

Bush presents Walesa with Medal of Freedom



Walesa

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush bestowed the presidential Medal of Freedom on Lech Walesa in an emotional White House ceremony Monday and promised "American aid has begun and more is coming" to Poland.

"Lech Walesa showed how one individual could inspire in others a faith so powerful that it vindicated itself, and changed the course of a nation," Bush said, referring to the 1981 martial law crackdown against the first free trade union in the Soviet Bloc and its rise to power this year.

"History may make men, but Lech Walesa has made history," Bush said.

As the president spoke of the crackdown and Walesa's 11 months incarceration, Walesa's eyes filled with tears.

The Polish trade union leader arrived in Washington as the Senate reached a bipartisan compromise on a

plan to give \$657 million in aid to Poland and \$65 million to Hungary, ending a long battle over the proper scale of aid to those countries.

Walesa's trip to the White House was the first stop on a U.S. tour that will include a speech to Congress, a private dinner at the White House and attendance at the annual convention of the AFL-CIO, the American trade union federation.

Walesa and his "fellow workers in a brave union called Solidarity" are shattering the communist hold on Eastern Europe, Bush said.

"The iron curtain is fast becoming a rusted abandoned relic, symbolizing a lost era and failed ideology," he said.

And Walesa's example, said the president, "was mirrored across Asia when 'People Power' became a chant, first heard in the Philippines, then in Pakistan, and South Korea, and yes, even in Tiananmen Square."

The president, who has been criticized for not doing enough to stimulate change in the Soviet Bloc, pointedly welcomed "Lech Walesa - a man of freedom" to "the White House - the house of freedom."

A&M student dies on way back to B-CS

A Texas A&M student on her way back to school Sunday afternoon died when her car collided with a truck pulling a horse trailer on Texas Highway 6.

Michelle Yvette Mendiola, a 21-year-old freshman general studies major from Montgomery, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident about 7 miles south of College Station.

Texas Department of Public Safety officials said Mendiola, driving a four-door Chevrolet Cavalier, was traveling north on Highway 6 when she crossed the center stripe, struck the left side of a 1986 Toyota pickup and proceeded to hit the horse trailer head-on.

The driver of the pickup, Paul Brand of Houston, was treated and released from St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan. Brand's \$450,000 thoroughbred horse, Clifford, the only horse in the homemade two-horse trailer, bled to death shortly after the accident.

DPS officials said both Mendiola and Brand were wearing seatbelts at the time of the collision.

Regents choose Becton president of Prairie View

By Kelly S. Brown

Of The Battalion Staff

Lt. Gen. Julius Becton Jr. will return to Prairie View A&M University, his alma mater — but, instead of returning as a student, this time he will be leading the school as the president.

A six-month nationwide search, where more than 100 candidates were considered at various stages, came to an end when the Board of Regents unanimously approved Becton as president Monday.

The 63-year-old native of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania will take office Dec. 18.

He will be succeeding Dr. Percy Pierre, who left office in May to be the first holder of the Honeywell Professorship in Electrical Engineering.

During the search for president, Dr. Milton Bryant served as interim president. He will return to his previous post as the university's vice president for academic affairs.

Becton said he's looking forward to the challenge of working with the Regents, chancellor, students, alumni and faculty in leading Prairie View A&M into a new era of excellence.

"Working together, we can build on the accomplishments of the past as we move into the 1990s and beyond," he said.

The Regents are confident with Becton's experience and credentials.

Chairman of the Board William McKenzie said, "I am delighted that he has agreed to accept the challenge of leading the university into a new era of excellence, building on the solid foundation laid by his predecessors."

Becton, who retired from the Army in 1983 after serving nearly 40 years, is currently chief operating officer for American Coastal Industries.

Before leaving the military, Becton served as director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for four years.

Pump up the volume



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Kim Harris, a junior agricultural education major, Harris says she gives every semester, when the donates blood Monday morning in front of Sbis. Wadley Blood Center comes to A&M.

Resolution passes postponing cutting MSC trees

By Melissa Naumann

Of The Battalion Staff

The Faculty Senate approved a resolution Monday to postpone cutting down or moving the trees involved in the Memorial Student Center expansion.

By a 37-31 vote, the Senate approved the resolution from the Personnel and Welfare Committee, recommending that the plans be deferred until students, former students, faculty, staff and concerned citizens have the opportunity to review the current and alternative plans and to verbalize their concerns to Texas A&M President William Mobley and the Board of Regents.

Medicine Tribe holds rally/Page 4

A second part of the approved resolution recommended that every effort be made to revise the plans to avoid destroying one tree, pruning two trees heavily and transplanting five.

The Faculty Senate serves as an advisory committee to the University president and any decisions made by the Senate must be approved by him and the Board of Regents.

As the expansion plans stand now, four live oak trees will be destroyed, five that are more than 30 years old will be relocated on the grassy area between the MSC and the drill field, 10 that are less than 30 years old will be relocated in the fountain area when the expansion is completed and 10 that are less than 30 years old will be relocated elsewhere on campus. Fourteen new trees will be planted.

Dr. Benton Storey, chairman of the Personnel and Welfare Committee and a professor in the horticultural sciences department, said the ex-

Faculty Senate proposes committee to review bonfire

By Melissa Naumann

Of The Battalion Staff

The tradition of bonfire should be reviewed by a committee consisting of student senators, faculty senators and members of the Association of Former Students, the Faculty Senate decided Monday.

During Committee of the Whole, the Senate approved a motion to recommend to the executive committee that a committee be formed to examine bonfire. Committee of the Whole is an informal discussion time when the entire Senate forms one committee to make suggestions, ask questions or express concerns.

Dr. Richard Shumway, an agricultural economics professor, introduced the motion, saying that he couldn't condone bonfire since a student died while working on it, and the Senate needs to

address the safety and academic concerns of bonfire.

Max Stratton, Class of '69, a senior lecturer in the health and physical education department, said he worked on bonfire as a student, and even though it wasn't an education in the academic sense, it was an education in itself.

Also during Committee of the Whole, the Senate approved a motion by Dr. James Rosenheim to recommend to the executive committee that a resolution dealing with racism be proposed.

Rosenheim, an associate professor in the history department, said that, since the administration had not publicly responded to the vandalism of the shanty built by Students Against Apartheid, the Senate should draft a resolution stating that the "Faculty Senate deprecates it and all other acts of racism."

Dr. Dean Gage, executive assistant to President Mobley, said Mobley reviewed a public

statement Monday regarding the vandalism and it should be released today.

In official business, the Senate approved adding eight undergraduate and four graduate courses. The new undergraduate courses are:

- English 311 (to be cross-listed with Linguistics 311), Speech Sounds and Writing Systems. (3-0). Credit 3.
- English 409 (to be cross-listed with Linguistics 409), Introduction to Linguistics. (3-0). Credit 3.
- English 410, History of the English Language. (3-0). Credit 3.
- Linguistics 105 (to be cross-listed with Speech Communications 105), Language and Communication. (3-0). Credit 3.
- Linguistics 409, Introduction to Linguistics. (3-0). Credit 3.
- Linguistics 451, Introduction to Indo-European Linguistics. (3-0). Credit 3.

pansion should be reconsidered because he seriously doubts that five of the trees will survive being transplanted. Also, he said, students have not been informed enough about the expansion.

On the other hand, Brennan Reilly, student liaison to the Faculty Senate, said the Student Senate approved the expansion, and the students who have spoken out against the expansion are a vocal minority.

"There are costs, but the benefits far outweigh the costs," Reilly said. Steve Hodge, manager of the University Center, said a University Center Advisory Committee has been involved in the planning since it began in 1985. This committee consisted of the student body president, the MSC director, the presi-

dent of the MSC, the director of student activities, the director of the Office of School Relations, the head of the theater arts department and Hodge, the University Center manager.

Hodge said people have asked him if the plans can be changed to save trees but this is not possible.

"You can't expand around the street or around the corner," Hodge said.

An alternative design was refused by the Board of Regents, Hodge said, because the expansion went from the MSC toward the Gen. Ormond R. Simpson Drill Field and the Regents considered the front of the MSC to be the real memorial. Plus, the alternative building would have formed a semicircle around the tree

that has been called Rudder Oak, making the building less functional, he said.

The expansion will not use any taxpayer money, Hodge said, and, because it uses student fees, the planners wanted to give students as much room as possible.

Hodge said that \$1.1 million have been spent on the design of the expansion and that any redesign of any significance would cost at least \$250,000.

"It is very difficult to add any amount of square footage without affecting any trees," he said.

The trees that will be transplanted will be treated by Al Korenek, who developed a new boxing technique. Korenek is known for successfully transplanting two 40-foot tall trees

with 22- and 29-inch diameters in Austin. Here, the largest tree to be transplanted, frequently called Rudder Oak, is 27 inches in diameter.

Dr. Mark Sicilio, from the College of Medicine, said the first cutting is scheduled to start in mid-December when most students will be out of town.

"I think that's convenient," Sicilio said. "It's sly and it's wrong."

Dr. Merrill Sweet, a professor in the biology department, said that, since the expansion has been planned for four years and has cost \$1.1 million so far, waiting might be the best option.

"What's the big hurry?" he said. "Why the big rush? In other words, let's look at it again. After all, it's not over until the chainsaw sings."

Scholarships, awards given to eight cadets

By Holly Becka

Of The Battalion Staff

Eight Corps of Cadets members received awards and scholarships during last Thursday's Fall Review.

Three senior and three junior cadets received the Boot and Saber Awards, presented annually by the Wofford Cain Foundation.

The award is given to cadets from the three military branches and includes a \$1,200 scholarship for the senior recipients and \$600 for the junior recipients.

Army recipients are Elton Don Parker, Jr., a senior biology major from Houston, and Stephen W. Walker, a junior psychology major from Oakgrove, Ky.

Air Force recipients are Matthew Poling, a senior biomedical science major from San Antonio, and Todd Murphy, a junior industrial engineering major from Missouri City, Texas.

Navy-Marine recipients are John L. Albers, a senior industrial engineering major from San Antonio, and Jonathon D. Whittles, a junior biomedical science major from Cloverdale, Ore.

Three cadets have been recognized for outstanding ROTC summer camp achievement. Arthur Simon III, a political science major from League City, finished first among A&M cadets at the Fort Riley Army ROTC Advanced Camp. Richard Walker, a senior history major from San Antonio, and Albers were also acknowledged as for achievement.