

FORECAST

Wednesday

Partly Cloudy

High near 90

OPINION

⊕ ⊗ ⊖

"So there we have it. Fraternities haze."

— Trey Jacobson

page 5

LIFESTYLES

Wildlife at A&M

Vet School's Wildlife and Exotic Animal Center preserves endangered species

page 3

INSIDE

A&M tops statewide sales of collegiate license plates.

Texas

AGGIE

Texas A&M University

page 2

The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 151 USPS 045360 6 Pages College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" Tuesday, June 11, 1991

Metcalfe, A&M officials meet to discuss 'slush fund' allegations

From staff and wire reports

Former Texas A&M basketball coach Shelby Metcalf will meet with Texas A&M officials today to discuss allegations that he controlled thousands of dollars in a special cash fund used to pay players.

Metcalf denied knowledge of any illegal fund during a phone interview Monday with *The Battalion*.

The Austin American-Statesman, however, reported Sunday that Metcalf used the cash for clothes, parties, beer, airfare,

court costs and an abortion for one player's girlfriend, citing two A&M administrators and two former players as sources.

Metcalf, the winningest coach in Southwest Conference history, said the allegations "are all news to me."

"I can speak for myself," Metcalf said. "Over a period of 27 years, you don't know who might have said



Shelby Metcalf

or done something." Metcalf coached at A&M for 27 years and was removed from coaching in 1990.

"I'm not saying something didn't happen, but I think you have a gross exaggeration here," he said. "I can assure you no one gave me any money. We had probably the cleanest program in the conference."

Metcalf said he and his coaching staff were aware of how University President Mobley felt about A&M's athletic program.

"He wants a program above reproach," Metcalf said.

When asked if a fund could have existed without his knowledge, Metcalf said he did not believe such a breach could have happened, but added that coaches do not have complete control of their programs.

"Coaches can't be with their players 24 hours a day," he said.

An administration source said he was told by an A&M booster who contributed to the fund that it was in operation for more than a decade and that it involved thousands of dollars. The information provided by the administration source was confirmed by a second administra-

tor, the American-Statesman reported.

There is no documentation to prove an exchange of money between alumni and Metcalf or between Metcalf and players, sources said, because all the transactions were in cash.

One administration source said the payments stopped when Kermit Davis replaced Metcalf as coach last year.

Speaking on the condition their names not be used, one former A&M player said he received cash and a second watched

See Metcalf/Page 6



SONDRA N. ROBBINS/The Battalion

Down Under

Tara Lee, Lori Denson, David Mayer, and Kevin Smith put on their goggles before going under in an advanced scuba class at the Wofford Cain

swimming pool. The class meets at 10:30 a.m. and is taught by Tom Meinecke, a lecturer in the health and physical education dept.

Statements completed

Mobley hands down final revisions on A&M's discrimination, harassment policies

By Chris Vaughn
The Battalion

University President William Mobley recently completed his controversial alterations of Texas A&M's harassment and discrimination policies by omitting all specific groups from two statements in the students' handbook.

Mobley's decision, announced Monday in the Faculty Senate, ended weeks of speculation that the president would change the remaining specific harassment and discrimination statements to more general policies.

Specific wording such as race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation and age were removed from both statements.

The first statement in the 1991-92 Rules and Regulations Handbook now reads: "Texas A&M University has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity in all areas. In that spirit, admission to Texas A&M University and any of its sponsored programs is open to all qualified individuals without regard to any

subgroup classification or stereotype."

The second revision comes under the Student Rights' portion of the handbook and reads: "Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University free from any form of harassment and any form of illegal discrimination and without regard to any subgroup classification or stereotype."

These two statements differ from Mobley's first policy revision, which was the University Statement on Harassment and Discrimination. That statement, altered in March, makes no mention of "subgroup classification or stereotype."

Mobley said he changed the statements because general statements are more inclusive than statements mentioning specific groups.

While Dr. Jim Mazzullo and Dr. Larry Hickman, both outspoken critics of Mobley's changes, believe the revised statements in the

See Critics/Page 6

SUMMIT TALKS

President Bush and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev are not likely to hold their summit until sometime after the mid-July economic summit of the seven major industrialized nations in London, the White House said today.



White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said he could not rule out the possibility that a superpower summit could be held before then.

Moscow and Washington both have said they hoped to have a summit in late June if possible.

Senate plans to begin 20-minute breaks between classes

By Chris Vaughn
The Battalion

Texas A&M's Faculty Senate approved a recommendation Monday to extend the break between classes to 20 minutes after searching two years for a solution to the sprawling campus' time constraints.

The 20-minute break period, which begins Spring 1992, is in response to a problem with students leaving classes early and arriving late because they cannot get from east to west campus or from north to south campus in 10 minutes.

A report by the Senate's Planning Committee recommended

the 20-minute break period on a trial basis for Spring and Fall 1992.

After the trial basis, the Faculty and Student senates will evaluate the results and suggest changes.

But 20 minutes between classes has other advantages, the report stated.

"It also provides the advantages of minimizing pedestrian and vehicular interaction, increasing shuttle bus utilization and more opportunity for student/faculty interaction," the report stated.

Lecture and laboratory times for classes will be altered to deal with the 20-minute breaks. Classes on MWF still will last 50 minutes, but will begin at 8, 9:10, 10:20, 11:30 and so on. Classes on TR will be-

gin at 8, 9:35, 11:10 and so on.

The Planning Committee considered several options in its two-year study, including additional shuttle bus routes, shortening class times, and offsetting the starting times on east and west campuses.

But A&M Registrar Donald Carter and Dr. Steve Searcy, chairman of the subcommittee which studied the issue, said none of the other alternatives was as desirable as lengthening the break period.

After some debate, the Faculty Senate also passed a recommendation to lengthen the time students can Q-drop a class to 10 weeks, the 50th class day. Presently, students

can only Q-drop until the fifth week, or 25th class day.

Though the recommendation passed, some professors believed 10 weeks was too long and that the measure was being approved just because graduate students can drop until the 10th week.

Associate Director of Student Affairs Bill Kibler, however, said students need more time to evaluate their classes, especially since some students do not receive a grade until the seventh or eighth week.

All recommendations approved by the Faculty Senate are forwarded to University President William Mobley who rejects or accepts the Senate's advice.

In other business, the Faculty Senate:

□ approved a proposal to change the name of the Faculty of Plant Physiology to the Faculty of Plant Physiology and Plant Biotechnology. The group is an intercollegiate group of faculty members that administers the graduate degree programs in plant physiology.

□ approved requests for two new English graduate courses and one psychology graduate course.

□ approved a new undergraduate political science course, and altered an undergraduate English course and mechanical engineering course.

Legislators support funding for education reforms

By Greg Mt. Joy
The Battalion

Legislators and the rest of the Texas state government need to get out of the way and let teachers and administrators do the jobs they were educated to do, a state education official said Monday during a banquet at the MSC.

Sonia Hernandez, director of education in the governor's office, told educators from across Texas that teachers must be allowed to make the decisions they went to college to learn to make.

Hernandez, keynote speaker for

the New Directions in Education Conference banquet, said each school district in the state must have a plan by 1992 for site-based decisions in compliance with House Bill 2885.

"The bill encourages teachers and administrators to make their own decisions," Hernandez said. "In September, you will have the freedom to do so."

Hernandez said state educators also have firm backing from Gov. Richards' office.

"As a one-time middle school teacher, the governor is a firm believer that only education can turn the state around," Hernandez

said. "We are about to enter one of the toughest times ever for the state financially, but funding for education is essential."

Hernandez said despite financial hardships to come, funding must be secured for education at all levels.

"You and I need to stand shoulder to shoulder and fight for every dollar to continue to do the things we have been doing at this conference," she said.

The conference, which took place Monday and continues today, was designed to study and support innovative programs at all education levels.

Programs involving ties between schools, industry and business and universities were targeted specifically.

Hernandez said cooperation with the governor's office is essential to the success of these programs and offered her office phone number to beleaguered educators.

"If you need help, give me a call," she said. "I will make sure you can say we offered you legendary customer service second to none. We work for you."

Hernandez said HB 2885 went a long way toward freeing teachers to do their jobs but came up short

on some important issues.

"Teachers' and administrators' salaries need to be increased," she said. "The state average is in the mid-20s, and that just can't do it. That is not a professional living wage."

That average, she said, is well below the national average.

"We are looking at adjusting that average by at least \$5,000 a year at a minimum to catch up with the rest of the nation," she said. "Gov. Richards is committed to exceeding the national average by 1996. We need at least that much just to give teachers and administrators enough comfort to be

able to think about kids and learning."

Hernandez also urged educators not to stay at arms length with the Legislature.

"You have an ally in the governor's office and an ally in me," she said. "Schools can't be skimmed on. This is something we can't afford not to invest in."

Funds for educational staff development also are needed, Hernandez said. An extension from the five days currently offered for staff development is needed, she said, as well as money.