

Mobley: Super collider a win for state, science

By Richard Tijerina
Staff Writer

Having the superconducting super collider coming to Texas is not only a win for the state, but a win for the entire scientific world, Texas A&M President William H. Mobley said in a press conference Thursday.

U.S. Secretary of Energy John S. Herrington announced Thursday morning that a site near Waxahachie, Tx. had been chosen over locations in six other states for the construction of the proposed high-energy particle accelerator.

Mobley said he was very pleased that Texas was chosen as home for the super-

powered by superconducting magnets, was first created in the beginning of the decade.

A&M physicist Peter M. McIntyre, widely considered to be one of the originators of the super collider concept, said the decision was only brought about by the help of three miracles: the foresight and open-mindedness of former A&M president Frank E. Vandiver to consider the super collider idea, the wisdom of Texas voters two years ago that approved \$2 billion worth of bonds to help create a presentation to the government, and the technology Texas has to make the whole idea become a reality.

Although construction of the facility won't be finished for several years, University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Donald McDonald said it would be well worth the wait.

"Even though we're talking about several years of construction, the beginnings of operation and the buildup to experimental workings at the facility, we can undoubtedly begin focusing attention to physics and sciences alike going on both at the University of Texas and A&M," he said. "The impact will be felt immediately. The intentions are strong."

University officials said even though the super collider would be based in Texas, cooperation among scientists throughout the world would be essential to make the project a success.

"There is always international cooper-

ation and international activity in projects like these," said Richard Arnowitt, head of the A&M physics department. "Of course, American scientists will be the dominant force behind what's going on with the super collider, but it will have to be an international effort."

Duwayne Anderson, Associate Provost for Research Management, said physics is already an important department at A&M, and the super collider will only enhance its importance.

"A&M is playing a key role in attracting outstanding scientists who will come to the state, splice into the facility once it's built, then obviously come down the road to A&M to be part of our activity here," he said.

Anderson said he hoped a better transportation network could be developed between the Waxahachie site and College Station, which would allow for development of further communication between the two.

Mobley said the decision would not have been possible without the cooperation of other Texas schools.

"We have seen over the recent months a number of things to come from the success that comes from that kind of collaboration," he said. "The collaboration of Houston, Rice, UT and A&M in some of the early accelerator research provided the further communication of the combined power of very able scientists."

He said he was surprised to see the super collider coming to Texas because the state already has the scientists capable of improving research information in a knowledge-based society.

"We are living in a knowledge-based society and a global competitive environment," Mobley said. "Those facts depend on good science and good research by capable human talent. Texas has it, and this facility is going to allow us to leverage that to further advantage."

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collider. He said Texas scientists considered Illinois their chief competition. He said the decision would have vast importance.

"This is one of the major announcements of our time," he said. "It is a major development for both the state of Texas and science. It has great scientific potential, it has great knowledge impact, and the potential is there for not only an immediate research, but also for the entire state and nation."

The idea for the super collider, an underground 54-mile circular tunnel which is a large atomic particle accelerator

Texas chosen for super collider

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas beat out six other states Thursday in a high-stakes race to capture the \$4.4 billion superconducting super collider, which, if Congress finds the money to build it, would be the largest scientific instrument ever constructed.

The announcement by Energy Department Secretary John Herrington drew immediate howls of protest from losing states, where officials had waged a years-long battle to win the giant atom-smasher and the jobs and scientific prestige that will accrue to the project's home state.

Illinois officials also were angered, with House Minority Leader Robert Michel calling on the president to review Herrington's decision declaring Texas the preferred site for what the department will name the Ronald Reagan Center for High Energy Physics.

Sen. Jim Sasser, D-Tenn., said his state should be proud of its efforts.

Herrington said the Texas site — some 16,000 farm acres in Ellis County 35 miles south of Dallas — was "superior" to the others for building the collider, a 53-mile underground tunnel capable of whipping proton beams into each other with 20 times the force of the world's most powerful existing particle accelerator.

"The Texas proposal clearly received the highest overall technical evaluation ratings of any proposal and exhibited no significant overall weaknesses," Herrington said.

Herrington said the Texas site would best permit the highest level of research productivity and effectiveness at a reasonable cost of construction and with minimal impact on the environment.

Many in Congress argue the project will starve other more useful scientific research. Congress has kept the project on a short leash, and only agreed to provide \$100 million this year for research and engineering design. None of that may be used for construction.

Nonetheless, states eagerly sought the projects, which is expected to create 3,000 scientific jobs and 3,500 construction jobs, great prestige and a non-polluting industry with untold scientific spinoffs for the host state.

Herrington said the collider is absolutely necessary to keep scientific leadership in the United States.

The collider will put Texas on the cutting edge of high-energy physics, Sen. Loyd Bentsen said. He pledged as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee to do everything in his power to guarantee (that) the funds for construction are appropriated on time.

Yell practice stories examined

By Sharon Maberry
Staff Writer

Although midnight yell practice includes longstanding Aggie traditions, some A&M students question whether sexual references in yell leaders' traditional stories are appropriate.

A&M Student Senators Greg Duewall and Patrick J. Janis will introduce a bill to the Student Senate proposing that yell leaders refrain from making sexual references during yell practice.

The bill is based on a University regulation, in which the definition of sexual harassment includes "... sexual innuendoes or statements made at inappropriate times or disguised as humor or obscene gestures."

"Sexual references and innuendoes are uncalled for at yell practice, in my opinion," Duewall said. "Many students I've talked to are students who are offended or embarrassed by them."

Duewall said that yell leaders have begun to make sexual remarks in their stories only relatively recently.

"This is not any longstanding tradition," he said. "It's only in the past few years that remarks have gotten sexual."

"In the past, they were things like the Aggie ends up with the girl instead of the opposing team member winning her."

Janis said he is concerned about sexual references because of visitors who come to yell practice.

"It's not just students who come to yell practice," he said. "Parents and people in the community and old Ags come, too."

"In addition to being yell practice, it's also a PR (public relations) activity. The media is there sometimes."

"Sexual references and innuendoes are uncalled for at yell practice, in my opinion. Many students I've talked to are students who are offended or embarrassed by them."

Greg Duewall,
A&M Student Senator

"One of these times, we're going to get a bad rap because people will speak out and say the wrong thing at the wrong time. A&M might get a bad name."

Head yell leader Steve Keathley said he agrees with the basic premise behind the bill.

"I agree along the lines that yell practice should not have explicit sexual remarks, and when I say that I mean heavy overtures of pointing the jokes toward women," Keathley said.

"I'm along the lines of not having sexual innuendoes," he said. "In fact, this year we've kept away from a large majority of the bad language."

"We point the jokes more at the other team rather than at women."

Although yell leaders say they have toned down their jokes this year, the stories still contain sexual references.

internal pressures, just based on what we feel is best."

Keathley said he objects to the bill because it infringes on the yell leaders' control of yell practice.

Situations traditionally handled by yell leaders should not be controlled by student government actions, he said.

"I would much rather work with people who have complaints than with a bill," he said. "It's like it's almost challenging me to fight it."

"I'm a student just like everybody else and I respect the opinion of all Aggies."

"If they think something should be done, I'll listen to them."

Duewall and Janis said they will introduce the bill to the Student Senate Wednesday.

If it is accepted as an emergency bill, it will be voted on at that meeting.

Otherwise, it will be voted on at the Senate's next meeting on Nov. 30.

Although the bill is subject to change, if the Senate accepts it, it will restrain yell leaders from making sexual references during yell practice.

However, if the sexual references continue, complaints must be registered with the yell leader adviser, who will decide how to react.

Board nominates Battalion editor

By Stephen Masters
Senior Staff Writer

Texas A&M Student Publications Board Thursday nominated *Battalion* managing editor Becky Weisenfels to serve as editor for Spring 1989.

The Board's unanimous nomination awaits approval from Provost Donald McDonald before Weisenfels officially takes office.

Bob Rogers, chairman of the Board and head of the journalism department, said Weisenfels' application was the only one received.

Donald Johnson, student publications coordinator and secretary of the Board, said this semester was not the first time for a single application.

"It's not unusual, especially when there is a strong candidate who is well known to the staff," he said. "The staff usually rallies behind them."

Weisenfels, a senior journalism major from Paris, Texas, has worked on *Battalion* staff since May 1987 and on the staff of *The Aggie* and since May 1986.

Lydia Berzsenyi, editor of *The Battalion* for Fall 1988, said she couldn't think of a better qualified candidate.



"I think Becky will do a wonderful job," she said. "She has had experience in all areas of the paper."

Johnson said, "I think she'll do an excellent job. I have no doubt about her qualifications."

"She is in my publications management class (Journalism 306), and I know about her abilities to make strong management decisions."

Applications for the rest of *The Battalion's* editorial board are due Monday at 5 p.m.

Applications can be picked up at 216 Reed McDonald.

Amtrak expands train service to B-CS

By Fiona Soltes
Staff Writer

Amtrak's new Texas Eagle service is bringing back a piece of history by putting the "station" back in College Station.

Beginning Tuesday, Bryan-College Station passengers will be able to board a northbound line heading for Corsicana, Dallas, St. Louis and Chicago or a southbound line heading for Houston.

College Station City Council member Fred Brown, liaison between Amtrak and College Station, said he is enthusiastic about the new service. He said he thought it is time for a train to stop in this area again.

"As of Nov. 13, it will have been 11,099 days since a train has stopped in the area," he said. "The Southern Pacific Owl ran for 86 years but stopped June 8, 1958."

Brown said that Amtrak presented the

idea of the new stop to Bryan, College Station and Texas A&M as part of a \$529,000 expansion project.

"College Station just jumped at the chance," Brown said. "The University did not have a site where the train could stop without tying up traffic tremendously. Besides, College Station had the funding for it already."

Brown said the only cost to the city was \$6850, for the land lease. The platform was provided by Amtrak, and the

College Station Parks Department already had the pavilion-like structure for the station, now located near the corner of Jersey Street and Wellborn Road. The entrance to the station is on Marion Pugh Boulevard.

Mark Smith, College Station assistant city engineer, said that the present station structure is temporary. The city is searching for an alternate site.

"We've taken out a one-year lease on the site," Smith said. "At the end of that time we'll decide if the station has worked well there and if it should stay there. If not, the building is portable and the site will be turned into a park. We have been working with the Parks Department to make this a pleasant place, with picnic tables and landscaping."

The station will be a stop for northbound trains at 10:35 a.m. Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Southbound trains will stop at the station at 7:10 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Tickets are available through local travel agents or by calling 1-800-USA-RAIL. With a special introductory offer,

passengers can travel with a \$1 return fare through Feb. 28, 1989. Roundtrip fares from College Station are \$15 to Houston, \$18 to Corsicana and \$26 to Dallas. After the offer, tickets will be \$21 to Houston, \$25.50 to Corsicana and \$37.50 to Dallas.

Patrick Jeffery, Amtrak spokesman, said sleeping and coach cars are available for the trips. Snacks, beverages and private meals also are available throughout the trips.

Jeffery said the company is excited about the new line.

"Amtrak receives requests from all over the country to extend our services," Jeffery said. "We've had a lot of requests from Texas to do so. Whenever possible, we try to provide that alternative to highway and air transportation."

Jeffery said that for the past 12 years, the only rail link between Dallas and Houston was in San Antonio.

"We finally were able to start negotiations this summer with Southern Pacific Railroad," he said.

Registration of P through Z closes early

By Fiona Soltes
Staff Writer

Juniors whose last names begin with P through Z will not be able to register after 5 p.m. today because of a planned power shutdown in the Pavilion. Phone lines will be re-opened from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday for those eligible to register Friday.

Willis Ritchey, assistant registrar, said that without electricity, the phone registration system cannot work.

"We do have the capacity to forward phone calls, but only to one number," Ritchey said. "We are reserving that number for a recorded message saying registration will continue on Saturday. But it's important to get the word out. A student may try to call in several times, coming up with a busy signal, and never know the schedule has been changed."

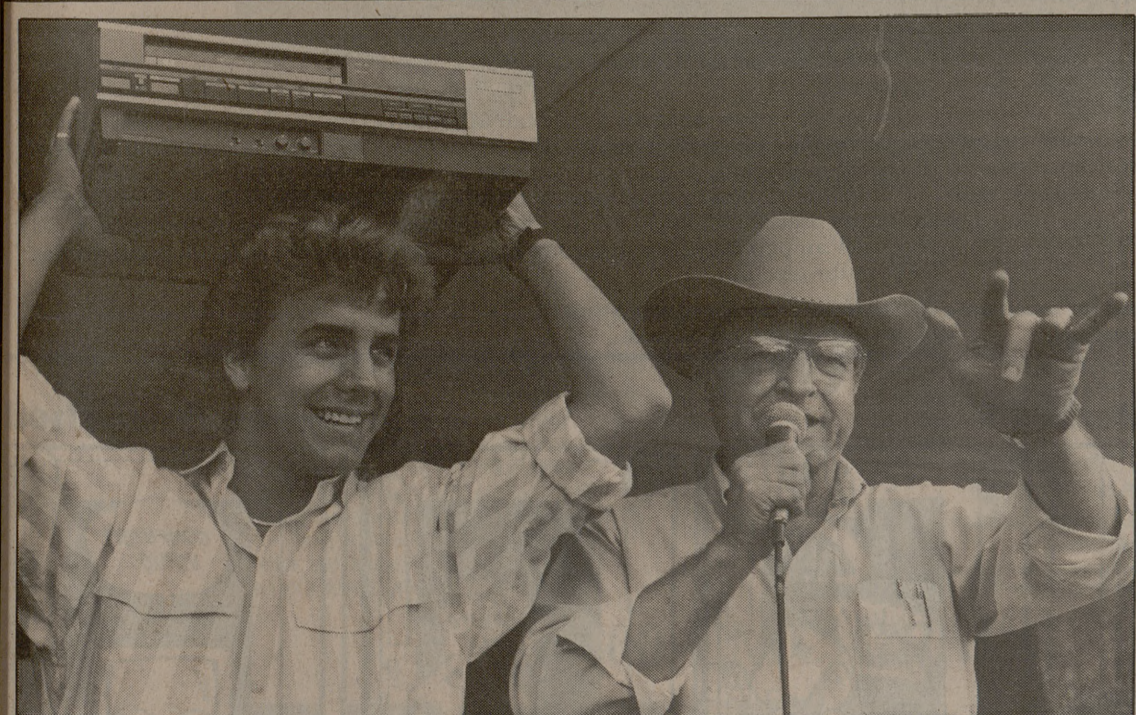
Charlie Kuder, electrician foreman, said power will be out in both the Pavilion and Animal Industries buildings beginning at about 5 p.m. He said he hopes to have the power on again by 10 p.m.

"We're changing a high voltage switch in a manhole near the O&M Building," Kuder said. "We're increasing power to the System Administration Building."

Kuder said the switch had to be done during a weekday, regardless of registration.

"We had to line up the work as quickly as possible," Kuder said. "We just couldn't find employees for the weekend."

Kuder said that another power shutdown for the Pavilion and Animal Industries buildings will take place at some time between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, but he did not give the exact date.



Going once. Going twice. . . Jay Jenson, a junior from Dallas, displays a VCR that sold for \$95 at the MSC Hospitality Lost And Found

Photo by Fredrick D. Joe
auction Thursday. Auctioneer Lloyd Joyce also bid up 52 basketballs.

Amtrak's new train service begins Monday to Houston

By Fiona Soltes
Staff Writer

Amtrak's new Texas Eagle line will make its first stop in College Station at 12:25 p.m. Monday for an inauguration ceremony.

The ceremony will be at the Amtrak station on Marion Pugh Boulevard.

The train, which will open service to the public on Tuesday, will carry about 100 dignitaries from the Bryan-College Station area, Dallas, Corsicana and Houston on its first run.

Peggy Callihan, College Station public information officer, said the ceremo-

nies will begin at noon with music by the A&M Consolidated High School band. Speeches will be given by the Bryan and College Station city mayors, Chamber of Commerce President Bill Vance, Robert Smith, vice president of finance and operations, and an Amtrak representative. Fred Brown, College Station City Council member and liaison between Amtrak and College Station, will be master of ceremonies.

Refreshments will be served, and a drawing will be held for free tickets.

The train will depart for Houston at 12:55 p.m.

They assume this... Tracy Butler, a sophomore journalism major, says she has had only one experience with discrimination at A&M... An anonymous source recalls when a professor once told a student worker that if her speed did not improve, he was going to cut her out of the class.

The student knew that she would have to make a 100 to receive a B in the class. She studied more than Dartmouth's black music professor, William Cole.