

October 10, 1994

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Aggielife

Movies such as "Natural Born Killers" show the increase of violence in the entertainment media.

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Opinion

JOSEF ELCHANAN: When people around the world are being decimated, America barely steps in; but when our oil supply is threatened, we jump through hoops like circus animals.

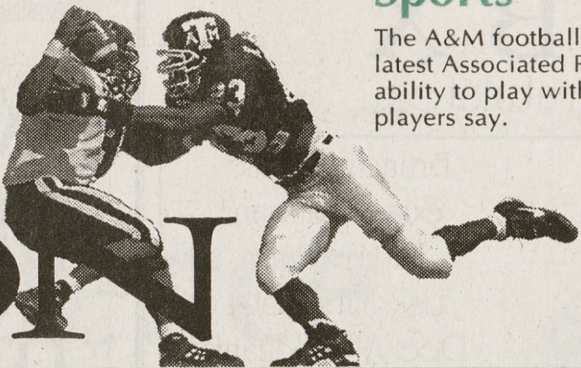
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Sports

The A&M football team's No. 7 ranking in the latest Associated Press poll shows the team's ability to play with perennial powerhouses, players say.

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THE BATTALION



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"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

NEWS BRIEFS

NAFTA superhighway may hit roadblock

DALLAS (AP) — A state coalition lobbying to have Interstate 35 designated the "NAFTA Superhighway" could see its efforts thwarted by squabbling within the coalition's own ranks.

The dispute largely pits political leaders from Tarrant and Denton counties against their counterparts in Bexar, McLennan and Guadalupe counties.

A superhighway designation would likely bring hundreds of millions of federal transportation dollars for the massive highway project.

"If we let the squabbling derail this then we ... will have lost an incredible opportunity," said Fort Worth Mayor Kay Granger. "We will lose it, or it will be snatched up by someone else."

One-third of 'closed' bases still open

NEW YORK (AP) — More than one-third of the military bases that were supposed to be shut down have managed to stay open. The New York Times reported Monday.

Quoting a report by the Business Executives for National Security, the newspaper said the Pentagon allowed bases to stay open by unnecessarily transferring Defense Department and other federal agencies' offices, as well as reserve units to the targeted bases.

If the bases, which have been targeted for closure since 1988, stay open another five years it could cost the government as much as \$15 billion, according to the private, Washington-based organization that seeks to reduce military spending and waste.

The group's findings also raise questions about the savings the Pentagon had said it expects from the base closures.

The Defense Department estimated when all the bases are closed toward the end of the decade, savings could be \$4.6 billion a year, the Times said.

Gov. Richards meets Mexico's Zedillo

MATAMOROS, Mexico (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards took her re-election campaign south of the border Monday, and Mexican President-elect Ernesto Zedillo used the event to spotlight stability in a state where a recent assassination plot was hatched.

"I look forward to having a relationship with you as I did with President Salinas," Richards told the man who won Mexico's presidential elections in August and will succeed President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Zedillo, in his first visit outside Mexico City since the election, met with Richards amid tight security at a Matamoros hotel. In an earlier speech to ruling party faithful, Zedillo vowed to wage a war against drug traffickers.

"We will fight with decision, tirelessly, and with all the force of the government, against narcotics trafficking and all the political bosses who accompany the traffickers," Zedillo said.

Israel's Rabin promises security to Syria

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin promised security and dignity to Syria and its people Monday as a terrorist attack and Iraqi troop movements shadowed the start of a new round of diplomacy by Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Christopher pledged that the United States would stand firmly with Israel against terrorists, who he said wanted to kill the peace process as well as innocent civilians. He said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein would not be permitted to intimidate the people of Kuwait or the people of this region.

The terrorist attack here that left two dead and 13 injured, including an American diplomat, underscored Israel's obsession with security, and Rabin in a gesture to Syria recognized its importance to the Arab country as well.

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Iraq declares end to troop buildup

White House officials cautious, say withdrawal of troops is unconfirmed

KUWAIT (AP) — Hours after U.S. soldiers landed in Kuwait on Monday, America's determined effort to protect the emirate appeared to pay off: Iraq declared an end to its menacing five-day buildup and said its troops would withdraw.

The tens of thousands of Iraqi soldiers sent to the border had revived memories of 1990, when Iraq swept aside Kuwait's army and seized the oil-rich country. It was seven months before a U.S.-led coalition ousted the occupiers.

This time, Washington was determined to send a firm signal. Washington began amassing a force of nearly 70,000 in the region.

The first contingent of 300 U.S. soldiers arrived in Kuwait City on Monday.

Hours later, Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, Nizar Hamdoun, said Iraqi forces would withdraw from the Kuwaiti border and "are already on the move." He said they would be sent to a site north of Basra.

In Baghdad, Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf said troops would be deployed to

"other locations in the rear" to finish military exercises.

He told the official Iraqi news agency the withdrawal was ordered in response to appeals from "friends" and "in view of the fact that the troops' presence might be used as a pretext to maintain sanctions."

The crushing U.N. sanctions were imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein may have conceived the buildup as a warning that he could still cause trouble if the sanctions were not lifted.

Washington reacted cautiously to word of an Iraqi withdrawal. A senior White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was no confirmation as of midday.

Vesselin Kostov, spokesman for the 1,100-member U.N. observer mission on the border, told The Associated Press he could not confirm if Iraqi troops were moving but said "the situation within the DMZ remains calm." The 9-mile-wide demilitarized zone was set up after the 1991 Gulf War.

U.S. forces continued to arrive

Monday to confront the estimated 64,000 Iraqi troops. An estimated 700 Iraqi tanks and other armored vehicles also were believed at the border.

In Kuwait City, some 300 men from the 24th Infantry Division came aboard a white Lockheed 1011 jet from Fort Stewart, Ga.

Army Maj. Gen. John Taylor, who will command the force, shook the hand of each infantryman as the unit arrived.

A veteran of the 1991 Gulf War, Taylor said the arriving troops would man M1A1 Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles "prepositioned" in the region after the Gulf War.

"Everybody is very confident," he said. "We know what our mission is."

Taylor said some advance American teams were "digging in the desert right now," implying that forces already had been deployed in northern Kuwait. He refused to elaborate.

He declined to say how many troops were expected. Pentagon officials had said the United States was assembling nearly 70,000 ground, air and sea forces.

Troop deployment from U.S. bases

UNIT	BASE	PERSONNEL
Army		
24th Infantry Division	Ft. Stewart, Ga.	16,000
2 Patriot Batteries*	Ft. Polk, La.	
Air Force		
24 A-10s, 18 F-16s, 14 C-130s	Pope AFB, N.C.	1,500
9 F-15C	Langley AFB, Va.	250
6 KC 135	Beale AFB, Calif.	90
2 RC-135	Offutt AFB, Neb.	60
Navy		
George Washington (CVN 73)	Homeport Norfolk	5,600
San Jacinto (CG-56)		578
John Barry (DDG 52)		323
Kalamazoo (AOR 6)		472
5 Marine preposition ships	Diego Garcia (Indian Ocean)	Not available
12 Army preposition ships		
USMC		
1 Marine Expeditionary Force	Camp Pendleton, Calif.	18,000**

Notes:
* A Patriot battery has eight launchers of four missiles each, and includes about 88 people.
** Has already deployed 300 Marines.

Source: Pentagon



Tim Moog/The Battalion

Water, water everywhere...

Junior rangeland ecologist major **Michael Cooper**, of Spring, measures the pH of pond water for a laboratory Monday afternoon.

Haiti's Cedras resigns military command

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Raoul Cedras kept the people cowed for three years with his terror campaign. On Monday, Haiti's masses rose up and drowned him out.



Cedras

Cedras seemed small in the entranceway of army headquarters as he announced he was resigning as military leader and quitting the country for his own good.

Cedras was dwarfed by U.S. military commander Hugh

Shelton, whose 19,500 soldiers played a large role in finally driving out the Haitian coup leader.

The sound of 5,000 joyful people buried the tubas and trombones of Cedras' military band playing the national anthem with an impromptu version of "Auld Lang Syne."

Then Cedras' voice faded amid an underamplified sound system and the crowd's shouts of "Hoodlum!" and "Thief!"

The American troops had to protect Cedras, firing warning shots from a rock-thrower shattered the windshield of his departing Toyota Land Cruiser. Haitians scrambled to pick up shards of the broken windshield

See Haiti/Page 5

Student group campaigns for disability awareness

By Lisa Messer
THE BATTALION

The student group Networks is pushing for increased awareness and support of A&M students with disabilities.

Networks faculty adviser Rene Harris said one of the organization's main concerns is gaining adequate access to Bonfire.

"Bonfire has been a tradition for so long," Harris said, "and students with disabilities want to participate in that tradition, too."

Harris said accessible parking was provided for Bonfire last year and will be provided again this year.

Gail Walters, who is the other Networks faculty adviser, said students with disabilities need access to the Bonfire site.

"It usually rains around the time for Bonfire," Walters said. "It's just not physically possible to get to Bonfire with that terrain."

Walters said representatives of the organization

It's not always a stranger
Majority of women murder victims knew their attacker

By Amanda Fowle
THE BATTALION

Don't walk alone at night. Don't talk to strangers. Carry mace or pepper spray. Learn self-defense.

Lori Ann Baker probably knew these things, but she was murdered in her home by a man she knew.

Women have been taught how to protect themselves from attacks by strangers, but what if the attacker is someone a woman knows?

About 85 percent of women murdered in the United States are murdered by acquaintances, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Paula Fedirchuck, president of the A&M chap-

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