



**Standing Tall**  
Texas A&M students support the Aggies as the team puts forth one final effort in their 25-20 loss to 11th ranked Arkansas Saturday at Razorback Stadium.  
Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

## PLO leaders accept Israel's right to exist

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — PLO leaders accepted a U.N. resolution Sunday implicitly recognizing Israel's right to exist and recommended the PLO's parliament endorse the decision.

Approval by the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament-in-exile, is virtually certain and would meet one of the conditions for U.S. recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The action by a committee of PLO leaders showed that chairman Yasser Arafat has won his struggle with hardliners over the controversial U.N. Resolution 242. In the 450-member PNC, 80 percent to 85 percent of the parliamentarians are aligned with Arafat.

In Washington, President Reagan was asked if he was pleased with the PLO leaders' action and said, "We're still looking at that; that's all I can say."

The declaration accepting the resolution was debated and being drafted by a committee for presentation to the plenary session of the Palestine National Council, which began a four-day meeting in Algiers on Saturday.

"The PNC will come out with a political decision and a program of peace," PLO spokesman Ahmed Abdul-Rahman said.

"In the political statement, we will adopt all resolutions of the U.N. Security Council dealing with the Palestinian question. What's more, we will emphasize resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East."

Resolution 242 calls for an end to hostilities and Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 war. Adopted by the Security Council in 1967, it implicitly recognizes Israel by referring to the right of all states in the area to live within secure and recognized borders.

Resolution 338, passed in 1973 during the Arab-Israeli war, calls for an end to fighting; urges implementation of Resolution 242 and, most important, calls for negotiations between Arabs and Israel toward "a just and durable peace in the Middle East."

In the closed-door committee meetings among PLO leaders, there was strong opposition to Resolution 242 from the Marxist-oriented groups, particularly George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Habash's faction is the second-largest of the eight groups comprising the PLO. Arafat's Fatah is the largest.

Sources close to the talks said that after two days of haggling, it was clear no compromise was possible.

Habash agreed to note his reservations but bow to the majority and not create a major split.

Salah Khalaf, a top Arafat aide known as Abu Iyad, said, "Never in my career have I seen the Palestinian leadership acting as responsibly as it is during this session. Unity is a priority and the minority is accepting the verdict of the majority without any hard feelings."

The 450-member Palestinian council began meeting Saturday and is expected to conclude on Tuesday with a declaration of independence for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In all previous meetings, the council has explicitly rejected Resolution 242.

Those opposed to Resolution 242 objected to its referring to the future of Palestinians in the occupied territories as "a just settlement of the refugee problem."

The Algiers conference was called to deal with the new developments in the Middle East and especially to take advantage of increased attention and sympathy for the Palestinian cause.

## Amtrak's Eagle line makes first run to CS

College Station will be a "station" again today for the first time since 1958.

Amtrak's Texas Eagle line, on its first run, will stop at the city's new train station on Marion Pugh Boulevard at 12:25 for an inaugural ceremony.

Peggy Calliham, College Station public information officer, said the ceremony will begin at noon with music by the A&M Consolidated High School band. Speeches will be given by the Bryan and College Station 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, which will carry dignitaries from Bryan, College Station, Dallas, Corsicana and Houston on its inaugural run, will leave for Houston at 12:55 p.m.

The train will make its first public run Tuesday. It will head north to Corsicana, Dallas, St. Louis and Chicago Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays and south to Houston Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Call 1-800-USA-RAIL for ticket information and reservations.

The regularly scheduled passenger last train to stop in College Station was the Southern Pacific Owl, which ran for 86 years.

## Court orders A&M to pay GSS lawyers

Texas A&M must pay almost \$250,000 to lawyers who represented Gay Student Services in its court battle for recognition at A&M.

U.S. District Judge Sim Lake ordered the award Thursday.

The GSS applied for recognition by A&M in 1976. The University denied the request on the grounds that recognition would sanction and promote homosexual activities. Such activities were illegal in Texas in 1976.

The GSS filed suit in 1977 against A&M. The case originally was dismissed, but the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in Baton Rouge, La. ordered the case reinstated. U.S. District Judge Ross Sterling then ruled against the GSS.

The group then appealed successfully to the 5th Court of Appeals.

A&M appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, but the court refused to hear the case, which meant the decision by the 5th Court stood.

A&M recognized the GSS in 1985.

## Registrar's office releases final exam schedule

**By Kelly S. Brown**  
Staff Writer

The last day of classes for the this semester will be Dec. 7, and finals will begin Dec. 9.

The registrar's office released this semester's final examination schedule Friday. The revised schedule includes a "reading day" on Dec. 8.

Donald Carter, Texas A&M registrar, said University President William Mobley approved the revised schedule a week ago. The schedule allows faculty to submit degree candidates' grades early so that most students expecting to graduate can receive certification before commencement.

Diplomas will be awarded at commencement ceremonies to all students who have been certified, Carter said. A list will be posted in Heaton Hall on the morning of Dec. 16.

"Every degree candidate may participate in graduation ceremonies," Carter said. "However, those who are not clear — for whatever the reason — will have a letter in their (diploma) tube explaining why there isn't a diploma. These students will have until Friday during the first week of the spring semester to work things out."

Carter said each final examination will last no longer than two hours. He also gave other rules and procedures: "Courses carrying one credit hour of theory or practice shall have one hour exams given during the last class period," Carter said. "When a student is scheduled for three final examinations in one day, the student may request of his or her dean rescheduling of one of the exams. The dean, department head and faculty member will make every effort to accommodate the student when such a request is made."

Final examinations for classes meeting at times other than those listed below will be scheduled during the final examination period at a time agreed upon by the faculty member and students, he said.

The following is the final exam schedule for this semester.

Friday, Dec. 9	7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	MWF 4 and after
Friday, Dec. 9	10 a.m.-12 noon	MWF 8
Friday, Dec. 9	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	TR 12:30-1:45
Friday, Dec. 9	3 p.m.-5 p.m.	TR 11-12:15
Monday, Dec. 12	8 a.m.-10 a.m.	MWF 9
Monday, Dec. 12	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	MWF 12
Monday, Dec. 12	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	TR 8-9:15
Monday, Dec. 12	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	MWF 3
Tuesday, Dec. 13	8 a.m.-10 a.m.	MWF 10
Tuesday, Dec. 13	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	MWF 2
Tuesday, Dec. 13	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	TR 3:30-4:45
Tuesday, Dec. 13	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	MWF 1
Wednesday, Dec. 14	8 a.m.-10 a.m.	TR 9:30-10:45
Wednesday, Dec. 14	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	MWF 11
Wednesday, Dec. 14	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	TR 2-3:15
Wednesday, Dec. 14	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	TR 5 and after

## Conference discusses job emigration to Mexico

**By Alan Sembera**  
Senior Staff Writer  
**and**  
**Juliette Rizzo**  
Staff Writer

For decades, millions of Mexican workers have migrated to the United States in search of better-paying jobs. But in a recent switch, jobs have begun moving south across the border in search of lower-paid Mexican workers.

This emigration of jobs from the United States to Mexico was just one of the effects of Mexico's "maquila" industry discussed at an international conference Thursday through Saturday at Texas A&M.

Students and faculty from more than 50 universities in the United States and Mexico attended the conference, which was designed to educate the public about the past and future effects of the maquila industry on the economies of both countries.

Maquiladoras are assembly plants in Mexico that offer foreign manufacturers the opportunity to take advantage of Mexico's lower-paid work force.

Parts are manufactured in other countries — in large part in the United States — and are imported into Mexico duty-free for assembly. The finished products are then exported, and duties are paid only for the value that has been added to the parts.

The maquila program provides many benefits to U.S. companies.

Bill Wolfe, president of LINK, an industrial management company in Brownsville that provides services and advice to companies in the maquila program, explained some of the benefits.

Wolfe said moving labor-intensive jobs to maquiladora plants offers another alternative to companies that are in danger of losing profits because of foreign competition.

The other options, he said, are to sell the company while it is still worth something, to move jobs to the mostly non-unionized parts of the United States, or to move production to Asia.

"These are options many people face on a daily basis," Wolfe said.

Moving the jobs to Mexico rather than to Asia saves more U.S. jobs, he said, because the parts still are manufactured in the United States under the maquiladora option.

Mexico's proximity to the United States also makes U.S. production of parts more viable, he said.

Wolfe said that by locating labor-intensive jobs in Mexico, U.S. companies can keep service-related jobs in the United States.

The maquila program also offers many advantages to the Mexican economy.

Lucinda Vargas, marketing research manager for a Mexican industrial development group, listed the benefits and drawbacks of the program for Mexico.

One of the most crucial benefits the maquila program offers Mexico, she said, is increased employment.

More than 350,000 Mexicans are employed by the maquila industry, she said, and this number is increasing dramati-

cally. In 1987 alone, employment in the industry increased 22 percent, she said.

Another major benefit, she said, is the transfer of "soft technology" from other countries. Soft technology includes the knowledge of work methods and production systems.

Foreign exchange is another crucial benefit that the maquila industry brings to Mexico, Vargas said.

"Since 1985, the maquila industry has been the second largest source of hard currency in Mexico, following petroleum," she said.

Mexico is \$104.5 billion in debt, and with low petroleum prices, foreign currency is in short supply.

On the other hand, she said, the maquila program has several drawbacks.

One disadvantage is accelerated growth in Northern Mexico, she said. The infrastructures of the major cities are unable to handle the large influx of workers, she said, which creates traffic and telecommunication problems and a shortage of housing.

Another major drawback, Vargas said, is the lack of integration between the maquila industry and the Mexican economy.

She said less than 2 percent of the raw materials used in maquiladora plants originate in Mexico.

Dr. Joseph Grunwald, former president of the Institute of the Americas, said the maquila industry offers Mexico the chance to become a major player in the world economy.

Grunwald, an expert on global trade and economics, said the import of U.S. technology and capital offers Mexico the chance to follow the development path of Asian countries such as South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore.

These Asian countries developed industrially, he said, because the United States took advantage of the cheap labor there much the way it uses the U.S.-Mexican border area today.

"After the United States was the undisputed economic leader in the world after the second world war," Grunwald said, "competition reemerged with the recovery of Europe and with the recovery of Japan."

"When the United States then found itself in an international market in which it had to compete with low-cost producers, it looked for ways in which it could cut down its production costs."

"It came upon the idea of slicing up production processes into labor-intensive processes and capital- or knowledge-intensive processes, and then sending the labor-intensive processes abroad."

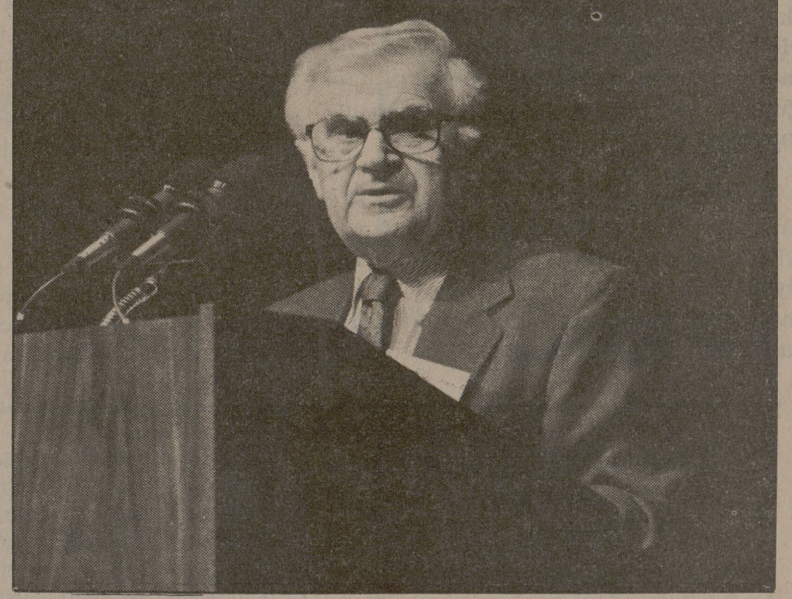
Grunwald said the United States first went to Asia instead of Latin America because labor costs were much lower.

"It wasn't called maquiladora, but that's in fact what they were," he said.

Grunwald said these Asian countries began supplying components in increasing proportions and started becoming operators of their own assembly plants.

Soon they were able to produce a useful product by themselves, he said.

"They sucked up the technology that was inherent in the maquiladora because



Joseph Grunwald  
Photo by Dean Saito

some of the maquiladoras are very sophisticated," Grunwald said. "They used the maquiladoras as a springboard for exporting and for using high levels of technology in production for their own local markets."

He said the offshoot plants have not yet developed in Mexico because Mexicans until recently had considered the maquila industry undignified and not an activity that would lead to industrializa-

tion. "They felt as if they were taking someone else's dirty laundry," he said.

Mexican capitalists found it much easier to produce for the local, protected market, he said. It was much easier than meeting the delivery schedules and standards of quality control that are necessary for exporting, he said.

But today, he said, Mexico's ailing economy is forcing Mexican capitalists to look outward for avenues of growth.