

Stage Center
 Stage Center grips audience with adult drama "Rain."
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Woman endorsed for dean position

By CHRIS VAUGHN
 Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M could have a woman dean in the College of Education beginning this fall if the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Jane A. Stallings.

Stallings, who presently is chairwoman of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the University of Houston's College of Education, accepted A&M's offer a few days ago.

If the Board of Regents approves her nomination next week, she will become the first woman to serve as a dean at the University. She would become dean effective Sept. 1.

Stallings also would hold a tenured position of professor of educational curriculum and instruction at A&M.

"We are very excited to get someone of her stature and administrative abilities," Dr. E. Dean Gage, A&M Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, said. "She is a nationally recognized professional."

Stallings holds a bachelor of science degree in elementary and science education from Ball State University and a Ph.D. in education and child development from Stanford University.

After receiving her doctorate from Stanford in 1970, Stallings was a staff member at the Stanford Research Institute. She helped develop an observation instrument to evaluate the implementation of the Head Start and follow-through education models.

She remained there until 1980, when she began her own research institute, the Stallings Teacher and Learning Institute.

In 1983, she became a professor of education and director of the Peabody Center for Effective Teaching at Vanderbilt University. She joined UH in 1986.

Stallings serves on editorial boards of several professional journals, including the Journal of Research in Childhood Education, Journal of Educational Psychology, and Teacher and Teacher Education.

She belongs to the American Educational Research Association, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the Association of Teacher Educators.

She also serves on the Board of the National Association of Secondary School Principals Curriculum Advisory Council and the U.S. Department of Education's program effectiveness panel of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.

Somewhere over the rainbow



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

A rainbow broke through the clouds between showers over Briarcrest Drive in Bryan Wednesday afternoon. A 40 percent chance of rain is in the forecast for today. The rain which is expected to

last through the end of the week has brought cooler temperatures to the Brazos Valley. Those temperatures have been a welcome reprieve from the recent 100 degree heat.

CNN newscast adds call-ins to program

By ELIZABETH TISCH
 Of The Battalion Staff

Media mogul Ted Turner has done it again.

First he added color to classic black-and-white movies. Now he has added viewer choice to conventional news programs.

Turner's Cable News Network, which started in 1980, announced the first experiment in "interactive news" by a national network based on the concept of two-way communication between viewers and programmers.

Jeff Braun, KBTX-TV news director, said establishing "one-on-one" contact with the viewers is a plus for any TV station.

The experiment will begin Monday on CNN's "Newsnight," an hour-long newscast at midnight.

At the beginning of the program, viewers will see a list of secondary news topics or feature stories across the screen.

Viewers then vote for their choice by dialing a 900 number. The call costs 95 cents. The story with the most votes will be aired.

In an Associated Press article, CNN's spokesman was quoted as saying viewers will not dictate the news, but viewer participation will indicate to CNN what topics interest them.

Braun said the interaction builds loyalty between the station and the audience.

However, he said CNN's new "interactive news" program is actually not very new at all.

"I think that it is just now out of the closet," he said. "KBTX has done research to find what types of stories our audience would like to see, and then we tailor our product to that."

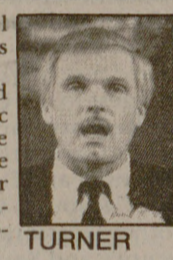
"I think all CNN is doing is saying to their viewers, 'We want to do some research here on open airwaves and find out what you would like to see.'"

Although Braun does not see interactive news in KBTX's future, he is not opposed to CNN's approach in delivering the news, because it involves the audience in the program.

Dr. Don Tomlinson, A&M professor of media law, said the interactive news program is a wonderful approach to getting viewers involved.

He added, however, that one downfall of the program and to any other program involving poll results is the possibility of invalid generalizations, because the sample may not be representative of the whole public.

There has not been any word of similar interactive news programs with the Big Three networks — ABC, CBS or NBC — according to a recent interview with the Associated Press.



TURNER

Emissions issue concerns state

By KATHY COX
 Of The Battalion Staff

Texas faces a potentially no-win situation about the issue of government control of carbon dioxide emissions.

Carbon dioxide emissions have been under scrutiny because of the global warming theory.

The theory says carbon dioxide built up in Earth's atmosphere is causing a warming trend by trapping the sun's heat.

"It's an important issue in Texas, and one we should try to keep better tabs on," Dr. Bruce McCarl, an economist with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, said.

Texas produces about 12 percent of the nation's total carbon dioxide emissions, according to "Reducing the Rate of Global Warming: The States' Role," a November 1988 report by Renew America, a Washington D.C. organization.

Restrictions on carbon dioxide emissions would affect Texas' petrochemical industry, which is largely responsible for the high level of emissions.

If no restrictions are imposed and global warming continues, however, the agricultural industry in Texas could suffer in the next 50 to 75 years.

McCarl said the present level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which is the highest in history, will double in the next 50 to 75 years if output is not changed.

McCarl and a group of scientists used national agricultural, climatic and agro-economic models in a project for the Environmental Protection Agency to examine the effects of expected carbon dioxide levels on U.S. agriculture.

Because reductions in carbon dioxide output may

take years to show any real impact, McCarl said the EPA wants research to see what the situation could be years from now.

"We can't wait to see what it will do," he said. "The EPA would like to see if the costs of regulation now are outweighed by future benefits."

If climatic changes calculated by the NASA Goddard Institute of Space Studies and the Princeton Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory are correct, U.S. agriculture could change significantly and Texas agriculture's output could be reduced drastically.

From a best-case scenario, McCarl said U.S. agricultural output could remain the same. But his studies also show that one-third of the total value of U.S. agriculture possibly could be wiped out.

"This doesn't adversely affect our ability to feed ourselves," McCarl said. "But it does affect exports."

Agricultural exports would be greatly reduced in this case, he said.

Climatic changes also will affect the location of U.S. crops.

U.S. agriculture will see regional changes, McCarl said, including a northward shift of crop production.

Texas is one of the areas that will be adversely affected, he said.

At best, McCarl's projections show a 10-percent loss in Texas agriculture. Projections reveal a 40-percent decline in Texas production at the worst.

Texas should play a part in carbon dioxide emission regulation, McCarl said, because the state, which relies on petrochemicals and agriculture, is affected both ways.

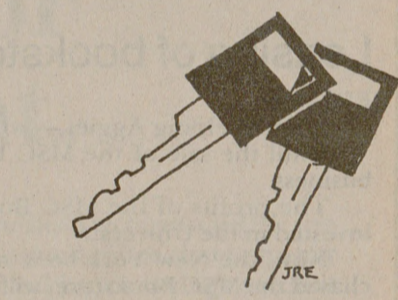
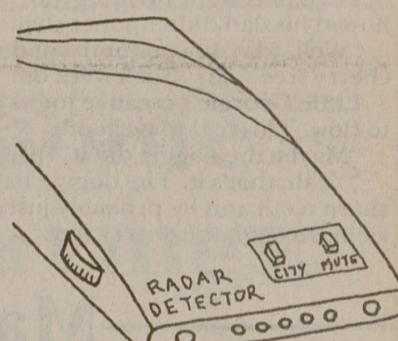
"If they do nothing, we lose ... and if they do something, we lose," he said. "We should pay attention and try to come out of this as good as possible."

Officials, manufacturer disagree on accuracy, uses of radar equipment

By MIKE LUMAN
 Of The Battalion Staff

Local law enforcement officials and a leading manufacturer of radar detectors are on opposite sides of the road when it comes to interpreting facts about the accuracy of police radar.

Cincinnati Microwave, the company that makes the Escort detector, claims up to 30 percent of radar-



Graphic by J. Richard Ellis

based tickets are in error.

The publication that makes the claim explains the operation of traffic radar and lists several failings inherent to any radar unit small enough to be used from a car.

Most charges hinge on the fact traffic radar displays only one read-out, and human error is possible when deciding which vehicle on a crowded road is the source.

Law enforcement officers said the technical information in the report was correct.

Lt. Mike Mathews, commander of technical services for the College Station Police Department, said there is a possibility of bias in the conclusions.

"They are selling a product, radar detectors, to defeat traffic radar," Mathews said. "Naturally, they will point out everything they can think of that's bad or at fault."

The CMI report states a skilled operator would not write a ticket without being absolutely sure, but a less-skilled operator might write the ticket and be wrong.

"A careless operator intent on filling his quota might see the number and single out a likely perpetrator — the red sports car — and be done with it," the report reads.

Terry Field, a trooper with the local office for the Department of Public Safety, said traffic radar does have limitations.

"Accuracy comes from training and experience," Field said.

"We don't just turn the radar on and pick out a car," he said. "We observe the vehicles approaching and make a determination of approximate speed."

"We know which vehicle we think is speeding before we ever turn the radar on," he said.

Field said officers are retrained and certified on radar about every two years.

The CMI report contains infor-

Battalion poll shows concern over school's research emphasis

By MIKE LUMAN
 Of The Battalion Staff

An overwhelming number of students think research is emphasized more than teaching at Texas A&M, according to a Battalion poll.

The majority also feel they have had an instructor whose performance was hindered by his or her research.

The Battalion poll is a survey of Texas A&M students intended to measure opinions about campus-related issues.

The poll, which will be conducted periodically, is taken from a random sample of students attending summer school. A sample of 442 students was obtained from telephone interviews.

A total of 81 percent of students polled said research received more attention than teaching did at A&M.

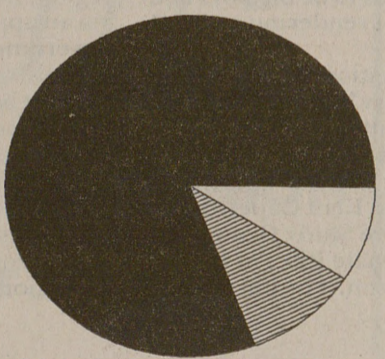
Ten percent said teaching was emphasized more than research, and nine percent had no opinion.

When asked if they had ever had an instructor whose performance was hindered by his or her research, 60 percent of the students polled said yes.

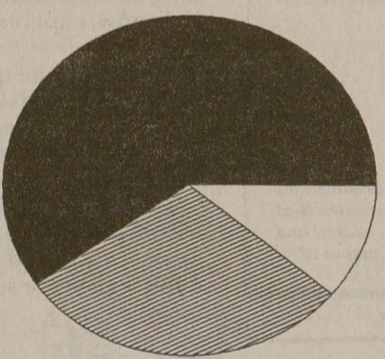
A total of 29 percent said they never had an instructor whose performance was affected by research while 11 percent had no opinion.

University President William H. Mobley said in an April article in The Battalion that there is a conflict between teaching and research.

The issue is too simply put if it's teaching versus research though, he



Which do you think is emphasized more at Texas A&M — research or teaching?
 ■ Research — 81 percent
 ■ Teaching — 10 percent
 □ No opinion — 9 percent



Have you ever had an instructor whose performance you felt was hindered by his/her research?
 ■ Yes — 60 percent
 ■ No — 29 percent
 □ No opinion — 11 percent

said.

He said a major university has multiple roles including undergraduate teaching, research, and services such as continuing education.

Mobley added research brings in income that is used for state-of-the-art equipment, and the equipment frequently benefits undergraduate students.

A random sample of 400 yields a margin of error of plus or minus five percentage points with 95 percent confidence.

This implies that if the total student population were surveyed, the

Correction

A story in Tuesday's issue of The Battalion incorrectly quoted Steve Ogden, Republican candidate for state representative, about maximum terms for state senators and representatives.

Ogden said the maximum length a Texas representative

should be in office is six terms, while a state senator's stay in office should not exceed three terms.

Representatives' terms are two years, and senators' terms are four years.

The Battalion regrets the error.