

A&M student stabbed, left in Lick Creek Park

By Kelly S. Brown
Staff Writer

A Texas A&M student is listed in stable condition in Humana Hospital's intensive care unit this morning after being stabbed in the neck Thursday afternoon.

Wendy Gauntt, a junior accounting major from Austin, was found lying on the grass at the south entrance to Lick Creek Park around 1:15 p.m. Thursday. Pieces of rope were found near a wooded area in the rear portion of the park where police say the assault apparently took place.

College Station police officer Corkey Sandel said the victim may have been bound, but was able to free herself after her assailant left. She then made her way 200 ft. to the entrance of the park where she collapsed, he said.

Sandel said she could not have been lying there longer than eight to ten minutes because a deputy had driven by the entrance ten minutes before she was found. Due to blood test results, police think she could have been assaulted at least an hour prior to being found.

"She lost a lot of blood, and because of her condition we were unable to get much information from her," Sandel said. "After she got out of surgery she was able to write down enough information for us to locate her parents in Austin. Some time today we hope that she's in good enough condition to ask her questions."

Sandel said Gauntt did not know the suspect, who is described as a white male in his mid-20s, of medium build with light brown hair. Police think the assailant fled the scene in Gauntt's Chev-

rolet Suburban. The vehicle was later found on Jersey Avenue, and Gauntt's purse was inside. The vehicle is being processed by police for prints and any other clues.

The police report states a white medium-size vehicle with blue trim, possibly a Suburban, a Blazer or a pick-up truck with a camper, was seen leaving the scene traveling north on Rock Prairie Road.

Sandel said helicopters and police tracking dogs were used in an attempt to locate the suspect.

The incident is currently under investigation by the criminal investigations division of the College Station Police Department.

Any one with information about the incident is asked to contact the College Station police at 764-3600.



Photo by Jay Janner

Musical Minute

Sara Wall, a senior speech communication major from Amarillo, performs a piece by Mozart during a SPEX, spontaneous exposure, sponsored by OPAS. The program was in front of the fountain Thursday.

D-FW control tower fire interrupts flight service

GRAPEVINE (AP) — Flights at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport were suspended for an hour Thursday when a technician, trying to contain an electrical fire at the base of the control tower, flipped the wrong switch and cut the circuit that feeds the entire communications network.

The fire forced temporary evacuation of the Federal Aviation Administration tower at the nation's fourth-busiest airport and affected takeoffs or landings of about 120 flights. FAA spokesmen said

about 15 flights were diverted to other airports in the area.

The technician suffered minor burns. Airline service was backed up for two to three hours, and airline officials said it would be late Thursday before they were back on schedule.

"Am I upset?" asked Jim King of Houston, who was making connections for a flight to Boston. "Sure I'm upset. But what are you going to do about it? That's why I'm sitting here drinking beer."

Norm Scroggins, FAA tower manager at the airport, said service was disrupted for about 30 minutes before controllers were able to implement a backup communications network. He added that controllers, with assistance from an auxiliary FAA tower near the airport, lost contact with pilots for less than five seconds.

Scroggins said one plane attempting to land was forced to circle the airport, but that it was a routine maneuver.

"In so far as passenger and airline safety, that was not compromised," Scroggins said. "We had emergency transmitter-receiver capability to talk to those crews and minimize the impact and certainly not affect the safety of the system at all."

Service to Love Field in Dallas and the U.S. Naval Base in Grand Prairie, both served by the control tower, also was disrupted.

The technician, who was working for a contractor, was listed in stable condition with minor burns at Harris Methodist HEB Hospital in Hurst, Jane McKinney, assistant head nurse at HEB, said.

Airport officials said the fire alarm in the control tower sounded at 11:27 a.m. CDT, and the tower gave the order to stop traffic at 11:29 a.m.

John Clark, an FAA spokesman, said the technician was working near the electrical panel when he noticed smoke billowing from it. The technician reached to turn off a transformer unit that was adjacent to the electrical panel, thinking it was feeding the fire. Instead, he was cutting off power to the main communications network and its backup.

Clark, who estimated damage at \$1,500, said he was still trying to determine how the fire in electrical panel started. He said the panel serviced monitoring equipment that was not critical to the tower's operations.

Scroggins said that by noon the control tower was operating at about 25 percent of its capability, adding that as a precaution controllers used a 15-mile trail between planes instead of the usual three-mile spacing. He said that operations in the tower returned to normal about one hour after the outage.

Ballot to include investing proposal

By Stephen Masters
Senior Staff Writer

A constitutional amendment on the Nov. 8 ballot would allow trustees of some of the state's investment funds to participate in a new investment strategy.

If passed, Proposition 3 would allow the Permanent University Fund, Permanent School Fund, Teachers' Retirement System and Employee Retirement System to redirect up to 1 percent of their book values in the Texas Growth Fund, said Michael Patrick, executive vice president for asset management of the University of Texas System.

The four funds have a book value of \$28.5 billion, which means that up to \$285 million could be invested in the TGF.

Patrick said that the establishment of the TGF has been proposed because the current investment possibilities for the fund are too restrictive. Of the more than 7,000 securities on the exchange, he said, the PUF is allowed to invest in only 1,200.

Patrick estimated that the TGF could create up to \$75 million more per year than possible in current investment schemes.

"We're not talking about unknown companies," he said. "We're talking about companies like Compaq Computers — companies that people have heard of and are successful, but aren't available for investment under the current system. I don't think we're talking about a greater risk, just greater profit potential."

Interest in the TGF has been high, primarily because participation is voluntary, Patrick said.

The TRS Board of Trustees said they "concur in principle" with the amendment as long as the TRS's investments are voluntary, trustees in the TGF are held responsible for investments made and the fund complies with federal laws.

Gov. Bill Clements, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Gib Lewis all have endorsed the amendment. David Eller, chairman of the A&M Board of Regents has also come out in favor of the proposal.

The proposal would create the TGF for 10 years, he said. After that, a two-thirds vote in the Legislature could create Texas Growth Fund II, but money from the first TGF could not be mixed with TGF II, Patrick said.

Board lets KAMU finish Aggievision production

By Stephen Masters
Senior Staff Writer

The Texas A&M Student Publications Board unanimously voted Wednesday to ask KAMU-TV to finish production of the troubled 1987-88 video yearbook, Aggievision.

The video yearbook, under student producer Greg Keith, was plagued by problems with its budget and staff from the start of the project, and no final copy has been produced after more than 14 months of work.

Current problems, according to the Board, involve the excessive length of the 113-minute video and Keith's use of unreleased copyrighted music on the tape.

The Board voted to ask KAMU personnel to dub out the unreleased music, and cut the tape to 90 minutes or less.

Keith, who presented the current version of the tape to the Board earlier, was told at the Sept. 20 Board meeting to get copyrights for the music and to shorten the video. He was given an Oct. 11 deadline, and a spending limit on that work of \$2,400.

Bob Rogers, chairman of the Board, said Keith is now at his home in Beau-

mont and no longer is working on the video.

Rogers said that much of the trouble exists in editing out the music, but he felt the cost of the editing would be "minimal."

"Cutting 20 minutes out of this (the tape) is no problem," he said. "But some of the parts that need the most editing are the parts that have released music on them."

"Of a list of 30 released songs, (which Greg had received during the tape's production) Greg chose two and then randomly chose (copyrighted) popular music (for the rest)."

Keith told the Board for the first time at its Sept. 20 meeting that he had not obtained permission to use several songs included in the video, although he said he had written several letters to copyright owners asking such permission.

Keith said he had asked for the rights free of charge. An official of a firm involved in obtaining copyright permission for just such projects said he talked with Keith some months ago and told him that few if any currently popular music copyrights are made available regardless of price.

Rogers said problems may occur in

trying to separate the unreleased music from "ambiance sounds" that are desirable in the video. KAMU is working to determine the level of the mixing.

"This is not an editing job anymore — it's a sort of rescue mission," Rogers said.

Once Aggievision is completed it will be delivered to those who already have paid for the video, said Donald Johnson, student publications coordinator. Tape delivery originally had been planned simultaneously with Aggievision, but Johnson said the books are due to arrive on campus Monday so other arrangements will have to be made for the tapes.

The Board in its motion to complete the project also urged that further sales efforts be carried out, a job which Rogers said would fall to Johnson. The video yearbook has been discontinued for 1988-89.

Plan will give graduates real diplomas

By Kelly S. Brown
Staff Writer

Texas A&M President William Mobley is reviewing a new final exam schedule that would take away a reading day and have exams begin Dec. 9 — one school day earlier than planned, Dr. Jerry Gaston, the associate provost, said.

"It will take effect this semester if the proposal passes as it is, and graduation will be like it was in the past — graduates, who are obviously academically clear, will have their official diplomas in their tubes at graduation," Gaston said.

An Ad Hoc Committee on Commencement Ceremonies issued the proposal to Mobley on Oct. 13.

Mobley formed this committee, made up of students, faculty and staff, to review the commencement and other ceremonies that surround graduation in the context of the current final exam schedule, in hopes of achieving the best possible graduation events for everyone involved.

Mobley could not be reached Thursday for comment. His office referred *The Battalion* to Gaston.

"Mobley has not made a decision, but he's close to reaching a solution that he hopes will please a lot of people," Gaston said. "He is waiting for a recommendation from the Vandiver Ad Hoc Committee."

Gaston said he thinks Mobley will move quickly in making up his mind because he doesn't want to keep anyone in limbo on the issue.

Fulani stresses need for loss by Dukakis

By Richard Tijerina
Staff Writer

Independent presidential candidate Lenora Fulani brought her campaign to Texas A&M Thursday night, stressing the need for both a third political party in America and a Michael Dukakis loss on Nov. 8.

Fulani, who is running as a New Alliance Party candidate, is the first black woman to run for president and the first independent candidate to be placed on the ballot in all 50 states for the first time in history.

Fulani spoke of the pressing need America has for another political party to represent its needs. Under the present system, she said, the Republican and Democratic parties are run mainly by millionaires who no longer care for mainstream America.

"I am deeply disturbed about how the present two-party political system works," she said. "The Republicans and Democrats have lost touch with us. There is a strong and growing interest in the United States to build more than two parties. There is nothing special about a two-party political

system, especially when they're both controlled by millionaires."

Fulani said she is a realist and harbors no serious allusions of winning the presidency. She is hoping to garner enough votes on election day from blacks, environmentalists, gays, lesbians and other minorities to help defeat Dukakis.

"One of the things I want to do on November 8 is to beat the Democratic Party, to dump 'The Duke,'" Fulani said. "The black vote on November 8 is the pivotal vote for the Democratic Party. It is the vote that can put Dukakis in the White House or keep him out. Millions of black Americans are outraged at how he's treated Jesse Jackson and how he has tried to disenfranchise him."

Fulani said she resents Dukakis for his treatment of both Jackson and black America, and that his campaign is heading downhill even as her own campaign picks up speed.

"One of the things that Dukakis represents is one of two rich white parties in America," she said. "One of the things Dukakis counted on was the Reagan Democrats' vote, which has totally backfired on him. And I

think this is great because he deserves exactly what he's getting. Now he's trying to embrace the black vote. He's very afraid of the impact that this (Fulani's) campaign has on Black America."

Another of Fulani's primary goals on election day is to gather enough support across the country to set the foundation for a third political party in the future that can survive against the Republicans and Democrats.

"I think and pray we will have a third party candidate that will seriously challenge in 1992," she said. "We have to challenge the smugness, the elitism that is so prevalent in this country's two-party system. There are too many abuses of power."

Fulani said she was encouraged by the momentum her campaign has generated toward reaching her goal to form another party.

"I think we as people are far more decent than the people we end up electing to political offices," she said. "It's been very exciting for me to have intercepted a line in this country that is ready for a third party. I think we are finally ready to go for it."



Photo by Eric H. Roalson

Dr. Lenora Fulani, Progressive Independent Party candidate.