

**FORECAST**

Sunny with highs in the mid-80s to low-90s and lows in the 60s



**OPINION**

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**"The psychology department is in the process of designing a course on the science of dealing with stupidity."**

Matt McBurnett, on creating classes that benefit universities

**INSIDE**

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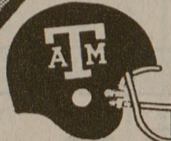
**Campus Section**

- Peace Corps gets permanent office at A&M.
- LoanSTAR monitors energy data to save taxes.

**SPORTS**

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**Aggies may face rude awakening in late season opener against LSU Saturday.**



# The Battalion

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"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

10 Pages Wednesday, September 11, 1991

## A&M sociologist predicts Soviet Union will end in turmoil

By Jayme Blaschke  
The Battalion

The Soviet Union arose during a time of European turmoil a century ago and a Texas A&M sociologist believes it will end in much the same way.

Dr. Stjepan Mestrovic says that many of the events happening in the Soviet Union today parallel those that occurred at the turn of the century and that the Soviet situation will get worse before it gets better.

"What's going on at this end of the century were really foreshadowed at the

other end, and I'm not sure this is being realized," Mestrovic says. "Similar issues are being debated. Nationalism, socialism and the environment were issues. They had syphilis, and we have AIDS. They had a cocaine epidemic, and we've got cocaine problems as well."

"At the turn of the century there was widespread rebellion as people began to see there were problems with capitalism, as well as socialism and progress," he says. "Now we're seeing new problems erupt and Marxism is falling apart."

While the political situation in the Soviet Union remains muddled, Mestrovic believes its future is clear.

"Since Eastern Europe and the U.S.S.R. do not have a liberal tradition of democracy like we have, they're going to fall back on the cultural ingredients they do have," Mestrovic says. "What are those ingredients? The nation, religion and family."

"I think we're going to see the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe disintegrate into smaller and smaller pieces," he says. "The question is how to contain this disintegration so that it does not become racism or violent war — kind of what's been going on in Yugoslavia between Serbia and Croatia."

To prevent the situation from degen-

erating, Mestrovic says, the U.S. must accept that nations will fragment and work to establish economic and cultural ties between them.

"If you can put these nations in something like the European Community where they have ties and depend on each other, I think then you will prevent bloodshed," Mestrovic says. "What I think will not work are the efforts of Bush and Gorbachev to preserve the U.S.S.R. as a union. For a long time Bush advocated the preservation of the U.S.S.R. in the fear that if there were a breakup, what would happen to all the nuclear weapons?"

"I'd say the opposite. If we establish

the economic and cultural ties, then we are much more likely to prevent the chaos, because these forces are inevitable," he says. "Ultimately, I believe Gorbachev's efforts to preserve the union are doomed. The Soviet Union is an artificial entity created by the Communists and doesn't have a history, but the feeling of Mother Russia goes way back."

"That's why the other Republics fear (Boris) Yeltsin, because they are afraid he will create a Union where the lion's share of the power goes to Russia," Mestrovic says. "That's why no union treaty will ever be accepted."

## NOW denounces scheduled Tyson bout

NEW YORK (AP) — Women's rights advocates denounced boxer Mike Tyson on Tuesday for going forward with a title bout despite being indicted on rape charges, saying it sends out a tacit message that sexual assault is acceptable.

"What's most disturbing to me is that men like Mike Tyson are seen as heroes by so many young men," said Melanie Baham, president of the New York chapter of the National Organization for Women.

The former heavyweight champion is a troubled example, facing one count of rape, two counts of criminal deviate conduct and one count of confinement for allegedly attacking a beauty pageant contestant July 19 in Indianapolis.

Tyson is guaranteed \$15 million for his Nov. 8 fight with champion Evander Holyfield. Most agree the fight will come off in spite of the rape charge, although the effect of the indictment on pay-per-view sales remains to be seen.

Tyson, who is due in Indiana later this week to post \$30,000 bond, would face up to 63 years in prison if convicted. Through his lawyer and a spokesman, he has asserted his innocence.

Tyson is scheduled to appear Wednesday in Marion Superior Court in Indianapolis, prosecutor Jeffrey Modisett said Tuesday.

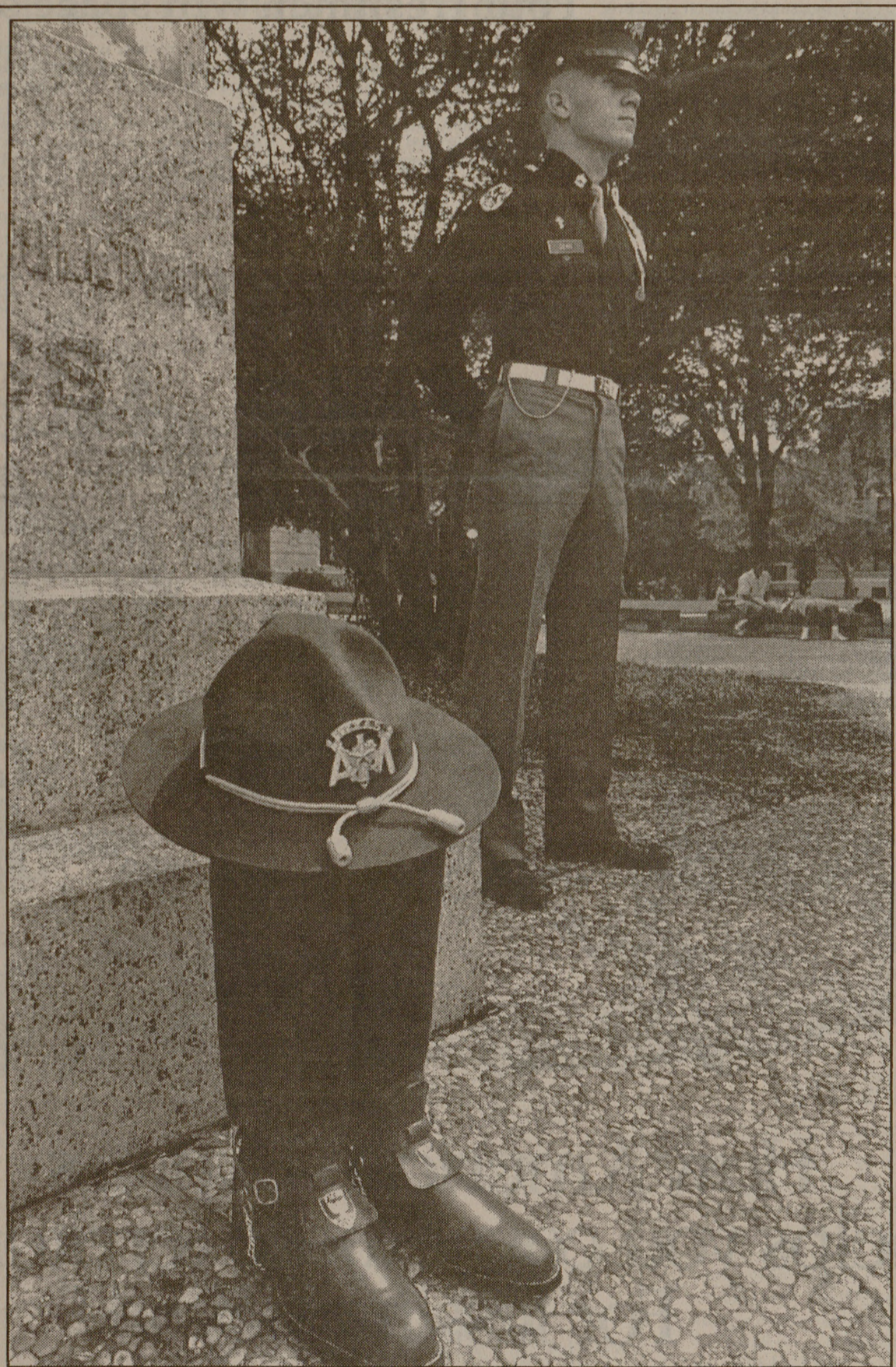
Tyson's denials are unlikely to put off protests against the Las Vegas showdown. Lisa Sliwa said protests would be held in New York.

Sliwa, a New York radio show host and a leader of the Guardian Angels, said she was outraged by Tyson's decision to step into the ring with an indictment hanging over his head.

"I think it sends a terrible message to young men: It's OK to rape women," Sliwa said. "Tyson is held up as a hero, and this sends the idea that you can abuse a female and be able to get away with it."

NOW's Baham said the New York chapter wasn't sure what it

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KARL A. STOLLEIS/The Battalion

### In memory of . . .

Bobby Dean, chaplain for Squadron 16, and classmate of the late Wes Brock, stands guard over Brock's senior boots Tuesday. Members of Brock's squadron stood guard until Silver Taps.

See related stories pages 3 & 9.

## Gorbachev puts end to violations

### Soviet president vows to uphold human rights, individual freedoms

MOSCOW (AP) — Mikhail S. Gorbachev, opening the first human rights conference ever held in the Soviet Union, promised Tuesday to do all he could to end decades of human-rights violations and guarantee individual freedoms.

"You have come to the capital of a thousand-year-old state which is entering a new era in its history," the Soviet president said in his keynote address to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. "The great Eurasian democracy will become one of the bulwarks of the new world."

In the wake of the failed hard-

line coup, the Communist Party's grip on power has been broken and the Soviet government reorganized to transfer power into the hands of the republics. The KGB secret police, which terrorized generations of Soviet citizens, is being revamped.

Gorbachev said he envisioned a new voluntary union of sovereign independent states whose overriding values are freedom, honor and dignity.

And he called for early ratification of treaties reducing conventional forces and strategic weapons, and urged the West to provide greater help in the transition to a market economy.

The ministers of the 35 CSCE member nations voted unanimously to admit the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, which gained independence from the Soviet Union four

days ago. Their foreign ministers took seats in an international forum for the first time, sitting at the large oval table with representatives of every country in Europe, plus the United States and Canada.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas praised Gorbachev, saying "without his resolute action . . . we wouldn't be here. Let us rejoice in the victory of the democrats," he said. "Their victory is also our victory."

The failure of the coup not only allowed this meeting to go ahead, but also showed how deeply the principles which the CSCE process embodies have tak-

en root throughout Europe," said British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

Soviet activist Yelena Bonner said she heard nothing in Gorbachev's address to indicate he

was dealing with growing threats to human rights in the republics, some of whose leaders are accused of repression.

"We heard all the same words about the union, and nobody knows what the union will look like," said Bonner, widow of Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrei Sakharov. "Personally I am not willing to live side by side with the republics that violate human rights."

The CSCE was set up in 1975 to implement the Helsinki Final Act on human rights. Since then, it has campaigned for the kind of commitments the Soviet president made on Tuesday.

For the first time in many



**"The great Eurasian democracy will become one of the bulwarks of the new world."**

Mikhail Gorbachev, Soviet president

## University limits number of Q-drops

By Susan Maguire  
The Battalion

The University's expanded Q-drop period will make Texas A&M students think about the classes they might consider dropping, but the new format will help students in the long run, said the University's registrar.

Donald Carter said Monday these changes were made to benefit the overall student population and to make running the University more efficient.

The Q-drop period for undergraduate stu-

dents began on the sixth class day and ends on the 50th class day.

Any undergraduate student who drops a course within this time will receive a Q-grade, a grade of record which will appear on students' official transcripts.

The previous Q-drop period was from the 13th class day to the 25th class day.

Carter said there was a concern among students that the previous Q-drop deadline, the 25th class day, was too early.

"I think it will help students who, for some reason get into a class and do poorly," he said. "It'll help them get out so it doesn't affect their

GPA."

The limit of three Q-drops, however, will cause students to be more thoughtful as to what they want to drop, he said.

"This will stop kids from shopping for classes," Carter said.

Students must contact their individual colleges to determine how the three Q-drop limitation will affect them. If the college previously restricted Q-drops, then any Q-drops on a student's record will count toward the limit. If the college did not restrict Q-drops, the new

See Q-Drop/Page 10

## Wet transformer causes West campus power failure

A power outage occurred on the west side of Texas A&M's campus Tuesday affecting the Heep Center for Soil and Crop Sciences and Entomology, the Kleberg Animal and Food Sciences Center, the Biochemistry and Biophysics Building and the Rosenthal Meat Science and Technology Center.

The outage was caused by water in a transformer in the basement of Kleberg.

The situation was corrected and the power was restored to all buildings except Kleberg at 10:20 a.m. Kleberg regained power at approximately 11:15 a.m.