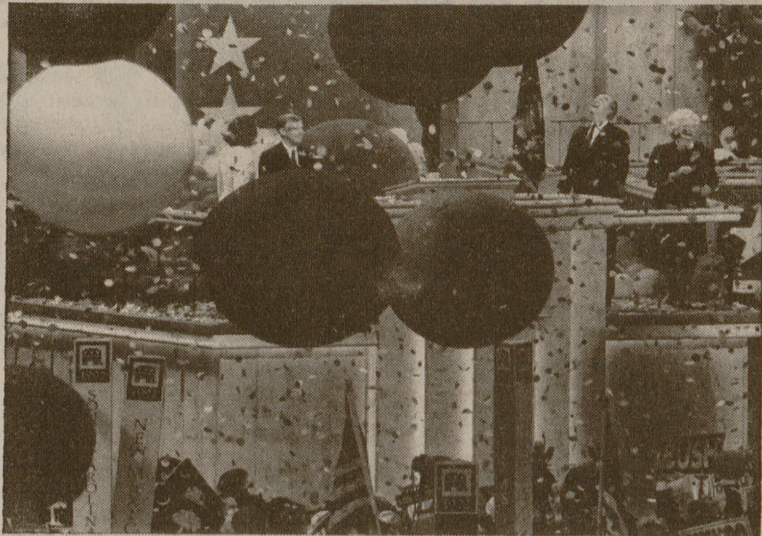


Convention-goers see the stars



DARRIN HILL/The Battalion

As giant balloons and colored confetti rained down on the floor, the GOP candidates and their spouses enjoy the moment.

Autograph-seeking volunteers find excitement in celebrity attendance

By JULI PHILLIPS

Reporter to THE BATTALION

Volunteers said their time spent at the Republican National Convention was well worth it - they met "Arnold".

Arnold Schwarzenegger was among the rich and famous who attended the Convention.

"I was so excited that I was given the opportunity to be the usher for the VIP section," said volunteer Kim Williams. "I was really excited when I found out Arnold was going to be there."

Williams admitted she was so impressed with his looks, she didn't listen to any of the speeches while he was there.

Other Hollywood stars whose presence at the convention sent convention-goers to the VIP sections armed with cameras included Bruce Willis, Demi Moore, Charleton Heston and Cheryl Ladd.

"I can't believe how excited these people are about them," Shirley Kipp, another VIP volunteer usher remarked, while looking at the hordes of press cameras that gathered in front of the VIP section during the Wednesday night convention session.

Kipp said the other ushers would send papers with her to get autographs of the VIPs.

"They mostly ask for Arnold Schwarzenegger's signature," she said.

Unity and pride at room of fishes' short haircuts

By BRANDI JORDAN

Reporter to THE BATTALION

What goes bzzzzzzzz... aaaaargh! An incoming freshman cadet getting his first haircut.

"It helps teach fish unity and pride," A-Battery junior David Sprinkle said. Sprinkle said every privilege must be earned in the Corps. Everyone comes here equal and that's why freshman have to get their hair cut.

While standing in line, Tyson Voelkel, a freshman cadet in A-Battery, said it would be "cool" later but at the moment he was just scared.

"I had no idea my head was so round," Voelkel said. "Do I have to lose my sideburns?"

Barber Ray Thomas told Voelkel he didn't have to, but that he would probably get along with the upperclassmen if he did.

"We had to hire a guy to sweep

up hair just for today," Thomas, owner of Roy's Southgate Barber Shop, said.

Thomas said he had never had a bad experience with a Cadet because they all know they're getting into by the time they get to the barber shop.

"I've never seen a fish get a haircut or pass out," Thomas said "because that's girl stuff. We deal with men here."

"I can't believe what happened," Voelkel said. "I think a person's hair is the most important part of his personality. It makes him unique."

He said it will be easier to get out to upperclassmen and won't feel like a lonely individual because his fish buddies will be with him.

A-Company freshman Tim McDaniel summed it all up for buddies: "It's the unified haircut. It's totally red-ass."

Mobley's goal: to create globally-literate individuals

By GARY P. CARROLL

Special to THE BATTALION

From his office on the eighth floor of Rudder Tower, Texas A&M University President Dr. William H. Mobley can view most of the 5,200 acre campus and its 42,000-plus students.

Succeeding Dr. Frank Vandiver in 1988, Mobley, former dean of A&M's college of business, has worked four years to make A&M a "world impact university."

"I don't like the term 'world class,'" Mobley said. "I prefer 'world impact.'"

The notion of A&M as a world impact university has to do with preparing our students to be effective and competitive in a global environment," he said.

He said also it was important for A&M to focus on topics that have a high global impact such as agricultural issues, manufacturing competitiveness and, especially,

cultural awareness.

A&M leads Texas schools in the retention of all students as well as the retention of African American and Hispanic students, whose enrollment has increased by 76 percent since 1985.

A&M's 42,000-plus student

"If I could encourage students to do one thing it would be to participate in an international study program..."

Dr. William H. Mobley
Texas A&M University
President

body includes a minority enrollment of 5,100 African American and Hispanic students, and 2,700 international students. There are students from all 50 states and 115 foreign countries.

"We want to create a globally-literate individual," Mobley said, "and by being smarter during recruiting we have moved closer to that goal."

Following the riots in Los Angeles after the acquittal of the officers accused of beating Rodney King, a student group proposed that a class on multiculturalism be required for all A&M students to increase their awareness of cultural issues, and with this point Mobley disagrees.

"I don't think a class on multiculturalism is the answer," Mobley said. "A class on international cultures won't make you cultured."

Mobley said A&M needs an infusion of culture throughout the curriculum and we have the resources to do it.

He cited instances of international opportunities available to educate students about differing cultures including A&M's Koriya-

ma campus in Japan, a presence in Santa Chiara, Italy, and soon, offices in Mexico City, Mexico. Also, numerous study abroad programs provide educational and multicultural experiences for A&M students and faculty.

"If I could encourage students to do one thing it would be to participate in an international study program," Mobley said. "That single experience does more, I think, to help the student realize our global village."

Mobley realizes that to reach a higher level of multicultural awareness certain steps must be taken.

These steps include continuous curriculum development, raising funds necessary to attract international students and researchers, continued collaboration with foreign universities via student and information exchange and joint international research.

Mobley's dedication to his job,



THE BATTALION File Photo
Mobley

and the dog."

You leave when you conclude or someone concludes for you that your job is done, he said. "I stay as long as I think I'm making a contribution."

Both of Mobley's daughters graduated from A&M: Michael, Class of '87 and Jennifer, Class of '91.

Mobley has some advice for incoming freshmen. He said it is important to manage time carefully and take advantage of the newfound freedom and independence to make grades a priority.

He also said that it is important to students who are having trouble to get help early.

A&M has numerous programs offered through A&M's Student Services Department, Mobley said, and the longer students wait the worse the problems get.

Overall, Mobley calls his presidency "totally consuming, but very rewarding."

and Texas A&M, is evident. The average term for a university president is 3.5 years, and Mobley is entering his fifth year as president with no plans to leave.

"Who knows what lurks in hearts and minds," Mobley said. "Me and my wife (Jayne, Class of '85) like it here - it's just me, her

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