

# Texas A&M The Battalion



It's A&M Hoops Time Basketball special section looks at team See Page 5

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## Bush sends more troops to gulf, hopes forces dissuade Hussein

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Thursday ordered massive additions to the U.S. military force in the Persian Gulf, transferring troops and tanks from Europe, sending in new warships and calling up combat-ready National Guard units to give "an adequate offensive option" if needed to drive Iraq from Kuwait.

Bush, asked directly whether he was going to war, said: "I would like to see a peaceful solution to this question. I think Saddam Hussein should fully withdraw his troops from Kuwait."

"If this movement of force is what convinces him, so much the better," Bush said. He added later, "When he surveys the force that's there ... he will recognize that he is up against just a foe that he can't possibly manage militarily."

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, giving details of the new buildup, said three armored divisions from Germany and one from the United States, the famous "Big Red One" First Infantry Division based in Fort Reilly, Kans., would be sent to the gulf region.

Neither he nor Bush would say how many troops would be joining the 230,000 U.S. forces already in the gulf area.

However, full deployment of the units listed by Cheney would add about 120,000 troops to the U.S. forces there. Even without sending all of their support units, the additional combat and essential support forces total about 100,000.

Iraq has more than 400,000 troops in the region.

Cheney said the Navy would send three additional aircraft carrier battle groups and their escorts, one additional battleship and amphibious craft.

And, the defense secretary said, combat-ready National Guard units — the 48th in Georgia, the 155th in Mississippi and the 256th in Louisiana — would be called up for the first time, for possible

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— President Bush

ble reassignment to the Middle East.

They total about 10,000 people. Cheney said fresh Army, Navy and Marine forces would be sent to the gulf, along with hundreds of battle tanks.

Bush spoke as Secretary of State James A. Baker III was in Moscow consulting senior Soviet officials over Persian Gulf strategy.

Soviet officials said they could not rule out the use of force. Bush called this statement "very helpful," and said, "We're on the same wavelength" with President Mikhail S. Gorbachev on goals in the Middle East.

Bush said he hopes international economic sanctions force Saddam to withdraw, but his declaration concerning offensive forces dramatically altered his three-month policy in the Persian Gulf, which has been to be able to withstand further aggression by Iraq.

The president said he also had consulted with Saudi King Fahd, whose nation has provided the main staging area for the U.S. and multinational deployment.

The new buildup involves "a considerable additional increment to U.S. forces," said Cheney. He said naval, air and heavy ground forces from the United States and Europe would be deployed.

Bush said current forces were adequate as a defense against "any further provocation" by Iraq.

"To the troops half a world away, he pledged: 'We won't leave you there any longer than necessary.'"

Asked what had changed that led him to decide to beef up the forces, Cheney replied that it was a "guarantee of the safety of all and I think it sends a very strong signal" to Saddam.

## A&M to acquire gulf field station

By TROY D. HALL Of The Battalion Staff

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is moving its Gulf Coast research field station to the Texas A&M campus in early 1991.

Although A&M is not the only university with a field station sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it will be the only one of its kind serving the Gulf Coast, says David J. Schmidly, head of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

The field station will study the impact of toxicants in the environment on fish and wildlife as well as basic ecological work on the Gulf Coast.

The Fish and Wildlife Service was anxious to move the field station to A&M from Victoria so it could do these more dynamic things, he says.

The field station is expected to offer long-term benefits and will provide many opportunities to A&M.

"We are most excited about A&M students and graduate stu-

dents being able to get involved with these government scientists on their various projects," Schmidly says.

He says these students will have a better opportunity for employment after they graduate.

"The program should bring in opportunities for the entire toxicology program for a long time," Schmidly says.

"Government scientists will be linked with our academic scientists in ways that will allow us to expand our ability to address environmental issues along the Texas coast," he says.

Schmidly credits acquisition of the field station to several A&M administrators including Charles Arntzen, dean and deputy chancellor of agriculture and life sciences, and Neville Clarke, an associate deputy chancellor at A&M.

Schmidly also acknowledged political support of U.S. Rep. Joe Barton, R-Ennis, and U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, and their efforts in helping secure the relocation of the field station.

## Recent AIDS policy pleases homosexuals

By JULIE MYERS Of The Battalion Staff

Gay and lesbian faculty, staff and students at Texas A&M are breathing a little sigh of relief two months after implementation of a non-discrimination policy.

The anti-discrimination clause in the AIDS policy means sexual preference cannot be used as a factor when considering tenure and promotion, says Larry Hickman, Gay and Lesbian Student Services faculty adviser.

Gay and lesbian professors at A&M are not as fearful about their jobs now that a specific clause offers more protection, Hickman, a philosophy professor, says.

Hickman was a member of the AIDS committee that pushed for adding the sexual-orientation clause to the general policy.

Previously, gay and lesbian staff and faculty could be discriminated against at promotion or tenure time either overtly or under the table.

"Someone could make sexual innuendos or say that so-and-so was not a 'family man' and everyone would know what was going on," Hickman says. "There were lots of ways to hide the intent."

Combined with the rigorous tenure and promotion system, the anti-discrimination policy is very specific and a big step in the right direction, he says.

"If you were being discriminated against, you would know it," Hickman says.

Hickman says one of his friends, an A&M professor, could not take his living partner to any department socials for fear of being ridiculed.

"Imagine not being able to take your wife, husband, boyfriend or girlfriend to functions that are a part of your job," Hickman says. "Imagine the friction that would cause to a relationship."

Students also continue to have problems being open about activities, Hickman says, because notices posted around campus publicizing GLSS meetings are torn down within minutes of being posted.

"There is a lot of intolerance," Hickman says.

About 200 schools have adopted policies in the past five years prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals, according to the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force.

John Scroggs, GLSS secretary, says many gay and lesbian students still are fearful, but GLSS is becoming more visible on campus to help students overcome their fears.

GLSS membership has increased dramatically since implementation of the AIDS policy, Scroggs, a junior English major, says. About 70 people attended the last meeting as compared to around 40 before the policy.

A gay professor, who now feels safer since the policy was implemented, has expressed an interest in joining the GLSS Speakers' Bureau.

The bureau provides speakers for classes like Human Sexuality to promote understanding of alternative lifestyles.

Texas A&M President William Mobley's approval of the policy is a significant departure from attitudes expressed by some A&M officials, Hickman says. GLSS's predecessor, Gay Student Services, was awarded official University recognition in 1985 after a lengthy court battle which ended in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court refused to hear the case, which forced the University to accept the decision made by the U.S. Court of Appeals 5th Circuit. The court said GSS deserved the same treatment as other student organizations.

"If this administration had been in place then, the University could have saved itself \$750,000 in legal fees because there would not have been the same opposition from the top," Hickman says.

The A&M policy prohibits discrimination based on sexual preference and characteristics including age, ethnic background, family status, gender, handicap, national origin, race, religion and veteran status.

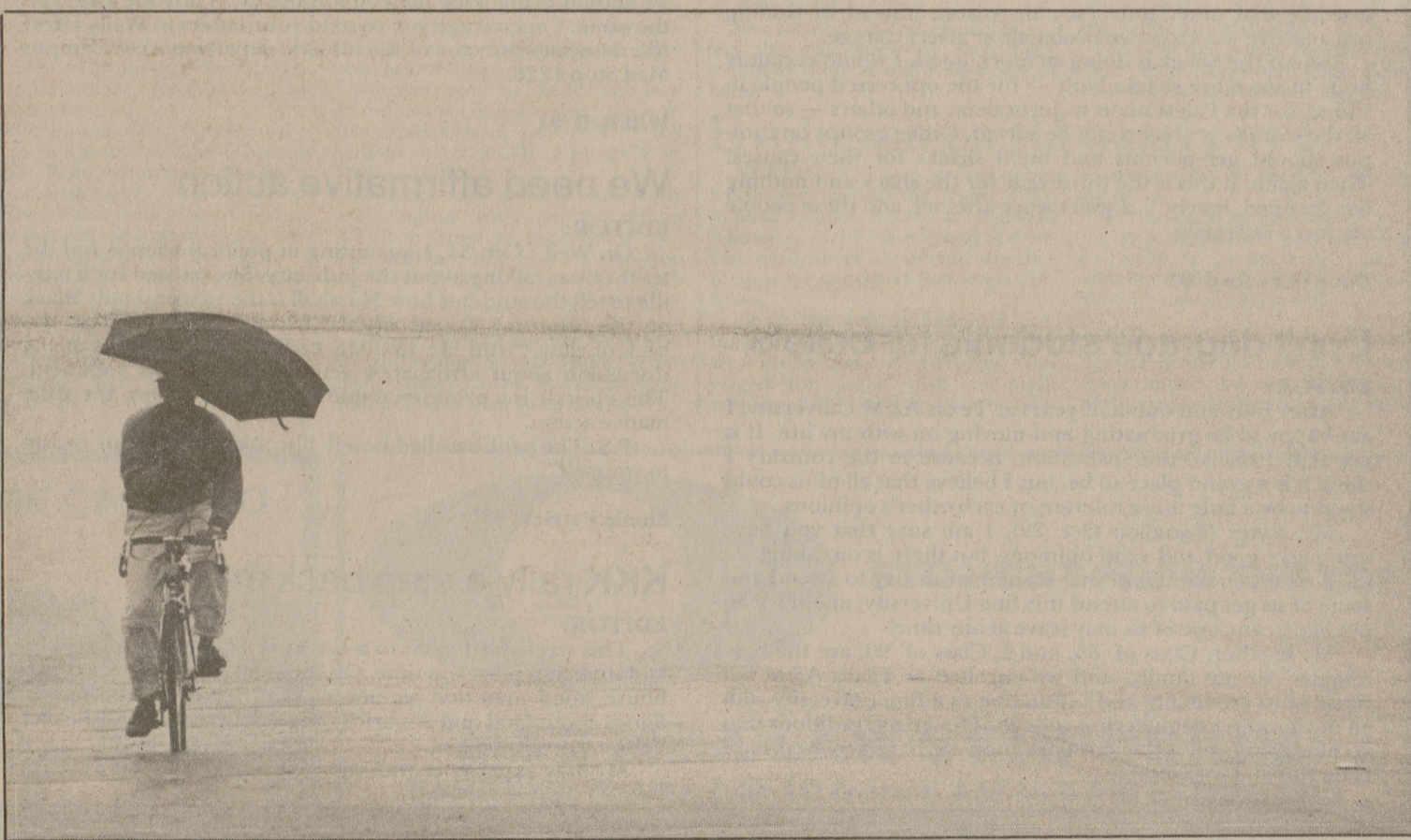
University Regulations for students and the Policy and Procedures Manual for faculty and staff now include a six-page section devoted to AIDS and related problems, such as discrimination.

Scroggs says he does not know of any student or faculty challenges to the policy, but he says he believes a challenge would give the lesbian and gay community a chance to see if the policy works.

The battle to end discrimination is far from over, Hickman says.

"But we now have the tools to fight discrimination that may occur, and that's progress," Hickman says.

### Lost in a fog



JAY JANNER/The Battalion

Jake Desai, an electrical engineering major, bikes in the rain down Asbury Street through steam caused by the power plant's cooling tower. An inch of rain fell Thursday as the temperature hit 50 degrees, but the weather is expected to clear by the weekend.

## Just dial LIGHT University creates outdoor campus light repair call-in program

By ISSELLE MCALLISTER Of The Battalion Staff

Because criminals hide under the cover of darkness, Texas A&M's University Police Department is breaking new ground in taking thieves' safety blankets away.

UPD has established Light Line to directly involve the A&M community in the process of repairing faulty outdoor lighting, Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, crime prevention supervisor, says.

Anyone on campus can dial the 24-hour number L-I-G-H-T (5-4448) to report any exterior light

**"There is a direct correlation between lighting and personal safety."**

— Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, crime prevention supervisor

that is in need of repair. Those off campus can call 845-4448.

Effective lighting is one of the best crime deterrents available, he says. UPD is trying to eliminate as many dark areas as possible with this new program.

People calling Light Line will contact a dispatcher who will submit a

repair order to the communications supervisor, Kretzschmar explains. The communications supervisor will then forward the repair order to the physical plant or the proper department, and the light will be repaired as soon as possible.

If the person reporting the burned out light is not sure of its ex-

act location, the security division will help find the lights.

Kretzschmar stresses citizens should call the phone line only to report existing lights that need repairs, not to suggest new locations for lamps.

"There is a direct correlation between lighting and personal safety," he says.

But because the program was established only a few weeks ago, Kretzschmar says it is too soon to tell if crime has decreased.

"We are trying to maintain a safe atmosphere at the University," he says.

## Documents show EPA tobacco panel members' ties to industry

NEW YORK (AP) — Six of the 16 members of a newly appointed Environmental Protection Agency panel considering the health risks of second-hand cigarette smoke have ties to a tobacco industry research organization, documents show.

A seventh member of the panel was appointed upon the recommendation of the Philip Morris tobacco company, EPA officials said.

"They've stacked the deck with people who have close ties to the tobacco industry," said Dr. Alan Blum, a founder of the anti-smoking group Doctors Ought to Care. "It's pathetic."

"We were concerned about the appearance of conflict of interest," said Donald Barnes, staff director of the EPA's scientific advisory board. But he said the link between the panel members and the tobacco organization "does not cause any question to be raised about

their technical capabilities."

The panel's task is to review the scientific accuracy and objectivity of two forthcoming EPA reports on the health effects of passive smoking.

Six members are connected with the Center for Indoor Air Research of Linthicum, Md., according to the center's publications.

The center is financed by Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and Lorillard Corp., three of the nation's largest tobacco companies. Its board of directors is made up of employees of those companies, Pamela Phillips, an administrator at the center, said.

The chairman of the EPA passive-smoking panel, Morton Lippmann of New York University, is on the science advisory board of the tobacco industry center.

Lippmann and another member of the EPA panel, Dr. Jonathan Samet of the University of New Mexico,

helped devise the center's research agenda.

Samet and three other members of the EPA panel are listed as "peer reviewers" for the center. They help determine which research projects the center supports.

Yet another member of the EPA panel, Delbert Eatough of Brigham Young University, receives research funds from the center.

A seventh member of the panel, Geoffrey Kabat of the American Health Foundation, had been recommended by Philip Morris, EPA officials said. Kabat said, "I have no direct contact with the tobacco industry at all, and I certainly don't see myself as being an agent of theirs in any respect."

The makeup of the EPA panel aroused controversy when it was reported last month that the agency had dismissed Dr. David Burns from the panel after the tobacco industry lobbied to get rid of him.

Burns, of the University of California, San Diego, was the author of the U.S. Surgeon General's report on passive smoking and is regarded by his colleagues as a leading authority on passive smoking. He was reinstated to the EPA panel after his dismissal was disclosed.

Lippmann said he didn't see any problem working with the EPA and with the tobacco research center.

"It can always raise questions," he said. "I don't view it as any conflict."

Lippmann said three of his colleagues at New York University's Institute of Environmental Medicine, where Lippmann works, have received grants from the tobacco industry group. The largest grant was for \$250,000, he said.

Samet's office said he was on vacation and couldn't be reached.