

1991
kas is
n the
higher
e fol-
show
ot the

of 46
it un-
rd for
verage
ed to
03;

state
nt at
tional

state
n and
tional

3,500
state
2,800

ed a
s for
lators
oming
s rec-

s that
million
ing to

ch as
t, the
ffairs,
of po-
aff, as

me to
begin
curric-

TE
sney
CO
9

TE
sney
CO
S

99
99
99
s. Nov.
omer.
se.
B

ie

FORECAST
Friday
Partly Cloudy

SPORTS
Archery Club
Aggie archers on target
with club sport
Page 3

OPINION
"In an age in which international harmony is the focus, such prejudicial, racial hatred [as displayed by the KKK] is as abominable and as despicable as it could ever be."
- editorial
Page 5

INSIDE
Graduate internship opportunities available for minorities in toxicology
Page 2

The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 166 USPS 045360 6 Pages College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" Wednesday, July 10, 1991

TCA adjusts rates for complaining cable TV subscribers

By Susan Maguire
The Battalion

TCA Cable TV will grant across-the-board rate adjustments for subscribers who receive complete basic cable packages, the manager of the company's area branch said.

Randy Rogers said the adjustment will show up on subscribers' August bills.

"The rate will be determined after

the new program is added, which will probably be this week," he said. "It's taking longer than we've hoped, but we're still very hopeful it will be this week."

Rogers stated earlier in the week that local cable consumers could receive a 2-cents-a-day rate reduction if they called TCA's office in Bryan to complain about MTV's cancellation.

Rogers specifically stated that no refunds will be given unless the customer calls the cable company's office.

Rogers said TCA is still trying to negotiate for the VH-1 music channel and did not know what channel would replace MTV if negotiations for VH-1 fell through.

Very few subscribers have called in about a rate reduction or a cancellation of their cable, Rogers said. He also said no Bryan or College Station city officials have contacted TCA about a rate reduction.

TCA's franchise agreements with the cities states that dropping a station

counts as a price increase subject to review by the cities.

Rogers said because dropping MTV is not a long-term cancellation, both city councils will probably not get involved.

Officials with both city councils could not be reached for comment.

Viacom, the company who owns MTV, also owns Nickelodeon. Viacom had insisted that the carriage of Nickelodeon be connected with the continuation of MTV.

TCA has been granted a temporary restraining order allowing it to continue carriage of Nickelodeon after the contract with Viacom expired on June 30 at midnight.

A hearing to decide whether an injunction will be granted to TCA was scheduled Monday at the district court in Tyler.

Rogers said the injunction was postponed and he did not know if a new date has been set.

BLUE LIGHT SECURITY

A&M adds phones for emergencies

By Karen Praslicka
The Battalion

An increased number of blue lights across campus is a result of an increase in awareness of public safety, not campus crime, a University Police Department officer said.

Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, supervisor of UPD's Crime Prevention Unit and member of A&M's Security Awareness Committee, said the emergency phones identified by the blue light on top are more like "emergency/convenience" phones because they have two main purposes.

One purpose is to be able to quickly contact UPD in case of an emergency.

To use the phone, a person opens the waterproof box and presses a large red button which connects the caller to the UPD dispatcher. The phone does not have a hand-held receiver. Instead, the person talks into a speaker in the box.

Kretzschmar said it is not necessary for the caller to say anything.

"If a person is in an emergency and doesn't have time to talk, we'll still get a readout in the office of which phone the call came from," he said. "UPD will respond — there's no guesswork."

Kretzschmar said the light increases the phone's visibility, especially at night.

"At night you can see it (the light) from a distance, and it's up on a pole in case of obstacles," he said. "If you're in a parking lot, how can you see it with a car in front of you?"

The second purpose of the phones is to provide anyone on campus with easier access not only to UPD, but other services.

The phones have a regular phone touchpad which allows them to be used to make local calls. Kretzschmar said the phone's time limit is three minutes, after which the phones will automatically cut off.

"The phones are timed so they're not abused," he said.

Kretzschmar said anyone can use the phones "in situations that aren't emergencies but you still need help."

The phones are especially



SCOTT D. WEAVER/The Battalion

Cathy Goedeke uses one of the emergency phones equipped with a blue light for added visibility.

useful at night to call the shuttle bus service for a ride home or to call for help in case of car failure, he said.

Kretzschmar said he hopes

the phones will also be used by anyone on campus to report suspicious activity.

"We want to educate students to report things," he said.

"We're taking personal safety into account."

The first seven phones installed across campus and those

See University/Page 6

Opponents rally, fight deficit plan

A&M community, local politicians protest budget cuts proposed by state comptroller

By Mack Harrison
The Battalion

Texas A&M officials, employees, area politicians and friends of the University rallied Tuesday evening at the College Station Hilton to fight recommendations that could lead to a \$53.6 million cut in the University budget.

Ross Margraves, chairman of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, said he is ready to fight the budget cuts.

"I'm mad as hell, and I hope you are, too," he told the crowd.

The funding changes, part of a deficit-reduction plan proposed by Comptroller John Sharp, are a result of the Texas Performance Review (TPR).

Margraves said a common misconception in Austin is that higher education is overfunded.

"A&M can educate Sharp's office as to what the needs of the University are," he said. "Contact anybody you know in state government."

State Rep. Steve Ogden (R-Bryan) said the scramble to cut the budget is unnecessary.

"Can we fund higher education under current revenue?" he asked. "I say the answer is yes."

Dr. Ed Hiler, deputy chancellor for A&M's academic program planning and research, said Sharp's plan will hurt the University worse than any previous action.

"A major cutback could cause absolute devastation to higher education," Hiler said. "House Bill 10 made it clear we are in trouble."

HB 10 mandated a 1.5 percent budget cutback in all state agencies earlier this year. The resulting \$3.2 million shortfall caused A&M to cancel classes and eliminate student worker positions.

University President William Mobley said A&M is presently operating at 1985 spending levels. Accounting for increased en-

rollment and inflation, appropriations actually shrank from \$3,500 to \$2,800 per student.

"We've either become more efficient or less effective, probably both," Mobley said. "We're doing more with less."

Dr. Ed Davis, deputy chancellor for finance and administration, said he has been working with state officials, but it is not an easy job.

"We've been on a roller coaster ride since January 1991," he said. "I've spent time with Sharp explaining our position."

"We just want him to see the consequences of (the budget reduction plan)."

The recommendations include increasing tuition to cover 25

"I'm mad as hell, and I hope you are, too."

- Ross Margraves,
Board of Regents
chairman

percent of education costs and giving 75 percent of that revenue to the State Treasury.

This money will be used to fund other state programs, such as roads, prisons and welfare.

"The action is to shift the burden (of the state) to students and their parents," Hiler said. "We provide for other state agencies by diminishing the quality and accessibility of higher education."

Mobley said the state has a responsibility to its schools. He said he opposes taking the funds gained from tuition increases and giving them to other state agencies.

"The state is a direct beneficiary of higher education and should not back away from it," he said. "Is it fair to tax students

See Cutbacks/Page 6

Former CIA official pleads guilty, reveals cover-up

WASHINGTON (AP) — A retired CIA official pleaded guilty to two crimes Tuesday in the Iran-Contra affair and alleged that the spy agency from the top down had covered up knowledge of Oliver North's diversion of money to the Contras.

Prosecutors said Alan D. Fiers, retired chief of the CIA's Central American Task Force, was cooperating in their investigation of whether Fiers' CIA colleagues and aides to then-Vice President

George Bush had lied in denying knowledge of the diversion and of North's secret network to supply guns to the Nicaraguan rebels.

Fiers admitted in federal court that he had withheld information from Congress about the activities of Reagan White House aide North and the diversion of Iran arms sale money.

The crimes are misdemeanors, each carrying a maximum one-year jail term and a \$200,000

fine. U.S. District Court Judge Aubrey Robinson did not set a sentencing date.

According to Iran-Contra prosecutors, Fiers has told them that he and at least three other top CIA officials besides Director William Casey knew about the diversion by mid-1986.

North testified to Congress and at his own criminal trial that Casey alone among CIA officials knew of the diversion.

Fiers did not implicate Robert

Gates, Bush's nominee to head the CIA, in knowledge of the diversion, the scheme that damaged the Reagan administration after it was publicly disclosed on Nov. 25, 1986.

But the fact that so many top CIA people apparently knew about it is certain to raise troublesome questions for Gates next week when the Senate Intelligence Committee considers his nomination. Gates was the agency's deputy director in 1986.

North was convicted on three felony counts of aiding and abetting an obstruction of Congress, destroying National Security Council documents and accepting an illegal gratuity. The convictions were set aside by an appeals court and Walsh is trying to have them reinstated.

According to a government statement read in court Tuesday, Fiers and Bush aide Donald Gregg were among those present for a discussion of North's

network at an Aug. 12, 1986, meeting in Gregg's office.

Fiers and Gregg have both testified about the meeting but have said they could recall few details. Fiers has now told prosecutors that Ambassador to El Salvador Edwin Corr reported in some detail about the contributions to the North network by Felix Rodriguez, a longtime friend of Gregg's.

Gregg is now Bush's ambassador to South Korea.