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Weekend rap-up

Senate votes 63-36, passes Brady bill

WASHINGTON — After a day of tense, private negotiations, the Senate passed legislation Saturday night to impose a five-day waiting period on handgun purchases.

The 63-36 came on a measure — the so-called Brady bill — that virtually had been pronounced dead for the year Friday before a delicate compromise finally was hammered out by senators huddling on the floor.

The House has approved similar legislation, and differences will have to be ironed out — either in the next few days or next year.

"There is no doubt now that it will become law," Majority Leader George Mitchell told a news conference.

The compromise language that broke a Republican filibuster would end the waiting period after four years unless the attorney general adds a fifth year.

Packwood says he might resign

WASHINGTON — Sen. Bob Packwood, said by administration officials to be facing a criminal probe, told a colleague this week he might resign because "I'm at the end of my rope" from fighting sexual misconduct accusations.

Administration sources confirmed on Friday that Packwood faced a Justice Department criminal investigation. The Senate Ethics Committee is separately investigating accusations that the veteran Oregon Republican made unwanted sexual advances to more than two dozen women.

The administration sources said the criminal investigation focuses on whether Packwood's defense of Mitsubishi Electric Co. in the Senate against unfair trade practice charges in 1989 was linked to a job offer to his wife from a company lobbyist.

Women slain in gang related crime

FORT WORTH — Two men police described as known gang members were in the Tarrant County Jail on Friday, accused with killing two female college students in a murder-for-hire scheme.

Bond was set at \$500,000 each for Melvin James "Boof" White, 19, and Darron DeShone Curl, 22, on charges of capital murder.

The two men are suspected in the slayings of Channing Frelove, 19, and Melanie Golchert, 18. The bodies of the women, who were shot to death, were found early Saturday in a vacant field in southeast Fort Worth near Interstate 20.

Police said they think two women hired White and Curl to kill Miss Frelove and said Miss Golchert apparently was killed because she was with Miss Frelove.

UT police seize student's weapons

AUSTIN — University of Texas police seized an AK-47 semiautomatic assault rifle and 240 rounds of ammunition from a freshman's dormitory room.

Also recovered from David Matthew Larsen's room were two daggers, a switchblade, an 18-inch sword, two canisters of gunpowder, a cannon fuse, and a copy of "The Anarchist Cookbook," which details how to make explosives, UT police Capt. Silas Griggs said.

"It's typical of what you find for someone who's making a pipe bomb," Griggs said of the gunpowder and fuse.

Larsen, 18, of Dallas was charged Friday with unlawfully carrying a weapon on a prohibited premise, police said. He was released from Travis County Central Booking Facility Saturday morning on a personal recognizance bond.

—The Associated Press

American refuses mediation

Airline to provide \$100 flight credit to displaced travelers

The Associated Press

FORT WORTH — American Airlines on Sunday said it would not support a call from flight attendants for a presiden-

tial mediation board and offered a \$100 credit to displaced Thanksgiving travelers on top of refunds.

Speaking on the fourth day of the planned 11-day strike by the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, American chairman Robert L. Crandall said as few as a third of the airline's flights would be available for passengers this week.

Crandall acknowledged that American fell short in efforts to notify passengers

whether their flights would be canceled, but said it has been impossible to know which flight attendants would show up for work and thus which flights would be affected.

The airline plans to concentrate on serving flights at its main hubs at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, Miami and San Juan. The airline will also focus on flying passengers from New York's

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Run-away in Fort Worth



Texas A&M freshman running back Leeland McElroy (34) runs in the fourth quarter against Texas Christian. The Aggies throw it into high gear on his way to a 35-yard touchdown bomb the Frogs, 59-3. See related stories on page 5.

Kevin Ivy/THE BATTALION

Seniors 'die' during Elephant Walk

Injuries, pollution in past means tradition could be terminated

By Jacqueline Mason

Being bombarded with mud, syrup and mustard has become an integral part of Elephant Walk in the past few years, but student leaders say if the mud-slinging continues, the Elephant Walk tradition may not.

Chad King, president of the Class of '94, said administrators could eliminate Elephant Walk because of problems with juniors and seniors throwing things.

"There has been significant injuries associated with Elephant Walk," he said.

Two years ago, students made the mistake of throwing eggs at cars, some of which belonged to members of the Board of Regents, he said.

To assure that the tradition is preserved, student leaders have met with administrators to determine the specifics of this year's event.

Class of '94 Vice President Michael Crain said his class wants to let administrators know that they are trying to do something to bring back the solemnness of the occasion.

"We've tried to clean it up," he said. "We hope to carry that on and bring Elephant Walk back to what it used to be."

The purpose of Elephant Walk is for seniors to travel around campus visiting the traditional campus sites like the Academic Building.

"Elephant Walk was initiated as a solemn tradition," said Traditions Council Chairman Melissa Megliola said.

Crain said it has just been in the past 10 years or so that the juniors have tried to aggravate the seniors.

But, Megliola said, injury is not the only reason to stop students from throwing mud and food.

When students throw trash on campus during Elephant Walk, the campus looks bad to visitors who come to Texas A&M for Bonfire and the A&M-University of Texas game, she said.

"The Traditions Council has worked with the Class of '94 and Class of '95 to

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Juniors promote class unity through planned activities

By Heather Winch

The Class of '95 is working to keep Tuesday's Elephant Walk clean and safe for all participants by asking juniors to stay out of the way.

Junior class officers are asking their class to stay away from the seniors during their romp through campus and to let them "die in peace" the way Elephant Walk did when it began in 1924.

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Junior Class President Jeb Jones said the main reasons for the changes in this year's Elephant Walk stem from the nearly 50-100 injuries and the thousands of dollars of damage to the campus that occur during the event each year.

The junior class council is planning activities for its class that will hopefully deter any run-ins between the two groups.

"Our goal for the Class of '95 is to go out to Bonfire while the seniors are on the field," Jones said.

"When the seniors leave Kyle

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Drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis increase; scientists test new vaccines

By Jan Higginbotham

Recent concerns have arisen in the medical community over the growing number of drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis being discovered throughout the world.

The World Health Organization announced last week that the disease could kill four million people a year within a decade unless a solution is found.

Dr. David McMurray, immunologist and professor in Texas A&M's College of Medicine, said the United States has the kind of healthcare system that can keep the lid on the spread of tuberculosis.

"We ought to be able to get a handle on this thing within a few years," he said.

McMurray said three keys are important in the control of TB: earlier detection, better therapy and selected use of a vaccine.

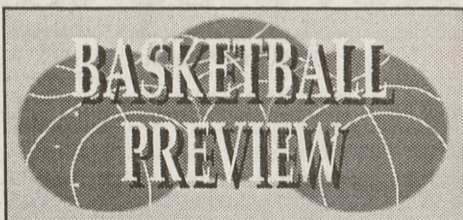
He is currently testing new vaccines to help control the spread of TB.

BCG, a tuberculosis vaccine, is used widely throughout the world, but has never been used in the United States. McMurray said the BCG vaccine has proven effective in the industrialized world.

"It is time that the U.S. consider the use of BCG or some vaccine," he said. "The vaccine would be a very good way of buying some time against drug-resistant strains."

The major problem with tuberculosis is compliance, McMurray said. Many patients do not

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The Battalion's '93-94 A&M Basketball Preview looks at the Aggie men and women's teams as they prepare for their regular season opens this weekend.

— See Special Section B

Americans recall past president on JFK assassination 30th anniversary

By Lisa Elliott

History abruptly changed 30 years ago today when President John F. Kennedy was gunned down in front of hundreds of spectators in the most famous assassination of all time.

Americans are still fascinated by the events surrounding that day in Dallas and the mystery it created.

Kenneth Mladenka, A&M political science professor, said the fascination with

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Kennedy isn't because he was such a popular president but because of the enormity of the crime.

"It's the most exciting crime of the 20th century," he said. "It's a murder mystery, and people love murder mysteries."

Terry Anderson, associate professor of history, said the interest surrounding the assassination of Kennedy is overblown.

"The only people that are interested in that are journalists and people who want to make money selling books," he said.

However, Mladenka said that kind of reaction is ridiculous.

"The Kennedy assassination is extraordinarily fascinating and intellectually challenging because it demonstrates how difficult it is to know the truth about anything of significance," he said.

Mladenka said he believes Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone, however people who believe in conspiracy theories have good arguments.

"Just because there's no credible evidence doesn't mean a conspiracy wasn't involved," he said.

A recent Gallup poll shows that nine out of 10 Americans believe there was a conspiracy, however, recent theories have been developed that say Oswald acted alone.

Mladenka said much of the attention of the assassination has nothing to do with the popularity of Kennedy. If Kennedy hadn't been assassinated, he said, he would have been remembered as an ineffective president that had good intentions but was unsuccessful.

"He's a lot more popular with younger people than with people who were older at the time," Mladenka said. "He was a greater man in death than he was in life."

He said many of Kennedy's policies were passed after he died as a memorial to him rather than because of their importance.

Much of the popularity of John Kennedy also has do with the image of the Kennedy family, Mladenka said.

"I was fascinated with John Kennedy because he made politics worthwhile," he said. "He was so glamorous."



Kennedy

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TEXAS LOTTERY

TEXAS LOTTO

• Saturday's winning Texas Lotto numbers: 8, 12, 23, 29, 39, 44