

FORECAST
 Thursday's Forecast: Mid 90s
 Isolated Thunderstorms

SPORTS
A&M Soccer Club
 "European Football" is alive and kicking at Texas A&M University.
 page 3

OPINION
 "(Let's) create a Community Service League that directs students into concrete community service experiences."
 - Tim Truesdale page 5

INSIDE
 Professor creates computer graphic programs to teach children.
 page 2

The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 160 USPS 045360 6 Pages College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" Wednesday, June 26, 1991

TCA Cable might cancel 'objectionable' rock video channel

By Tammy Bryson
 The Battalion

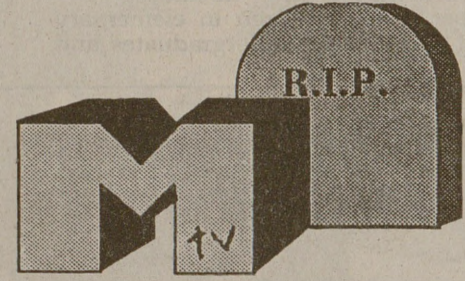
Present negotiations between TCA Cable and MTV Networks could result in the cancellation of the popular rock video channel throughout the Brazos Valley, said Randy Rogers, general manager of TCA Cable.

"There have been numerous complaints from customers for the past few years about the objectionable content of the videos on MTV," Rogers said. "Due to their content we are not willing to continue carrying the video channel on a broad basis."

Rogers said TCA Cable officials have been in negotiations for several months with the MTV Network, which also controls Nickelodeon and VH1. He said TCA is willing to provide MTV on request and not as part of the basic cable package, but the MTV Network has not responded favorably.

"It is not our desire to cancel MTV, but this is not the type of programming that should be part of basic cable," Rogers said.

The deadline on negotiations between the two companies is midnight Sunday. Rogers, however, said MTV probably will reject the cable company's offer.



"We know that many of the people who would like MTV to continue are

Texas A&M students, but we just can't do it (continue service)," Rogers said.

"I think that the students will agree that this programming is not appropriate for young children who now have access to MTV on basic cable."

Rogers said TCA Cable presently is negotiating for access to VH1, which is also a rock video channel.

"Hopefully, we will be able to offer VH1 as a substitute for MTV, but nothing is definite at this time," Rogers added.

He confirmed that the change in format will not affect present cable prices.

"If we drop MTV, they (MTV officials) will raise our present rates for Nickelodeon, which is also owned by MTV Networks," he said. "But this will not be reflected in TCA Cable's prices."

Rogers said he believes the most important factor in the company's decision to limit access to the video channel was a concern for what MTV was broadcasting.

TCA Cable, however, is aware that many people will be against the MTV's cancellation, he said.

"We know there will be many complaints about this change in format, but we will stand firm on our decision," he said.

Budget proposal

House subcommittee approves funding for University at near-current levels

By Chris Vaughn
 The Battalion

University President William Mobley said Tuesday he is encouraged about Texas A&M's financial future after a House subcommittee narrowly passed a new budget proposal late last week.

A House Appropriations subcommittee on higher education

passed a proposal Friday, 11 votes to 10, to fund A&M at current services plus growth.

Mobley said during an open forum for the Multiple Missions Task Force report that he was pleased about the committee's proposal.

"We're in a lot better shape today than we were last week," he said. "I assure you of that."

Mobley and A&M's other administrators have been sweating out the budget crisis since March when the state ordered the University to return about \$3.5 million from this year's budget.

Shortly after that bombshell, House Bill 10 was drawn up by legislators, calling for a \$26 million cut in A&M's budget for next year. The bill died when the Legislature adjourned its regular session in May.

Then, last week, rumors surfaced that the House subcommittee was discussing funding higher education at double 1991 levels, which would be far below the current services level.

Mobley, however, said the new budget proposal is better than any previous plan.

The president said A&M would need about \$10 million more than this year's budget just to stay even, not including raises for faculty and staff. But given the state's fiscal problems, the Legislature might not meet that need.

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Columnist looks at task force recommendations / Page 5

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CAREY BOETHEL/The Battalion

Fire drills

Firefighters at Brayton Firefighting School practiced extinguishing oil well fires on Tuesday. The class continues for the rest of the week.

Committee favors re-emphasis on teaching

AAF sends professor to South Africa

By Chris Vaughn
 The Battalion

Balancing teaching and research in faculty reward structures was the primary topic Tuesday during an open forum to discuss the release of Texas A&M's Task Force on Multiple Missions report.

The 90-page report by the committee makes 28 recommendations to University President William Mobley, who appointed the members 17 months ago.

The task force, chaired by Dr. John

Calhoun, studied six areas: undergraduate education, graduate and professional education, scholarship and research, public service, international programs, and diversity and pluralism.

The open forum was designed to give faculty and staff members a chance to comment on the report. Much of the discussion centered around the task force's recommendations that greater attention be given to teaching.

"Some evidence indicates that the balance among missions at A&M is skewed toward an emphasis upon research," the

report states. "This is a relative shift that in perspective can be said to represent the success of past decisions of the institution to achieve research pre-eminence. An emphasis upon teaching and its quality should be approached with a similar University commitment."

The task force also recommended that the University should consider teaching and public service, not just research, in the evaluation of faculty for promotion and tenure.

Mobley raised the question of how it would be best to measure a teacher's ef-

fectiveness since research is easier to assess.

Dr. John August, a committee member, suggested the possibility of teaching portfolios to judge a teacher's competence. Another suggestion was made to ask former students about the teaching abilities of their ex-professors.

But the task force members and many of those present were clear that teaching needs to play a greater role, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

See Report/Page 6

By Karen Praslicka
 The Battalion

A Texas A&M theater arts professor will travel to South Africa on Monday, becoming the first person sent by the African Arts Fund (AAF) to visit the troubled country since apartheid began.

Dr. Roger Schultz, director of Aggie Players and head of A&M's theater program, said he is looking forward to practicing voice and acting styles with South African producer/director Mbongeni Ngema and South African student artists in Johannesburg.

Plans for the trip began in December when the members of the AAF contacted Schultz to see if he knew of anyone interested in traveling to South Africa. Schultz immediately volunteered.

"It was a long struggle getting the trip put together," he said.

A cultural boycott was imposed along with economic sanctions in South Africa in opposition of apartheid, Schultz said.

It took almost six months for Schultz's trip to be approved by the African National Council, Pan African Council and the Performing Artists Workers Equity.

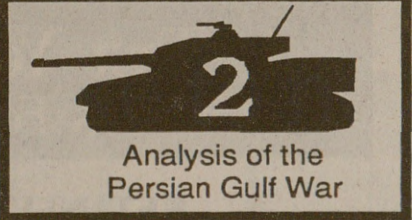
Schultz said the organizations

See Schultz/Page 6

Soldiers wake to news of Scud attack, raid on Iraq

Editor's note: Michael A. Kelley, a Class of '89 political science graduate, worked for The Battalion as a reporter in the fall of 1989. What follows is a chronicle of some of his experiences as an M1A1 tank platoon leader during the Persian Gulf War. This is part two of a four-part series.

midnight after finishing another letter to my parents. Two hours later we were all awakened to the fact that U.S. warplanes were on their way to Iraq. We were then a nation at war.



Analysis of the Persian Gulf War

I pulled myself out of the same dream I'd had off and on for two months, in which artillery was falling all around my tank. We put on our chemical protective overgarments to prepare for a possible retaliatory Scud strike.

We gathered up our gear and sat around, listening to radios all morning as we waited for buses to take us back to our tanks. Excitement filled the air as everybody cheered during the reports the Baghdad and the Republican Guards were being bombed hourly.

But fear quickly filled our hearts when we were ordered to put on our gas masks and get up against the wall because a Scud was reportedly on its way. It flew over us and onto Dhahran, where it was shot down by a Patriot missile. This wasn't Grenada or Panama — this was war.

We moved our tanks to our tactical assembly area (TAA), near the Kuwait border, by large, heavy equipment trucks.



2nd Lt. Michael A. Kelley, Class of '89, gives the "Gig Em" sign while stationed just outside the Iraqi border during Operation Desert Storm.

See Soldier/Page 6