Texas A&M Battalion

We asked and you said...

Should A&M continue the bonfire tradition?

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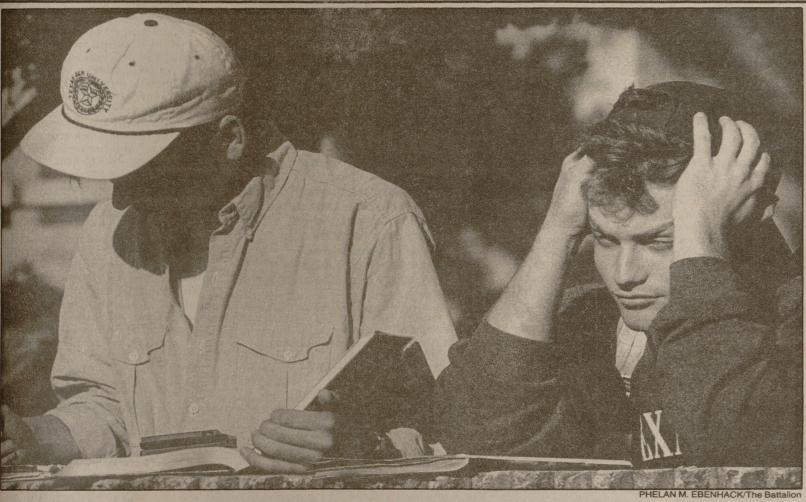


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College Station, Texas

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Registration blues



istration line for three hours Tuesday morning while his friend honors registration at the Pavilion.

Junior Keric Clanahan tries to stay awake after waiting in the reg- Erik Wilson gets in a little studying. Tuesday was the first day for

Clevenger seeks statewide council

By MIKE LUMAN Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M's student body president is pushing for official recognition of a statewide student leaders' council to remedy student representation problems in the Texas Legis-

Clevenger says other statewide student organizations are ineffective and plagued with problems.

The new organization will be a council of student body presidents from Texas universities, he says.

Ty Clevenger submitted the proposal last week during a meeting with A&M President William Mobley and the 36-member council of state university presidents.

Mobley says Clevenger's presenta-tion was "well received," and other university presidents likely would discuss the proposal with their student leaders.

"Communication is always healthy," Mobley says. "I think the communication will be positive between the council of student body presidents and the council of university presidents.

Clevenger says A&M's Student Government is "extremely involved" with the Legislature.

Student interests include flexible tuition, representation on the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents and funding of the workstudy bill, he says.

He says A&M student leaders will meet with student body presidents from other schools, including the

"Communication is always healthy. I think the communication will be positive between the council of student body presidents and the council of university presidents."

> - William Mobley, president

University of Houston, Texas Tech University and Lamar University before the semester ends. All student leaders contacted are

interested in the council, Clevenger "I can't think of any state with stu-

dents less organized than they are in Texas," he says.

"Obviously we can't go down there (Austin) with a united front or a united agenda," Clevenger says.
"I'm frustrated and fed up with He says he wanted to go through a

legitimate group — the council of university presidents — to organize all the student body presidents.

Mobley says other university presidents appeared interested in the

The future of the council of student body presidents will be dis-cussed during the next meeting of university presidents, Mobley says.

Engineer: Creativity solves environmental problems

SY SEAN FRERKING The Battalion Staff

America could reduce its dependency on eign oil and help save the environment by ting a sensible national energy policy, aid an internationally known engineer and

mentor Tuesday. Dr. Paul MacCready, the inventor of the hist working human-powered airplane, poke during a slide presentation given to more than 100 Texas A&M students.

"Because past administrations have had no negy policy, we have to fly forces to the liddle East to maintain our foreign fuel adction," said MacCready, named the "Engier of the Century" by the American Society Mechanical Engineers in 1981 for his work the solar-powered aircraft, the Solar Chal-

Oil imports could be cut by two-thirds, he aid, while damage to the environment also could be reduced if the United States would set an energy policy and force engineers to design fuel efficient vehicles.

He said the government, however, is not solely responsible for the present situation.

'As consumers, we are the true designers of our automobiles and vehicles," MacCready said. "If we would demand cars that got high gas mileage, car companies would comply.

"We have the technology now to make these cars," he continued. "We just don't have

Until a crisis forces people to change, Mac-Cready said he doesn't think the nation will embrace any new inventions.

"With gas so cheap, it's too easy to get by," he said. "We have the knowledge to produce cars that get almost 80 miles per gallon.' For example, MacCready's company, AeroVironment, is working with General Motors

on a new project to design an electric car.

The battery-powered Impact accelerates faster than a Mazda Miata and gets the equiv-

alent of 75 mpg, he said.

"With projects like Impact, we force our-selves to refine and refine," MacCready said. "Although some of these projects may be impractical, they are important because we can convert our findings into practical applica-

The creativity developed by designing so-lar-powered airplanes and electric-powered cars also can be applied to the environment and other social problems, MacCready said.

"Once people start taking off their blinders and begin looking at these problems in different ways, we can get somewhere," MacCready said. "Creativity can solve many, if not all, of the planet's potentially disastrous problems.'

Comparing the present environmental situation to the extinction of the dinosaurs, MacCready said he was concerned about the lack of progress in efforts to stop the destruc-

tion of the environment. "Presently, the exponential growth of the

human race is forcing the depletion of one out of every four plant or animal species," MacCready said. "Opinions are slowing changing, but we may have started too late. The next 40 years will tell us if the Earth, as we know it, will survive or not.

However, he said he was optimistic because of growing support for the environmental movement. Increased attention in the media has caused people to discover ways to handle present environmental problems, MacCready

"Almost everyday you see something (about the environment) in a local newspaper or magazine," he said. "The exposure to the issue has led to many breakthroughs in the areas of aerodynamic efficiency and alternative fuel sources.

We have the technology now to wipe out pollution and stop the destruction of the environment," he continued. "The entire situation is troubling. At the same time, knowing what we can do, it is incredibly exciting.

Registration begins

Touch-tone telephone registration by classification begins Thursday and will continue through Nov. 27.

The registration system is open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Twenty minutes are allowed to register once the system has been accessed. The system automatically disconnects after 20 minutes, but students can redial and continue until they complete reg-

Open registration, and drop and add by phone is Nov. 28 through Dec. 14 and Jan. 2 to 17. The system will be available from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., excluding week-

For more information regarding registration, consult the Spring 1991 class schedule book. Graduate students worried about fall semester classes can Qdrop through Friday.

Government forces open fire

Hindu fundamentalists force way to mosque through police blockade

AYODHYA, India (AP) — Government forces fired on housands of Hindu fundamentalists who broke through police barricades Tuesday and forced their way into a heavily guarded mosque. Five Hindus were killed and 20 wounded.

At least 26 people were killed in other parts of India as the de-cades-old dispute between Hindus and Moslems over ownership of the site came to a head.

The controversy has left at least 138 people dead in the past week, brought Prime Minister V.P. Singh's government close to collapse and further strained already tense relations between India's Hindu majority and Moslem

Singh, who opposes the Hindu campaign to replace the 16th-century Moslem mosque, on Tuesday repeated his offer to resign if his party thought it would help contain the sectarian vio-lence. He made a similar offer

Hindu fundamentalists had said they would start construction Tuesday on a temple to the god Rama on the site occupied by the mosque. The government said it would block any attempt to destroy the small, one-story shrine and arrested 90,000 supporters of the fundamentalist World Hindu Council in the past week.

On Tuesday, 10,000 Hindus stormed police barricades outside the disputed shrine. Police first used tear gas and bamboo canes to beat back the crowd.

Then, after several hours of clashes as the crowds pushed closer and closer to the mosque, the police fired rifles. Reporters saw four bodies, but

a government spokesman in New Delhi later said five people were killed. Witnesses said at least 20 people were wounded. S.K. Gupta, a doctor at a local hospital, said 13 of the injured were in serious condition. "They have only 10 percent chances of

survival," he said. Thousands of young men wearing orange headbands, the color of the Hindu faith, broke through successive police cor-dons, entered the small mosque, pried bricks from the wall and chipped bits of plaster from its three domes. They planted an orange flag on each dome before police chased them away.

Many Hindus said they were helped by policemen guarding the mosque, which the funda-mentalists say stands on the spot where Rama was born. Most of the 20,000 policemen on duty in Ayodhya are Hindus.

While the crowds rushed toward the mosque, Hindu holy men screamed obscenities from rooftops and pelted police with stones. At least four policemen were injured.

As news spread that the police barricades had been breached, hundreds of Hindus poured into the streets of Ayodhya in defiance of the 4-day-old curfew that had confined them to their homes. Many distributed candy and exploded firecrackers to shouts of "Jai siya Rama!" - "Victory to Rama!"

Many policemen were seen en-tering the disputed shrine to

Pray.
The World Hindu Council said its success in penetrating police lines meant the temple project

"In my 19 years of service, I

have never experienced such a sense of failure," a senior government official at the site said on condition of anonymity. "It was a collapse of the administration."

Later, paramilitary troops cleared the shrine of intruders and threatened to open fire if any further attempts were made to breach the barricades.

In several towns hundreds of miles from Ayodhya, Hindus and Moslems fought street battles and police opened fire on rioting mobs. In those incidents, 25 were killed in street battles and the po-lice firing, while one Hindu committed suicide in protest.

Student Senate passes bill reminding students to consult academic advisers

By BRIDGET HARROW Of The Battalion Staff

The Student Senate passed a bill Wednesday night that would remind students who have earned greater than 59 credit hours to meet with their academic advisers to ensure they are meeting their graduation

requirements.

The reminder would be included on students' fee slips and schedules of classes. Senator Roderick Diggs

who introduced the bill said the 100 credit hour degree audit does not allow enough time for students -most of which need only 130 credit hours to graduate — to correct errors in their graduation plan. Diggs will present the proposal to the SIMS ad-visory committee for implementa-

Senate members also passed a bill to commemorate the work of Ryan White, who came to national attention in his fight against AIDS dis-crimination. The "Ryan White Me-

morial Day" will be April 8, 1991, the day of the 1st anniversary of White's death. The commemoration day was orignally scheduled to be December 17, 1990, the day after the 19th anniversary of White's birthdate, but school would be out of session.

In other business, the Senate also considered a bill requesting that University Administration give notice of any possible tuition or fee increase at least one semester before it is to be considered by the Board of Regents.

Bush tries to calm war fears

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush discussed the possibility of war in the Persian Gulf with leaders of Congress Tuesday and was urged not to let impatience

"There's concern on Capitol Hill ... that this is somehow a prelude to immediate military action," George Mitchell, the Senate Democratic leader, said. But the White House tried to dampen fears that fighting was

The attitude was "play it down — be calm," presidential press secretary Marlin Fitzwater said. "I would say that it's pretty much steady as she goes."

Bush promised to continue consulting with lawmakers but pointedly added, "We must all understand, however, that any such commitment must be hedged, given the unpredictable and dynamic circumstances of

"Many of us told him to make sure we don't use the military option out of impatience, that we try the embargo, the sanctions, the United Nations resolutions,

our allies' efforts first and foremost," Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said as he left the White House.

Fitzwater said the administration hopes the economic sanctions will drive Iraq from Kuwait. But he also said, "It is a process that requires patience. We have to keep watching it. We have not seen a lot of impact at this

After consulting lawmakers, Bush also met with senior national security advisers. Bush has sent more than 200,000 forces to the gulf, and Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said last week that 100,000 more may be de-

'The administration is considering further augmentation of our gulf forces and will be consulting with the allies on this matter," Fitzwater said.

Meanwhile, in an announcement at a Republican political rally, Bush assured Americans there will be plentiful oil supplies despite the cutoff from Iraq and Kuwait. He said any shortages had been made up by increased global production and other steps.

Look for the bonfire section in Thursday's Battalion