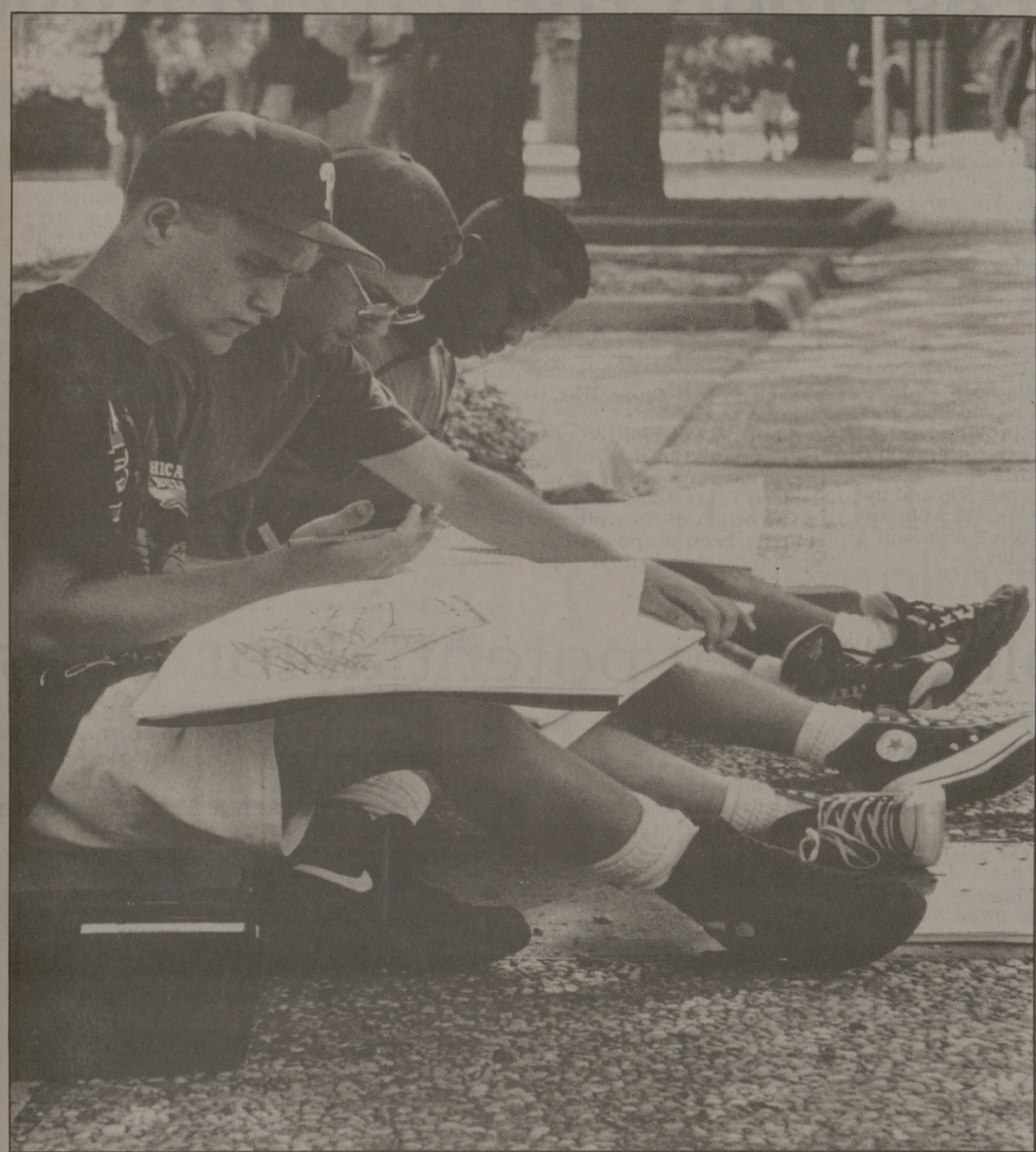


The Battalion

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RANDALL NICHOLS/The Battalion

Craig Uptmore, a freshman from Waco; Brett Flaten, a sophomore from Grand Prairie; and Mark Barnes, a junior from San Antonio, work on drawings near Scoates Hall as part of their Environmental Design 115 class on Tuesday afternoon.

Working parents replace relatives with day care centers, report says

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Working parents are increasingly turning to day care centers, instead of relatives, to care for their preschool children, according to a U.S. Census Bureau report released Tuesday.

In families in which both parents are employed, many parents work different shifts to take turns being at home, the report shows.

In 1988, 26 percent of the 9.5 million children under the age of 5 with working mothers were cared for in organized child care facilities, compared with 13 percent in 1977, the report shows.

The portion of preschool children with working mothers who were cared for in the home dropped from 34 percent to 28 percent during the same period.

Only 8 percent of these children were cared for in their homes by extended families in 1988, compared with 12 percent in 1977. The portion cared for in relatives' homes dropped from 18 percent to 13 percent over the time span.

Economic changes are partly responsible, said Barbara Otto, a spokeswoman for 9 to 5, National Association of Working Women in Cleveland, Ohio.

"It's a two-wage earner economy and many peo-

ple are recognizing that they can't rely on relatives," Otto said. "We're a transient society now and we go where the jobs are, and often we don't have relatives nearby to help out."

In 1988, there were 18.9 million working women with children under the age of 15. No comparable statistic exists for 1977.

During that time, the number of preschool children whose mothers worked more than doubled, from 4.3 million to 9.4 million.

The section of the report on the hours parents worked focused only on married couples, not single mothers.

It found that preschool children were far more likely to be cared for by their parents at home if their parents worked different shifts. In such cases, fathers often were the primary care-givers, the report said.

Of the 2 million preschool children whose fathers worked the day shift while their mothers worked a non-day shift, fathers were the main care-givers when the mothers were at work 31.6 percent of the time. Of the 3.4 million preschool children whose parents both worked day shifts, only 4.3 percent were cared for mainly by their fathers when their mother was at work.

Retail sales hit five month low

THE ASSOCIATE PRESS

WASHINGTON — Retail sales fell by 0.5 percent in August, the poorest showing since March, the government said Tuesday, but the stagnant economy continued to keep a lid on prices with consumer inflation rising by a modest 0.3 percent last month.

With seven weeks to go until Election Day, economists said a flurry of statistics Tuesday depicted an economy still showing few signs of life.

"It's the same old story. The economy is dead in the water," said Bruce Steinberg, an economist at Merrill Lynch in New York.

In addition to the drop in retail sales, the government also reported that the country's overall trade deficit tripled in the April-June quarter to \$17.8 billion, the worst showing for the current account in 2 1/2 years.

With overseas economies slowing, analysts said that the United States can expect little help from what had been the economy's one bright spot, sales of American products abroad.

"The world's major economies are stagnating with few signs of a turnaround and that is hurting our exports," said Allen Sinai, chief economist of the Boston Co.

Financial markets were in retreat Tuesday following a huge rally Monday that had been spurred by a cut in German interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average was down more than 35 points at mid-afternoon, erasing half of Monday's gain.

Analysts said that, upon reflection, investors had turned pessimistic that the small German rate cut would do much to spur worldwide growth.

Among economic developments Tuesday:

• The 0.5 percent drop in retail sales was the worst showing since a 1.2 percent decline in March. While sales were revised upward for June and July, analysts said there still was very little strength

in America's retail sector. They noted that sales of cars and other durable goods fell by 1.6 percent, the biggest plunge in 18 months.

"We are seeing the effects of low consumer confidence and concerns about the job situation," said Lynn Reaser, an economist at First Interstate Bancorp in Los Angeles.

• The 0.3 percent increase in the Labor Department's consumer price index last month left inflation for the year running at an annual rate of just 2.9 percent.

In August, the first drop in gasoline prices since February helped to offset the biggest jump in fruit and vegetable prices in more than 2 1/2 years.

• The \$17.8 billion second quarter deficit in the current account, the broadest measure of foreign trade because it includes not only merchandise but trade in services and investment flows, followed a

"We are seeing the effects of low consumer confidence and concerns about the job situation."

—Lynn Reaser, First Interstate Bancorp economist

Officials comment on yell practice incident

Campus leaders call for student unity, respect for traditions

By TODD STONE

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Leaders from the Corps of Cadets and other student organizations need to encourage respect for rules and tradition to avoid violence at Friday night yell practice, A&M officials said.

According to witnesses, as many as 50 students, ran onto Kyle Field during yell practice early Saturday morning — resulting in numerous fights as Corps members attempted to remove the students from the field.

Witnesses also said some students who ran onto the field were not from A&M.

"It's (yell practice) an old tradition that's unique and special," Maj. Gen. Thomas Darling, Corps commandant, said, "but we can't have confrontations going on out there. I think our student leaders will assist and support that."

Still, if students run onto the field, University Police Director Bob Wiatt said cadets should stay in position and leave the violators alone.

"Why go and start chasing

people," Wiatt said. "It allowed more holes in the ranks (of those who guard the field), and more people ran out to test the guards."

"It has always been understood that if someone should violate space on the field, the (Corps) members who were guarding the field would not pursue the individuals," he said.

Kyle Field is a memorial to Aggies who were killed in World War I. It is an A&M tradition not to step on the field for anything other than sporting events. The cadets serve as guards to ensure this tradition is not violated.

Darling said cadets may have tried to stop the transgressions because they were emotional and caught up in the "hype and excitement" of the first home game yell practice.

"I regret the incidents that happened last week," Darling said. "I'll be visiting with our cadet leaders and urge our cadets to use restraint."

Dr. John Koldus, vice president of student services, agrees that if students run onto the field, cadets should not try to remove them.

"The key is we can't have people protecting the field that would physically tackle," he said. "If you don't chase people and tackle them, then that just leaves the people (violators) to stand around looking foolish."

Corps Commander Matthew Michaels said in letter published in Tuesday's Battalion he does not condone the violence, but "There is no reason for the Corps to stand idly by and take another kick in the teeth. We are the founders of tradition, . . . and we will defend those ideals."

Wiatt said the Cadets cannot take these transgressions personally.

"If a bunch of people run out on the field, then what are you going to do, fight a war?" Wiatt said. "Just recognize them for the buffoons they are."

Michaels said Saturday's violence would never have occurred if students would respect Kyle Field's traditions.

"Those juniors (cadets) who overstepped their bounds Friday

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Congress earmarks funds for super collider project

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — House and Senate conferees Tuesday earmarked \$517 million for the super collider next year in a remarkable turnaround for a project that, just months ago, was in danger of being canceled.

Backers, who redoubled their efforts after a stunning House vote in June to kill the \$8.25 billion giant atom smasher, hailed the conference committee's action.

"Having gone through the SSC funding battle, I have a far better appreciation for Winston Churchill's observation that nothing in life is so exhilarating as to be shot at and missed," said Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas.

"We really dodged a bullet," Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, said, "It has been a long, hard battle and we have won."

"It is a clear and convincing victory."

The funding is part of a \$22 billion energy and water development appropriations package that now returns to the House and Senate for final approval.

Conferees split the difference between the \$550 million approved last month by the Senate and the \$483.7 million allocated by the House Appropriations Committee before the House voted to ditch the project under construction south of Dallas.

Although the figure falls \$133 million short of the funding sought by the Bush administration, it is significantly higher than the minimum amount the Energy Department said would be necessary to keep construction on track.

Last week, the DOE's chief overseer of the project



Gramm

said the collider might not be completed on time if Congress did not earmark at least \$483 million for fiscal 1993.

Rep. Jim Chapman, the only Texan on the conference committee, said the \$517 million was a "fair compromise" — but one that would add to costs and construction time.

"It's unfortunate though that in the process we have to compromise, because I think the honest result is some slippage in schedule and some increase in cost. I think that's inevitable," the Sulphur Springs Democrat said. "We ought to be honest about that."

Rep. Joe Barton, whose district spans the collider, agreed.

"I think this eliminates any reasonable hope to build the project for \$8.2 billion," said Barton, R-Ennis. "You can't keep cutting and underfunding. There's only so much stretch in that rubber band and I think they've exceeded it."

The collider should come above current projections, but under \$9 billion, he said.

But a spokesman for the super collider laboratory near Dallas wasn't prepared to admit the \$517 million would cause delays and cost overruns.

"I think it will be close. We are going to have to take a careful look," said lab spokesman Russ Wylie.

"I think overall people are exceedingly pleased with the final outcome," Wylie said. "We are trying to do everything we can to keep this program on budget and on schedule and to warrant the confidence that was shown by the political leadership in restoring these funds."

"If we have to postpone building administrative buildings and work out of trailers to do that, we will."

The collider, which faces difficult funding fights each year on Capitol Hill, has had a tougher year than usual. The House vote to kill the project stunned backers, causing them to redouble their lobbying efforts.

Yugoslavia's membership tops U.N.'s session agenda

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS — The 47th General Assembly, with 145 topics, from famine to environmental protection, on its agenda, opened Tuesday by plunging into a bitter dispute over Yugoslavia's membership in the United Nations.

U.S. and European Community speakers told the assembly they objected to Serb-led Yugoslavia's participation in the U.N. system, and would seek suspension of the federation, which now includes only Serbia and Montenegro.

"It is anomalous and unacceptable that representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should continue to participate in the work of United Nations bodies," said Britain's ambassador, Sir David Hannay, who spoke on behalf of the 12-nation European Community.

The U.S. and European pro-

posal would go beyond even the punitive actions taken against South Africa, stripped of assembly voting rights in 1974 because of its apartheid policies.

Serbia and Montenegro would lose not only their assembly vote but participation in all U.N. organizations, such as UNICEF and the World Health Organization.

The Belgrade government's ambassador, Dragomir Djokic, said suspension could jeopardize international peace efforts.

"The membership of Yugoslavia in the United Nations, in its legal personality, should not be challenged," Djokic told the delegates.

The matter was to be decided by the 15-member Security Council later this week, then be taken up by the 179-member General Assembly. Russia and China have veto power in the Security Council, and could block a move toward suspending Yugoslavia.