

Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 98 USPS 045360 8 Pages

College Station, Texas

Wednesday, February 20, 1991

Bush rejects Soviet proposal

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Tuesday dismissed a Soviet proposal for ending the war in the Persian Gulf as "well short of what would be required." The Pentagon declared its readiness to fight a ground war against Iraq and predicted victory "in short order."

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney told Congress that any pause in the war would allow Saddam Hussein to regroup his army, which has been weakened by relentless air strikes. "A cease-fire, a pause of some kind, would in fact be very dangerous from the standpoint of U.S. and allied forces," Cheney said.

Washington was abuzz with speculation that a ground war was immi-

nent. "The general expectation is it's not far off," Sen. Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., said as he left a White House meeting between Bush and congressional leaders.

The president was quoted by his spokesman as telling the lawmakers, "I obviously cannot say exactly when a ground operation might commence. What I can say is, our preparations are on schedule."

The Pentagon played the same tune. "We are ready now (for a ground war) if the leadership decides that's what they want to do," said Lt. Gen. Thomas Kelly, director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Of the Iraqi forces, Kelly said:

"They will be defeated in short order if we initiate a ground campaign."

Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, said, "We're assuming that the war will have to be prosecuted to the end. We are moving along that course. ... That's where the planning is taking us."

The administration stepped back from its announced willingness to help rebuild Iraq after the war. "We are not about to pay to rebuild Iraq," Bush told the lawmakers. "It's a rich country, if they'd just use their resources wisely," Bush said, according to one participant.

After a day of silence about Mos-

cow's proposal to end the war, Bush declared it was inadequate.

"There are no negotiations. The goals have been set out," Bush said at a picture-taking session with the congressional leaders. "There will be no concessions."

Bush sent a cable Monday night to Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev specifying U.S. objections to his proposal. "I've been frank with him on this."

The president said Gorbachev had asked that details of the plan be kept secret, and Bush pledged not to divulge the contents. Gorbachev had given the plan to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz on Monday and requested a speedy reply.

Coalition forms

A&M System officials present plan to solve education woes

By Jayme Blaschke
The Battalion

Twelve Texas A&M University System officials are in Washington, D.C., today to announce the creation of a mathematics, science and engineering coalition between the System's universities.

Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Chairman William McKenzie, Interim Chancellor Edward Hiler and Dean of the College of Engineering Herbert Richardson head the group presenting the education plan.

President and Mrs. Bush, as well as Texas' congressional representatives, have been invited to attend.

The coalition is to serve as a national model to increase the number of degrees earned by minorities and women.

McKenzie said in a University press release that the coalition's main goals will be to solve the country's education problems. Without improved education, the nation's economic future is uncertain, he said.

A&M's "Commitment to Education" program created by University President William Mobley last

year will be a main component of the coalition.

A&M's designation as the leader in a statewide effort for \$10 million for programs to reform science education at all levels also will play a role.

All eight universities of the A&M System — which have a combined enrollment of more than 71,000 students — will take part in the coalition.

The universities will receive funding expected to exceed \$50 million to operate seven different programs to attain the coalition goals.

Hiler said the unique makeup of the System lends itself to such a program.

Prarie View A&M has Texas' largest percentage of black students and is a national leader in producing black engineers.

Laredo State has the largest percentage of Hispanic students in the state, while the main campus produces more Hispanic engineers than any other university in the nation.

Hiler said these factors make the A&M System an ideal model to improve national education.



MIKE C. MULVEY/The Battalion

Hay, man

A little bit of humor is rolled up in this 500 pound bale of hay just south of College Station on Highway 6. The legs are not

real but are sure to get second looks from the motorists traveling on the highway.

Red Cross relays family emergency news to Gulf

By Bridget Harrow
The Battalion

The American Red Cross provides a 24-hour communication service that allows military personnel in the Persian Gulf to receive emergency messages from family members in the United States.

"The Red Cross is designated by the military as the one mean of emergency communication between family members and persons in the military," says Bill Thomas, director of the American Red Cross for Brazos County.

Family members are permitted to send only emergency messages of birth, death or critical illness because of the volume of messages.

Thomas says since Jan. 16, the American Red Cross has relayed one message every 26 seconds. "Out of this chapter, we are running about 40 to 50 messages a month, which is one to three calls a day," he says.

Thomas says the Brazos County chapter also handles case work for surrounding counties, such as Grimes or Madison, which do not have American Red Cross chapters.

Thomas says messages are relayed to national headquarters in Washington, D.C., which has an immediate link to an overseas location.

"We aim for a 24-hour turnaround respond time on the messages we send," he says.

Thomas says the Red Cross sent a message Monday to a serviceman in Saudi Arabia telling him he became a father. The local chapter received a call Tuesday morning that the message had been relayed.

See Messages/Page 6

Study says caffeine jolts folks differently

By Mack Harrison
The Battalion

College students consume caffeine and sugar for the rush they provide, but the compounds might not give everyone the same jolt, says a Texas A&M psychology professor.

Dr. Larry Christensen, author of "The Food-Mood Connection: Eating Your Way to Happiness," says even though people believe caffeine and sugar act as stimulants, the substances might actually cause depression in some people.

"It was really a fortuitous finding," he says.

For the past 10 years, Christensen has been observing the effects of diet on behavior.

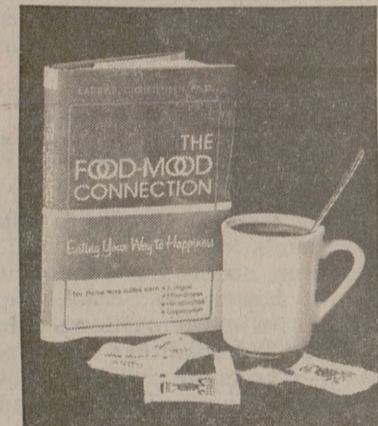
In a study of refined carbohydrates, Christensen did not get results in test subjects like he desired.

In a "shotgun diet" that eliminated sugar, caffeine and other substances, the subjects in the study did not show signs of depression.

When a participant who worked as a waitress told Christensen she felt jittery when drinking coffee at work, he knew he was on to something.

"I gave her a cup of coffee and by the time our conversation was over, she was showing signs (of nervousness)," he says.

Christensen then began focusing on caffeine and sugar as causes of depression.



KEVIN IVY/The Battalion

Christensen says symptoms of depression can include mood fluctuations, constant tiredness and headaches.

He says caffeine or sugar might be the cause of these problems in some people, but not everyone who suffers from these ailments is sensitive to caffeine or sugar.

Christensen uses a psychological inventory to test people who might be sensitive to the substances.

The easiest way to control the symptoms is to avoid caffeine and

See Caffeine/Page 6

Campus projects urge recycling

Editor's Note: This is the first of a three-part series in *The Battalion* on recycling and its increasing importance on our future. Today's focus is on the University and the students' efforts to recycle.

By Greg Mt. Joy
The Battalion

Recycling on the Texas A&M campus still is in its initial stages, despite far-reaching plans for the future.

Joe Sugg, director of the A&M Physical Plant, says support for the plant's white office paper recycling program has been overwhelming.

"We've taken these first steps very slowly to make sure we don't make any catastrophic errors that could cost a lot of money," Sugg says.

"Working everything out in advance has really helped us. You can't just start up at Mach 2."

Efforts by the Environmental Issues Committee of Student Government have been equally successful.

Collection of aluminum cans began Feb. 9 and plans for expansion are being finalized.

"This is the initial stage," says Amy Todd, co-director of the committee. "We have many more outreach goals, things we have never tried before. It all depends on the response of the students."

Todd says efforts by A&M students will determine recycling's rate of expansion.



- Recycling at A&M
- Recycling in B/CS
- Why we recycle

"If students are totally psyched, we can grow quickly," she says. "If they are not willing to give the effort, we can't do anything without them."

Todd says the committee has 100 aluminum can receptacles sponsored by about 20 organizations placed around campus. She says, however, the receptacles are only in about 0.1 percent of the planned campus locations.

"We are currently operating in Blocker, the Corps of Cadets dorms, and a few other buildings," Todd says. "Our ultimate goal is to have sponsored receptacles in every building on campus."

The Environmental Issues Committee is pursuing more sponsors. Organizations wishing to sponsor a receptacle can call Student Government at 845-3051.

David Wieland, a Student Government vice president, says most organizations do not realize the amount of money they could generate by sponsoring a receptacle.

Wieland says recycling's benefits

also could be a great supplement to an organization's funding.

Todd says she estimates that the initial \$5 fee could be raised or even surpassed within a week.

"The fee is only a token to show commitment on the part of the organization," she says. "The money goes directly back into the program. Since we've never done this before, we really don't know how much money can be made."

"I assume the sponsors would call us if the receptacles weren't being filled up," she says. "We have not had a single complaint yet."

Todd says efforts have been made to notify all University-recognized organizations of the recycling effort. She says she hopes eventually each of the almost 200 organizations will sponsor receptacles.

Both Student Government and the Physical Plant have more programs planned.

Sugg says the Physical Plant's white office paper collection was a three-month pilot program.

He says the six buildings in the program have collected about 31,500 pounds of paper, even though some of the buildings only participated in the program for three weeks.

"The pilot is officially over," Sugg says. "We have already expanded to 21 buildings, and we are continuing to expand almost daily. Our goal is

to make the program University-wide."

Sugg says he is unsure how much money has been made through recycling, but the program was not intended to be a huge money-maker.

"Our first goal is to preserve resources," he says. "Our second goal is to save the landfill, which the 15 tons of paper we collected in the pilot certainly did. Money is only our third goal, and we really only plan on just breaking even."

Initial response has been great, and the program should be able to pay for itself, Sugg says. The reason for the program's success is the custodial service's involvement in picking up the paper, he says.

"People only have to sort the paper at their desk, and their part is through," he says. "Custodial services does the rest."

Sugg says, however, there are more ways to save resources than by just collecting them.

"You save them by using recycled materials," he says. "That is something we are pushing very strongly."

"Recycled paper can be bought at the Printing Shop," Sugg says. "It doesn't cost any more than regular paper. All it takes is the initiative to demand the recycled paper."

Sugg says pilot programs presently are underway to recycle both transmission oil and plastic bottles from cleaning supplies.



KARL STOLLEIS/The Battalion

Custodial worker Johnnie Delley empties one of the white paper recycling bins in Evans Library.

"You save them by using recycled materials," he says. "That is something we are pushing very strongly."

"Recycled paper can be bought at the Printing Shop," Sugg says. "It doesn't cost any more than regular paper. All it takes is the initiative to demand the recycled paper."

Sugg says pilot programs presently are underway to recycle both transmission oil and plastic bottles from cleaning supplies.

See Recycle/Page 6

Inside

- 2 Hobbs column 'the itch'
- 4 What's Up
- 5 Cartoons Police Beat
- 7 Wudel column

Weather Outlook



Thurs Cloudy
Fri Partly Cloudy
Sat Partly Cloudy

Focus



Aggie baseballers win again
A&M blanks Westmont
8-0 Tuesday in Olsen Field. **page 7**