

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Centerpole to rise at 4:03 today

Several hundred Texas A&M students are expected to gather today on Duncan Field at exactly 4:03 p.m. to raise the centerpole for the annual Aggie bonfire.

For four weeks, hundreds of Aggies have pushed aside their regular social activities to cut and haul more than 6,000 logs for the event. With the centerpole in place, construction of the three-story bonfire can begin.

The bonfire, recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest in the world, will be lit Nov. 25 at "dark-thirty" (30 minutes after dark).

Tradition dictates that if the centerpole remains standing past midnight, the Aggies will defeat the Texas Longhorns.

A&M reports enrollment gain for '86

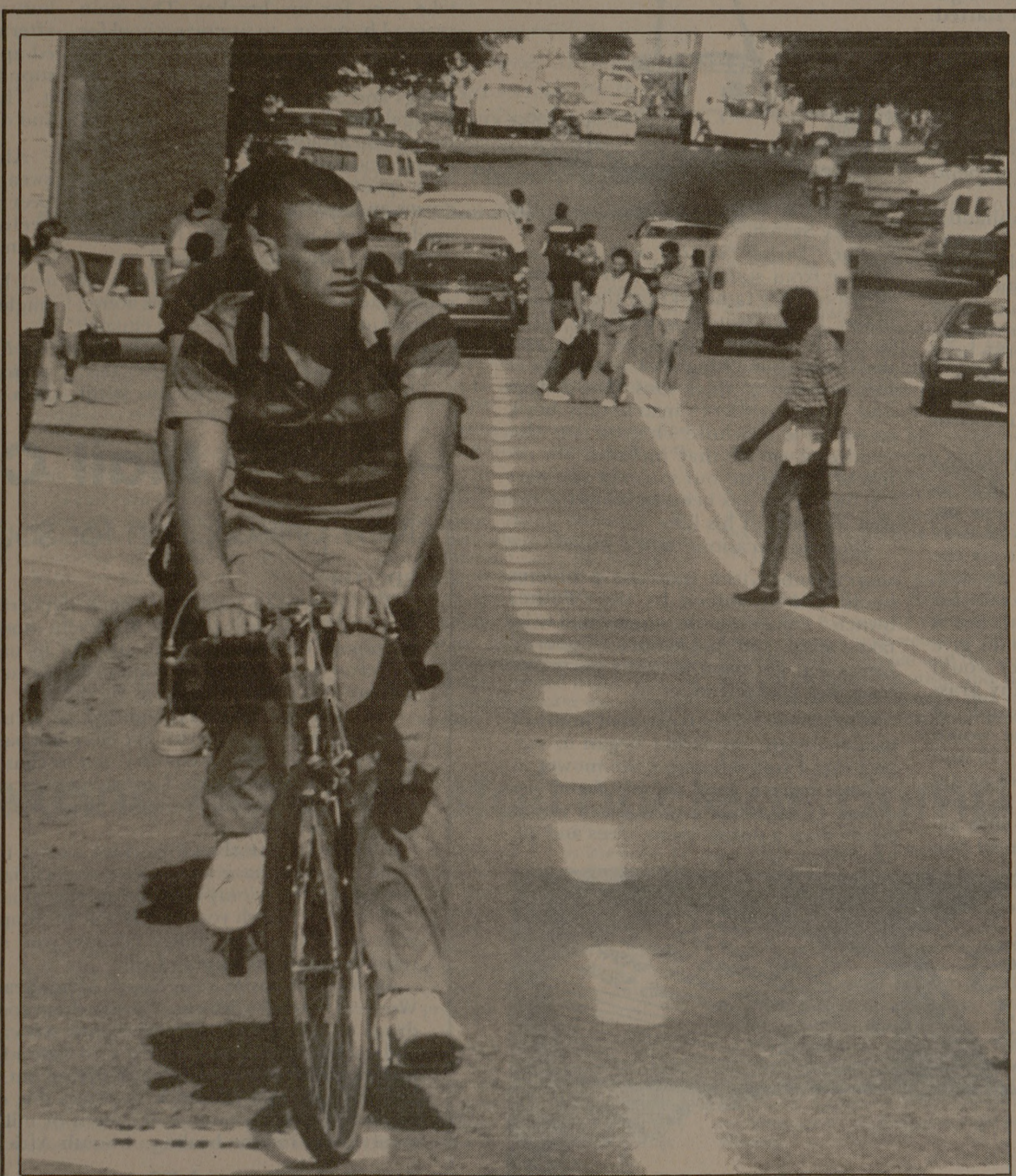
University News Service

Texas A&M reported the largest enrollment increase among Texas public universities this fall and was the only one of the four largest to have a gain.

Figures compiled by the Texas College and University System Coordinating Board placed A&M's enrollment at 34,943, for an increase of 887 over the previous year.

A&M officials attributed a portion of the hike to an increase in graduate enrollment. More than 10,000 graduate students now study at A&M.

The Coordinating Board reported that overall college enrollment is up 2.2 percent with 87,558 students taking classes this fall in community colleges, four-year colleges and universities. The largest increase was at the community college level.



Life In The Bike Lane

A&M students put the new bike lanes on Ireland Street near the Blocker Building to good use in between classes Wednesday.

The bike lanes were painted Tuesday. Some students, however, continued to ride in the traffic lane.

Photo by Greg Bailey

Government opens trial for captured pilot

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — A government prosecutor Wednesday opened the case against U.S. mercenary Eugene Hasenfus by presenting documents found after Sandinista troops shot down his Contra supply plane.

The prosecutor, Ivan Villavicencio, handed evidence one piece at a time to the court secretary, including a card Nicaraguan authorities say gave Hasenfus access to restricted areas of Ilopango military airport in El Salvador.

Villavicencio also asked that the court view the videocassette of an interview Hasenfus gave to Mike Wallace on the CBS program "60 Minutes." The program, translated into Spanish, was shown on Nicaraguan television.

Hasenfus said in the interview that he believed he was working for the U.S. government when he made the supply runs.

A book of names, addresses and telephone numbers of former crew members of Air America, which Hasenfus said in the interview was a CIA airline that he worked for in Southeast Asia, also was entered as evidence in the court.

Neither Hasenfus nor his Nicaraguan lawyer, Enrique Sotelo Borgen, was in court. Presentation of evidence by the prosecution and defense to the special political tribunal trying the first American captured in Nicaragua's 4½-year war was to last eight to 12 days.

Hasenfus' lawyer told the Associated Press in a telephone interview that once the prosecution presents its case, the tribunal has to notify him in writing so he can respond in writing. It was not clear whether he would be allowed to present defense arguments in person.

Hasenfus, a 45-year-old former Marine from Marinette, Wis., is charged with terrorism, conspiracy and violation of public security. If convicted by the three-member tribunal, he could face up to 30 years in prison.

Griffin Bell, a former U.S. attorney general who is acting as an adviser to the Nicaraguan lawyer, left Wednesday to prepare the defense after Sandinista authorities barred him from seeing Hasenfus. Bell said he would return Sunday.

Reynaldo Monterrey, the tribunal's president, said on the government Voice of Nicaragua radio that Hasenfus' lawyer could have 50 advisers if he wished, but only Sotelo Borgen could see evidence presented in the case.

The card, which purportedly gave the captured mercenary access to restricted areas of Ilopango, was numbered 4422, was made out to Hasenfus and bore the Salvadoran air force emblem.

Issued July 28 with an expiration date of Jan. 28, 1987, the card read "Group: USA" and "Specialty: Adviser." On the reverse, under "Restricted areas," was a list of numbers.

Hasenfus has said that he participated in 10 arms drops to the U.S.-backed rebels from bases in El Salvador and Honduras and that the operations were coordinated by the CIA.

Tons of arms were stored at Ilopango, then shipped to the rebels, known as Contras, who are fighting the leftist Nicaraguan government, he has said.

Hasenfus parachuted into the burning C-123 when it was shot down Oct. 5 and was captured a day later in southern Nicaragua. Wallace B. Sawyer of Magnolia, Ark., American William Cooper and a third crew member died in the crash.

Among other evidence Villavicencio submitted were what he described as flight documents from the plane, an Arkansas fishing license made out to Sawyer, a business card from Century 21 real estate company in the name of Hasenfus' wife, Sally, and Sawyer's and Hasenfus' U.S. drivers licenses.

In Washington, the State Department contended that Hasenfus has been denied due process.

Soviet viewer: film on Stalin just 'stunning'

MOSCOW (AP) — The cinematic flicker of the season is an allegory of terror and its effect 50 years on. Its release was delayed by censorship for two years.

"I've never seen anything like it in my life," a middle-aged Moscow man said Wednesday. "You can't see a good film. It's just stunning." The movie is called "Pokoyaniye" (Confession) and was made for television in Georgia, Stalin's native republic.

Neither Stalin nor his feared chief secret police, Lavrenti Beria, is mentioned by name, but no Soviet censors could mistake the subject of the final message that the counsellor has yet to address — Stalinism and its consequences.

It took 30 years for the film to be made.

Nikita S. Khrushchev denounced Stalin in 1956, three years after his death, and the dictator's name disappeared from public places. His body was removed from the Lenin Mausoleum on Red Square and reburied at the Kremlin wall.

"Confession" opens in a Georgian town. A middle-aged woman is baking cakes.

After she reads of the death of a family official named Varlan, who resembles Beria, the action switches to Stalin's burial and ensuing events. His body is dug up three times and reburied in his family's garden. The woman is caught and turns out to be the woman who was baking cakes.

After she defends herself at the trial by killing her childhood under the roof of Varlan, a figure clad in black with a Hitler moustache and Beria's teardrop and bulging neck.

Varlan befriends the girl's father, an artist who arouses suspicion when demands an electric power station removed from a church converted to the atheist government.

He is arrested and taken away. His wife and daughter join many other women anxiously awaiting news of vanished relatives, but an impersonal voice intones: "Transferred. No address."

A demented woman screams, "Just tell me he is dead! Tell me he is dead!"

The frantic heroine and her mother hear that names and addresses of prisoners are etched on logs at the railway station. They inspect the logs in vain.

Another woman, finding her relative's address, caresses it as she would a child. The girl plays with wood shavings as she watches a machine make pulp of the logs that have come to symbolize the prisoners.

A surreal court complete with a blindfolded woman holding the scales of justice is then shown judging her father.

After other friends disappear, the girl's mother is seized. The flashback ends with the screams of the women as they are separated.

Back in the present, the woman tells the court she will dig Varlan up again if she is freed, because "to bury him is to hide what he did."

Varlan's son, frightened by the disclosures, tries to have her committed to a mental hospital. The son's own son, symbolic of Soviet youth who know little of Stalin's terror, is horrified by what his grandfather did.

"Times were different then, it was a difficult time," his father says. "Your grandfather never killed anyone with his own hands."

The grandson commits suicide. His father exhumes Varlan's body and hurls it into a ravine.

At the end comes the revelation that all the action has been a fantasy of the cake baker and society still has not dealt with Stalinism.

Academy of Sciences calls for commission on AIDS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Academy of Sciences, lamenting "woefully inadequate" federal programs to cope with America's new health threat, called Wednesday for creation of a National Commission on AIDS.

The prestigious academy, in a major report on the increasing problems of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, said the only way to avoid a health catastrophe in this country is to launch "perhaps the most wide-ranging and intensive efforts ever made

against an infectious disease."

A panel of experts convened by the academy said the nation should be spending about \$2 billion annually by 1990, most of it new federal money, in a multi-pronged effort to thwart the deadly disease.

Research into the nature of the viral disease, treatments and vaccines should get \$1 billion a year by the end of the decade, said Dr. David Baltimore, a Nobel laureate who was co-chairman of the study.

"Our committee believes that sufficient areas of need and

opportunity exist to quadruple the 1986 AIDS research funding by 1990 to about \$1 billion in newly available funds," Baltimore told a news conference. "We emphasized that these funds must be new appropriations, not funds redirected from other health and research efforts."

An additional \$1 billion a year — mostly federal money but with substantial contributions from state and local governments, industry and private sources — should be spent on education and

public health programs, said Baltimore, director of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Mass.

These programs would include sex education in schools, efforts to get people at high risk of getting AIDS to change their sexual habits, blood screening to identify those infected with the AIDS virus, rehabilitation for drug abusers, and testing the idea of providing disposable syringes to addicts who refuse treatment, the panel said.

Proposition 2

Proposal would require bill titles to apply to subject

By Dawn Butz
Staff Writer

Texas Railroad Commissioner Clark Jobe says he is worried that the Legislature, by writing an unclear synopsis of a proposed amendment on the ballot, is trying to trick the press and voters into taking the headlines off bills and into removing the courts' ability to look over the shoulder of the Legislature.

But the sponsor of Proposition 2 contends that the measure will prevent bills from being struck down by the courts for legal technicalities contained in their captions.

Jobe is fighting against the proposed amendment, which will be summarized on the Nov. 4 ballot as: "The constitutional amendment requiring each house to include in its rules of procedure a rule that each bill contain a title expressing the bill's subject, and providing for the continuing revision of state laws."

Jobe contends that the wording on the ballot is deceiving.

He says what it doesn't tell you is that by requiring each house of the Legislature to have such a rule, they're taking it out of the actual text of the constitution, making the Legislature the sole judge. In effect, it's a

repeal of the caption rule that's in the constitution. But nowhere in the ballot caption do you find any suggestion that they're taking away the court review or that they're taking this provision out of the constitution and putting it in the rules of each house, he says.

"People see it on the ballot and say, 'Oh yeah, both houses of the Legislature ought to have a rule that says there ought to be a description of the bill,'" he says. "That caption is a sham."

"Sure, everybody is for that, but I don't think everybody is for taking away the courts' power to review."

The caption rule Jobe refers to dictates that there be only one subject addressed in a bill, and that subject must be expressed in its caption. It also states that if a bill containing subjects not included in its caption becomes a law, the entire law may be declared void.

The amendment would take the caption rule out of the constitution and, Jobe says, strip the courts of their power to review bill captions for fair notice.

"Apparently the Legislature just kind of views this as bureaucratic paper work, but it's really not," Jobe says. "It's an important safeguard."

However, state Sen. Bob Glasgow, D-Stephenville, the sponsor of the amendment, says that a constitutional provision limiting a bill to one subject already exists and that the proposed amendment is designed to remove the rule stating that just because a bill's caption contains an error, the entire bill is unconstitutional.

Glasgow says bills are often struck down because of technicalities in their captions. As an example, he relates a case involving the drug penal code.

In 1984 the Court of Criminal Appeals struck down a substance code as unconstitutional because they didn't feel the caption gave fair notice of the law, Glasgow says. So for a year, until we revised the codes in 1985, we were without the code.

We're trying to keep the bills we pass now from being struck down in 10 to 20 years.

Glasgow says Jobe's assertion that this proposition would authorize the Legislature to put all sorts of matters into one bill is incorrect.

You can't do that in Texas anyway, Glasgow says. The constitution says only one subject per bill.

Glasgow says the caption rule gives no definition of what a caption

should include. He says the captions are written by staff members, and that many times erroneous captions are the results of honest mistakes.

Nobody intentionally tries to write erroneous captions, he says. If they did, that would be a violation of the rule of germaneness.

Rules of germaneness exist in the Legislature to ensure that all subjects included in the bill are pertinent to that specific bill.

Jobe says the proposition would hurt the media's attempts to cover legislative actions effectively.

The capital press corps relies heavily on captions to determine which bills to cover, Jobe says. Bills are posted for action by their captions, both in committees and on the floor.

But Glasgow says he doesn't think the press evaluates the importance of a bill on the basis of its caption.

Nobody that I know of that knows anything about the legislative process reads the captions to determine what's in a bill, he says.

Glasgow says each bill is presented with a bill analysis — a description of the old law and what the new law would do.

He says most people use the bill analysis as a reference to what a bill includes.