

FORECAST
Partly Cloudy
chance of
afternoon showers

SPORTS
Volleyball Club

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Opinion
"Most foreign students at A&M constitute the brightest and best of the countries they are from. Therefore, when they return with degrees from America, they will likely be placed in key positions. You just might get to know the future president of Korea or Egypt or Colombia during your career at A&M."
- Tim Truesdale

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Firefighters:
A&M's Texas Fireman
Training School

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The Battalion

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"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

Wednesday, July 24, 1991

Agriculture chief faces criticism for emphasis on biotechnology

By Chris Vaughn
The Battalion

In less than four years as Texas A&M's agriculture chief, Dr. Charles Arntzen changed the face of his college and reversed a declining enrollment, yet continued criticism and rumors of his resignation nag his tenure.

Arntzen, System deputy chancellor for agriculture and University dean of the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, says he came to A&M in 1988 from the Dupont Corp. with a decided

emphasis on biotechnology. Sources say that bias toward biotechnology has been the root of many of Arntzen's troubles and fodder for University gossip.

"It seems Dr. Arntzen would like to have the A&M agriculture program move toward biotechnology rather than animal and plant production," says state Sen. Bill Sims, D-San Angelo, chairman of the Senate Natural Resource Committee.

"We're very hard-headed," continued Sims, also executive secretary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers As-

sociation. "We're used to working with specialists in beef and the professors who taught those courses, but Arntzen is not replacing them with those specialists when they retire. It's a serious concern."

Jimmy Owen, president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and a Tyler rancher, says he does not know much about biotechnology, but has reservations about some of the research.

"I feel like some of the emphasis has been on some pretty exotic research, which may prove beneficial way down

the line," Owen says. "But I've always been one to lean toward practical research that would benefit the cowman on the short-term."

Talk even surfaced in the Legislature this spring about removing the Texas Agricultural Experiment and Extension services, also under Arntzen's leadership, from the A&M System and putting them with the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Arntzen, however, points to his record as dean and deputy chancellor for his defense. He cites a 16 percent increase in the college's enrollment since

he came here and helped reverse several years of steady decline.

He points to the modernization of programs, including a focus on agribusiness, and environmental and food sciences, three of the fastest-growing agricultural fields.

He points to a rising number of National Merit Scholars in the College of Agriculture, and to a broad external support base for research.

Lastly, Arntzen defends the college's emphasis on biotechnology by defining the term.

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Bush may ease Iraqi economic sanctions

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Tuesday he is considering a letup in the economic strangle hold on Saddam Hussein's Iraq, declaring the United States doesn't want the "suffering of innocent women and children."



President Bush

The White House said the United States will not agree to termination of the U.N. sanctions against Baghdad, but may allow Iraq to sell oil to buy relief supplies for its people.

"We have not resolved yet exactly what we're going to do at the United Nations," Bush said at a Cabinet meeting.

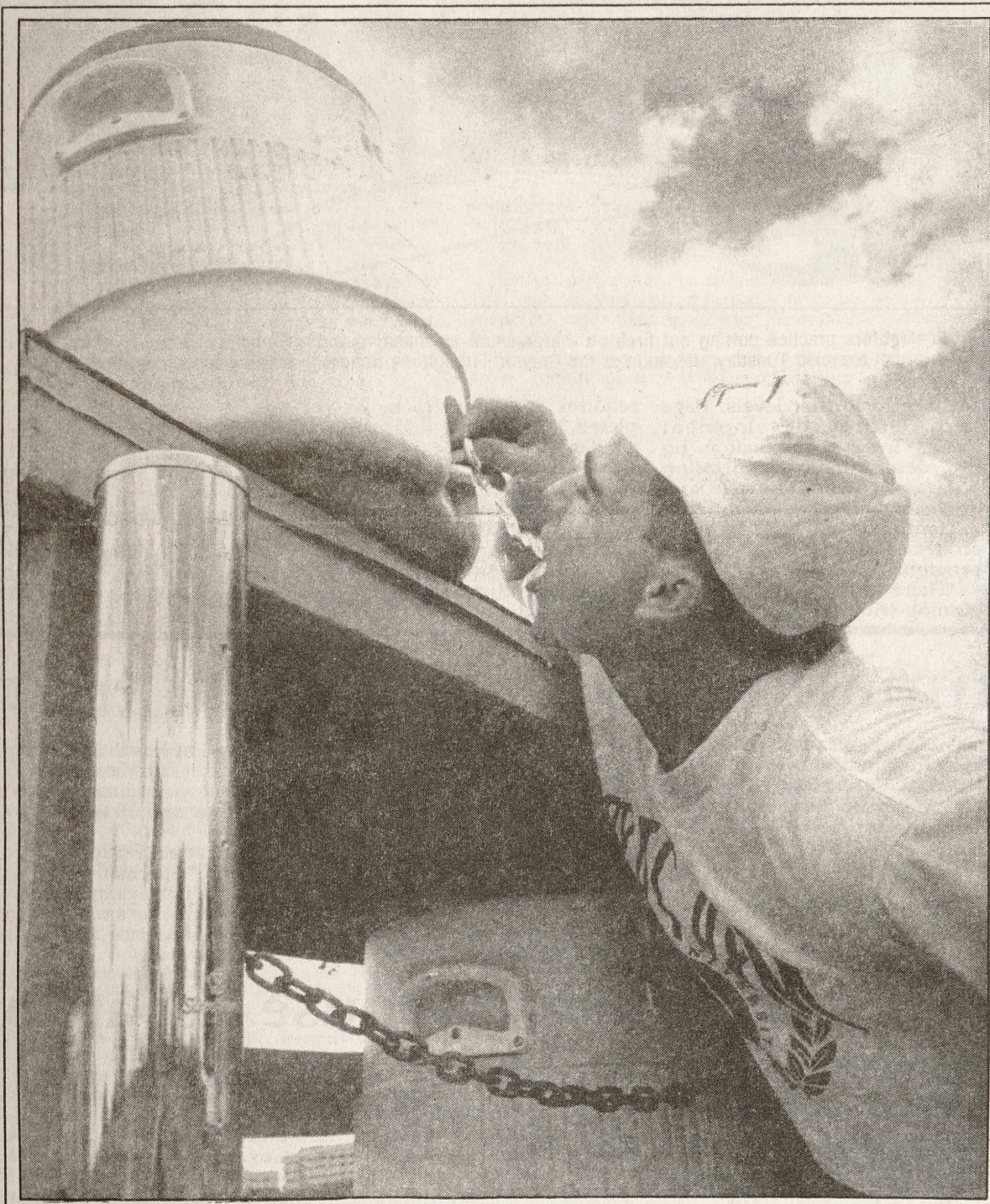
Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, in charge of U.N. humanitarian efforts in the Persian Gulf, has warned the situation in Iraq "could degenerate into a catastrophe unless we do something about it quickly."

He briefed the U.N. sanctions committee on Monday and called Bush Tuesday to discuss the crisis.

Afterward, Bush said, "We'll see what we can do. ... The United States is not going to see suffering of innocent women and children there."

His press secretary, Marlin Fitzwater, said that short of lifting the sanctions altogether there was "some consideration about whether or not to allow them to sell oil to get money to buy food and medicine."

Baghdad is seeking permission to sell \$1.5 billion worth of oil in foreign markets.



SONDRA ROBBINS/The Battalion

Water straight up, please

Paul Roome, a senior from Bay City, stops at the 17th tee for a water break on the Texas A&M Golf Course. The yellow coolers can be found throughout the course to provide refreshment for thirsty golfers.

Students may clinch Board seat

Legislators consider amendment to allow students a voice as non-voting member

By Greg Mt. Joy
The Battalion

A non-voting student member could join the Texas A&M Board of Regents next fall if a proposed amendment co-written by Rep. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, is approved by the Legislature.

The amendment to H.B. 2, proposed by Rep. Sherri Greenberg, D-Austin, was the last legislation to reach the House floor Tuesday night.

Rob Giesecke, spokesman for Ogden, said the amendment was the same bill the Higher Education Committee passed during the regular session, but it never reached the floor.

The amendment would allow Texas universities to appoint one non-voting member to each school's board of regents. The student regent would serve a one-year term, and have all the powers of a regular regent without the vote.

"The student regent would be able to make recommendations and do everything else a regent can, except vote," Giesecke said. "They would also be restricted from executive sessions of the boards, when real estate and personnel matters are discussed."

Giesecke said the student regent might eventually be given voting rights but stressed the need to first build a base of support for the amendment.

"This is the first step, and the first is always the hardest," he said. "It is a good start, but this is an incremental policy. If the support is there, the position might eventually be given more power."

Giesecke said the amendment's sponsors stressed secrecy to keep any opposition from organizing.

Ogden and Greenberg did not know where opposition might come from, Giesecke said.

"It's difficult to say who might oppose the amendment before it gets to the floor," he said. "But they (opponents) will probably say students don't have enough experience to be regents and that they (students) don't know the complications involved and a one-year term is not long enough to learn them."

Giesecke said Ogden will argue that students should have more representation, especially in the face of possible tuition increases.

The legislation creating the student regent would expire in two years, Giesecke said, and changes or modifications might be made then.

Ogden wanted to see how the student regent position would work before considering adding a vote or permanency to the position, Giesecke said.

"His position during the regular session was to support this form of the student regent, not a

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Texas universities ban together to protest cuts in higher education

By Susan Maguire
and Timm Doolen
The Battalion

AUSTIN — Students from the Texas A&M University System's eight academic institutions gathered Tuesday at the Capitol to voice their opinions about proposed cuts in funding for higher education.

Organizers hoped to get 2,000 students from across the state to join "Quality Students Fighting for Quality Education."

Students from the University of Texas, Texas Tech, Southwest Texas State and various junior colleges also participated.

The rally on the steps of the Capitol was organized by the TAMUS Student Advisory

Board, which includes student body presidents and representatives for each System university.

At A&M, the Student Government, MSC and Off-Campus Aggies worked together to organize a delegation to send to Austin.

Lisa Cash, a Student Government representative, said planning for the rally began a month ago but picked up momentum along with the Legislature.

"We expected close to 20 people to go from here," she said. "The Aggie Moms' Club in Austin called Aggies there, and we hoped they would come."

The rally lasted from 9 to 10 a.m. and featured speakers from across the state, including Ty Clevenger, former A&M student body president.

Clevenger spoke out against Sharp's proposal to raise tuition

by \$20 to a total of \$40 per credit hour.

"We're willing to pay for our own education," he said. "And we're willing to work for our own education. But we want to make sure we get our money's worth."

Clevenger pointed out that the A&M System is working at the same funding levels as 1985, while growth has increased considerably.

Clevenger also rebuked legislators who have said higher education has seen no significant cost increases during the past five years, saying rising fees, including the computer access fee, have increased educational costs.

Off-Campus Aggies president Wayne Talbot said the rally was

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Graduate students frustrated

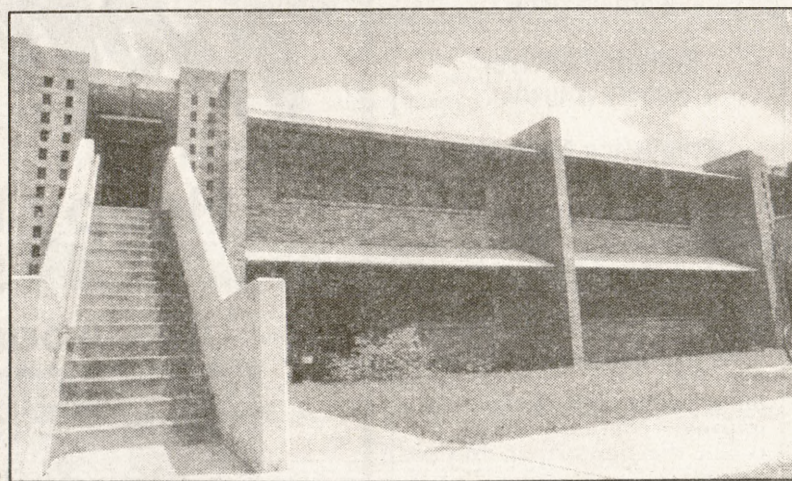
Lack of housing concerns leaders

By Tammy Bryson
The Battalion

Graduate students' housing needs are not being met at Texas A&M, and graduate student leaders say not much is being done about it.

Mary Ann Oprisko, vice president of the Graduate Student Council, said graduate students have a housing problem and the University either is not aware of it or does not think it is a critical situation.

There are presently 800 to 1,000 people on the waiting list



PENNY DELOS SANTOS/The Battalion

Many on-campus graduate students live in married student housing. Between 800 and 1,000 people are on a waiting list for graduate housing.

for the already small number of graduate student apartments available, she said.

"Nobody thinks graduate students need a place to live," she said. "People think there is some

kind of magic housing that graduate students disappear into."

Graduate student housing consists of 650 units at University-Owned Apartments, at the

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