

WEATHER

FORECAST for THURSDAY:
Continued partly cloudy and warm with a chance of afternoon and evening thunderstorms

HIGH:81 LOW:62

Chinese students issue ultimatum for government approval of union

BEIJING (AP) — Student leaders in Beijing on Tuesday gave the government 24 hours to recognize their new student union or they would take to the streets again. In Shanghai, thousands demonstrated for democracy and freedom.

The developments added new tension to a situation the government has been trying to calm by holding talks with officially sanctioned student unions.

Last week's activism crested with a march of 150,000 students and their supporters in China's capital.

The official student unions took no part in the marches, the biggest in communist China's history, and student activists say the talks won't satisfy their yearnings for a freer and more open China.

The protest in Shanghai, China's most important trading and industrial city, began in the early afternoon when about 6,000 students, carrying banners reading "give us democracy and freedom," blocked traffic in front of city government offices.

Student leaders presented petitions demanding political reform and the Xinhua News Agency said the protest ended about 10 p.m.

An American teacher said a class boycott, which started in Beijing and spread earlier this week to Tianjin, has moved to Shanghai. About half of the students at Fudan University, the city's leading school, are striking, Jason Hurtado, of Portland, Ore. said.

He quoted student activists at Fudan as saying that student leaders from Beijing helped organize the strike and the march. Student leaders have also been sent to Beijing for more coordination, he said. Earlier, students from Tianjin came to Beijing for guidance with their movement.

In Beijing, 65 student leaders from 33 universities bicycled more than 7½ miles to deliver an ultimatum to the National People's Congress, China's legislature; the State Council, its cabinet; and the Central Committee of the ruling Communist Party.

In a handwritten letter, the students demanded the government recognize and hold talks with the United Association of Beijing Universities, an independent association set up during their 2-week-old campaign for democratic reform. They want a free press, freedom of assembly and publication and an end to official corruption.

If they are turned down, they said, they will march Thursday. That day marks the 70th anniversary of China's first student demonstration, which turned into a movement for democratic and scientific reforms.

Beijing students already have marched five times to Tiananmen Square since April 17, defying police warnings.

FINALS SCHEDULE

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



Here's lookin' at you

Beverly Ellis, a senior accounting major from Houston, walks up the stairs to her car in the North Side Parking Garage Tuesday. Her reflection is seen in the convex safety mirror.

Photo by Jay Janner

Concerned citizens nationwide unite in protest against Exxon

Consumers, environmentalists and politicians in scattered cities joined Tuesday in a one-day "Boycott Exxon" campaign over its huge oil spill in Alaska and over rising gasoline prices in the industry in general.

State attorneys general in the Northwest and U.S. senators from Nebraska called for a federal investigation of why gasoline prices have risen sharply since the March 24 Exxon Valdez spill.

"We are beginning the war of words and actions against any oil company that doesn't understand its responsibility to protect the environment," Massachusetts state Sen. Carol Amick said at a boycott rally in Boston.

J. Edward Surette Jr., executive director of the Bay State Gasoline Retailers Association in Billerica, Mass., said his group surveyed dealers Tuesday but found that it was too early to assess the impact of the boycott.

Surette accused Exxon Corp. of "obvious negligence" but said it was unfair for consumers to vent their anger at dealers, most of whom are small, independent businessmen.

Consumer activist Ralph Nader said in Washington that Exxon "should not be allowed to forget" the Alaskan spill and that a boycott was the way to send a message to the oil giant.

Nader joined representatives from several environmental and consumer groups in accusing Exxon of failing to be prepared for the spill and not rapidly responding to the accident that has fouled hundreds of miles of Alaska's coast.

Consumer groups in Alaska and New York state also asked consumers to join the boycott.

Exxon issued a statement calling the boycott unjust, and added, "Exxon believes in the basic fairness of the American people and is confident that they will see Exxon's employees, dealers and owners as victims of human error, not as an institution that should be discriminated against for an accident that occurred while we were doing our job."

Concern over tight gasoline supplies for the summer driving season escalated following the Alaska oil spill and an explosion at a North Sea oil rig. Crude oil prices have risen more than \$7 a barrel since January.

Since the Exxon Valdez accident, gas prices have increased an average 10 percent nationally, while the Pacific Northwest saw surges as high as 25 percent in less than a month, said Marla Rae, executive assistant to Oregon Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer.

Exxon spokesman Sarah Johnson said 10,000 credit cards out of 7 million have been cut up and returned to the company since the spill.

Exxon said it had received no reports from dealers of a loss in volume of gasoline sold as a result of the credit card return or from boycotts.

About 5 percent, or 620, of the 12,400 Exxon brand stations in the United States are owned and operated by Exxon. The rest are independent.

The Exxon boycott was endorsed by 16 Democratic California legislators. "We want to show Exxon that corporations who harm the environment will pay a price in the marketplace," Assemblyman Tom Bates said.

Twenty Oregon legislators also joined Tuesday in a call to support the boycott.

Attorneys general of three Northwest states want the nation's chief law officer to investigate why oil prices have risen sharply, especially since the Exxon Valdez ripped its hull on a reef in Alaska's Prince William Sound.

Frohnmayer, Ken Eikenberry of Washington and Jim Jones of Idaho announced Monday they will ask U.S. Attorney General Richard Thornburg and Daniel Oliver, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, for an investigation of gas prices.

U.S. Sens. James Exon and Bob Kerrey, both Nebraska Democrats, called on Thornburg to investigate potential price gouging by the industry since the spill. They noted that gas prices in Nebraska rose 20 percent from the first of March until mid-April.

U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Paul A. Yost today faulted Exxon's revised plan to clean up the oil spill, but promised the effort will be completed this summer.

"The plan is very thin. There's not a lot of backup or substantiation," said Yost, an admiral chosen by Bush to track the cleanup effort for the federal government.

Military demolition experts clear highway of spilled truckload of rocket explosives

SWEETWATER (AP) — Military explosives experts on Tuesday used an all-terrain forklift to clear an interstate highway of a truckload of rocket explosives, which the driver said overturned when he swerved to avoid hitting a deer.

A seven-mile section of Interstate 20 around Sweetwater was closed for more than 14 hours Tuesday after the truck carrying eight rocket pods, each consisting of six rockets, ran off the road and overturned.

The driver and a passenger sustained minor injuries.

Explosives experts from Fort Hood in Killeen and Fort Sill in Oklahoma worked for more than three hours to remove the rockets, each of which carried 644 M-77 grenades, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The military cargo was being taken to Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, about 40 miles east of the spill, where it is to be inspected by the Army and LTV Corp., which manufactured the weapons, said Dyess public affairs officer Master Sgt. Al Dostal.

Hours after the 12:05 a.m. accident, explosives experts inspected the scene and told state officials there was no danger, Public Safety Sgt. Don Willingham said.

David Harris, public affairs officer for the U.S. Army Missile Command near Huntsville, Ala., said the rockets were unarmed in the sense that the only way they can be fired is electronically.

Even a heavy impact could not have denoted the missiles, Harris said, adding that the rockets undergo tests to avert such dangerous situations.

"Part of the development program involved taking fully loaded rockets and dropping them 20 to 30 feet onto concrete to see if they could withstand that kind of impact," Harris said.

The rockets were being transported from the military contractor's factory in Camden, Ark., to Concord, Calif., and were ultimately bound for South Korea, Col. Bob Richards, a combat support group commander from Dyess, said.

The driver of the truck owned by Alabama-based Deaton Inc., Byron Robertson of Fouke, Ark., suffered slight injuries to his legs and arms.

He and his father, Jimmy Robertson, who was a passenger, were treated at Rolling Plains Hospital and released.

"All I know is I saw a deer and I swerved to miss it," the driver said.

DPS trooper Don Rannefeld said blood-alcohol tests were not administered to Byron Robertson, 27, but said, "There was no indication of any problem physically with either the driver or the truck."

It would be very unusual to find a deer along the stretch of interstate where the accident occurred, close to restaurants, gas stations and other buildings, Rannefeld said.

Trooper reports said the vehicle ran off the side of the highway, hit some gravel and overturned.

Officials evacuated one resident of a mobile home located about 200 yards from the accident site about 1 a.m., but allowed her to return seven hours later, Willingham said. No one else was evacuated.



Campus service honors victims of Holocaust

By Sherri Roberts
STAFF WRITER

The 15 million victims of the Holocaust were honored Tuesday night in a Holocaust memorial service at All Faiths Chapel sponsored by the Campus Ministerial Association.

Organized in observance of International Holocaust Week, the service reminded those present of Nazi dictator Adolph Hitler's attempts more than 40 years ago to annihilate the Jewish race.

About 50 individuals representing organizations including Hillel Jewish Students Center, Catholic Student Center and the Wesley Methodist Foundation listened to recitations of biblical passages and excerpts from poems and book passages written by Holocaust victims and survivors.

Throughout the service, which began with a moment of silence, readings were interspersed with Hebrew singing. The service con-

cluded with those attending joining hands in a circle as Rabbi Peter Tarlow spoke.

The service is one of several community events taking place to commemorate International Holocaust Week.

About 8,000 names of Holocaust victims deported from France to Nazi concentration camps will be read at Rudder Fountain today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The reading is part of a 10-year project that began 6 years ago to read the names of all those deported.

The play "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" will be presented by A&M Consolidated High School Players at noon today at Rudder Fountain. The play chronicles the true story of a Jewish girl and her experiences from the age of 14 to 18 at the Terezin concentration camp in Czechoslovakia.

Play Director Brandys Zolnerowich said, "I chose this play because it's very powerful. It makes a strong statement."

Doctor wins suit against anti-abortion picketers

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Nine anti-abortion demonstrators were ordered Tuesday to stay at least 400 feet from the home of a doctor who won a court battle after arguing that he and his family were mentally harassed by protesters outside his home.

A jury of seven women and five men voted 10-2 Monday that picketers should pay Dr. Eduardo Aquino \$810,000 in damages.

"I feel my family will be left alone now," Aquino said, adding that he was "not really interested in the money."

Abortion opponent Cliff Zarsky, one of two attorneys who represented the defendants without a fee, said he will ask for a new trial and if that fails, he will appeal the verdict.

Jurors ruled Monday that the peaceful protests caused mental anguish to Aquino, his wife, Mercedes, and their four children.

The damages included \$140,000 in past and future suffering of the couple, \$170,000 in past and future suffering of the children and \$500,000 in punitive damages for

gross negligence in picketing the family home.

"These people were demonstrating with the American flag and with the Bible and you cannot wrap yourself around the American flag or hide your face in the pages of the Bible and in the process abuse the rights of citizens, no matter how rich or poor, how strong or weak they are," Aquino's attorney, Tony Bonilla, said Tuesday.

"The jury has set a standard for people across this country and in the process has sent a very clear message that a right of privacy of families in their homes should not be violated and that it is an abuse of freedom of speech to go to the privacy of the home to try to impose your views on the innocent wife and children who are inside those quarters," Bonilla said.

The trial ended at a time when the U.S. Supreme Court is considering a Missouri case that might cause the court to reconsider its 1973 ruling, Roe vs. Wade.

In that ruling, justices ruled that women have a constitutional right to end their pregnancies.

"I believe in the right to picket and I am an advocate of the First Amendment to the Constitution, but anyone who abuses those rights should be penalized," Aquino said after the ruling.

Aquino said he has been performing abortions since 1978 and anti-abortionists had picketed his office since 1982. They began picketing at his home in March 1988, the same month the suit was filed.

Correction

A headline on page one of Tuesday's Battalion incorrectly indicated the significance of a recent fusion experiment. The story under the headline was accurate in saying researchers still could not definitely say that fusion occurred. The Battalion regrets the error.