reagan, asked by the BBC what he hoped to accomplish in the summit, said, "I think that the most that

we could get out is if we could eliminate some of the paranoia, if we could reduce the hostility, the suspicion that keeps our two countries particularly . . . at odds with each other."

The last time an American president was interviewed by Soviet journalists was on Nov. 25, 1961, when then-President John F. Kennedy was interviewed in the living room of his home in Hyannisport, Mass., by the editor of Izvestia.

House approves legislation freezing defense spending

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House voted 359-67 Wednesday to approve a bill freezing Pentagon spending after it avoided fights over money for "Star Wars" anti-missile research and new chemical weapons.

In the only major controversy, a closely divided House first voted to eliminate but later reversed itself and restored \$1.7 billion to buy a dozen MX missiles, the nuclear weapon that has been the center of a long-running Capitol Hill fight.

The measure to delete the MX funds first passed by a 211-208 margin but was later defeated 214-210.

Sixteen congressmen switched sides during the votes to delete the MX money, an amendment pushed by Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass. He contended it was useless to spend the money because the House has already voted to limit the future deployment of the weapon.

The House bill would appropriate most of a \$292 billion Pentagon budget for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1. That's the same as the Defense Department got last year but far under the \$322 billion budget President Reagan originally proposed for this year.

Meanwhile, the Senate Appropriations defense subcommittee gave voice vote approval of its version of a Pentagon spending bill that would total \$302 billion. The Senate measure includes \$250 million more than the House for Star Wars and also provides money for chemical weapons.

Major fights were expected on the House floor over nerve gas and spending for Star Wars, President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative to develop a shield against nuclear attack.



Photo by MIKE SANCHEZ

Aggie-O'-lantern

From the eerie glow of her Gig 'em carved pumpkin, you can see freshman accounting major Kirstin Hamacher, from Houston, is ready for Halloween.

Propositions 1, 2 could affect future water supply of B-CS

By JENS B. KOEPKE
Staff Writer

The Texas Water Bill and its accompanying constitutional amendments, Propositions 1 and 2, could provide more money for local or regional water projects, but short-term local water resources will not suffer without its passage, city officials say.

Propositions 1 and 2 are the financing mechanisms for the Texas Water Bill, House Bill 2. The bill's fate will be decided when Texas residents vote on the propositions in the Nov. 5 election.

"As a government entity which is responsible for supplying water to its citizens, I should think that we would be in favor of any amendment that would help provide for future water needs," says George Ford, College Station's director of utilities.

Although the city would not be hurt in the next five years by rejection of the water plan, Ford says, the city probably would be adversely affected in the next 20 or 30 years.

"It would allow future needs to be satisfied at a lesser cost to the citizens of College Station," he says.

The development of a regional reservoir and the expansion of a wastewater treatment plant could be facilitated by the water bill, says Jack Cornish, operations manager of environmental services for the city of Bryan.

"It (amendment rejection) would certainly delay any improvements in future reservoir and wastewater treatment expansion," Cornish says.

The Panther Creek Reservoir would be located on the Navasota River south of Highway 21 and would be built by the Brazos River Authority, Cornish says. It would provide water for both cities, Brazos County, adjoining eastern counties and possibly parts of the Houston metroplex.

Although both cities have expressed interest in helping fund the reservoir, he says, the project's chances of getting built would be greatly enhanced by the additional revenues in the water plan. He adds that reservoir approval and construction is a 20- or 30-year process.

The City of Bryan must expand the smallest of its three wastewater treatment plants in the next five

years, he says, and the expansion could be delayed without passage of the amendments.

In addition, passage of the amendments would provide the city a source of money to replace dwindling federal aid for water projects, Cornish says. Currently, 75 percent of the money that Bryan is using to expand its second-largest wastewater facility comes from the federal government, he says. The federal share will drop to 33 percent between 1985 and 1989.

Dr. Wayne Jordan, director of the Texas Water Resource Institute, says if the amendments are approved, the Bryan-College Station community will feel the same effects as most of the other cities in Texas. Growing cities and those with antiquated water facilities will feel the most profound effects from the amendments.

Opponents of the amendments say that the plan throws money at the water problem without guaranteeing how it will be spent and that a sleeper clause in Proposition 1 allows the Legislature unlimited wa-

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No injuries reported in bombing of airliner

Associated Press

GRAPEVINE — An explosive device inside a cosmetic bag apparently detonated Wednesday inside a baggage compartment of an American Airlines 727, destroying the bag but causing no injuries, officials said.

"I can confirm the presence of an explosive device, said Joe Dealey, a spokesman for the Dallas-Fort

Worth International Airport. "It did explode to the best of my knowledge."

The 147 passengers and seven crew members aboard Flight 203, en route from Austin to San Francisco, quickly were removed from the craft about 8 a.m. after smoke was found inside a baggage compartment, said American spokesman John Raymond.

The plane was on the ground when the incident occurred.

Dealey said the device was contained in a cosmetic case inside a baggage pod used to transport luggage to and from the plane. The bag did have some identification on it, but it was damaged and may be impossible to decipher, he said.

Airport police and the FBI were investigating the case, Dealey said.

Enrollment

State colleges, universities blame drop on tuition hike

By FRANK SMITH
Staff Writer

Texas A&M wasn't the only school to experience a drop in enrollment this fall.

Preliminary headcount figures released Oct. 18 by the Texas College and University System Coordinating Board show decreases at 91 of the 140 campuses of higher education across the state.

The figures, based on the twelfth class day enrollments reported by the schools, indicate that public senior colleges and universities this fall experienced their first collective enrollment dip in more than 30 years. Twenty-six of the 37 such campuses reported lower enrollments. Overall, enrollment for the four-year public schools were down 2.48 percent from last fall.

Many of the state schools pointed an increase in tuition as a primary reason for their enrollment declines.

The Texas Legislature this spring passed House Bill 1147, which tripled the tuition rate for resident and non-resident students at public universities in the state. Full-time resident students now pay \$12 per semester hour in tuition rather than \$4. Full-time non-residents and international students pay \$120 per semester hour, compared to \$40 per hour last year.

At A&M, the current enrollment

Preliminary Enrollment Based on 12th Class Day Lists				
	Fall '84	Fall '85	Change	% Change
State Schools:				
Lamar University	13,161	11,825	-1,336	-10.15
Texas A&M University	36,827	35,675	-1,152	-3.13
Texas Southern University	8,834	8,076	-758	-8.58
University of Texas at El Paso	15,322	14,119	-1,203	-7.85
University of Houston	31,095	29,900	-1,195	-3.84
Private Schools:				
Baylor University	10,990	11,481	+491	+4.49
Houston Baptist University	2,632	2,775	+143	+5.43
Howard Payne University	818	1,060	+242	+29.58
McMurry College	1,482	1,644	+162	+10.93
Texas Christian University	6,747	6,925	+178	+2.64

Source: Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System

of 35,675 students is down 3.13 percent from last fall's enrollment of 36,827.

A&M's Associate Registrar Donald Carter said the enrollment decrease could be attributed to the tuition increase and a combination of other factors. Those other factors include a smaller number of high school graduates in the state this year, higher admission requirements

by A&M in recent years and an increase in the number of students graduating from the University.

Other public senior colleges and universities experiencing enrollment declines include Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas Southern University, the University of Houston and the University of Texas at El Paso.

Lamar's enrollment dropped by more than 10.2 percent. Elmer

Rode, the school's registrar and dean of admissions, said Lamar this year lost 400 part-time students — those taking six credit hours or less. He said this was a result of the casual student's unwillingness to pay the higher tuition rate.

Rode said Lamar also lost just under 300 students because of new requirements for transfer students. Another 400 were lost because of a smaller number of high school seniors being turned out in the school's basic recruiting area, he said.

At Texas Southern, an 8.58 percent decrease in enrollment also was considered to be largely a result of the tuition increase.

"Many of our students come from the poorest part of the population of Texas," Registrar John Westberry said, "and even a \$100 increase in tuition would be more significant to them than to the average A&M student."

Westberry said the added expense has impacted TSU's resident student enrollment as much as it has affected its large population of international students.

"Actually we were a bit surprised, to be frank, that the number of Texas students dropped off as much as it did," Westberry said.

See A&M enrollment, page 9

'Aggies in Spain' report Spaniards maintain distorted view of U.S.

Editor's note: This is the second in a three-part series on Spain.

By JUNE PANG
Staff Writer

The image that people from other nations have of Americans is derived from a combination of America's superpower status, American tourists and exposure to American television series.

When 39 Texas A&M students spent six weeks in Spain this summer, they learned what Spaniards think of Americans.

The students, led by Dr. Bart Lewis and Dr. Antonio Martinez from the modern languages department, were participating in the "Aggies in Spain" program.

They spent two weeks traveling around the country and four weeks in class at the University of Santiago.

"They think Americans are self-centered," says William Grimes, a senior in history. "(When we were there) there was an article in their school newspaper saying that."

"Dr. Lewis and Dr. Martinez wrote a letter protesting. They (the newspaper) wrote another article that changed a little bit."

Grimes thinks that Americans are more visible because they talk louder and make more gestures.

"People (in Spain) don't do anything that make themselves stick out," Grimes says.

Junior Spanish major Minette Riordan has a similar impression. "They think Americans are loud and obnoxious," Riordan says.

Spanish people watch shows like "Dynasty" and "Falcon Crest" religiously, she says.

"Everyday at five o'clock, every house, every bar would watch 'Falcon Crest,'" Riordan says. "Dallas" was popular, too."

Spaniards associate Texas with cowboys, cowboy hats and guns, she says.

If you say Texas to a boy, he would make a gesture of drawing a gun and then say "Bang! Bang!" she adds.

Riordan also noticed that Spaniards like to talk politics with Americans.

They like to talk about Reagan, but they generally don't like him, she says.

But, Riordan says, if you ask them why they don't like Reagan,

See Falcon Crest, page 9