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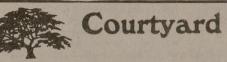
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The Battalion

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Survey shows drop in casual drug use, rise in crack addicts

officials said Monday a new drug abuse survey shows that efforts to re-duce demand have cut sharply the number of casual users, but cocaine and crack addiction is growing.
The 1988 National House Survey

on Drug Abuse found a 37 percent drop from a 1985 survey in the number of people who said they had used marijuana, cocaine or other illicit drugs in the previous month.

The survey also showed the number of people who said they had used an illegal drug during the previous year fell by 25 percent over the

"We are making some real progress in this war," William Bennett,

Peasants attack army toll stop; 1 dead, 2 injured

MEXICO CITY (AP) — One person died and two more were injured when an army corporal opened fire on a group of peas-

ant activists in a bus caravan.

Reports and a Defense Department news release said the incident occurred Sunday at a toll stop 100 miles north of the capital, on the Mexico-Queretaro federal highway, when a caravan of some 40 buses carrying scores of members of the Cardenista Peasants' Central attempted to ram through the toll booths. When that attempt failed, a group of ac-tivists armed with sticks attacked a squad of soldiers guarding the tolls booths, and one of the sol-diers opened fire on the crowd, the department said.

One of the wounded, identified only as Juvenal Leiva Barrasa, 26, died on the way to a Queretaro hospital, the government said. The other two — Felix Perez, 25, and Patricio Esquivel Hernandez, 20 — were reported in satisfactory condition.

director of federal drug control pol-icy, said. "People who have been say-ing all is lost, we can't win, let's legalize (drugs) have never been more

Tuesday, August 1, 1989

"Drugs are cheap and they are available almost everywhere, yet millions of Americans who once used them regularly appear now to have given them up altogether," he said. "This is primarily a triumph of changed attitudes."

However, the survey also found that the number of heavy cocaine users, including those using the highly addictive form of the drug known as crack, rose sharply between 1985 and 1988 — by 33 percent for those using it once a week or more and by 19 percent for daily and almost-daily

Though casual cocaine use dropped sharply overall — by 50 percent for previous-month use — the survey found that among blacks and Hispanics the numbers did not

change significantly.

According to the survey, 72 million Americans — 37 percent of the population — had tried at least one illicit drug in their lifetimes.

"Illicit drug use by Americans remains much too high," Louis Sullivan, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, said. But, he added, "attitudes are chang-

Casual users are "the ones who serve as a base for cocaine and crack addicts," he said. "So if we can reduce the number of casual users, in time we will also influence the num-

Sullivan and Bennett both said more resources will be needed to continue current drug awareness efforts as well as bolster drug treatment programs, though they de-clined to say how much money should be directed to these areas.

The survey covers the population age 12 and older living in households in the 48 contiguous states. The results are based on personal interviews and written questions answered by 8,814 people.

Study finds most thrifts meet bill's standards

DALLAS (AP) — Almost 75 percent of the nation's thrifts already meet the tougher new capital standards proposed in a multibillion-dollar bailout bill, indicating the industry is in better shape than its image, according to a study released Mon-

The study by Alex Sheshunoff & Co., a consulting firm based in Austin, said the findings show "clearly, this requirement isn't an unbearable burden for the healthy segment of the savings and loan industry.

Congress is scheduled this week to consider a \$157 billion bailout bill for the industry, which is losing an estimated \$20 million a day. Among other things, the bill tightens regulations on the industry, requiring thrifts to have a 3 percent capital-toassets ratio.

The bill at first allows half of the capital to be in so-called goodwill, or intangible, assets. By Jan. 1, 1995, the entire 3 percent must be in tangible assets.

The bill has been approved by a

House-Senate conference committee, but Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, threatens to block passage in a dispute over financing.
Sheshunoff said his review of the

financial status of the nation's 2,946 thrifts found 73 percent, or 2,163, already meet the 3 percent core capital requirement contained in the Bush administration's bailout bill.

In addition, Sheshunoff said 1,984, or 67 percent, of the thrifts can meet the 1995 requirement with tangible assets only.

While 25 of the nation's 40 largest thrifts - including 12 of the top 13 - already meet the 1995 standard, the number drops to 12 — and eight of the top 13 — if only tangible assets are counted.

"We estimate that for those 1,984 well-capitalized S&Ls, the average tangible capital-to-assets ratio is 6 percent . . . and it puts them in a strong position to acquire undercapi-talized thrifts," said Sheshunoff, who praised the tougher standards.

No longer will a handful of S&Ls be able to simply bet taxpayer-in-sured dollars in hopes of a profit,"

"This is a stiff dose of preventive medicine," he said. "It should go a long way toward preventing another

Mobley meets with student lead-

Mobley (Continued from page 1)

tinue to climb.

"The opportunities are before us," Mobley said. "(But) we can't exploit those opportunities without

supplementing state funding."
Mobley's familiarity with those issues may have helped. When Mobley was chosen from 59 presidential candidates and nominees, he was no stranger to the University or to the

He has been at A&M since 1980, when he was hired as head of the management department. Mobley became dean of the College of Business Administration in 1983 and the A&M System's deputy chancellor for academic and resource development in 1985. In 1987, he became executive deputy chancellor of the Sys-

A&M System Chancellor Perry Adkisson said Mobley has a great deal of understanding of the System's goals and objectives and where

the System is trying to go.

Mobley also has family ties at A&M. His oldest daughter, a law student, is an A&M graduate and his other daughter is a junior at the Uni-

As he looks to the 1990s, Mobley said enrollment will continue to be a concern, but not in the same way it has been for other A&M presidents.

ers for lunch about every six weeks. Jay Hays, the 1988-89 president of A&M's Student Government Association, said that during Mobley's first year in office the school made

vast progress.

"As the year progressed, it was clear he did a lot to revitalize Student Government on campus," Hays said. "With his initiatives and his cooperation we were able to get some new programs started and put some lingering issues behind us."

The issue is one of managing the

rate of growth , rather than having to chase growth," Mobley said. "Our target is to stay a little below 40,000 and we're doing that.

"We're not busting out at the seams, but the cumulative effect of the rate of growth, particularly over the last decade, has resulted in pressure on facilities, staffing and class sizes. Our resources lag that

Mobley also intends to continue to expand Á&M's role in international education, he said. In addition to establishing programs such as one with the Japanese city of Koriyama, Fu-kushima, which enables A&M instructors to teach English to Japanese students, he advocates study-

abroad programs.

"A&M is a good university, but we're still not that well known outside the region," Mobley said. "(Others) know of Texas A&M but they don't know who and what we are.'

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