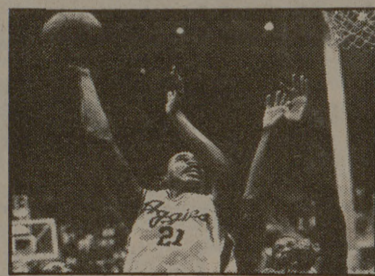


A&M prof says government should improve railroads

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Texas A&M The Battalion

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College Station, Texas

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16 students get warrants for unpaid tickets

By MICHAEL MIESCH
Reporter

Sixteen Texas A&M students were served warrants by the College Station Police Department Tuesday in an effort to alleviate the pileup of more than 600 warrants for students who have unpaid traffic violations. University Police will aid in serving warrants to anyone on campus but the CSPD is unable to locate them. Bob Wiatt, A&M's director of security and traffic.

Li. Bernie Kapella of the CSPD and the police have been unable to

keep up with the backlog because warrants for arrests have been increasing by the rate of at least a hundred each week.

University Police detectives will begin serving warrants Monday to students in their dorms and classrooms, Kapella said.

Students have until Friday to take care of the tickets, Kapella said. If they do not have the money, students should still call the court clerk and make arrangements to pay within the week to prevent the ticket from going to the warrant stage.

Kapella said he will not immediately serve a warrant on a student

who calls to say that he does not have the money to pay the fine and will take care of it in a couple of days. But that does not mean he will not be arrested if pulled over for another violation, he said.

Merely ignoring a ticket can be a costly affair, Kapella said. One of the students arrested Tuesday paid \$259 for an \$80 ticket.

A person's signature on a traffic citation requires them to either appear before a court of law or pay the fine, Kapella said. Neglecting to take care of the ticket results in the new charge of failure to appear and the issuance of a warrant, he said.

Kapella cited the example of an what happens when a \$40 ticket goes unpaid. He said additional charges of \$15 for failure to pay the fine, \$50 for failure to appear and \$15 for the issuance of a warrant are added to the original amount.

The average price of tickets that have gone to the warrant stage is \$120, Kapella said.

The CSPD expects to collect over \$72,000 in revenue, Kapella said.

Police clerks began trying to call students before Christmas to warn them but have not been very successful, he said.

"We will continue to call until 5 p.m. Friday, but that's it," Kapella said.

Wiatt said University Police have already been cooperating with the CSPD.

Kapella called Wiatt Tuesday in regard to a student who has warrants for her arrest in both College Station and Hearne, Wiatt said. Running her name through the University Police computer system, they discovered she had 10 unpaid campus parking violations. University Police will begin

searching for her car Wednesday to tow it, Wiatt said.

When she comes to the University police station to inquire about her car, she will be arrested and held for the CSPD, he said. After settling her affairs with them, she may then return and pay for her University tickets.

In an attempt to make students aware of their effort to catch delinquent ticketholders, the CSPD plans to publish a list of the names of offenders in *The Battalion*, the *Bryan-College Station Eagle* or on the television information channel.

Computer problems hold up drop-add

By BRIAN PEARSON
Staff Writer

Texas A&M students walking over to the Pavilion Monday and Tuesday to register for spring classes probably did some jaw dropping when they saw the long, snake-like line outside the building.

The line, which some students waited in for nearly an hour and a half, was the result of a computer system software error which caused the registration process to slow down, a representative of the registration system said Tuesday.

Steve Williams, acting director of the Student Information Management System, said the delay would occur as terminal operators helped students find open class sections and obtain class schedules and fees.

"Anytime the operator wanted to communicate with the (SIMS) computer and wanted to receive a response back, there was an excessive delay," Williams said.

He said response time for a transaction only should take two or three seconds.

Response time during registration hours since Friday sometimes have taken over a minute.

"We feel like the software is working properly except for the fact that it's slower than it should be," Williams said.

"No data has been lost in the system that I'm aware of," he said. "Nobody has lost any classes that they were registered for."

A problem, he said, also has surfaced at the printout station.

"At times the schedules and the bills do not print properly and we're working on that problem, but we haven't identified exactly what's causing it," Williams said.

"We don't believe it's within one of the programs that was



written here (Texas A&M)," he said. "We believe it's within a package that was purchased from the vendor."

Williams said that once the computer problem is identified, the system will be repaired quickly.

He said the error could be corrected as early as today.

"It's very unfortunate that we've got this problem here and we certainly regret having to put the students through standing in lines like that," Williams said. "We don't expect it to continue."

22 die, 102 injured when car explodes on street in Beirut

Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — A car packed with explosives, gasoline and oxygen bottles blew up in a huge ball of flame and shrapnel Tuesday on a busy street of Christian east Beirut, killing at least 22 people and wounding 102.

It went off 30 yards from an office of President Amin Gemayel's political party, but authorities would not say whether that was the target.

A dozen passing motorists were killed in their cars by the fireball that engulfed the street. Witnesses said scores of pedestrians and shoppers were cut down by shrapnel or turned into human torches by blazing gasoline that sprayed over a 50-yard radius.

Blood-spattered Red Cross squads clawed through the smoldering wreckage of eight buildings, under a dark cloud of smoke and ashes that hung over the scene. Officials said they feared the death toll would climb.

The bombing follows a week of fighting between Gemayel loyalists and Syrian-backed Christian and

Moslem rivals in which more than 400 people have been killed and 800 wounded.

Those battles, including a day-long showdown Jan. 15 in which Gemayel crushed his main Christian opponent, scuttled a Syrian-sponsored peace agreement signed Dec. 28 in Damascus by leaders of the largest Moslem and Christian militias.

The Maronite Catholic president opposes the agreement, which would give Moslems more power at the expense of the traditionally dominant Christians.

No group claimed responsibility for Wednesday's midmorning bombing in the Furn el-Shubbak district. Police said the car was detonated by remote control.

Unconfirmed reports said the bomber parked the Mercedes on the sidewalk, pretended he had engine trouble, then walked away and detonated the bomb.

It was the first car bomb in Lebanon this year. Last year car bombs killed 313 people in Lebanon, according to police figures.

Yussef Bitar, the top police explosives expert, said the car was packed with 550 pounds of explosives, extra tanks of gasoline and oxygen bottles to turn it into a huge fire-and-shrapnel bomb.

Syrian-backed militias continued their pressure on Gemayel's forces Tuesday in the Christian heartland north and east of Beirut. Syrian army units were reported to be deploying in the mountains east of the capital.

Military sources said 1,100 Syrian paratroopers moved into several villages overlooking Gemayel's hometown of Bikfaya, 10 miles northeast of Beirut, in the previous 48 hours.

They said the buildup apparently was intended to buttress Moslem and leftist Moslem militias Syria has sent against Gemayel.

Associated Press correspondent Rima Salameh reported sporadic clashes with artillery, anti-aircraft guns and rockets in the mountains between the Lebanese army units and the militias. There was no word on casualties.

2 U.S. officials at odds over policy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger are engaged in an unusually public Cabinet-level policy debate that could determine whether the United States someday attacks a country that backs terrorists.

Ever since U.S. forces withdrew from Lebanon after attacks on U.S. Marines, Shultz has advocated a get-tough stand toward terrorists that would include strikes against targets in countries — such as Libya — that support terrorism.

In a 1984 speech in which he said innocent lives might have to be put at risk, Shultz declared, "We cannot allow ourselves to become the Hamlet of nations, worrying endlessly over whether and how to respond."

Weinberger, on the other hand, has warned against hastily planned strikes that could "kill women and children," aggravate terrorism and lead to chaos that could undermine

U.S. strategic interests in the Middle East.

The Pentagon also has in mind the experience in Lebanon, where 241 U.S. servicemen were killed in a single suicide bombing. They were there fulfilling a mission that Shultz had recommended, but that Weinberger had opposed from the outset.

Another consideration of those who argue against retaliation is the danger of inciting revenge-seeking, Mideast-style terrorism in the United States, especially if innocents are killed.

For example, officials take seriously the threat of Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy, who has warned that if attacked he would send terrorist suicide squads to the United States.

The long-running debate between Shultz and Weinberger surfaced anew in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the Vienna and Rome airports in December in which five Americans were among the 19 dead.

Although the attacks occurred in European countries, and one of the captured Palestinians killers said their motive was to "kill Israelis," Shultz has treated the attacks as an assault on the United States that must be answered, with Libya the most likely target.

Weinberger again was in the posture of urging caution.

"It must be clearly and unequivocally the policy of the United States to fight back," Shultz said last week at a conference on terrorism.

But Weinberger told the same conference:

"I think there are a lot of people who would get instant gratification from some kind of bombing attack somewhere without being too worried about the details. We have to consider the appropriateness of the response and whether what we are

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U.S. comptroller enforces budget law

U.S. must cut budget by \$12 billion

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Comptroller General Charles A. Bowsher, carrying out part of a budget-balancing act that the administration says is unconstitutional, directed President Reagan on Tuesday to slash government spending by almost \$12 billion. Under the Gramm-Rudman law, Reagan has no choice but to order cuts by March 1.

Congress could pass its own alternative package of cuts or could act to block them entirely. But as Congress turned from its winter recess, Bowsher said such action was unlikely. "We'd run into a buzzsaw," said Sen. Leon Panetta, D-Calif., a House member who helped write the final version of the Gramm-Rudman Act.

Bowsher, who directs the General Accounting Office, said that additional

cuts in the military of \$44.6 billion and in domestic programs of \$3.3 billion must be made above those outlined last week by congressional and White House budget offices.

Under the Gramm-Rudman act, the GAO is required to tell the president how much must be cut from each federal account to meet deficit-reduction targets, using figures supplied by the two budget offices.

In most cases, the cuts detailed by the GAO Tuesday were identical to those announced last week by the Congressional Budget Office and the White House Office of Management and Budget.

The GAO is an auditing and investigative arm of Congress.

In a legal brief filed before a special three-judge court here, the Justice Department claims that the part

of the Gramm-Rudman law giving executive-type powers to the comptroller general is unconstitutional, infringing on the president's powers as chief executive.

However, the administration supports other parts of the act, designed to reduce the annual federal deficit from \$212 billion last year to zero by 1991.

Sen. Pete V. Domenici, R-N.M., chairman of the Budget Committee, asked whether other contemplated spending cuts could substitute for the Gramm-Rudman cuts, said "absolutely not, no chance of that."

In all, the GAO made more than 70 changes in the figures outlined by the OMB and the CBO, but most were minor. And it upheld the OMB-CBO overall conclusion that military programs must be cut by 4.9 percent and domestic accounts by

4.3 percent — for a grand total of \$11.7 billion in cuts.

The report by the congressional and White House budget offices, the GAO said, neglected to apply cuts to some \$6.3 billion in military spending — mostly in procurement and research-development programs.

Under Gramm-Rudman, the 1986 deficit target is \$171.9 billion.

Tuesday's GAO report noted, however, that revenues in 1986 are estimated at \$776 billion and outlays at \$996.5 billion — for an estimated deficit of \$220.5 billion, far above the target.

However, for this year alone, the magnitude of cuts are limited to a total of \$11.7 billion.

Social Security benefits are exempted from the cuts, as are military personnel and a number of programs for low-income Americans.

Two Sikhs found guilty in Ghandi murder trial

Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India — A special judge Wednesday found a Sikh bodyguard guilty of assassinating Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in October 1984 and two co-defendants guilty of conspiracy to commit murder. He sentenced all three to death.

"The present case is one of the rarest of the rare," said Judge Mahesh Chandra, who heard the eight-month trial without a jury. "The extreme penalty of death is called for."

Gandhi was shot and killed on a garden path in her compound on Oct. 31, 1984. Satwant Singh, a 22-year-old bodyguard was found guilty Wednesday of murdering her, conspiracy, illegal use of firearms and wounding a policeman at the scene.

The two other defendants, who also are members of the Sikh religious minority, were police guard Balbir Singh and civil servant Kehar Singh. Kehar Singh was an uncle of Beant Singh, a second bodyguard who police also say shot Gandhi.

Beant Singh was killed by Mrs. Gandhi's guards at the scene.

Political observers had predicted a guilty verdict for Satwant Singh despite his lawyer's contention that he was an innocent scapegoat in a family plot involving Gandhi's son and successor as prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi.

Several hundred police were deployed outside the courthouse where the verdict was read to prevent demonstrations by angry Sikhs. The public was kept away from the jail, which was cordoned off, and no trouble was reported.