

Texas A&M The Battalion



WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:
Partly cloudy and hot with a slight
chance of rain in the afternoon.

HIGH: 90s LOW: 70s

Vol. 88 No. 183 USPS 045360 6 Pages

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, August 8, 1989



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenback

Ouch!

Junior Ingraham Thompson puts his money where his mouth is while teaching freshman Kathrine Dresser how to play Hacky-sack

Monday on the Polo fields. The Hacky-sack hit Thompson in the mouth.

A&M Honors Program grads receive top graduate schools bids, fellowships

By Cindy McMillian

STAFF WRITER

Graduates of Texas A&M's University Honors Program are receiving top bids from graduate schools around the nation, according to data gathered on May's graduating class.

Of the 50 graduates who were named either University Honors graduates, University Undergraduate Fellows or both, more than 80 percent are immediately pursuing post-graduate study, many with large fellowships. The list of graduate schools includes Harvard University, Dartmouth College, Cambridge University, Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University, Cornell University and the University of California at Berkeley.

These students were at the tops of their classes at A&M in both academics and campus leadership positions, Honors Program director Dale Knobel said. The class includes a recipient of a Junior Fulbright Fellowship for international study, four recipi-

ents of National Science Foundation Fellowships for graduate study and the University's 1989 Rhodes Scholarship nominee.

Thirty-five members of the class shared 75 different undergraduate scholarships worth more than \$325,000, including President's Endowed Scholarships and National Merit Scholarships.

Director Dale Knobel said the recognition students earn as graduates of the Honors Program provides them with remarkable credentials for graduate study or post-graduate employment.

Nine members of the class began their careers immediately after graduation with leading employers such as Rockwell International, Trammell Crow, Arthur Andersen, and Shearson, Lehman, Hutton.

Several others will attend medical and dental school at Washington University, Baylor University, Texas A&M University, McGill University and the University of Texas.

University Honors graduates have completed 36 or more hours of challenging Honors coursework, and

University Undergraduate Fellows complete a full year of Honors research culminating in a Senior Honors Thesis.

The graduates represent 19 major fields of study in the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Science, Engineering, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Veterinary Medicine, Architecture and Environmental Design, and Business Administration.

More than 90 percent of the students were placed on the Deans' Honor Roll (GPR of 3.75 or above) or named Distinguished Students (GPR of 3.25-3.74) during their last semester of studies.

NAACP requests Clements name black to police panel

AUSTIN (AP) — A civil rights leader Monday called on Gov. Bill Clements to appoint a black to the state police licensing commission to ease tensions between black communities and local police.

"I think when you have air so thick that you can cut it with a knife, like you do in some cities in Texas right now, that stems directly back to the police department," said Gary Bledsoe, president of the Austin chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"What happened in Miami could happen in Dallas," he said, referring to riots in Miami earlier this year that followed the shooting of a black by police.

Bledsoe and Michael Tippitt, president of the Texas Peace Officers Association, urged Clements to appoint a black to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education.

A black has never served on the 24-year-old commission, Bledsoe said. The panel licenses peace officers, reserve officers and jailers and sets minimum standards for education and training.

A black commission member would make others sensitive to the problems in minority communities and help reduce violence between

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U.N. official: Releasing hostages may take years

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — A senior U.N. envoy expressed optimism Monday about chances of freeing Western hostages in Lebanon, but predicted "a long process of quiet and patient diplomacy."

Algeria's ambassador, who has acted as an intermediary, said getting the hostages released might take a year or more.

Israel on Monday rejected a new demand for release of a kidnapped Lebanese Shiite cleric and urged Shiite radicals to use the Red Cross to arrange a hostage-prisoner swap. Israeli officials said the government would only accept a deal if three Israeli soldiers were included.

President Bush was described by White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater as "cautiously optimistic" about the American hostages in Lebanon. However, Fitzwater said, "He knows that it's probably going to be a longer period of time rather than shorter" before the matter is resolved.

"Certain tendencies, certain trends in the international climate... suggest that circumstances may be more conducive to a settlement to the hostages problem now than they have been sometime in the past," said Marrack Goulding, U.N. under-secretary-general for peacekeeping operations.

"Many governments and organizations will have to take part," he said. It will be a cooperative effort.

FBI: Terrorists killed Higgins

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI analysts have concluded that the body hanging from a rope in a videotape released by Lebanese terrorists is that of hostage Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, Pentagon sources said today.

"It is our understanding that the study is concluded... Evidently, they have concluded that the figure in the tape is Rich (Higgins) and that he is dead," said a Pentagon official, who spoke on condition he not be identified.

The sources said the study was not able to pinpoint the cause of death or when it occurred.

Higgins, head of a 75-member United Nations peacekeeping team, was kidnapped in south Lebanon on Feb. 17, 1988. His captors claimed last Monday that he had been

hanged in retaliation for Israel's refusal to release a kidnapped Moslem cleric.

There have been some theories that Higgins could have been killed as long as a year ago, after a U.S. Navy ship shot down an Iranian airliner.

A videotape of a figure, hanging by his neck, bound and gagged, was released last Monday as supposed evidence of Higgins' death.

The FBI conducted the study of the tape and was expected to release a statement about the review later today, the sources said.

But forensic experts who examined the tape said the body shown on the tape could have been someone who was dead for a while and not someone who had been killed on Monday, as the kidnappers claimed

"It's a very difficult and very complicated problem in which there are a large number of elements and a large number of players involved," Goulding said in Beirut after five days of meetings in Lebanon and Syria.

Goulding met Monday in west Beirut with Salim Hoss, premier of a

Moslem Cabinet that vies for power with a Christian government, and Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual adviser of the fundamentalist Shiite Moslem group Hezbollah, or Party of God.

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Leland's whereabouts unknown after plane misses planned stop

HOUSTON (AP) — U.S. Rep. Mickey Leland was among six Americans reported overdue Monday on a plane trip that was taking the delegation on tours of refugee camps in the southern Sudan in Africa, his office said.

Leland, 44, a Democrat from Houston, is chairman of a select House subcommittee on hunger. He is in his sixth two-year term.

"We do have information from the State Department that he is overdue," Alma Newsom, a spokesman in Leland's Washington office said. "But I need to put that in perspective. I think it's too early to raise any alarms until morning."

Leland left for Africa on Saturday. Newsom said it was unlikely he would learn anything further until 3 a.m. EDT, due to the seven-hour time difference.

"There's no way we could talk with him," she said. "He does not check in and there's no reason for him to check in with us."

Newsom, who said she was not overly concerned, said communications were poor and individuals on the trip could not readily pick up a telephone or cable to say they were changing plans.

"For all practical purposes, they're cut off," she said. "They're going to be overdue all night. They're going to be overnight in the camp."

She said Leland and five others, including members of his staff and officials from relief organizations, were late in departing Monday from



Rep. Mickey Leland

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia because of bad weather.

"My guess is once enroute, the camp that was the original destination was too far and they opted to go to a different camp," Newsom said. "Even at that, once they got on the ground and began their tour, they simply ran out of time to end their tour and get back."

She said pilots were very strict about adhering to a 5 p.m. curfew to return to Addis Ababa.

"If they feel they can't get back by that time, then you stay where you are overnight," she said. "They sim-

ply will not fly. And at that point, they're overdue."

She described Leland's presence in Africa as a humanitarian mission.

"There has been a very big effort to bring relief into southern Sudan, and he's been a part of that," she said. "The mission he's on involves visits to refugee camps."

The normal routine calls for Leland and the delegation to leave Addis Ababa each morning, tour the camps and then return.

"For the most part, it's not easy to do the day trips but that's the way they've been doing them," she said.

Newsom said she went on a similar trip in April and encountered similar difficulties.

"We're not concerned," Timmie Jensen, a spokesman for the hunger committee said. "I think it's premature to be concerned because it's night time. They do not fly at night."

"This kind of thing comes up when you fly in the bush."

She said Leland was aboard a plane known as a Twin-Otter, operated by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission of Ethiopia.

"They have experienced pilots and do a lot of relief flying," she said.

"Congressman Leland certainly knows the area. He's visited some of these areas and is familiar with the whole situation."

At Leland's Houston office, staffers were taking the incident in stride, she said.

'Troublefree' Columbia will launch spy satellite

Space shuttle Columbia's mission at a glance

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Here, at a glance, are the facts and figures about the 30th space shuttle mission:

Spacecraft: Columbia, on its eighth flight and first in 3½ years.

Launch: Between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. EDT Tuesday. Exact time not released because Columbia carries a classified Defense Department payload, which sources say is a photographic reconnaissance satellite.

Landing: At Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., time

and date not released. Flight is expected to last five days.

Crew: Air Force Col. Brewster Shaw, Jr., 44, commander; Navy Cmdr. Richard N. Richards, 42, pilot; Navy Cmdr. David C. Leestma, 40; Army Lt. Col. James C. Adamson, 43, and Air Force Maj. Mark N. Brown, 37.

Next flight: Atlantis, on Oct. 12, with a five-person crew to deploy the Galileo probe, which is to orbit the planet Jupiter.

will provide only minimal announcements during the flight, including the time of landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Sources said the astronauts will launch a 20,600-pound satellite, capable of gathering photographic and electronic images of the Soviet Union, China, the Middle East and other areas of military interest.

The satellite, traveling over much of the inhabited world, is able to take highly detailed photographs of troop movements,

military installations and the like, according to the sources.

The sources also said the shuttle's cargo bay holds a package of scientific experiments for military research, built by NASA at its Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California.

Columbia is the grand old man of space shuttles. It was the first of the flying orbiters and completed five missions in 1981 and 1982 before the second ship, Challenger, joined the fleet. Columbia flew once in 1983 and once in 1986, completing its 7th and last mission 10 days before

the Challenger explosion.

But Columbia became outdated as the newer ships came along. And when the fleet got its complete overhaul during the 2½-year post-Challenger hiatus, Discovery and Atlantis got preferred treatment. Columbia was used as a parts source until modernizing began last November.

"We will have a certain sense of deja vu when Columbia lifts off," said Dick Young, a NASA spokesman. "Columbia is the first of a kind and we're glad to see it back in flight."