

**WEATHER**

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:  
 Mostly sunny, chilly  
 HIGH: 60 LOW: 40

# Millions join strike in Czechoslovakia

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — Millions of people ignored government pleas and joined a nationwide general strike Monday in the largest and most dramatic demonstration so far for democracy and an end to Communist Party rule.

"We don't want you anymore!" a flag-waving crowd of 200,000 roared in a thunderous chant that echoed off the 19th-century buildings surrounding downtown Wenceslas Square. It was the 11th straight day of massive protests in Czechoslovakia.

Huge crowds of workers also poured into the streets of Bratislava, the east Slovak industrial center of Kosice, the mining center of Ostrava on the Polish border, and in Usti

nad Labem, the heart of industrial north Bohemia.

The showing was a resounding victory for the opposition, which had called the two-hour strike a referendum on the Communists' 40-year monopoly on power.

Communist leaders' frantic attempts to avert the strike failed, as workers joined the pro-democracy movement started by students, artists and intellectuals.

Shaken leaders continued to make new concessions to the opposition:

- The party's Central Committee dumped three more hard-liners from the ruling Politburo, the second major leadership reshuffle in three days.

- The Czech and Slovak ministries of culture announced they had lifted most forms of press censorship.
- The Central Committee approved an inquiry by a parliamentary commission into a Nov. 17 rally in which riot police clubbed hundreds of peaceful pro-democracy demonstrators.
- Deputy premier Jaromir Zak said on state-run TV that after long discussion, it was decided to drop the article enshrining the leading role of the Communists in the constitution from a new draft of the document. "Every political party has the right to a leading role as long as it is based on results," he said. "It's not possible to lay this

down in the constitution."

- The official CTK news agency said parliament, until now a rubber-stamp body under firm Communist control, also would be open to discussion of any draft laws. Vladimir Janku, head of the state's commission on church affairs, was quoted as saying these would include new laws on religion that would end state control over churches and the criticized practice of licensing priests.

But there were still more conditions to be met. Posters demanding free elections and an end to one-party rule were plastered over the windows of shops, hotels and restaurants that closed to observe the strike.

At Prague's largest industrial complex, CKD, workers demanded the formation of independent trade unions.

Hundreds of thousands of joyous workers streamed into the city's center, carrying banners of their factories, firms and offices in an outpouring of national pride and support for democratic reforms. Sirens howled and church bells pealed as the strike began at noon.

"Look Gustav, how thick the crowd is!" the people chanted, referring to President Gustav Husak, the man who headed the crackdown on democratic reforms after a Warsaw Pact invasion in 1968.

## Socialist Party concedes defeat in national vote

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — The ruling Socialist Party conceded defeat Monday in a national referendum that would postpone presidential elections and give the fledgling opposition more time to organize and field a candidate.

It was the first free election in more than four decades, and the first since the Communists dissolved their party, renamed it the Socialist Party and opened the way for free multiparty elections.

Final results were not expected until Tuesday, but the presidential candidate of the ruling Socialist Party said voters Sunday had approved the referendum backed by opposition parties.

"We can be certain that the number of 'yes' votes was higher than the 'no' votes," said Imre Pozsgay, the popular Socialist candidate.

An opposition victory would mean that a new democratic Parliament, to be chosen by June, will elect the president. If voters had rejected the referendum, they would have elected a president directly on Jan. 7.

Opposition groups favored postponing the vote until after parliamentary elections, saying that otherwise they could not sufficiently organize a serious challenge to Pozsgay. They hope to win strong

representation in the new Parliament, giving their candidate a better chance at the presidency.

According to recent opinion polls, the Socialist Party is unlikely to win a majority in the parliamentary elections.

With 91.3 percent of the votes counted, the referendum actually was failing by a narrow margin, 50.2 percent against to 49.8 percent in favor. But Pozsgay and opposition parties predicted a reversal when all votes are counted.

Hungarian radio said there were several thousand more "yes" votes than "no."

Pal Kara, secretary of the referendum committee in Parliament, said 58.2 percent of Hungary's 7.8 million eligible voters cast ballots.

Although he conceded that the referendum would pass, Pozsgay said he was encouraged by the results, noting that the Socialists had urged people to vote no, and "look at the percentages."

"That good result shows how close (the party) was to the public opinion," he said.

Pozsgay said there were lessons to be drawn from the results, noting that the four-party opposition alliance had campaigned harder than other parties.

**I like that!**



Senior A&M students Samantha Gordon and Niesa Harman apparently like the outfit worn by a model during the MSC Hospitalities' "Dressing up for the Holidays" fashion show on Monday afternoon in the MSC flagroom.

*Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack*

## Students get lesson in honesty

Senate sponsors cheating awareness

Aggies do not lie, cheat or steal, nor do they tolerate those who do, the Aggie Code of Honor states.

In an effort to remind everyone of the Code of Honor, the Student Senate is sponsoring Cheating Awareness Week, which began Monday and continues through Friday.

"Cheating lessens the value of your degree" is the motto of Cheating Awareness Week, Kerrie Neck, chairman of the academic affairs committee, said.

The purpose of the awareness week is to help Aggies reflect on their personal opinion of cheating and the importance of a Texas A&M degree, Neck said.

"We wanted to bring it (cheating) to a conscious level," she said.

Everyone should be aware of how cheating affects the University and have pride in Texas A&M, Quan Huong, chair of the subcommittee, said. The Student Senate is promoting the awareness of cheating during the last few weeks of the semester because finals week is approaching.

In promoting awareness, the Student Senate has bought an advertisement, distributed fliers and constructed a banner.

The flier states that the Aggie Code of Honor functions as a symbol to all Aggies, promoting understanding and loyalty to truth and confidence in each other.

Although both Huong and Neck said cheating is not a problem at Texas A&M, they agree that it does occur.

People need to be aware that cheating lessens everyone's degree, so that if the temptation arises, they won't cheat, Huong said.

# C.S. police prepare for safer bonfire

By Holly Becka  
 Of The Battalion Staff

Officials from College Station police and fire departments announced during a press conference Monday coordinated plans with University and state officials that they believe will lead to a safer, and therefore more enjoyable bonfire.

The police and fire departments plan an effort with the University Police Department, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, A&M's bus operations and the Brazos Valley Transit System.

Plans include blocking streets in residential areas across from bonfire site to keep streets open for emergency vehicles, stationing buses at various locations to take people to and from bonfire, stepped-up patrol of the bonfire area and a police command post by the intersection of Jersey and Pershing streets.

Maj. Ed Feldman, with police operations, expressed concerns about students and others attending bonfire drinking too much. He

said a bus at the command post will be filled with personnel who will make arrest reports and take pictures of arrestees, and another bus will transport those arrested to the College Station Police Department.

UPD Associate Director Elmer Schneider said that in previous years arrestees were taken to the Brazos County Jail, but the change was made this year because of coordination with College Station officials.

"We think it will be more efficient this way," Schneider said.

Feldman said what happens at this bonfire will determine if there will be future bonfires.

"That problem will be addressed by others besides me, but from a police department standpoint, if it gets to the point where it's going to put needless harm (or) more harm on the citizens, then we have to make that known to the powers that be," he said.

Chief of Police Mike Strobe said he could only speak from the point of public safety, and the police department has concerns for public safety during bonfire.

"Very few people want to see bonfire com-

pletely done away with," Strobe said. "The majority we're seeing would like it to be moved to a different location. We're seeing a lot of the people in the neighborhood by bonfire who are upset that ashes and people get in their yard, that their driveway is blocked and that people are urinating openly in their front yard. We're probably hearing more negative responses from that neighborhood."

"And for the first time since I've been here some people on campus are standing up and saying, 'Hey, it's probably gone to the point where we need to do something about it.'"

"We're concerned with the use of alcohol. We know alcohol aggravates the behavior of a large crowd, and makes it very unruly and hard to deal with. It boils down to what happens at this bonfire will send a message (that will determine) what happens in the future. If it gets to be a real angry situation and there's a tremendous amount of people arrested, I would say you will probably see some significant changes in bonfire."

"I expect there to be an increase in the number of arrests we make related to drink-

ing and disorderly conduct," he said. "Some time during the day (the 63 officers) will be used, plus reserve officers, plus some of our civilian personnel."

In addition to this, University officers, TABC officials and more than 70 College Station fire personnel will be working.

Feldman said that although officers will have to put in extra hours, none of the other patrol beats will be neglected.

To ensure safety of residents near the bonfire area, Jersey Street will be blocked from 6 p.m. to midnight at the intersections of Dexter Drive and Coke Street and Bizzell and Timber streets. Only right turns can be made onto Jersey from Throckmorton during bonfire evening and Lewis Street will be blocked the entire day.

The blocked-off area will encompass a rectangle, the outer boundaries being Fairview, Park Place, Timber and Jersey streets.

Brazos Valley Transit buses will pick up people at 6 p.m. at Southwood Athletic Facility, the Brazos Center and the majority of local hotels and motels.

## Student government poll asks for opinions on MSC

By Mia B. Moody  
 Of The Battalion Staff

Members of Texas A&M's Student Government are conducting a telephone poll of 400 randomly selected students to find out opinions on the University Center expansion, the student body president said.

"We hope to find out how well-informed students are on the expansion issue and how they feel about it, but we won't use our results as ammunition to end the expansion," said Kevin Buchman, a senior speech communications major from Bridge City.

John Ansbach, a freshman aide for Student Government, said the list of students being called, which includes undergraduate students, was compiled by a computer.

"We will probably finish calling people by Tuesday night, then we will combine results and have the results ready by Thursday," said Ansbach, a freshman political science major from Round Rock.

Ansbach said Buchman will then present the poll results to the Board of Regents.

Buchman said they chose to poll 400 students after a faculty adviser from the political science department told them this would be representative of the student body with a reasonable margin of error.

Poll questions are as follows:

1. On a scale of one to ten, how informed would you consider yourself on the University Center expansion (Rudder and Memorial Student Center)?
2. What is your classification?
3. Do you believe expansion of the University Center is necessary?
4. Would you support or oppose action to delay expansion of the University Center?
5. Do you view enhancement of student services as a positive or negative aspect of the University Center?
6. Do you think enhancement of student services warrants the loss of green space?
7. Do you think the administration's efforts to inform the student body on the expansion were adequate?

## Rockefeller visits schools, says U.S. owes kids more

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — As his National Commission on Children observed bilingual kindergarten classes and pre-school pupils, U.S. Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV said Monday the nation owes more to its youngsters.

"We are on a mission," said Rockefeller, a West Virginia Democrat who chairs the commission. "We are driven by the same obsession — that is that we have to do better by our children in this country."

Rockefeller said it is wrong that some children do not receive adequate education or health benefits, adding that it is almost as if children are treated like "another class."

The 36-member commission visited Coronado-Escobar El-

ementary School in the Edgewood Independent School District and La Casa de Ninos Child Development Center Monday in preparation for a public hearing on pre-school children Tuesday.

At the elementary school, approximately 20 commissioners divided into three groups and sat in on bilingual classes and later talked with parents and educators. In the class Rockefeller observed, kindergarten pupils learn in Spanish throughout the day except for about 45 minutes, when they work on oral communication in English.

U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, the Texas Democrat whose legislation created the national commission, joined Rockefeller for a news conference during a break in the tours.