

The Battalion

(USPS 045 360)

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The Battalion is published daily except Saturday, Sunday, holidays, exam periods and when school is not in session during fall and spring semesters. Publication is Tuesday through Friday during the summer sessions. The newsroom phone number is 845-3316.

The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station.

The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University and is a division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism.

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editorial board or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Texas A&M student body, administrators, faculty or the A&M Board of Regents.

Comments, questions or complaints about any of the editorial content of the newspaper should be directed to the managing editor at 845-3313.

Subscriptions

Mail subscriptions are \$20 per semester, \$40 per school year and \$50 per full year: 845-2611.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station TX 77843-1111.

Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.

Location: The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-1111. Campus mail stop: 1111.

Advertising

Advertising information can be obtained from the advertising department at 845-2696 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by visiting the office at the English Annex.

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BATTIPS

The Battalion encourages its readers to contribute story ideas and suggestions by calling BATTIPS. The Battalion's phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers.

The BATTIPS number is 845-3315.

Ideas can include news stories, feature ideas and personality profiles of interesting people. Readers also are encouraged to offer any other suggestions that could improve the newspaper.

Republican lawmakers praise education cuts

Funding reduced for pre-kindergarten programs

AUSTIN (AP) — Republican lawmakers Wednesday praised cuts made to pre-kindergarten programs, defended voting for vocational education funding, and criticized Gov. Ann Richards for meeting with legislators who stormed out of the House in protest.

"The people of Texas want the cuts, and the Legislature can do it if they want to, like last night," Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, and president of the Republican Caucus, said at a news conference.

Debate on the education bill started Tuesday and ended early Wednesday, and was briefly grounded to a halt by about 40 lawmakers who left the House angered over the education cuts.

Republicans led a successful effort to cut an estimated \$392 million from education programs for students considered at risk of dropping out.

Included in that amount was money for schools that want to offer pre-kindergarten classes to 3-year-olds.

"In a budget crisis year, this is a program we do not need to implement," said Rep. Troy Fraser, R-Big Spring, who pushed for cutting the pre-kindergarten program.

Opponents argued that cutting the program would cost the state in the long run by hurting young children's education.

Lawmakers are in special session to write a budget and face a projected \$4.8 billion revenue shortfall for 1992-93.

Despite cutting pre-kindergarten, Fraser defended his vote for funding ninth-grade vocational education. State Comptroller John Sharp has recommended that program be eliminated.

"I came up through a vocational program," Fraser said. "I had four years of vocational agriculture. I think it's a program that is important."

Craddick and Fraser also criticized Richards for meeting with lawmakers who walked out of the House chamber when lawmakers gave tentative approval to the cuts. Most of the protesting lawmakers were members of the black and Mexican-American caucuses.

Richards, a Democrat, however, said the budget issues should not be framed by partisan politics.

"It is not a Democratic-Republican fight, and I think anyone that tries to make it one of those does a disservice to the people of Texas," she said.

The walkout halted debate because a vote showed a quorum was not present.

House Speaker Gib Lewis ordered the chamber doors locked and sent House staffers to round up the missing lawmakers. State troopers also were alerted but not sent after the lawmakers, said Ron Hinkle, chief House sergeant-at-arms.

The walkout lasted nearly an hour, during which protesting legislators met with Richards, who was hosting a Governor's Mansion reception for new state Education Commissioner Lionel "Skip" Meno.

Richards told news reporters she was concerned about the vote to cut funding for pre-kindergarten.



Gov. Ann Richards has met with legislators who staged a walkout.

Picking 'cool' clothing helps to stay comfortable in heat

By Robin Goodpaster
The Battalion



PENNY DELOS SANTOS/The Battalion

Franki Franks, a senior from Richardson, takes her shoes off to stay cool while studying on the System Administration Building steps.

Choosing the right clothes can help a person beat the summer heat, a scientist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service (TAEX) said.

Dr. Ann Beard, consumer science specialist with TAEX, said colors that reflect rather than absorb heat, such as white or light colors, are better than black or dark colors.

Beard said psychologically "cool" colors such as green or blue remind people of water and keep them cooler, but "hot" colors such as red or orange make people feel warmer.

"Fabrics such as cotton, linen and rayon are absorbent and let the skin breathe better," she said. "Silk and wool are also good if they are lightweight fabric, but lightweight wool is hard to find."

People do not realize how uncomfortable tight jewelry and scarfs can be. These accessories can make them feel warmer, Beard said.

The body's cooling system consists of evaporation of

perspiration and the radiation of heat off the skin. If either process is hindered, body temperature will rise and not allow the body to cool properly.

Beard said body temperature regulation is especially important for the elderly and for children because their bodies do not adjust as quickly to temperature changes.

Loose clothing is cooler, if it is not so loose that one has to wear additional layers under it, Beard said. Students wearing the new fashion trend of boxers hanging out under shorts will be warmer with two pair of shorts instead of just one.

Unlined clothing that is open around the neck or wrist will let body heat escape and keep people cooler, Beard said.

"The less air that circulates around the body, the hotter you will be," Beard said.

Another way to stay cool is to keep clothes clean. Beard said pores in dirty clothes have already been filled with salts from perspiration and body heat cannot escape properly.

Department of Education awards \$250,000

Grant allows business center to boost programs

By Karen Praslicka
The Battalion

Texas A&M's Center for International Business Studies will improve its research and exchange programs because of a \$250,000 Department of Education grant, an official with the center said Wednesday.

The government awarded 16 such grants this year to universities across the country. A&M's center received \$40,000 more than the amount it was awarded in 1990.

Karen Burke, associate director for the center, said the grant will benefit A&M students by improving international business curriculum.

A&M does not have a degree program for international business, but the center is working on a program that will offer students courses in the subject.

"The center concentrates on promoting the study of international business," Burke said.

One way the center promotes the subject is by offering commerce and culture courses in international business taught by A&M faculty and scholars from foreign countries, including a professor

from Moscow. Other commerce and culture courses will focus on foreign languages. The center will work with the College of Liberal Arts to offer these courses, Burke said.

The grant will help the curriculum program by providing funds for visits by guest lecturers from foreign countries and visits from foreign businessmen, she said.

The center's research will also have a chance to expand as a result of the grant.

Burke said the center targets several countries for research, including Mexico, Latin America, Europe and Japan as well as others of the North American continent.

She said the research is not a comparison of business markets but a study of the differences.

"We see how to make U.S. companies more competitive in the world market," she said.

The grant benefits A&M by providing an opportunity to increase the number of agreements with foreign universities, Burke said.

The agreements apply to all of A&M's colleges, allowing for the exchange of faculty and students. The agreements also allow joint research between universities.

IN ADVANCE

College of Medicine will sponsor symposium

Texas A&M's College of Medicine is sponsoring a two-day symposium Thursday and Friday.

Dr. Robert Wells, professor and head of A&M's Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics and director of the Institute of Biotechnology in Houston, will address job-hunting strategies, career opportunities, job diversity and job satisfaction.

His presentation, "Biology and Chemistry of Unusual DNA structures: The IBT and Career Opportunities in Biomedical Sciences," will follow a poster session featuring original research by College of Medicine graduate students. Both presentations are free and open to the public.

The symposium will be Thursday and Friday in the lobby of the Joe H. Reynolds Medical Building. The poster session begins at noon Thursday, and students will be available from 11 a.m. to noon Friday to answer questions. Wells will speak at 1 p.m. Friday in Lecture Hall 1 of the Reynolds Medical Building.

For more information, contact Julie Myers at 845-6237.

A&M student dies

Huong Stephanie Nguyen, a sophomore pre-med sciences major from Mesquite, died of natural causes July 12.

Services for Nguyen, 18, were July 13 at the Vietnamese Faith Baptist Church in Dallas, with interment at Sparkman Hillcrest Cemetery. Nguyen will be honored at Silver Taps Sept. 10.

CORRECTION

Wednesday's edition of The Battalion incorrectly named Texas A&M's Off-Campus Aggies president. His name is Warren Talbot.

The story also incorrectly reported a delegation from the University of Texas attended the rally. UT delegates met at the Capitol Friday. Also, 150 people attended Tuesday's rally.

Spokesman denies threat from landfills

DALLAS (AP) — A TU Electric spokesman denies that 11 landfills filled with waste from the company's Comanche Peak nuclear power plant pose a threat to residents near the facility southwest of Fort Worth.

TU Electric spokesman Mark Manroe said the company operates 25 monitoring wells around the landfills and two have shown small quantities of chemicals in the water.

But he says the levels are well below federal regulations for safe drinking water, adding that the landfills contain relatively small amounts of chemicals.

On Tuesday, the Citizens As-

sociation for Sound Energy called for the chemicals to be removed.

The group also urged the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Texas Water Commission to investigate.

Dallas-based CASE and TU Electric agree there are at least 11 landfills at the plant near Glen Rose, which is about 45 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

Both parties say at least five of them contain toxic chemicals.

However, CASE says a sixth landfill contains traces of hazardous waste.

WHAT'S UP

Thursday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: General meeting at noon. Call CDPE at 845-0280 for more information.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS: General discussion at 6 p.m. Call CDPE at 845-0280 for more information.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Special time of praise and worship 7:30 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel. For more information, contact Pat at 696-1091.

FRIDAY

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: General discussion at noon. For more information, contact CDPE at 845-0280.

AFRICAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION: General meeting at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder. For more information, contact Martin Ayim at 846-1346.

THE JORDAN CLUB 'Al-Nadl Al-URdumi': General club meeting 6:30 p.m. For more information and place of event, contact A. Ayoub at 696-3587.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no later than three business days before the desired run date. We publish the name and phone number of the contact only if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are run on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3316.

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