



Photo by Jay Janner

## Play ball!

Texas A&M President William Mobley throws out the first pitch of the 1989 Aggie Baseball season at the opening game with Pan American University Friday afternoon at Olsen Field.

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## Rioters demand ban of book, storm U.S. facility in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Police fired on hundreds of protesters Sunday who stormed a U.S. government office to demand the United States ban a novel they consider offensive to Muslims. At least five people died and 65 were injured, doctors said.

Police repeatedly fired semi-automatic weapons, rifles and shotguns at charging protesters who yelled "American dogs!" and hurled rocks and bricks during three hours of fierce clashes. The rioting erupted when more than 2,000 fundamentalists tried to march to the U.S. Information Center to demand the United States ban "Satanic Verses," a novel by Salman Rushdie.

Pakistan banned the novel on grounds it offends Muslims by suggesting the prophet Mohammed was fallible. India also banned the novel.

In Kennebunkport, Maine, where President

Bush was spending the weekend, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said U.S. officials were monitoring the Islamabad situation closely. Fitzwater said the national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft, telephoned Bush early Sunday to tell him of the riot.

"God is great!" protesters screamed as they smashed windows and started fires after driving off scores of police.

They tore down the American flag at the center and danced in delight as it was burned, along with effigies representing the Indian-born Rushdie and the United States. "Hang Salman Rushdie," one man yelled.

Three U.S. diplomats and 15 Pakistanis employed at the center were in the building at the time but were not hurt, U.S. diplomats said.

"There was a pitched battle going on outside," said Kent Obee, head of the center which con-

tains a public library and dispenses information about the United States.

Doctors at area hospitals, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said at least five people had been killed by police gunfire and 65 protesters shot and wounded.

They said the injured included Moslem theology students and about 20 police hit by rocks or beaten by the rampaging crowd.

Police arrested at least 25 protesters, and angry officers were seen beating and kicking some of those arrested.

Some protesters attacked the nearby American Express travel agency, smashing windows and starting a fire before police drove them off.

Enraged demonstrators also attacked three Western journalists, including two Associated Press correspondents and an Atlanta Constitution correspondent. They were not injured.

## Hungary backs multiparty politics

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Hungary's ruling Communist Party has moved toward sharing power with other political groups by becoming the first Eastern European country to endorse a multiparty system.

Party leader Karoly Grosz announced after a two-day meeting of the Central Committee that the policy-making body had decided a multiparty system was the only way to guarantee political pluralism in Hungary.

He also indicated the party had revised its view of the 1956 anti-Soviet revolt to acknowledge the uprising started with good intentions but went sour.

A multiparty system would "certainly provide an opportunity for alliances" and participation by groups the Communists would not be able to mobilize on their own, Grosz said in an interview excerpted on Hungarian radio late Saturday and due for full broadcast Sunday evening.

The system is expected to be legal under a new constitution to be written next year.

Grosz said he expected the constitution to require new parties to operate "on a socialist basis."

"If they do not accept the constitution, then they cannot operate le-

gally," he said. He did not elaborate.

No date has been announced for multiparty local or national parliamentary elections, but both are due by the end of 1990.

Grosz's remarks indicated that dozens of political movements, many of which have begun in recent months, will be allowed to participate.

Unlike alternative parties in East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Po-

land, Hungary's groups are independent of the Communists.

A new pro-Marxist group with an anti-Stalinist platform was founded Saturday. Another group, named after a leader of the national peasants' party quashed in the Communist takeover in 1948, announced plans to form a party calling for individual land ownership.

Hungarians from the alternative groups and Western diplomats saw

Grosz's statement as a victory for Communist Party reformers. They include Politburo member Imre Pozsgay, who two weeks ago presented a startling reassessment of the 1956 anti-Soviet revolt.

Pozsgay stunned the nation by saying the revolt was a popular uprising, not a counterrevolution as it has been officially called for 32 years.

## Red Army exits Kabul airport

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Soviet soldiers Sunday handed over their last and most dangerous outpost as they prepared to return home and leave the Afghan army to defend the capital against Moslem guerrillas.

The Soviet-backed Afghan government renewed its offer to negotiate with the guerrillas.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said the remaining 300 Soviet soldiers in Kabul would leave Tuesday, weather permitting.

The departure would be a day ahead of the deadline set by a U.N.-

sponsored accord to end nine years of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The last soldiers were guarding the Kabul airport while the Soviets completed a food airlift to the capital, which the guerrillas are expected to besiege when the Red Army is gone.

A U.N. airlift of food, medicine and blankets was suspended Sunday after Ethiopia pulled out of the program, officials said.

An Ethiopian airliner made one flight to Kabul, unloaded 32 tons of wheat and then refused to return to

the city, said Sadruddin Aga Khan, coordinator of the U.N. Office of Economic and Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan.

"I'm not able to say if or when the next flight will be," Aga Khan said at a news conference in Islamabad, Pakistan.

During a heavy snowstorm Sunday, Soviet troops turned over their last outpost, on the edge of Kabul airport.

Afghan soldiers raised their nation's red, black and green flag, and Soviet and Afghan troops cheered as the changeover was completed.

## North trial stayed to prevent leaks of security secrets

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chief justice on Sunday delayed the Iran-Contra trial of Oliver North, responding to Justice Department fears that the fired White House aide will pour out secrets in the courtroom that are damaging to national security.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist ordered "that the trial proceedings in United States versus Oliver L. North . . . be stayed" pending consideration by the full Supreme Court on Friday.

The court will consider Attorney General Dick Thornburgh's request for a stay of the trial so the Justice Department can seek a court order imposing more stringent controls on classified material North wants to use at trial.

The judge in the North case, U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell, rejected the Justice Department's request for such an order on Wednesday.

Friday is the day the Supreme Court had scheduled its first regular business meeting since its winter break.

Rehnquist's administrative stay came as government sources said the Justice Department was working with prosecutors in an effort to reach a compromise that would allow the trial to proceed without delay.

Discussions under way Sunday afternoon involved a possible compromise, with the Justice Department narrowing its objections to the planned release by North of classified material at his trial, said the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Justice Department Wednesday detailed broad objections to many categories of classified material that North plans to introduce at his trial, saying the judge in the case has imposed far too few safeguards to protect national security.

The sources declined to discuss any details of the ongoing discussions over a possible compromise.

Since last Thursday, the Justice Department has been trying to delay the trial, while independent counsel Lawrence Walsh, whose office is prosecuting North, wants opening arguments to begin immediately.

## Japan divided between old, new cultures

By Stephen Masters

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Rapid economic changes in Japan are leading to social and cultural changes as well, serving to divide the country between old and new cultures, said an adjunct professor from Columbia University in the closing address of MSC SCONA XXXIV Saturday.

Dr. Robert Christopher, an administrator of Pulitzer Prizes and

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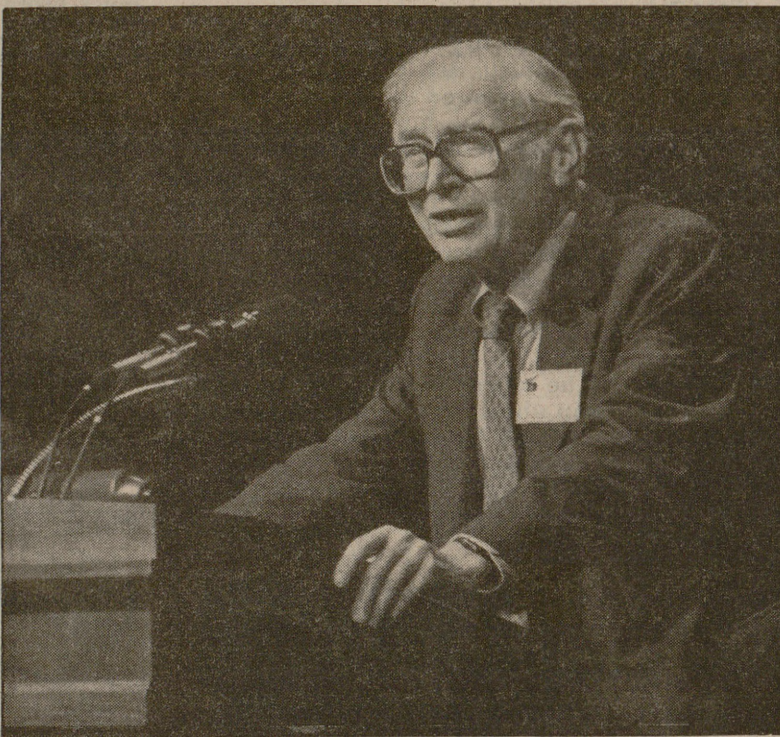
adjunct professor at Columbia's journalism graduate school, spoke before a group of about 300 students, faculty and guests on "The Future of Japan," something he said is not necessarily easy to see.

"It's really impossible to predict the future for any particular society simply by extrapolating the trends that have been visible in that society," he said. "There are just too many variables involved and too many unforeseeable events that can intervene to allow anything more than informed speculation."

Christopher said any analysis of a country's future must begin with an understanding of its culture.

"What Americans too often fail to recognize is that social and cultural change tends to be considerably more rapid in Japan than in other great nations," he said. "Because we don't pay attention to that fact, our forecasts of Japanese behavior often rest on assumptions of the Japanese that may have been reasonably accurate in the past, but are becoming steadily less so with every passing year."

As an example, he said most Americans' stereotype of Japanese as miserly workaholics with no interest in personal enjoyment, which may once have had some truth to it, has become outdated during the past two decades. This change has occurred so rapidly, he said, that Japanese society has been divided between the younger and the older Japanese.



Robert Christopher

Photo by Linker Mills

"The generation gap in Japan is easily more striking than anything in this country," Christopher said. "The Japanese now in their 30s and 40s tend to be quite different from those in their 60s. People in their early 20s are radically different. The Japanese themselves sometimes refer to these young people as 'The New Breed.'"

Christopher listed several changes from the old culture to the new:

- The self-imposed deprivation that older Japanese faced is no longer enforced. Few Japanese under 40 have any personal experience with deprivation, which Christopher linked with the culture becoming more materialistic.
- Younger Japanese now ask to be paid for overtime and ask not to work on weekends whether they are paid or not, something unheard of among previous Japanese generations.

- "Job hopping," once held in low regard, has now become acceptable. Many Japanese companies employ "headhunters" whose sole purpose is to lure top executives away from other companies.

- Young people place more emphasis on recreation and are more concerned with deriving maximum personal benefits.

- The percentage of wages saved is decreasing rapidly, but is still higher than that in the United States.

- Child rearing and other household duties, once relegated completely to the woman, are now being shared by both husband and wife.

- Materialism, also is causing many families to have two wage earners, so more women are continuing their education with college and entering the workplace.

Christopher said one of Japan's biggest problems in the path of expansion is inflation in its real estate industry. He said the present market value of all land in Japan roughly exceeds that of all of the United States.

He said the Japanese government recently was contemplating a road improvement project in Toyko with an estimate of \$2.5 billion. Of this, he said, all but \$35 million would be used for land acquisition.

Japan has been stabilized since World War II by the fact that the country has been relatively classless, he said. But barring dramatic changes, Christopher explained, the average Japanese couple soon will not be able to afford their own home. This creation of economic classes is creating bitterness in the society, he said.

Rapid aging of the work force is causing a greater share of the national reserve to be spent funding pensions, he said. Christopher predicted this would cut into the savings rate, one of two major revenue sources for the country.

The other source, the trade surplus, will eventually run out, he said, as the pressure to open trade to all countries becomes overwhelming. Christopher said Japan must play the same role globally that the United States played after World War II. Although he doubted Japan would become a world power, he said it will be an Asian power.

Japan's major weakness has been the country's confusion as to what role it should play in international politics, he said.

"Everything I've heard in recent years has been that Japan is quite literally afraid to play an active role in world affairs," he said. "The goals of Japanese foreign policy are international peace and stability."

"As the world's second greatest economic power, it's up to Japan to show initiative in the formulation of international policy, rather than simply follow the lead of others."

## Poll: Americans distrust PLO; support talks

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans overwhelmingly support Washington's overtures to the Palestine Liberation Organization but are deeply suspicious of the PLO and dubious of its claim to have abandoned terrorism, according to a national poll.

Only 6 percent of those interviewed in the Media General-Associated Press survey said they believed the PLO's recent renunciation of terrorism, while 74 percent said the group just made that claim for political gain. The rest were unsure.

Respondents were split on whether the PLO would coexist with Israel or sought to destroy it, and a strong majority said other groups could represent the Palestinian people.

Still, the distrust was tempered by the desire for an end to the Mideast conflict. A majority said Israel should negotiate with the PLO, although most said the United States should not force it to do so.

The survey also found some frustration with Israel's support groups in the United States, with 35 percent saying they had too much influence on U.S. policy. Twenty percent said pro-Palestinian groups had too much influence.

The poll was conducted among 1,162 adults Jan. 4-12, following PLO leader Yasser Arafat's statement recognizing Israel and renouncing terrorism. Israel rejected the move as a ploy, but the United States responded by opening its first talks with the PLO.

Sixty-seven percent approved of U.S.-PLO talks, with the rest split between disapproval and no opinion. Support was highest among college-educated Americans, with eight in 10 approving.

Respondents, moreover, endorsed a major tenet of the Palestinian cause: Sixty-two percent said the Palestinians should have their own country. Just 11 percent said no, and 27 percent had no opinion.

Roughly a quarter of the respondents had no view on many of the questions posed, reflecting the distance of Mideast issues from the daily concerns of many Americans. More men expressed opinions than did women.