

North speech to encourage students about the future

By Lisa Elliott

THE BATTALION

Students at Texas A&M University will have an opportunity this week to meet a prominent and controversial figure from American history.

Retired Lt. Col. Oliver North told The Battalion on Monday that he "hopes to leave students with a positive idea about the future" after his speech Wednesday evening in Rudder Theater.

"What I'd like to do is leave students with a little bit of encouragement about the future and get them involved in the public policy process," he said.

North is best known for his involvement in the Iran-Contra affair in 1987 in which he helped carry out President Reagan's policy of supporting the Nicaraguan resistance and the rescue of hostages held in Beirut.

North was cleared of all legal charges stemming from the affair.

Texas A&M is one of 10 universities where

North will give a speech in November. North said although he does give speeches to many college campuses, he localizes them to each school.

"I try to make them applicable to the student body," he said.

North said he doesn't plan to attack the University for the proposed multiculturalism classes currently being debated by the College Republicans.

"My purpose is not to attack the curriculum," he said. "My purpose is to encourage the students as well as the faculty to explore the full range of issues they'll have to conform to when they graduate."

North hopes to leave the students with a positive image of himself and the government.

"If I had an image at all, I'd rather the students wouldn't see so much of a very controversial person, but rather a person who is striving very hard to be a good husband, a good father and a good businessperson," he said. "Everyone makes mistakes, and I know I have."

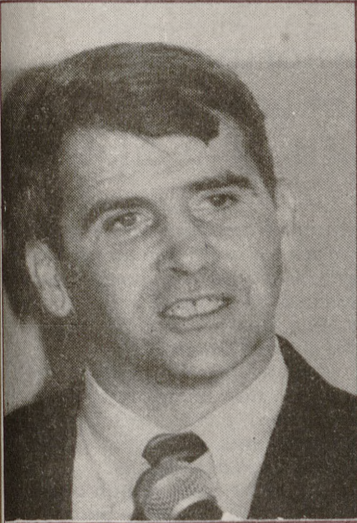
North said he has tentative plans to run for the U.S. Senate.

"That may be a touchy issue since an old Texan's son-in-law is the incumbent, Charles S. Robb," he said. "He's a liberal Democrat and I'm a conservative Republican, so there's no contest."

North is a 1968 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and said he has never had an opportunity to visit the Texas A&M campus because Navy didn't play A&M when he was there. He said he is looking forward to touring the campus and commented on A&M's high score against Missouri in Saturday's game.

"I wish my Navy team could play half as good as A&M," he said.

North is co-founder of Guardian Technologies International, Inc. a Virginia-based manufacturer of protective equipment for law enforcement and currently writes a weekly syndicated column. He recently completed a book titled "One More Mission" due out in November.



North

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A&M falls in ranking of best college buys

University places 42nd, after 33rd in 1993

By Cheryl Heller

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University came in 42nd in Money magazine's list of the nation's best college buys for 1994.

A&M dropped nine places from last year's rating of 33.

Dr. A. Benton Cocanougher, A&M interim senior vice president and provost, said the drop came as a surprise to administrators.

"I was disappointed to hear it, and really quite surprised," he said. "All the evidence that we have available points to Texas A&M as one of the great buys in American education."

"I see no reason to account for that kind of drop, and I intend to look at the list and make sure we're communicating the polling factors as well as we can."

Rankings were based on 15 quality measures combined with tuition and fee amounts for non-resident. A&M non-resident undergraduate students pay \$2,814 per 15-hour semester, and students in the College of Engineering pay \$3,024.

Dr. Mike Bishop, vice president for university communications and marketing at Baylor University, said he thinks factors besides tuition and fee costs played a big part in Baylor's rank of 33 out of the 989 colleges listed.

"Our tuition is the second lowest of all major private U.S. universities, but we also consciously recruit students from educationally, culturally and economically disadvantaged areas," he said.

A high number of national merit scholars and close faculty-student relationships also played a role in Baylor's ranking, Bishop said.

"I think the fact that we ranked in the top 1 percent of U.S. universities in the number of enrolled national merit scholars also helped us in the rating," he said. "We also have a low faculty-to-student ratio, which develops close relationships between our professors and students."

See Ranking/Page 4

Preserving Hobby history ...



Stephanie Newman/THE BATTALION

Colonel Hickle and his assistant from A&R photography photograph Hobby Hall for the 1993-94 Aggieland Monday afternoon.

Photo shoots for residence halls will continue throughout this week and into next week.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

White House finds support, criticism for coverage plan

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Counting down to Wednesday night's unveiling, President Clinton honed his health-reform sales pitch before top doctors and sent his wife to Capitol Hill Monday to brief lawmakers on the radical surgery planned for the U.S. health system. Clinton also got a strong boost

from Dr. C. Everett Koop, the surgeon general under Republican Presidents Reagan and Bush, who said Clinton had already accomplished more to solve the nation's health woes "than all of his living predecessors put together."

Questions remained about the costs and cuts imbedded in Clinton's \$700 billion plan to ensure health coverage for all Americans while slamming the brakes on

medical inflation.

And Republican party chairman Haley Barbour exhorted state GOP leaders to take the offensive against the Clinton plan. He said in a memo that Republicans cannot afford to "sit on our hands while the Clintons try to pull the wool over the country's eyes."

White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers left open the possibility Clinton may deliver

Wednesday night's address to a joint session of Congress without making final decisions on how to pay for the program.

She said the president wants to raise \$105 billion by increasing "sin taxes," but has not determined how much to raise cigarette taxes and whether to hit other items such as alcohol.

"We're 98 percent there with this plan," she said.

UPD named 'Outstanding Crime Prevention Agency'

By Michele Brinkmann

THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M University Police Department received an award Monday for having some of the best crime prevention programs in Texas.

UPD was named "Outstanding Crime Prevention Agency" by the Texas Crime Prevention Association, beating out hun-

dreds of other Texas agencies.

Rusty Kohler, the Association's regional president, presented the award to UPD Director Bob Wiatt and members of A&M's Crime Prevention Unit.

"I am so proud of this, not only for the Crime Prevention Unit, but for all the security officers in the department," Wiatt said.

Wiatt said he knew Kohler had a

tough time choosing who would receive the award.

"I'm tickled that the Texas A&M Crime Prevention Unit came out in this spot," he said.

"This is the first time any local law enforcement agency has received this award and recognition in Texas," Wiatt said. "This is very significant. I have quite a bit of pride in this award."

Kohler said the department decreased property crimes by nearly one-half since the Crime Prevention Unit began on campus in 1989.

Crime Prevention Officer Cpl. Betty LeMay said, "Lt. Bert Kretzschmar and I have been building this crime prevention program from the beginning. The program is still in its infant stage."

Wiatt said he plans on keeping all the programs that Crime Prevention Unit already has in effect.

"Our goal is to make ourselves available to the campus community," he said. "We are at the beck and call of the people on campus."

The Texas Crime Prevention Association has 490 members representing 256 various law enforcement agencies, individuals, and private businesses in Texas. The organization is dedicated to the encouragement, promotion, and enhancement of all aspects of crime prevention programs.



Mary Macmanus/THE BATTALION

University Police Department representatives receive an award for being one of the best crime prevention units in Texas. Accepting the award from Rusty Kohler are (left to right) Mike Ragan, Cpl. Betty Lemay, Bob Wiatt, Lt. Bert Kretzschmar and Josie Hoelscher.

Jury indicts professor on felony theft charges

By Andrea Taormina

THE BATTALION

Dr. Alexander Parlos, a Texas A&M University nuclear engineering professor, was indicted by a grand jury Friday on seven charges of felony theft.

Parlos is charged with billing the University for travel and expenses incurred between August and October 1990. Parlos had already been compensated for the costs by the companies for whom he was consulting.

District Attorney Bill Turner said Parlos billed the University for between \$750 and \$20,000. The offenses are second-degree felonies for which Parlos could receive two to 20 years in prison and a fine up to \$10,000 on each count.

In a prepared statement, System Chancellor William Mobley said the University Police Department and the System Internal Audit Department are cooperating with Turner's investigation of the allegations against Parlos.

Mobley said he fully supported Turner in his presentation to the Brazos County Grand Jury on Friday.

Sgt. Jim Lindholm of the UPD said it had been a long investigation. He said the next steps would be to issue a warrant for Parlos, arrest him and put him on trial. Lindholm and Turner were both unable to comment on many details because of the ongoing investigation.

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WEATHER

- Tuesday: mostly cloudy in the morning, partly cloudy in the afternoon

- Forecast for Wednesday: mostly cloudy with widely scattered showers, storms

- Your Battalion extended forecast: partly cloudy, lows - 70s, highs - 90s