

Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 87 No. 72 USPS 045360 14 Pages

College Station, Texas

Friday, December 11, 1987

Leaders report progress at summit's close

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev concluded three days of summit talks Thursday reporting progress but no agreement

See related story, Page 10

to curb long-range strategic weapons and no deal on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Reagan said there was "dramatic progress" on arms control. Gorbachev said there was "some headway"

toward an agreement and pledged to work hard to have it ready for signing in Moscow next spring.

Both leaders put a positive spin on a summit that produced no breakthroughs but Gorbachev also attacked the president's stand on nuclear testing and chemical weapons and took a hard line on would-be Jewish emigrants.

But the two sides committed themselves to another summit, sometime in the first half of next year, in Moscow.

Reagan said, "this summit has lit the sky with hope for all people of good will," and Gorbachev said, "I think we trust each other more."

In an apparent concession, a U.S. official said Gorbachev had dropped his insistence for restrictions on star wars testing as a condition for cuts in strategic arsenals. Gorbachev, at a marathon news conference, skirted the question that snagged the Iceland summit last year.

Asked if the summit had done

anything to slow the arms race in space, he said, "I don't think so."

But he held out the hope they could sign a treaty in Moscow next year to reduce long-range nuclear weapons by half.

"Differences still exist," the Soviet leader said, "and on some points those differences are very serious indeed." However, "We do not regard them as insurmountable," he said.

Seventy-six hours after his arrival on American soil, Gorbachev was given an elaborate sendoff at rain-

drenched Andrews Air Force Base near Washington. He got a trumpet fanfare and a 21-gun salute.

Ending his first-ever visit to the United States, Gorbachev was bound for East Berlin for talks with Warsaw Pact allies.

However, in an apparent concession, Gorbachev dropped his insistence for restrictions on star wars testing as a condition for cuts in strategic arsenals, a senior U.S. official said.

The United States also preserved

the right for broad testing of the star wars program, the official said, even though Congress has imposed some restrictions.

In exchange, the United States agreed to adhere to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty for a period of time yet to be negotiated, the official said. However, the official said it would not constrain the program. Although a huge crowd of reporters attended the official's briefing, he insisted that his identity remain a secret.



Photo by Lucinda Orr

Scaling the walls

Physical plant workers Virgil Hartfeld, Terry Perry and Jake McGough apply waterproof mortar to the Pavilion as part of repairs the building

will undergo to correct leakage problems. This type of repair to buildings is just one of the few jobs that the plant workers encounter daily.

Faculty Senate to consider ban against smoking

By Karen Kroesche
Staff Writer

A resolution to be considered by the Faculty Senate Monday calling for a smoke-free environment on the Texas A&M campus undoubtedly will spark lengthy debate.

If passed, the resolution will be sent as a recommendation for action to President Frank E. Vandiver.

The resolution proposes "that smoking be banned in all buildings on the Texas A&M University campus, including classrooms, dormitories, eating places, student and faculty lounges, lavatories, hallways and athletic facilities (including seating areas in Kyle Field and Olsen Field)."

It also calls for the removal of all cigarette vending machines from campus, the establishment of a University committee to implement and enforce the ban, the placement of no-smoking signs at building entrances and the creation of a "smoke-stopping program" to be made available to A&M students and staff at minimal or no costs.

The resolution, proposed by the Personnel and Welfare Committee of the Faculty Senate, cites evidence from the American Cancer Society linking "passive smoking" — exposure to others' cigarette smoke — with lung cancer and heart disease.

"The risks posed by involuntary smoking may be smaller than those of active smoking, but the potential number of affected individuals is

much, much greater," the report said.

Dr. Benton Storey, professor of horticultural sciences and chairman of the Personnel and Welfare Committee, also emphasized this hazard.

"We know that sidestream smoke can kill people," he said.

The committee also relied on information from a random poll of 198 A&M faculty and staff members this summer, in which 68 percent strongly favored a ban on smoking in all buildings on campus.

The survey was prompted by queries made to the Faculty Senate by faculty members concerned about second-hand smoke, said Dr. Jerome T. Kapes, professor of industrial, vocational and technical education/educational psychology.

"There were several faculty who said, 'We need to address this problem at A&M. It's a serious problem,'" said Kapes, a co-author of the resolution. "They had heard complaints from people who are subjected to smoke in their working places, and so we were asked to study it."

Kapes designed the questionnaire, and said he was surprised at the results of the survey. Only 10 percent of the faculty and staff who responded to the survey said they are smokers, while the national average is 27 percent.

Predictably, there is some strong

See Smoke, page 7

2 Bryan council members unaware of Jenkin's past

By Richard Williams
Staff Writer

Some Bryan City Council members said Thursday they were unaware Fire Chief Claude Jenkins III had been involved in litigation when they approved his hiring, but Deputy City Manager Marvin Norwood said he knew of the litigation.

Council members John Mobley and Helen Chavarria said they didn't know until informed by a *Battalion* staff writer that Jenkins had been named in a \$1.1 million lawsuit

filed by a former firefighter in Albion, Mich. Jenkins formerly was fire chief in Albion.

Both Mobley and Chavarria were on the council when Jenkins was hired in January 1985. Jenkins currently is on six-month probation resulting from grievances filed by Bryan firefighters.

Albion City Manager George Kolb said Thursday that Jenkins was named along with the city in a \$1.1 million lawsuit filed in 1981 by Fenton M. Prewitt, a former Albion firefighter. Prewitt claimed his civil

rights had been violated when he was denied a promotion.

Kolb said the city settled the suit out of court, and the settlement prevented him from divulging the amount awarded. However, Blair Bedient, publisher of the *Albion Recorder*, said Prewitt received about \$100,000.

Jenkins could not be reached for comment either at his home or at the Central Fire Station. But in an interview with *The Battalion* last week, Jenkins was asked if he had ever been involved in litigation resulting

from his performance as fire chief in other cities.

Jenkins responded, "I can't get into that stuff, babe. You have to bear with me."

Chavarria was asked if the suit, which was filed and settled before Jenkins was hired in Bryan, bothered her. "To be told some of these things," she said, "a person's first reaction would be to be bothered."

Chavarria also said she wasn't sure why the information didn't turn up before Jenkins was hired.

"I would suspect those things were not known," she said.

But Norwood said he knew about the suit before Jenkins was hired. Norwood said he didn't know if council members were told about the suit or why they wouldn't have been told.

Bryan City Manager Ernest Clark could not be reached for comment because of a death in the family.

As city manager, Clark is responsible for hiring the fire chief. His decision must be approved by the city council.

Clark announced Dec. 1 that the city would hire a consultant to review fire department operations at a cost of about \$15,000. Chavarria said the expense was justified.

"I think it is a considerable amount (of money)," she said, "but in light of what the problem is, I think it will be well worth it."

Mobley said he is unhappy with the situation but wishes the problems had not been fought out in the media.

"I wish it had not happened; I'm sorry that it happened," Mobley said. "I hope it's settled and everybody's happy. We've got to move on and create a better image."

The decision to hire a consultant came after a group of Bryan firefighters told city officials they had "lost total and complete confidence in Chief Jenkins' ability to be an effective administrator and Fire Chief." A grievance committee, however, found two of the firefighters' complaints were nonactionable. For three of the four that were actionable, the committee said, insufficient testimony was given to support the allegations. One grievance was sustained.

The firefighters, saying they were dissatisfied with the committee's findings and feared for public safety, formed the Bryan Firefighters for Public Safety. Nick Pappas, a spokesman for the firefighters, on Wednesday released a list of more

See Fire chief, page 7

A&M fails to meet recruitment goals of minority students despite efforts

By Tracy Staton
Staff Writer

Since Texas A&M began to dust off its welcome mat for minorities, a higher percentage of minority students are remaining enrolled in the University, recent figures show.

But in spite of increased minority recruitment efforts, minority students still make up less than 10 percent of total enrollment.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board figures released Dec. 2 show that A&M's minority retention rate has been the state's highest for three consecutive years. Of the 544 undergraduate black students who enrolled at A&M in Fall 1985, 473 — or 86.9 percent — returned for Fall 1986. The retention rate for undergraduate Hispanic students was 88 percent — of the 1,573 who enrolled, 1,385 returned.

Though the percentages are the highest in the state, the numbers don't show that A&M is falling behind in the total number of minority students enrolled. Although minority enrollment increased from 3,042 students in 1986 to 3,678 in 1987, *The Battalion* reported in January that the University was not meeting its minority recruitment

"We believe that if you increase the pool of minority students who are prepared and are intending to go to college, some will come to A&M and some will go to the University of Texas."

— Jerry Gaston, associate provost of academic affairs.

goals. And the 3,042 undergraduate minority students in 1986 still represented only 8.3 percent of total enrollment. In 1987, that percentage increased to 9.4 percent.

A&M's most recent effort to increase minority recruitment is an outreach program co-sponsored by the University of Texas. Outreach offices — located in San Antonio, Houston, Dallas-Ft. Worth and the Rio Grande Valley — will be used to help minority high school students prepare for college enrollment.

Dr. Jerry Gaston, associate provost for academic affairs, said the program was designed to increase the pool of minority students going to college. Students helped by the program will not be required to attend either A&M or UT, he said.

"We believe that if you increase the pool of minority students who

are prepared and are intending to go to college, some will come to A&M and some will go to the University of Texas," he said. "We'll both be better off, and so will the state of Texas."

To keep the program institution-neutral, the offices will not work directly with high school students.

"The offices will act as resources to the public schools in these areas," Gaston said. "We won't be doing individual counseling."

The stations will be used to assist and reinforce the processes used by high schools to prepare students for college admission. The program will help sponsor workshops, distribute scholarship information and offer curriculum counseling.

Gaston said A&M officials came up with the outreach idea, and UT asked to join. The A&M Board of

Regents created a committee on minority recruitment this summer, and the outreach program was outlined and approved after the fiscal year began Sept. 1.

Of the four offices, A&M will be called the "lead institution" in Houston and San Antonio; UT will have junior status in these cities. In Dallas-Ft. Worth and the Rio Grande Valley, UT will be the lead institution. The San Antonio office is already open; the other offices are in the process of organizing.

Another minority program will be implemented next summer with the help of a \$50,000 grant ARCO gave to A&M's Minority Engineering Program.

A Summer Bridge Program will prepare incoming minority freshmen for enrollment in A&M's College of Engineering. It is designed to increase the minority retention rate for the college, Jeanne Rierson, program coordinator, said.

"We want to let the students know what A&M offers," Rierson said.

A&M is second nationally in bachelor's engineering degrees granted to Hispanics, according to figures released by the American Society of Engineering Education.

AIDS hospital shuts after losing millions

HOUSTON (AP) — An empty white building beside a busy freeway is all that remains of the nation's first private hospital for AIDS patients, which is closing after losing \$8 million in its 14 months of operation.

Hailed at its opening in September 1986 as a marketplace solution to a growing health problem, the Institute for Immunological Disorders buckled under the load of caring for indigent patients needing expensive treatment.

There will be little or no ceremony when the hospital closes, said Anne Wheeler, spokesman for American Medical Interna-

tional Inc., the institute's parent. All patients have been transferred to other facilities, and employees spent most of last week closing out the institute's affairs.

In its first few months, the institute handled about 1,000 patient visits a month, medical director Dr. Peter Mansell said. The hospital had 150 beds, but most people were treated as outpatients, and federal funds were used to test experimental therapies, he said.

By March, the amount of care the institute gave to the indigent far outstripped the \$250,000 set aside for that purpose in its first year.

Senior economics major Mark Lang said he is taking this approach.

a mess and really need cleaning.

Although the prospect of a new building would be and probably needs a good washing and waxing. If the facilities are available, why not make sure as he hand

Your close friends are out of town, use this opportunity to get to know your coworkers, or some acquaintances you don't

Good weather is going to read some good smut books," Peebles said.