

Texas A&M The Battalion

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POWs reach Jordan

Red Cross verifies good health of former prisoners

RUWEISHED, Jordan (AP) — The first 10 allied prisoners of war released by Iraq crossed the Jordanian border to freedom Monday. The former POWs, including an American woman, apparently were in good condition. "They're very happy to be here, but they're worried about the colleagues they left behind," said U.S. Ambassador Roger Harrison, who was on hand to greet the returning POWs. They then were flown to a Jordanian air force base, where the six Americans boarded an Air Force C-141 transport plane scheduled to fly to Bahrain, officials said. U.S. officials said the Americans will board a U.S. hospital ship, the *Mercy*, off Bahrain. The plans for the other former POWs — three Britons and one Italian — was not immediately clear. Earlier Monday, the 10 left the

Iraqi capital of Baghdad after receiving Swiss chocolates, Pepsi Cola, cheeseburgers and a medical check by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Wearing yellow jumpsuits bearing white and red badges with the letters "PW" on their shoulders and backs, they departed Baghdad by road after being handed over to Red Cross representatives. In Jordan, they were examined and given bread, cheese and oranges. Then they changed into gray track suits, Harrison said. "The first batch of allied prisoners of war was only made as a good-will gesture by the Iraqis and they have to work out plans for repatriation of the rest of them," said Andreas Wigger, the agency's chief delegate in Baghdad. Wigger said the Red Cross would meet with Iraqi officials to discuss

the repatriation of all the allied POWs. He said that so far, the Red Cross did not have access to the other POWs, and did not know how many there were. However, Angelo Gnaedinger, a Red Cross delegate for the Middle East and North Africa, said in Baghdad that all allied POWs were in satisfactory health. The allies have said that at least 13 prisoners were taken by Iraq during the Persian Gulf War, and that more than 60,000 Iraqis were taken prisoner. At least 54 allied troops were listed as missing — 35 Americans, eight Britons, 10 Saudis and one Italian. In Saudi Arabia, the U.S. Command said 300 Iraqi POWs would be freed Tuesday. The statement said the time and place of the release had yet to be determined.

Red Cross representatives in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, however, said they foresaw some problems, including making sure that the Iraqi POWs actually want to go home. "Something will happen in the next 24 hours," Jean-Claude Mulli, medical coordinator agency in Riyadh, said Monday, "but you can't expect it all to go as planned. I wouldn't even want to say the figure is 300, as that might raise false expectations." Among those released Monday were Army Spc. Melissa Rathbun-Nealy, 20, of Grand Rapids, Mich., the only female allied soldier listed as missing in action, and Navy navigator-bombardier Lt. Jeffrey Norton Zoun, 28, of Cherry Hill, N.J. "We're going to have one heck of a 21st birthday party for her when she's home," Rathbun-Nealy's

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Republican Guard launches crackdown on Iraqi protesters

SAFWAN, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's Republican Guard launched a fierce crackdown on protesters demanding the overthrow of Saddam Hussein and the establishment of an Islamic republic in Iraq, witnesses said Monday. The Guard was reported to be turning some of its remaining tanks and guns on the demonstrators, who are apparently disgusted with Saddam's handling of the Gulf War and sense that he may be vulnerable. There were reports of protesters killing government officials, including the mayor of Basra, a governor, and a son of Saddam. Witnesses said demonstrations had erupted in at least eight Iraqi cities, stretching from Iraq's sec-

ond-largest city, Basra, to the holy city of Kerbala in central Iraq. They said that in some places the Iraqi troops were shooting women and children. "The special forces are destroying everything in front of them," said Maher Hakawati, 24, a Jordanian photographer who came to Kuwait from Basra. "If anybody shouts from a building they knock it down." Hakawati said he saw Republican Guard tanks moving through the streets of the southern Iraqi port town. He said the military had surrounded the city. Many people in Basra ap-

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Lecturer discusses gender bias

By Timm Doolen
The Battalion

The American educational system is causing harm to women and it doesn't even know it's doing it, a nationally known researcher of gender equity and education said. Speaking in Rudder Tower Monday night, Dr. Carol Shakeshaft said the root of the problem is men are valued more in society than women and this is reflected in the nation's schools and educators. She said gender bias is evident in newspapers, magazines, literature and especially the English language, with the prevalent use of "he" and "mankind." "That tells me women are of less value," she said. She said she does not believe it when people tell her the nuances of



Shakeshaft

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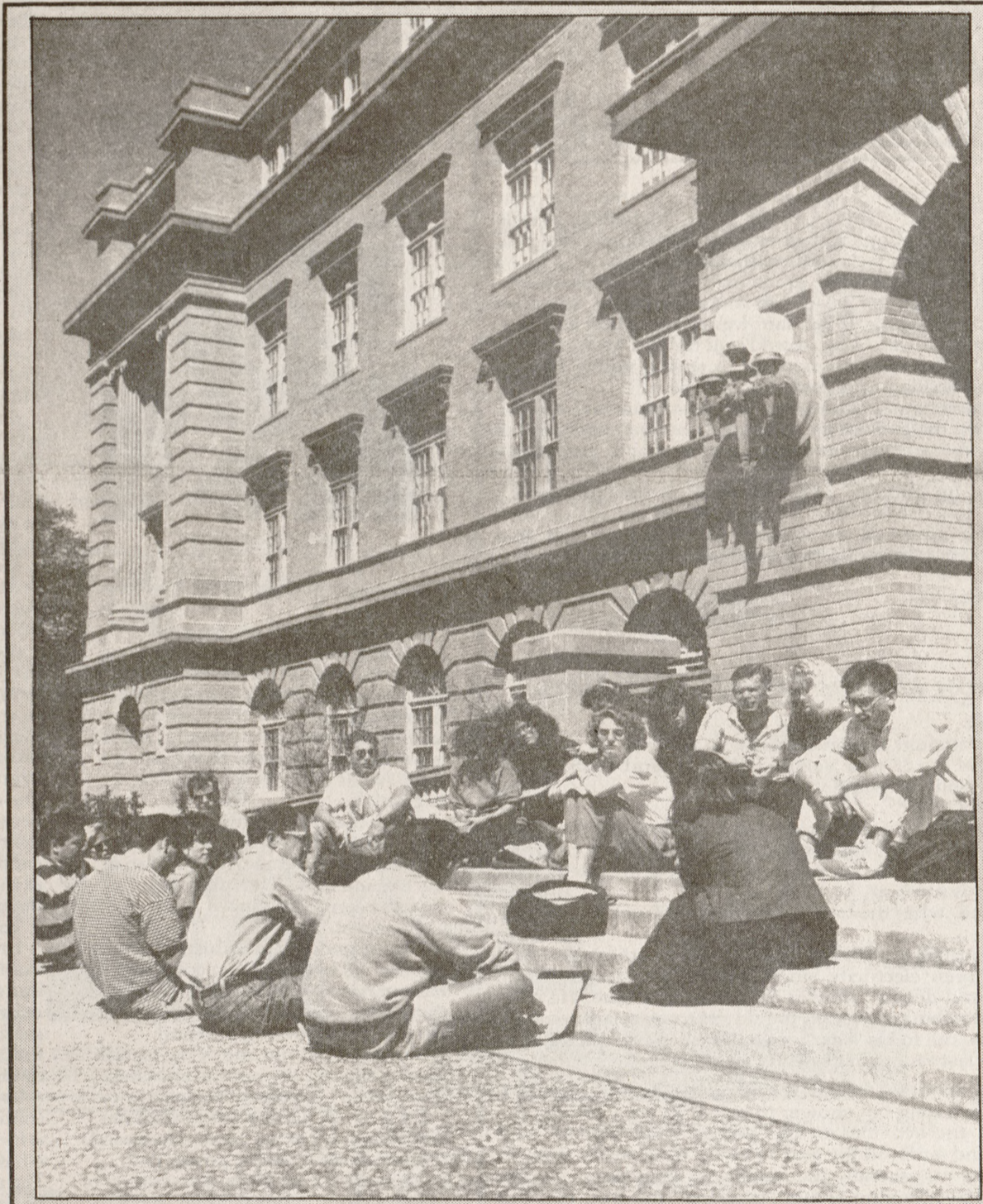


photo by MAUREEN A. MAILLET

Taking in some rays

Dr. Jan Leighley decided to take advantage of the sunny weather and hold her political science 489 class outside of the Academic Building Monday. Sunny weather should continue this week.

Silver Taps ceremony honors one

The solemn sound of buglers playing "Taps" and the sharp ring of gunfire will be heard on campus tonight as one Texas A&M student who died during February is honored in a Silver Taps ceremony at 10:30 in front of the Academic Building. The deceased student being honored is: • Stacy Alan Kirtley, 22, a senior economics major from Conroe, who died Feb. 18 following a motorcycle accident in College Station. Dating back almost a century, the stately tradition of Silver Taps is practiced on the first Tuesday of each month from September through April, when necessary. The names of deceased students are posted at the base of the flag pole in front of the Academic Building, and the flag is flown at half-staff the day of the ceremony. Lights will be extinguished and the campus hushed as Aggies pay final tribute to fellow Aggies. The Ross Volunteer Firing Squad begins the ceremony, marching in slow cadence towards the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross. Shortly after, three volleys are fired in a 21-gun salute and six buglers play a special arrangement of "Taps" three times — to the north, south and west.

UPD gives tips on protection, preparations for spring break

By Julie Hedderman
The Battalion

With spring break just around the corner, Texas A&M students leaving town should make preparations to protect themselves and their homes. Lt. Bert Kretzschmar with the University Police Department Crime Prevention Unit says spring break is one of the most critical times for students to be concerned about their property and personal safety. Students should stay alert and trust their instincts, he says. They should know where and with whom they are staying. They also should have extra money in case of an emergency. One of the biggest problems students have during spring break is drinking too much, he says. This can impair reasoning and use of normal faculties. Kretzschmar says "con artists" also can take advantage of spring breakers during this time. He says these criminals are difficult to identify, and students should be careful of people who try to become instant friends.

"Beware of a stranger who is overly friendly," he says. "Once he's got your confidence, you're hooked." Students can protect themselves from pickpockets by knowing where their purses or wallets are at all times and by leaving expensive jewelry at home. Before leaving on vacation, students can protect their dorm rooms or apartments by making sure all windows are closed and locked and door locks deadbolted. If ground floor windows are left unlocked, it is easy for someone to crawl in and burglarize the place, he says. Kretzschmar also suggests taking valuables home for spring break if possible. Operation Identification is another way students can protect their property. Engraving or using a waterproof marker to mark their driver's license number on the back of their property makes identification easier if a home is burglarized. Students should write down the serial numbers of their property and keep them in a safe place. Kretzschmar says students should not leave a mes-

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Clevenger lobbies for support of Student Government plans at monthly faculty conference

By Julie Myers
The Battalion

Texas A&M faculty members should voice their opinions to the administration because faculty and students share many of the same concerns, the University's student body president said. Ty Clevenger addressed the Faculty Senate Monday during its monthly meeting to gain support for initiatives supported by Student Government. These initiatives include: • easing requirements on international travel by faculty; • increasing recycling efforts; • integrating minorities, international students and athletes into campus organizations; • organizing student groups in Texas to present views to the Legislature; • increasing or at least maintaining the present level of funding for faculty salaries; • placing faculty members on the boards of regents in Texas public institutions; • seeking lower prices for food, supplies and services offered to students by Business Services.



Clevenger

The University administration has not supported some of these initiatives, Clevenger said. He said he can prove that high-level administrators have violated Texas Open Records Laws. "They said it was not the information we needed, that we wouldn't understand it, or that it was proprietary when it was clearly public information," he said. In addition, he said administrators "severely misrepresented" his position to Food Services staff. He said it was made to sound like he criticized the personnel and the quality of food and services offered by them.

This is untrue, Clevenger said. "They (Food Services personnel) are underpaid, don't have enough benefits and some have told me personally that they do not feel appreciated," he said. "My loyalty to this institution has been questioned and I'm sick of it," Clevenger said. "I'm not trying to cause trouble."

Clevenger said Student Government's new motto sums up his attitude towards activism. "Our motto in Student Government used to be, 'It's better to have tried and failed than to have failed to try,'" Clevenger said. "Now our motto is, 'Better to have aimed for the stars and missed than to have aimed for a pile of cow manure and succeeded.'" He said the University is on its way to being known as an Ivy League school of the South.

"People don't laugh out loud anymore when we say that," Clevenger said. As proof of A&M's growing reputation in the academic community, he cited the performances of the Bolshoi Ballet last November and possible location of the George Bush Library at A&M. Presently, Clevenger said he remains hopeful the Legislature will pass a bill placing non-voting student members on the boards of regents of all state schools. Presently, however, some legislators think students do not fully support the measure because many versions of the same bill have been sponsored by different representatives, Clevenger said.

These representatives, mostly from college areas, are trying to grab the credit for getting the bill passed, he added. Clevenger said he will go to Austin soon to help straighten out the bill so everyone will agree. Clevenger said it's an exciting time to be at A&M. "The only limits are the ones we place on ourselves, and that is clear at A&M."

Faculty Senate speaker emphasizes elections for 'qualified' nominees

By Julie Myers
The Battalion

The speaker of the Faculty Senate stressed the importance of upcoming elections for Senate positions during the Senate's meeting Monday. Dr. Bill Stout, professor of agriculture engineering, said senators should nominate qualified faculty for vacant senate positions. The nominating period ends Friday at 5 p.m. Absentee balloting extends from March 25-29 and the election will be April 1. Faculty Senate actions approved by President William Mobley since the Feb. 11 meeting include: • Adding a bachelor of arts in International Studies, B.A. in Agribusiness, revising the WFSC teaching option, and changing the B.S. in biology to a B.S. in Molecular and Cell Biology; • Changes recommended by the Rules and Regulations Committee.

In other business, the Senate approved: • Requests from the Rules and Regulations Committee to make changes in the 1991-92 Texas A&M University Regulations; • Requests from the Graduate Council to add a Master of Science Degree in Architecture, ARCH 648 Building Preservation Technology, GEOP 672 Principles of Geomagnetism and Paleomagnetism which will be cross-listed with OCEAN 672 Principles of Geomagnetism and Paleomagnetism; • Requests from the University Curriculum Committee to add ENGL 339 African-American Literature and to drop two civil engineering courses, two forest science courses, one industrial engineering course, two mechanical engineering courses and five mining engineering courses; All action taken by the Senate must be approved before being enacted.