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**FORECAST**  
MOSTLY CLOUDY  
50 PERCENT CHANCE OF THUNDERSHOWERS

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# The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 177 USPS 045360 8 Pages College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" Tuesday, July 30, 1991

## Federal Reserve levies \$200 million fine against bank for fraud

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve acted Monday to levy a record \$200 million fine against the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, and New York indicted the huge bank and its Pakistani founder for what a prosecutor termed "the largest bank fraud in world financial history."

Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau announced an indictment against BCCI, founder Agha Hasan Abedi, another top executive and four affiliate institutions on charges of defrauding investors, falsifying records and stealing more than \$30 million. Almost simultaneously in Wash-

ington, the Federal Reserve announced it is seeking a \$200 million fine against BCCI and an order barring nine persons tied to the bank from involvement with U.S. banking organizations. The actions in New York and Washington follow the seizure of BCCI offices around the world on July 5 amid allegations of massive fraud and laundering of profits from drug trafficking. The Fed said its decision was "based on evidence of secret arrangements that were made between senior officials of BCCI and customers of BCCI." It said the secret deals included loans to customers to purchase shares of

three U.S. banks: First American Bankshares Inc. of Washington, National Bank of Georgia and CenTrust Savings Bank of Miami. The BCCI customers who bought the shares were not required to repay the loans, the Fed said. Fed spokesman Joseph Coyne called the \$200 million penalty "the largest fine we've ever assessed." He acknowledged, however, that the Fed's ability to collect the fine is in doubt, since BCCI has been hemorrhaging assets. "As time goes on and creditors are paid off, perhaps we can get some of

the fine," he said. Banking regulators believe BCCI has funneled as much as \$15 billion of depositors' money into illicit activities. In New York, Morgenthau said the indictment against BCCI and the other defendants "spells out the largest bank fraud in world financial history." The indictment named Abedi, the founder and former president of BCCI, and Swaleh Naqvi, the bank's chief operating officer until October 1990, as individual defendants. In Karachi, the wheelchair-ridden Abedi, 69, said he would be cleared of all allegations. "The truth will ultimately prevail," he said. "I have full faith in God. He's always guided me." Abedi resigned from BCCI last year. The timing of the announcements was coordinated by the Fed and Morgenthau's office, which have been working closely together, Coyne said. However, the investigations were moving along parallel tracks and the actions were not dependent on one another, he added. The Fed's action was the first time the government has publicly linked BCCI with CenTrust, which was seized by regulators in June 1990.



**Sittin' down on the job**  
Ed Griffin, a firefighter from Marcus Hook, Penn., holds down a hose Monday at the Brighton Fire School. Griffin and other firefighters were putting out a practice fire that simulated a chemical plant explosion. The school brings firefighters from around the world.

## Blood drive reveals one HIV carrier

A&M health officials have not confirmed total number of students who test positive

By K. Lee Davis  
The Battalion  
Texas A&M has one confirmed HIV carrier, but the number of students with the AIDS-causing virus can only be guessed at, A&M health officials and a Dallas blood bank said. Cindy Franzetti, director of public affairs at the Wadley Blood Center, confirmed that one A&M student has tested HIV positive in Wadley's most recent campus drive. "There might be one (HIV positive test) every A&M drive, but never more than that to my knowledge," Franzetti said. Franzetti also said that Wadley had 23 HIV positive tests out of 100,000 donations in 1990. Dr. Kenneth Dirks, director of the A.P. Beutel Health Center, said he believes the University of

Texas' reported HIV rate — nearly one out of 100 students — is inflated. "They were not using a statistically valid sample, so the actual level (of infection) is probably much smaller," Dirks said. Dirks added that A&M has never undertaken the type of program that was used in Austin. UT and 34 other schools were part of a study funded by the Centers for Disease Control to attempt to discover the rate of HIV infection on the nation's campuses. A&M does HIV testing for those who request it at a cost of \$11. The County Health Department charges \$5 and Planned Parenthood does the test for free. No student has tested positive in the University's tests, Dirks said. See Health/Page 8

## Regents adopt anti-harassment policy amendment

By Mack Harrison  
The Battalion  
The Texas A&M Board of Regents on Friday adopted with no discussion an amendment to the anti-harassment policy in the Objectives, Rules, Regulations for the A&M System that refrains from naming any specific group. The amended policy — which

the Board also voted for in May — states, "Faculty, staff and students should be aware that any form of harassment and any form of illegal discrimination against any individual is inconsistent with the values and ideals of the Texas A&M University System community." Board Chairman Ross Margraves said he met with representatives from gay and lesbian groups before the Board meeting, including A&M's Gay and Lesbian Student Services. "I met with the group, and they were reasonable," he said. "We had a good and informative meeting." Margraves said the group asked the Board to add sexual orientation to the previous policy, which prohibited harassment and discrimination against anyone on the basis of race, religion, nationality or

physical handicap. Margraves said, however, the A&M System does not need its anti-harassment and anti-discrimination statement naming any specific group. He said GLSS was the only minority student group that wanted the old policy reinstated. The A&M System will not tolerate harassment of anyone, Margraves said. He defined discrimination as depriving someone of something because they fit in some category, and said he did not see discrimination at any A&M school. "The Board spoke its will and didn't see fit to change (the new statement)," he said. "There is no evidence of system discrimination against gays." Margraves said he would be happy to meet with any student group concerned about the policy or any other issue. The Board also named Dr. Dennis McCabe, president of Tarleton State University. McCabe, Tarleton's vice president for university operations since 1988, served as the school's interim president since Jan. 1. The Board also announced four finalists for System chancellor: Dr. Edward Hiler, deputy chancellor of academic program See Regents/Page 8

## Gorbachev opens summit to political rival Yeltsin

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev dramatically set the stage Monday for his summit with President Bush, throwing open part of the superpower meeting to the presidents of two Soviet republics including political rival Boris Yeltsin. Gorbachev's conciliatory gesture, announced just hours before Bush arrived, underlined the changes taking place within the Soviet Union even as the two nations emphasized their own improved relations. "We think that this summit is historic, because we are on another level, a level of partnership and cooperation," said Gorbachev's spokesman, Vitaly Ignatenko. Bush arrived to a nighttime airport welcoming ceremony.  Bush popular with Soviets/Page 6

## Kurds could wrestle northern Iraq from Saddam Hussein's control

ZAKHO, Iraq (AP) — Nearly a year after grabbing Kuwait, President Saddam Hussein not only has lost that country but has practically relinquished northern Iraq to the Kurds. A U.S.-led rapid deployment force is assembling on the Turkish-Iraqi border, with a mandate to check any Iraqi aggression against the Kurds. Iraq is banned from its own airspace north of the 36th parallel, and under U.N. orders to give up its weapons of mass destruction. Backed by tens of thousands of lightly armed but well-trained guerrillas, some Kurdish leaders believe that they have effectively freed themselves of Iraqi control. Iraq crushed a Kurdish uprising in the north and a Shiite rebellion in the south after losing the Persian Gulf War, sending hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing into neighboring Turkey and Iran. But United Nations resolutions and pressure from the U.S.-led alliance stopped the Iraqi crackdown on the Kurds. A Western coalition force returned hundreds of thousands of Kurdish refugees to their homes, establishing a "security zone" that the allies left to the Kurds on July 15. In continuing negotiations with the Kurds, the Iraqi government has said they will be

## Nelson fans get wrong number

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Willie Nelson fans are helping him settle his \$17 million tax debt by buying his latest recording. The problem is, they've been calling the wrong number. Hundreds of people wanting to order the album, "Who'll Buy My Memories: The IRS Tapes," dialed an incorrect toll-free number, "1-800-IRS-TAPE." Nelson displayed the number on his T-shirt when he appeared on ABC-TV's "PrimeTime Live." 