

Head over heels



SCOTT D. WEAVER/The Battalion

Jason Harris, of the Little Aggies Ball Handlers Group, keeps up his concentration despite losing his balance during the half-time entertainment for the Lady Aggies match with Baylor on Friday.

U.S. forces suffer fatality

IN SAUDI ARABIA (AP) — One American has died and 12 are missing in action in the Persian Gulf War, Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf, said Sunday.

He also said he believed that 16 of Iraq's 20 mobile missile launchers had been knocked out by U.S. and allied forces. Iraq apparently used those weapons to launch Scud missiles against Israel on Friday and Saturday.

Speaking on CBS-TV, "Face the Nation," the commander said U.S. military officials suspected Iraq was

Military historian deems nuclear strike unlikely

By MIKE LUMAN
Of The Battalion Staff

An Israeli nuclear strike against Iraq is possible but "very unlikely," the director of Texas A&M's Mosher Institute for Defense Studies said Sunday.

Dr. Frank E. Vandiver, military historian, said Israel probably has nuclear capability but is trying to cooperate with U.S. Middle East policy.

"I suppose Israel has a nuclear weapon, but I doubt they will use it knowing that would destroy the Arab coalition," he said.

U.S. and British estimates place Iraq five to 10 years from developing nuclear weapons, he said.

Vandiver, former A&M president and a distinguished University professor, predicted in Thursday's issue of The Battalion the Desert Storm offensive would trigger the launching of Iraqi Scud missiles at Israel and Saudi Arabia. Iraqi missile attacks on the Jewish state began Thursday about 6 p.m. CST.

Israeli officials repeatedly have said they will retaliate against Iraq, and will choose the time, method and target.

Vandiver said he would be surprised if Israel did not retaliate. He said they are compelled to fight back because of domestic and political reasons.

The Iraqi attack on Israel was entirely political, intended to draw Israel into the war, he said.

"I think he (Saddam Hussein) will use any biological or chemical weapons he has, if Israel remains on the sidelines," Vandiver said.

He added, however, any Iraqi Air Force attack on Israel would be suicidal and would indicate Hussein was becoming desperate.

Hussein probably plans to ride out the allied attack, surrender "tattered but brave" and come out an Arab hero for standing up to the coalition, Vandiver said.

He said hostilities likely would go on for two or three months, giving allied forces time to knock out Hussein's communication and transportation networks.

Hussein probably now is using "middle-tech" communications, less-sophisticated networks laid down to reach troops when high-tech communications are out, Vandiver said.

If allied forces can destroy those communications and scatter Hussein's elite troops with bombing runs, the only thing left will be the front line, he said.

"We need to knock out his logistics, control and supplies," he said. "Then there will be one wave — the front line — and that's it."

Iraq may be hiding some of its air force in underground shelters, though, Vandiver said.

Even so, he said most of Hussein's money and supplies go to his ground troops.

Hussein sees air power as supportive in a ground war, and does not consider the Iraqi Air Force of paramount importance, he said.

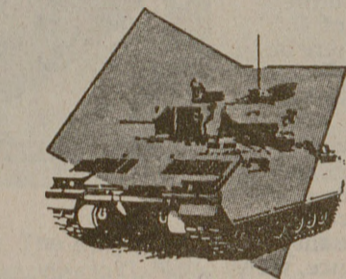
statement, the Iraqi army's general command said other raids focused on his ground forces and elusive mobile missile launchers.

"We've had 13 Americans either killed in action or missing in action," since the war began on Thursday, Schwarzkopf told "Face the Nation."

He said another nine servicemen from the coalition forces were also missing or dead.

In its first detailed description of allied air raids, Baghdad listed 14 attacks, including two on the Iraqi capital and one on the city of al-Qu'im, the site of a nuclear and chemical weapons research and development center.

It said a missile was fired at Tikrit, the hometown of President Saddam and most of his top leadership, but did not report any damage.



Crisis in the Gulf

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holding two U.S. prisoners of war. His comment came after Baghdad TV reportedly showed what it described as two captured U.S. pilots being paraded blindfolded through the streets of Iraq.

Asked about the Baghdad TV report, he said: "I've heard the same reports you've heard. I sincerely hope that's not true. We're doing our best to abide by the Geneva Convention (which demands humane treatment of prisoners of war) and I would certainly hope the Iraqis do also."

Schwarzkopf also commented about four primary nuclear research facilities in Iraq that have been targeted in the coalition air assault.

"I have very high confidence that those nuclear reactors have been thoroughly damaged and will not be effective for quite some number of years," he said.

Iraq said, meanwhile, that U.S.-led allied bombers fired Sunday on Saddam Hussein's hometown. In a

New Regents

Governor appoints to Board first African-American woman

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

The first African-American woman appointed to the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents said she is just realizing the magnitude of her appointment.

Alison Leland, an investment banker, lawyer and vice president of Shearson Lehman Hutton in Houston, was appointed to the Board Friday by Gov. Ann Richards.

Richards also appointed Mary Nan West of Batesville to the A&M Board of Regents and reappointed Royce E. Wisenbaker of Tyler to another six-year term.

Pending Texas Senate approval, the three regents will assume their posts Feb. 1. Their terms expire Feb. 1, 1997.

"Alison Leland and Mary Nan West will bring a fresh, new perspective to the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents," Richards said. "Royce E. Wisenbaker will help maintain the continuity on this very important Board of Regents."

There were numerous outstanding applicants for the A&M Board, and there were difficult choices that had to be made," the governor said. "But I believe we have appointed three outstanding Texans."

The Associated Press reported former state Sen. Kent Caperton had been mentioned as a possible regent.

Leland, 32, graduated in 1980 from Spelman College in Atlanta and received her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1985.

She is a member of the Advisory Council International Affairs Center at Spelman College and the Texas Opera Theatre.

Leland is an active Richards supporter.

Although Leland said she is interested in University finance matters and minority issues, she said she does not have a particular agenda.

"The operations of any university of this size are so complex, I will probably be in a learning mode for a

while," Leland said. "Getting used to the role of a regent will be difficult enough without having an agenda in mind."

Leland's husband, U.S. Rep. Mickey Leland, was killed in a plane crash in August 1989 while trying to deliver food and supplies to famine-stricken areas of Ethiopia.

Leland replaces L. Lowry Mays of San Antonio.

Mays was appointed to the Board six years ago by former Gov. Mark White and supported White in last year's Democratic primary.

West, a San Antonio native, graduated from St. Mary's Hall before attending the University of Arizona and University of Colorado. When she was 18, West took over her grandfather's 36,000-acre south Texas ranch, the Rafter S, near Batesville.

She also owns 10,000 acres in Val Verde County.

West also was the first woman to serve on the Texas Animal Health Commission and was named to the board of the San Antonio Zoo in 1977.

She worked as a volunteer for the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc., for 20 years before becoming the Chairman of the Board in 1985.

West has served on the A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Development Council since 1985.

She replaces John A. Mobley of Austin. Mobley, also a White appointee, supported the former governor in the Democratic primary.

Wisenbaker, 73, has served on the Board of Regents for the past 12 years. He is president and owner of Wisenbaker Production Company in Tyler. He also is president and co-owner of Southern Utilities Company.

Wisenbaker earned his Bachelor of Science in Engineering from A&M in 1939 and also received a master's from A&M in 1940. He has been a member of the State Board of Health.

Wisenbaker, a Democrat, also supported Richards in the govern-

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Fraternity supports soldiers by passing out khaki armbands

By JULIE HEDDERMAN
Of The Battalion Staff

A group of Texas A&M students is showing support for U.S. service personnel in Saudi Arabia in a new way — khaki-colored arm or wristbands.

Members of Sigma Nu fraternity will be handing out arm or wristbands on campus and in class to anyone who asks for one, says Jimmy Beard, a member of Sigma Nu.

Beard and his roommate, Rob Thorpe, not a member of the fraternity, initiated the activity called Operation Storm Home.

Beard says Storm Home means, "Support To Our Returning Military from Home."

Thorpe says they first thought of SOS — Support Our Soldiers — as a name for the activity. That slogan, however, seemed to imply a cry for help which he says was not the meaning intended.

Beard says Operation Storm Home is not making any political statements by taking a stance for or against the war.

He says he respects everyone's point of view and would like this action to be a unifying factor for both

sides of the issue.

"This is an opportunity to show we support the soldiers," he says. "We want them to know that we want them to do their jobs and get home safely."

Thorpe says military personnel have said in interviews they are concerned about support in the United States.

However, Beard says he has noticed that almost everyone, even those opposing the war, support the troops. He says by wearing the arm or wristbands, students publicly demonstrate support for U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf.

Although Operation Storm Home is not set up to be a support group, Beard says the group will be there for families of U.S. service people.

Beard also says he organized this effort to try to avoid what happened after the Vietnam War.

"This is our generation's chance to take a stand," he says. "We want them to be welcomed with open arms."

Thorpe says they chose desert khaki as the color for the bands as a positive reminder of Desert Storm.

Thorpe says he would like the

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Activities honor King

Music, speeches and a video history are among the activities at Texas A&M today in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the slain civil rights leader of the '50s and '60s.

Though King was born Jan. 15, the nation celebrates his birth-

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day on the third Monday of January.

To honor King's work in helping to achieve equality in the United States, a celebration will begin at 3 p.m. in the Commons.

The birthday celebration will include a skit by C.P. Time Players, speeches by Dr. Norma Guerra of the University of Texas-San Antonio and the Rev. Delvin Atchison of the Progressive Baptist Church, music by the Voices of Praise and closing remarks by Ron Sasse of A&M's Department of Student Affairs.

A reception will follow the celebration in Krueger Lounge.

A video about King and his life will be shown at 9:30 and 11 a.m. today in 401 Rudder. The video, titled "In Remembrance of Martin," features U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., Bill Cosby and other important educators and leaders paying tribute to King.

Mendenhall wins Miss Black and Gold

By ISSELLE MCALLISTER
Of The Battalion Staff

After surviving rigorous interviews and dazzling the audience with a dramatic monologue, a Texas A&M sophomore won the fourth annual Miss Black and Gold scholarship pageant Saturday night at Rudder Auditorium.

Dana Lejuan Mendenhall, a chemical engineering major from Irving, had to think quickly during preliminary selections as she was asked questions about current events and her values in specific situations.

"I thought it was a very formal, prestigious and strict interviewing process," she said.

For the talent portion of the competition, Mendenhall performed the inspirational monologue, "I'm Determined To Be Somebody Someday," by William Herbert Brewster.

The other 10 contestants sang, danced, played musical instruments and performed other dramatic pieces, she said.

Mendenhall became interested in entering the Alpha Phi Alpha-sponsored pageant last year because she was impressed with the treatment and presentation of the contestants.

"The purpose of the pageant is to find a woman to represent Alpha, a woman who embodies all the characteristics of the fraternity," said Wil-



SONDRA ROBBINS/The Battalion

Dana Lejuan Mendenhall competed against 11 other contestants to win the crown Saturday.

liam Price, pageant director.

"We don't exploit them," he said. "There is no swimsuit competition."

The contest is a learning experience for women, he said.

"We're not so much concerned with the winner," Price said. "We are concerned with each contestant getting something out of it. They all learn something."

The women were scored by five judges in the following four categories: introduction, talent, modeling and an evening gown portion. The women were asked questions during the evening gown session.

"This is a scholarship pageant," Mendenhall said. "Not once did they

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