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What's up

Thursday
PRESIDENT, PROVOST AND DEAN OF FACULTY OFFICES: will sponsor the annual University Faculty Meeting and Awards Ceremony at 1:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.
PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM: Stephen S. Hilmy will speak on "Grammatical Humor" at 3:30 p.m. in 501 Rudder.
SIGMA IOTA EPSILON: will have an initiation banquet at 7 p.m. at Steak and Ale.
OHIO HOME STATE CLUB: will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Dixie Chicken.
DATA PROCESSING MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: will meet at 6 p.m. in 150 Blocker.

Friday
UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES: will sponsor a "peanut-butter fellowship" at 11:30 a.m. at Rudder Fountain and a Bible study at 6:30 p.m. at the A&M Presbyterian Church.
CHI ALPHA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: will meet for an alumni picnic at 5 p.m. in 156 Blocker.
Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no less than three working days before desired publication date.

A&M students get experience at sea on research ship

By René Moody Reporter

At 6 a.m. Jan. 5, on board the drill ship Resolution, Caryn Smith began her 12-hour shift assisting 25 scientists from countries such as Germany, France, Japan, Canada and the United States.

As she began her shift in the 30-degree temperatures, Frank Rack ended his 12-hour shift. Smith and Rack, Texas A&M oceanography graduate students, are the research assistants on Leg 113 of the international Ocean Drilling Program.

Dressed in insulated suits, parkas and gloves, Smith and Rack watched penguins, seals and whales in the Weddell Sea, a part of the South Atlantic Ocean in Antarctica.

The A&M students were participating in a program that unites scientists and governments worldwide to study the earth's structure and history from the oceans' floors.

The Resolution continuously cruises the oceans while drilling core samples of sediment and rock. Two oceanography graduate students from A&M serve as research assistants on every two-month cruise. The rock samples are studied by teams of scientists from the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling.

Smith and Rack spent eight weeks eating, sleeping and working on the ship that measures 471 feet long and 70 feet wide.

Smith says the assistants arrive for their stay on the little floating world armed with one duffle bag of gear. The best part of the experience for her was working with scientists from all over the world, she said.

Because the assistants switched shifts at 6 a.m. and the scientists switched at 12 p.m., each assistant was able to work with all scientists on the cruise, Rack says.

Although both Smith and Rack spent most of their time splitting core samples or producing seismic profiles of the sea floor, they had some time for recreation.

The ship, along with its seven-story stack of laboratories, houses a library and gymnasium. They could read paperbacks, learn foreign languages, play video games on computers or work out, Rack says. Smith says she also jogged on the helicopter landing pad.

Leg 113 was Rack's second trip on the Resolution. His first trip was Leg 105 in Baffin Bay, north of Canada. It was Smith's first cruise, but she says she'd like to go again.

Clements to give OK to plan for tax reform raising more money

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Bill Clements, backing down from his no-new-taxes pledge, Wednesday said he would approve a tax-reform plan that raises more money than the \$2.9 billion limit he set earlier.

Emerging from a two-hour meeting with Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, House Speaker Gib Lewis and Comptroller Bob Bullock, Clements said he is being flexible in trying to write a balanced 1988-89 state budget.

Under the plan being discussed by the leaders, Clements said, the sales tax rate would be lowered. At the same time, the base would be broadened to include items and services not now taxed.

If that raises more money than the \$2.9 billion he previously said was the maximum he would approve, that's all right, Clements said.

"It's entirely possible," Clements told a news conference. "You betcha. That would hopefully be an objective, that we might increase our revenues and at the same time reduce the rates."

Asked about his oft-repeated threats to veto any tax plan that wasn't "revenue neutral," Clements replied: "Well, we're not going to dwell on that."

Clements' announcement came the day after he concluded a 17-city tour launched to rally public support for his position against higher taxes.

Aides said the change was a move by Clements to end the impasse that has kept the governor and the Legislature at odds for months. It comes less than four weeks before lawmakers end their regular session.

Reggie Bashur, the governor's press secretary, said, "You show leadership by compromise and trying to solve problems, not by drawing lines in the dirt."

"He's trying to be flexible. He's trying to accommodate in the pursuit of solving the problem and doing it without a special session."

The impasse developed after Clements proposed a \$36.9 billion budget that would require the \$2.9 billion in extra taxes. Then the Senate approved a \$39.9 billion budget that needs nearly \$6 billion more, and the House approved a \$39.4 billion spending plan.

"What I have done here is once again demonstrate my flexibility," Clements said. "I've been telling y'all all this time how flexible I am, but you wouldn't believe me. And now you have positive proof of it."

All three leaders said no final deal has been struck. They plan another meeting Thursday, Clements said.

Officials rule woman's death a homicide

FORT WORTH (AP) — A pregnant woman whose nude body was recovered from a rain-swollen creek had been strangled — not drowned as police initially believed, authorities said.

The 20-year-old woman's husband, Domingo Turro, 42, was charged with murder and held in lieu of \$30,000 bond at the Tarrant County Jail Wednesday, officials said.

Medical Examiner Nizam Peerwani ruled Tuesday that the death of Carolyn Williams of Fort Worth was a homicide.

Williams' body was recovered Monday, and Turro told police she was riding with him in a car that was washed away from a low-water crossing during heavy rains Sunday night.

He said he climbed to safety but was unable to reach her, and that he could not see signs marking the crossing and could not tell how deep the water was. Her body was found in a creek about a mile downstream.

Homicide Lt. Tommy Swan, who declined to elaborate, said, "There were several inconsistencies in the information he gave us." Turro said he and Williams had been married for eight months and that she was three months pregnant.

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