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U.S. helicopter fires on ship laying mines

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — An Iranian ship suspected of laying mines in the Persian Gulf was attacked by a U.S. helicopter Monday night, the Reagan administration said, and Iranian gunboats ambushed a British-flag tanker leaving one crewman missing.

The Iranian ship Iran Ajr was set on fire after the U.S. attack about 11 p.m. (3 p.m. CST), but the blaze

Support Unit in Bahrain, the administrative unit for the commercial facilities for the U.S. Navy in the gulf, refused to comment on the incident.

The attack by a helicopter from the USS Jarrett was described as "defensive" after the Iranian vessel, an amphibious landing craft, was discovered to be laying mines in international waters about 50 miles northeast of Bahrain, said White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

Iran says it has sowed mines in the Persian Gulf to protect itself from the foreign warships that are protecting commercial shipping, which has become a target in the 7-year-old war between Iran and Iraq.

Monday night's attack was the closest that Iran and the United States have come to combat since U.S. warships started escorting reflagged Kuwaiti tankers through the gulf in July.

One of those tankers, the Bridgeton, struck a mine July 24, prompting the United States and other nations to send mine-hunting vessels and aircraft to the gulf.

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was extinguished and the vessel was "dead in the water," according to White House and Pentagon officials.

Shipping sources and radio monitors said they had heard nothing about the U.S. attack, the first against Iran since Aug. 8 when a Navy F-14 Tomcat fighter fired two missiles at an Iranian jet judged to be "hostile." Both missiles missed.

A man answering the telephone at the American

Student Counseling Service waits for service restoration

By Audrey Cardenas
Staff Writer

Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver is waiting to sign a contract with Greenleaf Hospital that would reimplement the Student Counseling Service, which provides 24-hour psychological counseling for A&M students, Dr. John Koldus, vice president of student services, said.

The contract, under consideration since 1984, was prompted in part by a Faculty Senate emergency resolution calling for the restoration of the service, which was discontinued last year.

The Sept. 14 proposal was presented to the Faculty Senate by the Personnel and Welfare Committee to accompany a similar resolution passed by the Student Senate, Dr. Benton Storey, the committee's chair, said.

"It's the first time the welfare committee came through so fast," Storey said. "The Student Senate wanted us to come up with something to give them further support for their resolution."

Koldus couldn't estimate when the counseling services would start again, but he said he hopes to get the Greenleaf contract completed and signed by Vandiver by the end of this week.

Wade Birch, director of student services, stressed the necessity of the counseling service by citing statistics from last year. In 1986, there were 21 suicide attempts, two suicides, six rapes and four assaults reported to the SCS — and these figures are not complete, Birch said.

"During the fall and spring semesters, there are three to five serious attempts per week," he said. "It can happen any time."

The counseling services were stopped when the A.P. Beutel

Health Center was forced to discontinue its weekend and evening emergency care because the psychological counseling could not be provided without medical backup, Storey said.

But the Texas A&M Board of Regents' decision to reopen the health center's after-hours service this fall makes it possible to resume psychological counseling.

The contract with Greenleaf also is needed, Birch said, to allow the

"With all the new students, we're going to need more of this (student counseling) service."

— Benton Storey, chairman of the Personnel and Welfare Committee

hospital to provide necessary after-hours psychological and medical attention to students who have more unmanageable problems.

"When a student has a serious problem, some are very cooperative, but others 'act out,'" Birch said. "The health center is not trained to work with that kind of student."

Since the SCS has not yet been restored, students with serious psychological problems now are taken to Greenleaf for treatment at their own expense. The A.P. Beutel Health Center doesn't offer psychological counseling services now because of lack of funding, Birch said.

In 1986, the SCS, located on the third floor of the YMCA building, consisted of 18 full-time staff members including 10 counseling psychologists and four counseling psychology interns.

Eighty percent of SCS funding

was provided through student service fees with the remaining 20 percent coming from state support. The \$24,000-per-year contract with Greenleaf will be funded through SCS reserve funds, Birch said.

Birch said the Student Counseling staff would like to be able to provide night and weekend counseling, but there aren't enough funds to pay them for the extra hours.

"The staff's salary, particularly in counseling, is really low," Birch said. "The problem is if the University pays us for coming out at night, then is it going to pay the Memorial Student Center workers or the Intramural workers who work at night?"

Storey said student counseling should be a higher priority at A&M.

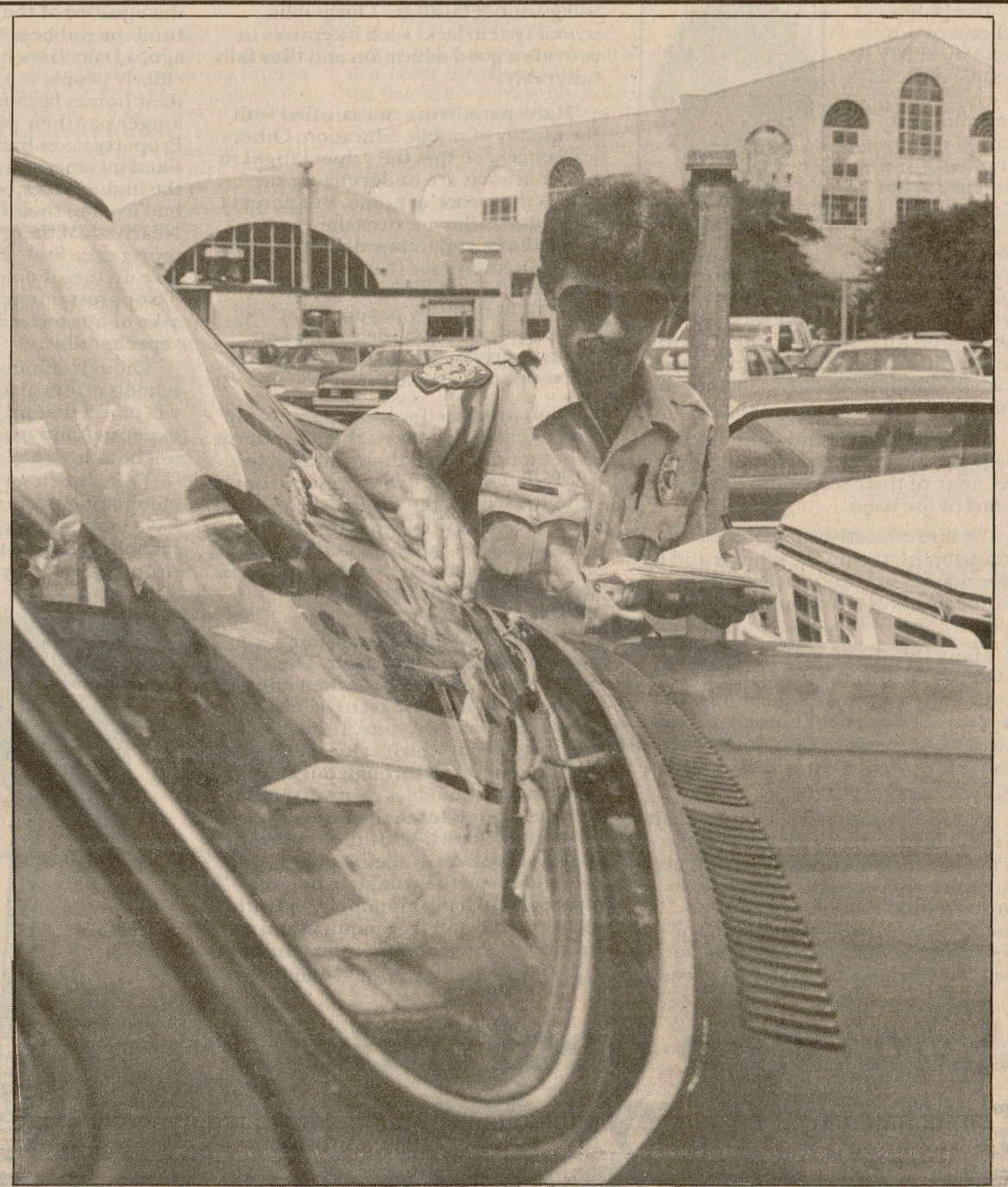
"Most other campuses have better student counseling services than we do," he said. "Ours doesn't stack up and is not as well funded. With all the new students, we're going to need more of this service."

Dr. Claude Goswick, director of the health center, agreed that the SCS should be restored. But he believes it is unnecessary for the health center to remain open after midnight.

"It (patient load) is not a bit different than it used to be," Goswick said. "We do feel the center's hours could be curtailed after midnight."

However, the health center's after-hours physicians help the counseling service provide immediate medical intervention to students when they need it, so the health center will remain open for emergencies on evenings and weekends.

"One of the main concerns during a crisis is to get them (students) somewhere where they can get taken care of," Birch said. "A lot of times our work is done better the next morning after the patient has calmed down."



That's the ticket

Officer R. Schlechte tickets an illegally-parked vehicle in lot 62 behind Kyle Field Friday. Placing

the ticket on the windshield, he said, "Of the 25 tickets in the book, about half will be dismissed."

Photo by Andy Alexander

Car-train collision leaves student dead; driver remains hospitalized

By Clark Miller
Staff Writer

A Texas A&M student was killed when the vehicle he was traveling in collided with a train Saturday afternoon.

Martin Joseph Bottoms, a 21-year-old A&M student from Amarillo, was killed when a northbound train struck the passenger side of an orange Volkswagen driven by Angela Kay Temple.

The collision happened at the Wellborn Road and FM 2818 railroad crossing at about 1:20 p.m., Lt. Irvin Todd of the College Station Police Department said.

Temple, 21, also from Amarillo, was taken to the intensive care unit of the Brazos Valley Humana Hospital in College Station.

She was moved from the intensive care unit to another room of the hospital on Monday.

According to a witness, the warning signals at the crossing were flashing and the train's whistle was blowing.

Todd said the car did not stop, but the department still is investigating the cause of the accident.

The last available information on Bottoms reports that he was a sophomore mechanical engineering major during the spring semester of 1987.

Regents favor plan to cap freshman enrollment

By Lee Schexnaider
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M Board of Regents approved a plan to cap freshman enrollments at 6,600 for the 1988 Fall semester.

The plan is designed to produce an enrollment at A&M of 41,000 by 1993.

President Frank E. Vandiver said the enrollment management plan will help solve the immediate problem of increased freshman enrollment. But he said the plan also will help increase graduate enrollment at A&M.

Texas high school students in the top 10 percent of their classes still will need no minimum Scholastic Aptitude Test score to enter A&M. But scores for students in the first, second, and third quarters of their classes will have SAT scores raised from 100 to 200 points above 1987-1988 levels.

The new policy also will attempt to increase the graduate student population to 25 percent, leaving 75 percent of student enrollment for undergraduate students.

Currently, A&M graduate students make up only 16 percent of total enrollment while undergraduates comprise 84 percent of the students.

"We're trying to squeeze down the undergraduate enrollment and let the graduate enrollment grow up," Vandiver said. "That's not easy to do."

"You can't do that like you can with undergraduate enrollment.

New Automatic Admission Requirements

The upper 10 percent of high school students still will have no minimum Scholastic Aptitude Test score with the new enrollment management plan, as in the present 1987-1988 requirements.

- Students ranked in the 11 percent to 25 percent range of their class will need an SAT score of 1,000 and 24 on the American College Test. Formerly, students in that ranking needed 800 on the SAT and 18 on the ACT.

- Students in the second quarter of their class now need an SAT score of 1,100 and 27 on the ACT. The old requirements were scores of 950 and 21, respectively.
- The third quarter requirements go from 1,100 on the SAT

to 1,200. The ACT scores rose from 27 to 29.

- Scores for high school students in the fourth quarter of their class remain unchanged at 1,200 (SAT) and 29 (ACT).

Special Evaluation

Students with scores below the automatic admission requirements still will have a chance. The special evaluation will consider proposed major field of study, extracurricular activities, leadership experience, high school curricula, letters of reference and minority status.

- First quarter requirements are 800 (SAT) and 18 (ACT).
- Second quarter requirements are 950 (SAT) and 22 (ACT).
- Third and fourth quarter requirements are 1,100 for the SAT and 27 on the ACT.

"We could let 5,000 more undergraduates in — we could do that. But to say we will let 5,000 more graduate students in — it doesn't work that way."

"We must have flexibility so we can play with those upper and lower sides of the University."

Dr. Perry L. Adkisson, chancellor of A&M, said the higher enrollment standards may actually attract more students to the University.

"Historically more students apply to a university when the standards are raised," Adkisson said.

Vandiver also said tougher standards will eventually cause the enrollment problem to surface again.

"I predict that this will hold for a little while, like the last (increased standards) held," Vandiver said.

"But the higher standards bring in more students," he said.

"Good students want to come to good universities that are tough to get into," he said.

"What then happens is they're good — so they don't flunk out," he said.

Regents approve budget, master's degree program

By Lee Schexnaider
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M Board of Regents approved several measures on Monday including the 1987-1988 budget for Texas A&M University and a new master's degree program in philosophy.

The board also heard a presentation concerning minority recruitment and a possible land purchase for Texas A&M at Galveston.

The budget for A&M in College Station is set at a total of \$454.9 million.

Prairie View A&M University is slated to receive a sum of \$49 million.

Tarleton State University's new budget is \$20.8 million and Texas A&M at Galveston will get \$8.8 million.

Dr. William Merrell, president of Texas A&M at Galveston, proposed to the board the possible purchase of the property and buildings adjacent to campus owned by Western Geophysical.

Merrell said the land includes a dock area and several buildings that

could be used jointly by Texas A&M University, the University of Texas and Texas A&M at Galveston.

The land and facilities have yet to be professionally inspected and appraised.

"We think that, should we be able to get the property, it would be a first-class operation," Merrell said. "If we got this (property), we would have the premier operation in Texas or anywhere. Anywhere."

He said while A&M and UT would use one of the buildings, A&M-Galveston could use the other, larger building for a gym, research offices and lab space.

Jerry Gaston, associate provost for A&M, said the numbers of minority students attending both the undergraduate and graduate programs at A&M has increased.

"Last fall we had 175 new black students," Gaston said. "This fall we have 268, which is a 53 percent increase. In the Hispanic category we also have a 53 percent increase but the numbers are different, 397 for last fall and 608 for this fall."

Gaston said A&M is starting a new

program to attract more minorities to A&M.

"The Office of Student Relations will be able to appoint recruiters that would be permanently located in Houston, Dallas-Ft. Worth and San Antonio," he said.

"The idea is they would be available as recruiters particularly in the public schools in the highly populated areas," he said. "And consequently they can work with school counselors to get the students to apply themselves toward higher education in the first place, and Texas A&M in the second."

The new master of arts degree program in philosophy adopted by the board will offer specialized training in applied philosophy.

The curriculum will require a student to take an internship in a field such as medicine, law, business, engineering, education, agriculture or the military.

In other business the board also approved \$670,625 worth of gifts, grants, loans, scholarships and bequests to Texas A&M University. The largest amount was \$50,000 from Tenneco Incorporated.