

# Texas A&M The Battalion



## WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:  
Partly cloudy with a 40 percent  
chance of rain.

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College Station, Texas

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## Regents approve \$3.7 million research center



Goodwin Hall, built as a dormitory in 1908 and later converted into an office building,

will be torn down by order of the A&M Board of Regents.

## Oldest building on campus will come down

UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

**PRAIRIE VIEW** - The Texas A&M Board of Regents paved the way Tuesday for a new high-tech facility to go up at Texas A&M University and for the oldest building on the state's oldest public campus to come down.

Going up will be a \$3,720,500 building for the Offshore Technology Research Center in the A&M research park. The structure will house the first National Science Foundation-sponsored engineering research center in the Southwest, an activity jointly conducted by Texas A&M/Texas Engineering Experiment Station and the University of Texas at Austin.

Coming down will be Goodwin Hall, which was constructed in 1908 at a cost of \$53,500. The cost to demolish it is \$117,111. The one-time dormitory, which was later converted to office use, has over the years sustained structural deterioration that made restoration economically unfeasible, University officials said.

The contract for the Offshore Technology Research Center building was awarded by the regents to Gamma Construction Co. of Houston, and the Goodwin Hall demolition contract went to Southwest-Rathgeber Co. Inc., of Austin.

The 40,000-square-foot offshore technology building, scheduled for completion in the fall of 1990, will be the fourth structure in A&M's research park. The park formally opened in 1986 and is intended to attract private firms and federal laboratories and related activities that complement the goals and strengths of A&M and its affiliated system agencies.

Activities for the Offshore Technology Research Center will be supported by funds from the National Science Foundation, major oil companies and other

segments of private industry in a quest to learn more about building structures and recovering oil and other resources at deep ocean depths. Funding is expected to

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total approximately \$28 million over the next five years. The short-term goal of the center is to develop systems that will permit economic ocean operations, such as oil recovery, at depths greater than 4,000 feet, the center's director, Distinguished Professor John Flipse, said at the time the center was announced.

"Our initial focus on the deep ocean resources is based on strong evidence that there are one or more very large petroleum reservoirs in the Gulf of Mexico," Flipse said. "The challenge is water depths of 6,000 to 8,000 feet and their location far from shore. There is a prize down there for the United States, but major advances in technology will be necessary to gain it."

The building's focal point will be a three-dimensional wave basin with a multi-segment wave generator. The basin, which is 150 feet by 100 feet has depths ranging from 20 to 50 feet with the capability for producing waves up to three feet high and 30 feet long, center officials said.

Another construction-related item was the award of a \$894,118 contract to Diamond Construction Inc. of College Station for paving, drainage and grounds improvements at Prairie View A&M.

## Vandiver accepts position on panel to monitor Louisiana desegregation

By Richard Tijerina

STAFF WRITER

Former Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver will serve on a three-member panel to monitor the desegregation of Louisiana's higher education system as a result of a July 19 federal court order.

The court ruled that Louisiana's current system of four higher education governing institutions perpetuates segregation, and ordered them to be dismantled in 30 days and a new single higher education board selected.

The four Louisiana institutions

mentioned in the court order are Southern University of Baton Rouge, Southern University of New Orleans, Southern University at Shreveport/Bossier City and Grambling University.

Vandiver, current director of the A&M Mosher Institute for Defense Studies, announced his resignation from the A&M presidency in January 1988. During his seven-year term, the University set consecutive records in recruitment and retention of minority students.

In a statement issued by the University's Office of Public Information, Vandiver said he was chosen

because of his knowledge of a large research-oriented university and a land grant university.

"I am honored to be appointed and a little anxious at the enormity of the task ahead," Vandiver said in the statement.

Joining Vandiver on the monitoring committee are Dr. Paul Murill, former chancellor of Louisiana State University and Dr. Franklyn Jenifer, chancellor of the Massachusetts Board of Regents of Higher Education.

The monitoring committee will evaluate the progress of a new Louisiana board of higher education and

all 17 academic institutions in complying with the court's extensive desegregation order.

The court ordered the committee, which can authorize or disapprove board plans, to give the new board five years to achieve substantial progress toward "eliminating the racial identifiability of Louisiana's universities."

The court order outlines steps to be taken, including scholarships, admission officers and retention efforts, at traditionally black universities as well as predominantly white institutions toward ending segregation.

## A&M Board names new residence halls

UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

**PRAIRIE VIEW** - The Texas A&M Board of Regents named five new Texas A&M University residence halls in honor of outstanding Texans past and present.

The five new halls have been named in honor of George Eppright of Manor; Les Appelt of Houston; the late Clyde H. Wells, formerly of Granbury; Margaret (Mrs. James Earl) Rudder of College Station; and the late Walter W. Lechner, formerly of Dallas.

The residence halls bearing the names of Eppright, Appelt, Wells and Rudder are located in the area south of the Commons and east of Underwood Hall on the south side of the campus. Lechner Hall is located across from Sbis Dining Hall and east of Haas and McFadden Hall in the north central area of the campus.

Appelt, Class of '41, has served 14 years as a trustee of the Texas A&M Development Foundation and is a past president of the Association of Former Students.

A real estate developer in Houston, Appelt was instrumental in developing the idea for and funding the Information Center located in the lobby of Rudder Tower and in founding the University's Center for Education and Research in Free Enterprise.

Eppright, a rancher and member of the Class of '26, has long supported A&M students and faculty through gifts of land that have been used to fund endowed academic positions and scholarships. In 1974, he gave Texas A&M 1,222 acres of land adjacent to the city limits of Austin that is estimated to be worth more than \$16 million.

That gift, which provided both unrestricted use funds and endowed

positions and scholarships, was followed in 1988 by an additional land gift valued at approximately \$1.2 million, which endowed two chairs and provided scholarships for members of the Corps of Cadets.

Clyde H. Wells served as a member of the Board of Regents for nearly a quarter of a century, including 12 years as chairman of the governing board.

In addition to his long service as a regent, he served as president of the Library Development Council, as councilor for the A&M Research Foundation and as a member of the A&M University Press Development Council. Wells, a Granbury rancher, died in 1987.

Margaret Rudder, widow of former University President Gen. James Earl Rudder, has long been a member of the Bryan-College Station community. As the University's first lady during her husband's 1959-1970 presidency, she was ac-

tive in both university and community affairs—and that involvement has continued since his death in 1970.

Margaret Rudder, a native of Brady, has donated a number of Gen. Rudder's military decorations and memorabilia to Texas A&M. She also wrote a song that is sung by the Singing Cadets during the annual campus Aggie Muster celebration.

Lechner, formerly of Dallas, attended A&M in 1912 and 1913. An independent oilman, he was one of the principal discoverers of the north portion of the giant East Texas oilfield during the 1920s and one of the founders of Texas Independent Producers.

The residence hall that will bear Lechner's name will house participants in A&M's Honors Program, including those students receiving Lechner Scholarships.



Photo by Kathy Haveman

## Heave ho!

Nine-year-old Jean Crader of Sugarland throws a softball from home plate to second base during the TAMU Varsity Softball Camp at Penberthy Field Tuesday afternoon. The practice was supervised by Bob Brock, A&M women's softball coach.

## Rains announces entry into gubernatorial race

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

**AUSTIN** - Former Secretary of State Jack Rains, Class of '60, entered the fight for the Republican gubernatorial nomination Tuesday, becoming the second Texas A&M former student to declare his candidacy for the race.

Rains joined Clayton W. Williams, for whom the A&M alumni center is named. The two men are the only declared candidates for the GOP nomination.

Rains, 51, began his bid for governor by urging the death penalty for drug dealers and promising to match any opponent's campaign spending.

"I am prepared to stand toe-to-toe and wad up dollar bills and start throwing them," Rains said. "They're going to run out of money before all of my friends and I do."

Clayton Williams, a multimillionaire Midland oilman, said he will spend up to \$3 million of his money to win the nomination.

Rains, a Houston lawyer and businessman, said he lacks Williams' personal fortune but not the ability to raise campaign funds.

"Clayton Williams has more money than I have, and he'll spend more personally than I will," Rains said. "I'll defeat Clayton Williams because I've got a lot of people helping me wad up dollar bills to throw."

Rains named education improvements as his top priority.

Railroad Commission Chairman Kent Hance, who lost the GOP gubernatorial race in 1986, also is preparing to run.

Another possible GOP candidate is Amarillo oilman and corporate raider T. Boone Pickens.

## House slashes SDI; Senate OKs B-2 budget

**WASHINGTON (AP)** - The Democratic-controlled House voted Tuesday to slash nearly \$2 billion from President Bush's request for Star Wars, but the Senate overwhelmingly kept the administration's B-2 bomber plan relatively intact except for a token cut.

By a vote of 98-1, the Senate endorsed the costly stealth bomber if it meets flight testing standards and demonstrates that it can perform its mission of evading radar detection and penetrate Soviet air space.

Bush administration officials have expressed hope that the Senate vote on the bomber in the president's \$295 billion defense budget would serve as a counterbalance to expected votes in the House cutting the program.

The House takes up the issue Wednesday when it considers amendments to eliminate or severely limit the program.

In crafting its defense blueprint, the House cut \$1.8 billion from the \$4.9 billion Bush had proposed for

Star Wars, formally known as the Strategic Defense Initiative. Lawmakers approved an amendment to cut \$700 million from the program in addition to the \$1.1 billion the House Armed Services Committee had trimmed from the program.

The vote was 248-175, with 214 Democrats and 34 Republicans voting for the reduction.

"We serve notice on the administration to bring this futuristic program down into the world of budget reality," Rep. John M. Spratt, Jr., D-

S.C., declared just before the House reduced funds for the anti-missile shield.

After reducing SDI spending, the House overwhelmingly approved using \$150 million of the Star Wars money for other military items.

## Air Force looks for cause of B-52 fire

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** - A team of Air Force investigators was en route to Kelly Air Force Base Tuesday to determine what caused a B-52 bomber to ignite in a maintenance runway, killing one person and injuring 11 others.

Gen. Alfred G. Hansen, commander of Air Force Logistics Command at Wright-Patterson in Dayton, Ohio, will head an investigation board composed of military officials from various bases nationwide, Kelly spokesman Frank Weatherly said.

"They'll begin doing the investigative work," Weatherly said, but added a formal finding is not expected for several months.

A series of explosions ignited the B-52 about 10:35 p.m. Monday as civilian ground crews were fueling the

aircraft for ground tests, Weatherly said.

Lt. Col. Ed Cooke said the B-52, built in 1958, was nearly finished with "programmed depot-level maintenance," a 3.5- to 4-month process in which the plane is virtually stripped and reassembled.

"Some of the injured workers were inside the aircraft; some were outside," Weatherly said.

Jesus Pedraza, 38, was killed, said First Lt. Dave Ebner, a Kelly spokesman. Pedraza and the injured were civilian employees of the protection branch of the Directorate of Maintenance Aircraft Division.

Herman Morris was in serious condition Tuesday at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio where he was being treated for burns, said Ray Perry, hospital spokesman.