



# THE BATTALION

1893 - A Century of Service to Texas A&M - 1993

Tuesday, October 19, 1993

Vol. 93 No. 37 (10 pages)

## NCAA accuses A&M of 'major' violations

By William Harrison

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M received a letter of inquiry from the NCAA Monday, outlining possible institutional infractions which charged A&M with "major" violations stemming from a player payoff scandal in the football program.

im President E. Dean Gage, the NCAA detailed its findings from its investigations into illegal payoffs from A&M alumnus Warren Gilbert, and allegations of a "lack of institutional control and monitoring" in the A&M employment program.

NCAA By-Laws dealing with repeated offenses. In addition to the present findings, A&M was found in violation of rules in 1991 under then-head basketball coach Kermit Davis, and in 1988 under former head football coach Jackie Sherrill.

meeting of the NCAA Infractions Committee on November 12-14 in Kansas City, Mo. The NCAA stipulated that the requested information be submitted to the ten members of the committee by Friday.

ful to the NCAA's efforts to bring this to closure, and we'll work cooperatively to accomplish that." The report outlined financial and personal disclosures between players and Gilbert, and accused A&M recruiting coordinator Tim Cassidy of withholding prior information regarding the payoff

See NCAA/Page 6

## Haitian forces defy deadline to yield power

The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti - Haiti's military defied an approaching midnight deadline to yield power Monday and belittled a U.N. arms and oil embargo.

Rightists mixed threats against the outside world with gifts of chrysanthemums to foreign reporters, while Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras suggested new talks on his departure.

An army broadcast urged Haitians not to worry about the U.N.-authorized embargo or the U.S. warships steaming offshore to enforce it.

The capital was quiet, and some small shops opened despite calls from a variety of groups calling for a shutdown of business activity.

Stanley Schrager, a U.S. Embassy spokesman, said Cedras must honor the U.N.-mediated pact he signed in July to return Aristide, who was ousted in a bloody coup two years ago.

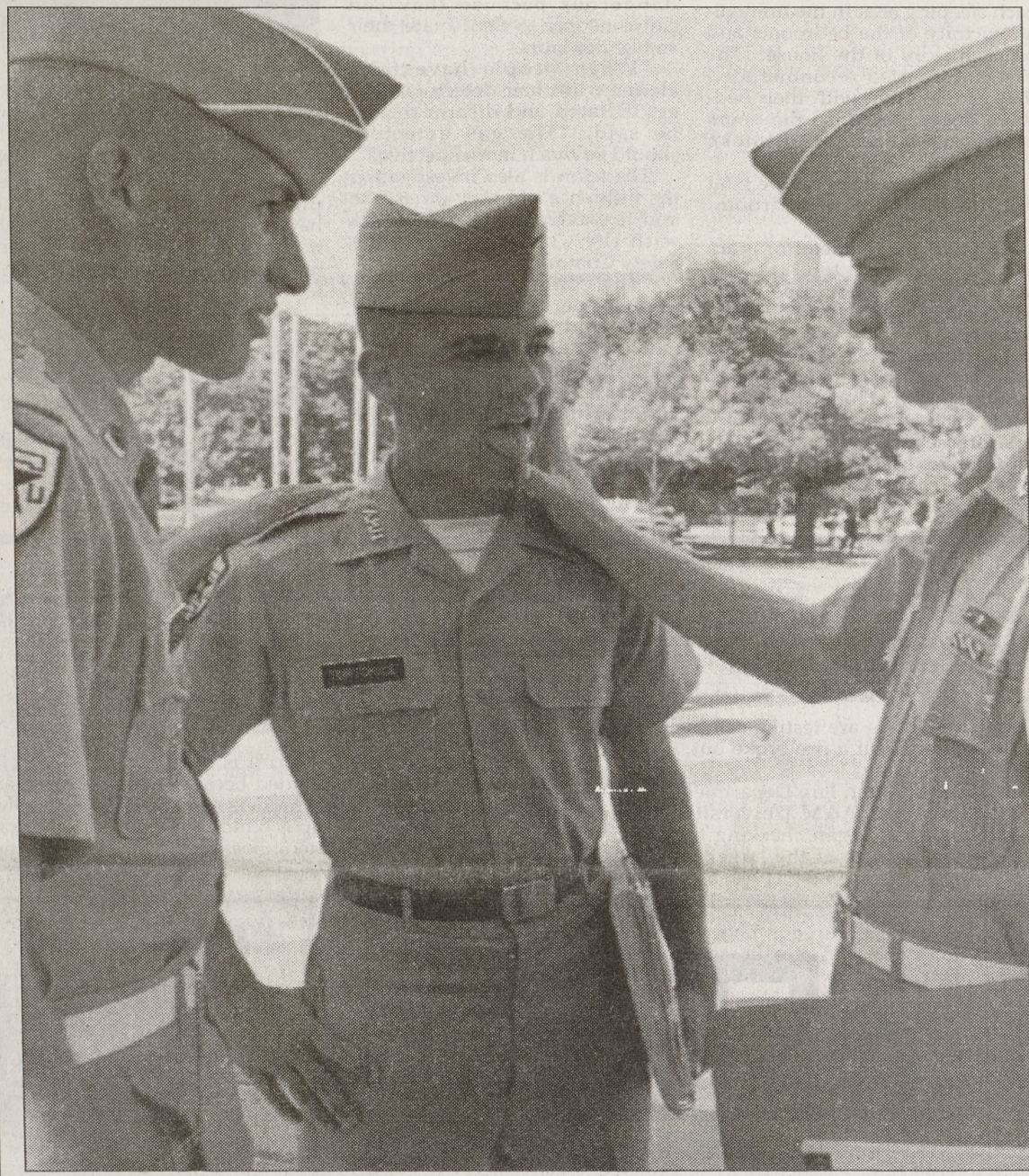
Many Haitians have fled the capital, fearing violence by army-supported Aristide opponents or a possible intervention by U.S. forces.

Schrager said: "I'm not saying that a military intervention is imminent, but clearly there is always that risk."

He said American officials were considering providing guards for Aristide-backed Prime Minister Robert Malval.

See Haiti/Page 8

## Open wide ...



Holly Organ/The BATTALION

Freshman Robert Tortorice (center), a political science major from Beaumont, has his teeth inspected Monday on the Quad by junior political science major Jim Welsh (left) of Austin and junior agriculture major Jake Donks (right) of Dallas.

## Two acquitted in Denny beating

### Jury convicts black defendants on counts of assault, mayhem

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Two blacks were acquitted Monday of most of the felony charges in the beating of white trucker Reginald Denny and other motorists at the start of the 1992 riots, easing fears of renewed racial tensions.

The defendants were convicted of lesser counts.

The judge sent the multiracial jury back to deliberate the most serious count - attempted murder against defendant Damian "Football" Williams in the videotaped attack of Denny - and two lesser charges on which the panel deadlocked.

Hours later, the panel announced it had decided that Williams was innocent of a robbery charge.

Superior Court Judge John Ouderkirk then asked the jury to deliberate the final two counts.

Accepting the defense argument that Williams and co-defendant Henry Watson were caught up in mob violence after the state Rodney King beating trial, the jurors acquitted them of most charges that required specific intent.

Defense psychologists testified that Williams, 20, and his 29-year-old co-defendant acted in the heat of the moment and couldn't have planned their actions.

Williams and Watson sat calmly as the verdicts were read, except when the clerk announced "Not Guilty" on an aggravated mayhem charge against Williams, which could have brought him life in prison.

The jury convicted Williams on simple mayhem, with a maximum penalty of up to eight years in prison.

In the charges decided against him, Watson was acquitted of all but simple assault on Denny, a lesser related offense that carries only a year in county jail rather than prison.

The jury rejected the charge that Watson tried to kill Denny, the count that could have brought him life in prison.

"I am in total agreement," Denny told the TV tabloid show "Inside Edition." "They should let the guy go. He spent a year-and-a-half in jail and has had time to think about what happened."

Watson's mother, Joyce, sat in the courtroom's front row.

Williams was acquitted of eight counts.

Former Police Chief Daryl Gates, now a radio personality, denounced the verdicts as unjust.

"We know they're guilty. But I understand this is our system," Gates said.

The new police chief, Willie Williams, said he was pleased with community response.

And in South Central Los Angeles, the Rev. Leonard Jackson of First AME Church said: "There is a sense of calm and there is a sense of true justice. We saw justice working at its best."

The jury initially was hung up on whether Williams personally used a deadly weapon, a concrete block, to strike Denny in the head.

And they disagreed on the

See Denny/Page 3

## Freed Nigerian forgives brutal captors

The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia - He was stripped naked and chained to a chair in a dark room for two weeks. Somali fighters twisted his ankle, tearing ligaments so he could not escape.

Still, a Nigerian peacekeeper held by clan leader Mohamed Farrah Aidid's militia for more than a month said Monday that he felt no anger toward his captors.

"As a good Muslim man, everything they do to you, you must forgive, but you must remember also," said Pvt. Umar Shantali.

The 20-year-old peacekeeper spoke at his

first news conference since being freed Thursday along with a U.S. Army helicopter pilot, Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant.

Durant has not spoken to reporters about his time as a prisoner, and there has been no official word on conditions during his 11 days in captivity.

Shantali spent the last five days being treated at a Swedish army field hospital for torn ligaments in his left ankle inflicted after he was captured in a Sept. 5 battle that killed seven Nigerian soldiers.

He was accompanied by his commander, Maj. Garba Ahmed, and other Nigerian officers who appeared to be censoring him. At one point, he said in an aside "No, no, I won't tell them," before answering a question.

Shantali said his captors berated him, saying all U.N. troops took orders from Jonathan Howe, the retired U.S. Navy admiral who is the special U.N. representative in Somalia. The militiamen believe American troops are here to impose Christianity on their Muslim country, he said.

"They said Howe likes to bring Christian religion in Somalia . . . They said they would like to dig out Howe's eye, then take out another eye and make a dinner," he said.

He said he told them: "You can talk with your mouth, but you can't do it."

Opponents of the U.N. mission, which began when a U.S.-led military force intervened

See Nigerian/Page 4

## West Campus suffers from power outage

By James Bernsen

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University officials are not sure why two electrical transformers on the West side of campus failed Sunday night.

Joe Sugg, executive director of the A&M physical plant, said the transformers went out around 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Kleberg Animal and Food Science Center and the Medical Sciences Building. The transformers have not yet been fixed.

Sugg said it is possible that the loss of the first transformer may have caused the second to fail.

"Something may have caused one to go out, causing a surge," he said. "A hidden defect in the other might have caused it to go out then."

See Transformer/Page 3

## Mounted police to patrol area neighborhoods

By Carrie Miura

THE BATTALION

Brazos Valley residents can feel safe in their homes knowing Brazos Valley Task Force mounted patrol units will be serving local neighborhoods.

Mark Hiatt, assistant commander of the Brazos Valley Task Force, said the program should prove more effective against the drug trade, and the task force is optimistic that the new program will succeed.

"Our main goal is to run the dealers off the street and to run the buyers out of the area," he said.

The mounted patrols should help change the image of police, creating a more favorable impres-

"Our main goal is to run the dealers off the street and to run the buyers out of the area."

- Mark Hiatt, assistant commander of the Brazos Valley Task Force

sion among children, Hiatt said.

"We would like to turn our image around in neighborhoods," he said. "Right now, many children see the police as being bad guys, because the only time they see the police is for a drug bust or if we run a search warrant."

The mounted patrol unit was implemented under the Ominous Drug Bill passed in 1986 and is operating with federal funds in

support of drug enforcement.

The mounted officers are currently in training with the Austin Police Department and the Houston Police Department to learn enforcement tactics.

Schools may request the mounted patrol units speak to their students as the officers begin patrolling the crack and cocaine neighborhoods surrounding some schools.

Steve Hanell, commander of the Brazos Valley Task Force, said drugs are a major problem in some Brazos Valley neighborhoods.

"We are going to try and combine education, enforcement and prevention by putting on programs for schools and patrol in high crack and cocaine areas," Hanell said. "This will be a new neighborhood policing concept that we will be trying out."

"I am really excited about it. It's a different approach that we will be taking because we will be teaching children while patrolling their neighborhoods," he said.

Hanell said the program and mounted forces will begin operation by the end of November.

### Inside

#### CAMPUS

• A&M team researching fire detectors Page 2

#### SPORTS

• Player feature: Tyler Harrison Page 5

#### OPINION

• Bureaucracy at A&M needs to better serve students Page 9

#### WEATHER

• Tuesday: mostly cloudy, scattered showers, highs in 80s

• Wednesday: windy, cooler, highs in upper 70s, lows in 60s

• Extended forecast: partly cloudy, cool, highs in 70s, lows in 60s