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Texas A&M Living Historians
relive Civil War skirmishes

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No. 19 Ags travel to Houston
for last road trip of the season

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Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol. 81 No. 52 USPS 075360 12 pages College Station, Texas Wednesday, November 13, 1985

U.S. offers to exchange scientists with Soviets

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration has proposed an "open laboratory" arrangement for the United States and the Soviet Union to exchange scientists and double-check each other's "Star Wars" research, a senior administration official said Tuesday.

But the Soviet Union, so far, has refused to go along with any agreement that permits research into Star Wars technology, the official said, even though the United States believes such research is

clearly permissible under the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty.

The official indicated the open laboratory proposal would be part of an understanding that could clear the way for a comprehensive new arms control agreement that also would include sharp reductions in strategic offensive nuclear weapons.

The official said he still is hopeful that arms control guidelines can be worked out for the summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva. Re-

gan leaves for the summit on Saturday.

The official said the proposed guidelines are being discussed through the American ambassador in Moscow, Arthur Hartman, and the Soviet ambassador in Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin.

Another official said Tuesday that it is a Soviet refusal to agree that the United States can engage in research into missile defense technology that is blocking a potential compromise that could lead to guidelines at the summit.

"I think there is some real potential to cut a deal if they say they can live with laboratory research," said the official, who specializes in arms control issues and who insisted on not being identified.

"I think it is clearly an 'anything goes' summit," he said. "Anything can happen at the summit with regard to arms control. Publicly we are not going to say it because an 'anything goes' situation means it could go badly, too."

He said that when Secretary of State George P. Shultz and other

U.S. officials went to Moscow last week, they found the Soviets unwilling to follow up on previous indications they would agree to the research.

The senior official said in a briefing at the White House that the Soviet Union is calling "for a complete ban on everything having to do with space based systems as they define them, including a ban on research directed toward such systems."

An agreement to curb component testing is regarded as the key to the

understanding. This would ban testing of major components of a missile defense system outside the laboratory. Without component testing, actual development and deployment of a missile shield would be a long way off.

Such an understanding would be linked to a Soviet agreement for major reductions in strategic offensive weapons. Details of the agreements, if there are to be agreements, would be worked out at the arms control talks that resume in Geneva in January.

Senate OKs drinking age amendment

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Senate on Tuesday adopted an amendment designed to keep the Texas drinking age at 21 after 1988, when it would expire under current state law.

According to Texas law, the drinking age would go down to 19 on Sept. 30, 1988, when a federal law penalizing states with drinking ages under 21 expires.

In addition, the Texas law says the drinking age would revert to 19 if the federal law is repealed or overturned in court.

The amendment sponsored by Sens. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., and John Danforth, R-Mo., would make permanent the sanctions included in last year's highway authorization bill.

The sanctions cut federal highway funds to low-drinking-age states by 5 percent in fiscal year 1987 and 10 percent in fiscal 1988.

The amendment would cut federal highway funds by 10 percent each year after 1988 that a state has a drinking age under 21, Hilton said.

The Lautenberg-Danforth amendment was attached to the budget reconciliation bill by voice vote Tuesday.

"Texas is the principal problem addressed by the legislation," said Danforth press secretary Steve Hilton said, adding that the measure "is regarded in the Senate as non-controversial legislation."

Hilton said he did not know of any other states that had drinking ages designed to change, as Texas does.

Earlier this year, the Texas Legislature decided to raise the state's drinking age from 19 to 21 next year because of the threatened cut in federal highway funds.

But the legislature included a provision in the bill saying the age would revert to 19 if the federal sanctions were repealed, overturned by a court or expired, said Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission spokesman Joe Darnall.



Photo by STEPHANIE ESPINOSA

Aggie Twelfth Kid

Two-year-old Jamie Thacker of Houston sits outside of Kyle Field Monday disappointed because he was told he could not play football with the Aggie football team.

Walker brother gets life sentences for role in spy ring

Associated Press
NORFOLK, Va. — Arthur J. Walker, a retired Navy officer convicted of supplying secrets to a Soviet spy ring run by his brother, was sentenced to life in prison Tuesday by a judge who refused to "treat this as a slap-on-the-wrist case."

Walker, a 51-year-old retired Navy lieutenant commander, told U.S. District Judge J. Calvitt Clarke Jr. that he wished to "apologize to all the citizens of this country for what I did."

"I dishonored myself. I devastated my family. Nobody could be any sorer," he said.

Clarke then sentenced Walker, of Virginia Beach, to the maximum of three life terms and four 10-year terms on seven counts of espionage, with the sentences to run concurrently. Walker, who was also fined \$250,000, will be eligible for parole in 10 years.

Walker's wife Rita, the only witness at the sentencing hearing, testified that he became suicidal while he was spying and had an affair with his brother's wife in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

His brother, John A. Walker Jr., 48, a retired Navy chief warrant officer, and John Walker's son, Navy seaman Michael L. Walker, 22, pleaded guilty to espionage Oct. 28. In exchange for his cooperation with authorities, John Walker is to receive a life sentence and his son is to serve 25 years.

Arthur Walker's attorneys argued

that his role in the spy ring was less significant than his brother's or nephew's, but Clarke disagreed.

"Arthur Walker was an older brother and an officer and had been entrusted by his government with far greater responsibility than either John Walker or Michael Walker," the judge said. "I can't treat this as a slap-on-the-wrist case. The evidence is all to the contrary."

Defense attorneys, who had tried unsuccessfully to get a plea bargain for Arthur Walker, said they were stunned by the sentence and would appeal to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond.

"The message that's gone out from this is... if you're going to do it, do it big and don't try to help because you can make them deal with you," said Samuel W. Meekins, one of two defense attorneys.

Arthur Walker described his role to FBI agents shortly after his brother's arrest May 20, but Assistant U.S. Attorney Tommy E. Miller said the government believed he has concealed the extent of his involvement.

Clarke convicted Walker Aug. 9 on charges that he gave his brother copies of classified Navy documents from his defense contractor employer, VSE Corp. of Chesapeake, in 1981 and 1982.

Although Walker said that his espionage ended in 1982, Miller said John Walker told FBI agents he met with his brother last May 17 and discussed getting more information from him on Navy ship readiness.

Mental health Clinic offers psychological services for students, members of community

By BRIAN PEARSON
Senior Staff Writer

The Counseling and Assessment Clinic, one of two psychological services located on the Texas A&M campus, offers a broad range of mental health services for students and members of the community.

Dr. Jan Hughes, the director of the clinic which has been in existence for 10 years, works with all ages from infants to geriatrics.

"We're a comprehensive psychological services clinic," Hughes says. "That means we do everything that you'd expect psychologists to do."

The service is free to A&M students. Other patients, including A&M faculty, must pay up to \$60 per hour. The rate is based on the income of the patient.

"We can work with any members of the (student's) family here," Hughes says.

She says if a student has the problem and brings in the family, family members will not be charged for the service.

Hughes says clinic sessions are handled by a team of at least two members.

One team member is a graduate student currently enrolled in the psychology doctoral program in counseling. Another team member is a licensed psychologist who is a faculty member in the Department

of Educational Psychology.

"Our clinic is a teaching clinic," Hughes says. "You can think of it as a laboratory of learning counseling skills."

She says the clinic, on the seventh floor of Harrington Tower, offers psychological services for patients with serious mental disorders as well as problems that are not as serious.

The services include:

- Aptitude assessment.
- Individual psychotherapy.
- Personality assessment.
- Vocational assessment and counseling.
- Assessment of learning difficulties.
- Marital and family therapy.
- Relationship counseling.
- Group therapy.
- Growth counseling for specific client problems.
- Stress management and life style adjustment counseling.
- Intellectual assessment.
- Neuropsychological assessment.

Some patients, Hughes says, are treated for problems including neurosis, psychosis, depression, anxiety, habit disorders and alcohol and drug dependency.

Hughes says that last week a student who was suffering from a depression problem compounded by

See Clinic, page 12

Teacher of the Year an A&M grad

By CYNTHIA GAY
Staff Writer

The Texas Teacher of the Year for 1985 is an Aggie, and on Dec. 5 she'll give a Texas A&M audience a lesson on her blue ribbon teaching philosophy.

Meliane Morgan teaches math and computer literacy at Landrum Junior High in the Spring Branch school district in the Houston area. Her classes are filled with minority students from divorced or single-parent households, she said. They have no computer at home, she added, and have parents that spend

most of their time on the job.

"I really feel needed," Morgan said.

Morgan meets these challenges with her philosophy of "Caring, Sharing, Daring," also the title of her paper deemed the best in the state by the Texas Education Agency, and worthy of honoring her as one of the four finalists on the national level.

"You've got to care about your students, and everything else revolves around that," Morgan said. "When your students know you care about them, they are open to learn."

"I want them to develop self-confidence, to feel important, and to set

goals for themselves."

The most fulfilling aspect of the teaching award for Morgan has been the students' excitement and continuing support, she said.

"(The award) is for them," she said. "It's just made them proud."

Not only do her students realize the importance of computers, but they also love lighting up the terminals at all hours of the day, Morgan said. They come before school and at lunch, and pick up problem solving skills with more ease than most adults, she said.

Morgan should know, for a part of her sharing philosophy includes

teaching an adult computer class at the University of Houston and helping fellow teachers get the hang of these machines.

Morgan said that she has some students who are "scared to death" to touch a computer, but enough students are comfortable with them from the start to aid the classroom learning process.

Most people aren't aware that Texas requires all junior high schools to teach computer literacy, she said.

Daring to set standards for her

See '85 Texas, page 12

Report says NutraSweet may trigger epilepsy

Associated Press
BOSTON — A new report suggests that NutraSweet might trigger epilepsy in some susceptible people and recommends that doctors question seizure victims about their consumption of the popular artificial sweetener.

In a letter in the latest issue of the British journal Lancet, Dr. Richard J. Wurtman describes three cases in

which people had their first epileptic seizures after drinking large amounts of soft drinks that contained NutraSweet.

Wurtman theorizes that the sweetener — known generically as aspartame — lowers levels of chemicals in the brain that protect against seizures.

In his letter, Wurtman said the

three cases "can only suggest an association between aspartame and seizures." But he added that they are "compatible with evidence that high aspartame doses may produce neurochemical changes that, in laboratory animals, are associated with depressed seizure thresholds."

Officials of G.D. Searle & Co., which makes NutraSweet, said Wurtman's findings were not scien-

tifically controlled, and the apparent link could well have been due to chance.

"We have every confidence in its safety, and our confidence is based on the research," Dr. John Heybach, Searle's director of medical and scientific affairs, said of NutraSweet. "It's the most extensively researched

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