

Texas A&M The Battalion

Credit collaboration
 Mastercard, Visa deny allegations that they schemed to monopolize the market.
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Power outage turns lights out, causes delay in finals

By JILL BUTLER
 Of The Battalion Staff

Many Texas A&M students taking final exams Tuesday at 8 a.m. were left in the dark because of an on-campus power failure.

"We could see with the light from the windows. But there was an extremely annoying high pitched squeal that sounded like a fire alarm was going off"

— Becky Weyland, junior

The power outage was caused by the failure of a cable termination in a manhole on feeder number 10.

Joe Estill, associate director for utilities at A&M's Physical Plant, said building still without power, but Estill said the problem would be fixed before that night.

power yesterday were Rudder Tower, the Memorial Student Center and the Northside parking garage.

Becky Weyland, a junior recreation and parks major from Houston, was taking a final exam in Francis Hall when the power failure occurred.

"We could see with the light from the windows," Weyland said. "But there was an extremely annoying high-pitched squeal that sounded like a fire alarm was going off."

One Geography 201 final in the Eller Oceanography and Meteorology Building was cancelled because the room had no windows and students were unable to see.

Other students taking a statistics final were unable to use their solar-powered calculators without lighting and had to wait 30 minutes for the power to resume.

President gives speech at annual award ceremony Mobley stresses future change

By SEAN FRERKING
 Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M University soon will be one of the top universities in the nation because of efforts by individuals to meet the problems and ever-changing needs of today's world, Dr. William H. Mobley said.

The University's president made these remarks during the annual All-University Faculty Meeting and Award Ceremony Monday. The meeting honored faculty and staff for their academic excellence in 1989-90.

"Fundamentally, it is the talent, creativity, effort and dedication of individual members of our faculty and staff who are responsible for the progress of this University and our confidence in the future," Mobley said.

He said, however, the University still is faced with the challenge of balancing the goals and needs of the campus's faculty, students and administration.

Without concerned and intelligent efforts by these groups, Mobley said, the University will not realize its full potential.

He said there are several major areas the University leadership needs to stress to continue the current progress of Texas A&M.

"However, it is imperative that we constantly seek clarity and balance in our multiple missions," Mobley said.

While some think programs in one area on the A&M campus are overshadowing others, Mobley said, the University must find a balance among all of its needs and missions.

To accomplish these goals, the University must work hard to re-examine and change its goals.

The University president asked each member of the faculty, staff and administration to contribute to the work of the Multiple Mission Task Force.

"Texas A&M University can be a national leader in innovative and effective response to the multiple mission issue," he said. "I believe this should be a top priority for our University community."

Mobley said A&M also must change to meet the needs of the University's new ethnic diversity.

"By 2020, Anglos will become a minority in the total population in Texas," Mobley said. "Texas A&M can and must play a leadership role in the education of all segments of our population."

Mobley said programs on the A&M campus have begun to meet these challenges and offer a variety of answers to the problems that cultural diversity and pluralism can present.

He said the University must work to find and recruit more qualified minority and female candidates for its

faculty and staff while also increasing the supply of female and minority Ph.D. graduates.

Mobley said A&M can no longer tolerate any acts of ignorance with respect to racial and ethnic problems.

"It is totally unacceptable when even one faculty member utters a racial slur in class; when even one egg is thrown at an international student; when even one bigoted letter is posted on the door of a black student," Mobley said.

Mobley said the University must actively encourage an understanding and appreciation of different cultural experiences and heritages.

Mobley also said A&M has undergone a tremendous amount of change physically over the past two decades.

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— Dr. William H. Mobley

He said the University now needs to rethink the campus' programs, facilities and infrastructure.

He said as the academic community becomes more comfortable with its strategic planning process, it will benefit from the new resource allocation and capital campaign. Mobley said it is important for the University to change with the outside world.

Mobley said state funding for A&M has not kept up with the growing needs of the expanding University. He said the school also is behind in its space needs.

Mobley said A&M must work with other groups in Texas to correct the lack of funds for education. The work on school aid reform already has started, he said.

Although the Texas economy is still sluggish, Mobley said he is optimistic about increased funding.

"I believe that within the next two biennia, we will see both major revision in Texas' tax structure and the endorsement of education as the top priority in Texas," Mobley said.

Texas A&M also is planning to increase the level of private support of the University's endowment, operations, capital facilities and equipment needs within the next few months, Mobley said.

Dinner for two



Photo by Eric H. Roalson

Tom Cenaham, senior, and Stephanie Compton, sophomore, celebrate Compton's 20th birthday with a picnic dinner for two under the arches of Albritton Tower Saturday evening.

Estonia joins Latvia, Lithuania in drive toward independence

TALLINN, U.S.S.R. (AP)—Estonia dropped the trappings of Soviet power on Tuesday, changing its name and its flag, and proclaimed solidarity with Latvia and Lithuania in the three Baltic republics' drive toward independence.

Without formally declaring independence, Estonia's Parliament re-instituted some paragraphs from its 1938 constitution, including one proclaiming Estonia "an independent republic, with the supreme state power vested in the people."

It dropped "Soviet Socialist" to become simply "The Republic of Estonia," and it adopted its old tricolor national flag in place of the hammer-and-sickle banner of socialism.

Parliament said the steps were meant to show solidarity with sister republics Lithuania and Latvia, which have issued declarations of independence. The deputies also adopted a resolution proclaiming Baltic solidarity and congratulating Latvia on declaring independence.

"The path to our own statehood is not easy, but we are convinced that here in the Baltics, we three — acting together — will arrive at a restoration of our independent states more fruitfully than if each were to struggle on its own," said the statement, broadcast on Radio Estonia and monitored in Britain.

Lithuania is under an economic blockade imposed by Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, in an attempt to force Lithuania to rescind several laws passed since it declared immediate independence March 11. Estonia and Latvia set unspecified transition periods for secession from the Soviet Union.

On Monday, Lithuania's Council of Ministers decided to cut meat shipments to Soviet ministries by 10 percent in hopes of bartering scarce meat directly with Soviet factories for oil and other supplies, said Aidas Palubinskas, of the Supreme Council legislature's information bureau.

In Latvia, legislators who oppose independence asked Gorbachev not to impose sanctions on Latvia, saying that would hurt many citizens loyal to the Soviet Union.

Latvia issued a declaration of independence on May 4 but did not ask for an immediate break with Moscow or suspend the Soviet constitution. It is waiting to hear if Gorbachev will impose sanctions similar to those on Lithuania.

In Estonia, Parliament approved the constitutional changes and the traditional symbols of state by a vote of 73-14. Eighteen deputies did not vote or did not attend the session.

Minutes later, a small crowd gathered on the cobblestone square outside the ancient parliament building and watched as the red flag was lowered. It was replaced by the blue-black-and-white striped flag used by Estonia when it was independent between the two world wars.

Senior dies

Texas A&M senior Christina Ann Metivier, 22, of Denton died Saturday night in College Station.

Metivier, an industrial engineering major, died after she reportedly collapsed at a local club.

Cause of death is unknown. Services for Metivier were Monday at the All Faiths Chapel.

Philanthropy needs donations

Texas A&M students moving out of dormitories, apartments or houses are asked to donate unneeded items to Twin City Missions.

Twin City Missions needs anything usable — clothing, shoes, furniture, rugs, pots, pans, cups, plates, radios and television sets.

Students can take their donations to drop-off sites by Kroger, 2412 Texas Ave., by the University-owned apartments across from Skaggs or by Twin City Missions, 301 College Main.

Joann Sebesta, assistant executive director of Twin City Missions, said furniture and coats are much-needed items.

Most donations will be given to needy Bryan-College Station residents and some items will be sold in the missions' thrift stores to bring in revenue for the organization.

McClure speaks at banquet



Photo by Eric H. Roalson

Keynote speaker Fred McClure, President Bush's assistant for legislative affairs and former A&M student body president, addresses guests and former students at the Black Former Student

Banquet Saturday. Organizers of the event say Texas A&M's salute to its more than 500 African American former students is believed to be the first of its kind ever held in the state.

Local prima ballerina loses battle with cancer

Famous dancer ends international career

By CHRIS VAUGHN
 Of The Battalion Staff

She lived a life of international renown and critical acclaim, but she died three weeks ago in Bryan virtually unknown and without the fanfare to which she often was accustomed.

Jean Marie Gee, known as Ana Ludmilla on the stage, was one of the first American-trained ballerinas to become internationally famous.

During her ballet career from 1917 to 1933, she was one of the most sought after and respected ballerinas in the world.

She began her career at age 13 with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in 1917. She followed that debut with performances at Carnegie Hall and the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Because Mrs. Gee received so much attention after her performances, she was asked to join the Chicago Opera Company's touring group.

She was the only ballerina to receive an encore in an opera in Chicago and in her debut in New York, and was considered a "prima ballerina" at age 15.

Among her many credits is a special performance for Queen

Elizabeth and the Prince of Wales, who later became the Duke of Windsor.

She danced the leading roles in the ballets of more than 13 operas, including "Carmen," "Gismonda," "Herodiade," "Petrushka" and "Pomona."

Despite all her accolades and honors, however, Mrs. Gee succumbed and died of cancer, unknown to most Bryan-College Station residents.

"It really haunted her sometimes," Monie Smith, one of Mrs. Gee's ballet assistants in Bryan, said. "It was strange. People didn't understand why she would settle here. She really should have been in New York, or at least San Francisco or Houston."

Smith, who began studying ballet under Mrs. Gee in 1974 and became one of her closest and dearest friends, said Mrs. Gee moved to Bryan because her son is buried in College Station.

Jan Broderick, the son of Mrs. Gee and her first husband, was a student at Texas A&M when he was murdered by a hitchhiker in 1955.

Mrs. Gee's dancing career was cut short when she caught her foot on a tack during a performance in London and injured

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