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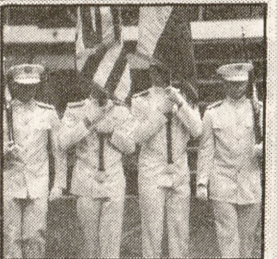
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FORECAST
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SPORTS
Make or break
Designated hitter Billy Harlan and his A&M teammates gear for SWC showdown with Texas **page 5**

INSIDE
Aggie Muster ceremony set for Sunday night
The names of all Texas A&M students and former students who have died this year will be called in the Roll Call for the Absent at Aggie Muster beginning at 7 p.m. Sunday in G. Rollie White Coliseum.
Beginning in 1923, this Aggie tradition has been celebrated annually by lighting a candle for each person while a friend or family member answers "Here" to symbolize that those who have died will always remain with us in spirit.
The list of names includes three former students who died in Operation Desert Storm.
A comradeship barbecue from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday will begin the day's ceremonies. Students on a Food Services Board Plan can use the barbecue as one of their weekly meals. Everyone else's cost will be \$5.



The Battalion

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Signing has Soviet, A&M management plan closer to reality

By Greg Mt. Joy
The Battalion

A delegation of Soviet business and education leaders signed a letter of understanding Thursday, bringing a possible joint Texas A&M-Soviet management training program one step closer to reality.

The signing culminated a week-long effort to promote future cooperation between the Soviet Union and A&M's Center for Executive Development, part of the College of Business Administration.

The letter outlined plans for proposed faculty and student exchanges and for the establishment of management training courses in the Soviet Union based on the programs presently run by the Center for Executive Development.

Duke Hobbs, director of the center, said financial problems seemed the only remaining roadblock.

"We are currently looking at the feasibility of establishing the programs in the Soviet Union," he said. "We know the programs they need. At this point, it is only a matter of economic support."

The Soviet delegation consisted of Victor Samkov, director of the Urals Institute for Social and Political Studies; Alexei Chemodanov, director of the Association of Business Cooperation with Foreign Countries (MAYAK); and Alexandre Somov, director of the Foreign Trade Firm of People Concern Butek (STROYKA).

Dr. Benton Cocanougher, dean of the College of Business Administration and the Graduate School of Business, joined Hobbs and Assistant Provost for International Affairs Dr. Emily Ashworth as signees representing A&M.

Cocanougher said the letter was a formal declaration of A&M's dedication in working toward mutual benefits for both the University and the Soviet Union.

"We certainly hope it represents the beginning of a long and fruitful friendship," he said. "We are looking forward to working with our guests and their colleagues in the future. I truly hope this letter will set an example that many others will follow."

The Soviet representatives also stressed the letter as a starting point for future cooperation. Samkov said the experience of A&M's management programs would be invaluable in the Soviet Union.

"Hopefully, we have started a good business together here," he said. "For a country in a transitional phase like

See Signing/Page 4



Horsin' around
Wes Allison, a sophomore agricultural economics major from Stratford, hitches Amos (left) and Andy to a feed wagon early Thursday morning. Amos and Andy pull the wagon around the equestrian center each morning as feed is thrown out to the center's other horses.

TED W. ALBRACHT

Weighing pros, cons of proposal

By Jayme Blaschke
The Battalion

Provost, deans consider options to place students on selected textbook committees

Texas A&M soon might become a model for the nation by giving students a say about which textbooks are used in certain classes.

Dr. E. Dean Gage, A&M provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the Academic Programs Committee is considering a ground-breaking proposal that would place students on various departments' textbook selection committees.

"The proposal came up several months ago and received a positive response," Gage said. "The deans are now discussing the proposal with their department heads to see what the different options are."

Ty Clevenger, A&M's former student body president, said he believes no other university in the country has students participating in the selection of textbooks for classes.

"I know there is griping across the country about books changing too often and the extra expense that causes," Clevenger said. "This is the first time students will be able to do something about it."

"The proposal would affect freshmen and sophomore classes with multiple sections," he said. "The way it is now, the book being used one semester might not be used the next."

Gage agreed with Clevenger's observations and said the proposal could lend continuity to some classes.

"This can help prevent some of the changes that often occur in the larger undergraduate classes, like chemistry and English, where different sections might have different books," Gage said. "Many students can't sell their books back because of that, and we've gotten complaints about it."

See A&M/Page 4

Economists predict increasing revenue through corporate income tax

By John Lose
The Battalion

Texas will take an alternate route to raise much-needed revenue and abandon the possibility of a state income tax, said the head of the Texas A&M economics department.

Dr. Thomas Saving said an income tax is only one of several methods available to increase the state's cash flow.

"The government can do one of two things to try and reduce the state deficit," Saving said. "They can either reduce expenses in other areas, or try to raise revenue. It doesn't seem to me that the state is ready to cut expenditures any more than it has, so they will somehow have to raise revenue."

Saving said the state probably will try to replace the present corporate franchise tax with a corporate income tax.

"In my opinion, this would be the easiest way, because the corporation would only be taxed on the business they do in-state," he said. "The larger corporations are already taxed by those states which have franchise taxes."

Saving said some people fear a new corporate tax will reduce Texas' attractiveness to corporations seeking new locations. In the past, Texas has lured firms because of its low tax rate of corporations in relation to other states.

A recent study by the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas indicated a major tax increase would bring Texas' economic recovery to "a grinding halt."

Savings, however, disagreed with the study's findings.

"I think a corporate income tax would have

See Economists/Page 4

A&M scientists explain pesticide research

By Mack Harrison
The Battalion

Environmentalists and farmer activist groups, worried that land grant colleges focus too much research on pesticides and biotechnology, are misinformed, said a group of Texas A&M agriculture experts.

Environmental groups claim land grant universities are basing their programs on chemical agriculture instead of environmental-friendly methods.

Texas A&M was organized as a land grant university in 1876, and the University continues to participate in agricultural research.

Organizations such as Farmers for Alternative Agriculture Research want schools to develop pest-resistant plants and sustainable agriculture.

Activists claim research at many land grant universities is controlled by the chemical companies funding the college's work.

Dr. Alvin Young of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, however, said he does not agree with the activists' claims.

"I understand environmentalists' concerns," Young said. "They are not well thought out. Their data supports their contention very poorly."

Young said land grant colleges receive most of their research money from federal and state sources.

Researchers at A&M are working on a variety of sustainable agriculture techniques. Scientists are using new methods and re-applying old ideas.

B. L. Harris, soil specialist with the Texas Agriculture Extension Service (TAEX) at A&M, said sustainable agriculture is not a new concept, but TAEX is applying it in a new way.

"It's an agricultural system which minimizes reliance on off-farm supplies and maximizes use of on-farm resources," Harris said. "The idea is to introduce less chemicals into the environment."

A&M researchers are working to reduce pesticide use and to develop sustainable agriculture, said Dr. Denise A. McWilliams,

extension training specialist of agricultural chemicals with TAEX.

She said TAEX is reducing pesticide use by incorporating integrated pest management into its sustainable agriculture program.

Ray Frisbie, TAEX pest management specialist, said the University has been using integrated pest management (IPM) for the last 20 to 25 years, long before sustainable agriculture became popular.

He said IPM is compatible with sustained agriculture and shares one of its goals — to reduce farmers' dependence on chemical pesticides.

See Pesticide/Page 4

Future A&M research facility will combine new technology in medicine, agriculture

By Mack Harrison
The Battalion

Scientists from all over the world will participate on the cutting edge of biotechnology research at a new Texas A&M facility opening this fall.

The Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBT) in Houston will combine research in medicine and agriculture, a union already producing results.

Scientists at the IBT have developed an AIDS treatment and are working with a Houston company to develop the treatment for commercial use. The technique was pioneered by researchers at A&M.

Biotechnology research will focus on commercial use, benefiting Texas' economy. Officials expect biotechnology will be a \$200 billion industry by the year 2000.

The \$22 million facility, located at the Texas Medical Center on the former site of the Shamrock Hotel, is

See Research/Page 4