

Thunderstorms, flash flooding continues to threaten southeast Texas.

MICHAEL LANDAUER: So much of history dies with the people who lived it, and many valuable lessons are never passed on to the next generation.

Lady Aggie Soccer changing the attack, but still experiencing success.

THE BATTALION



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NEWS BRIEFS

FAA Investigation of plane crash concluded

Federal investigators have completed their investigations into Saturday's airplane crash near Easternwood Airport, which killed one man and injured four other people.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board will not release the findings of the investigation for several more weeks, however.

Billy Wayne Shannon, 64 of San Antonio, died in the crash. Shannon's wife, Frances, 58, was still in serious but stable condition Tuesday and was transferred on Monday from Brazos Valley Medical Center to Northeast Baptist Hospital in San Antonio.

Paula Jo Warneke, 39, of Val Verde remains in critical condition at St. Joseph's Hospital and Health Center. James H. Uptmore, 63, and the pilot 44-year-old Ed Ebrum, were treated and released.

Administrators meet with minority leaders

Leaders from minority student organizations will meet with A&M President, Dr. Ray Bowen, Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. J. Malon Southerland and other A&M faculty and administrators today at 11:30 to discuss making minority students feel more welcome at Texas A&M University.

David Washington, president of Alpha Phi Alpha, said that fliers posted by the College Republicans offended some minority students and prompted the meeting.

"The fliers are just a symptom of a greater problem," he said. "We want to address this greater problem."

The student group plans to ask the administration to sponsor racial education workshops.

They also plan to discuss domestic cultural education, which is a more "localized" form of multicultural education.

Priests to discuss misconduct policy

SAN ANGELO (AP) — Priests from throughout the 29-county Catholic Diocese of San Angelo have been summoned to a special meeting to discuss a policy on sexual misconduct.

The policy was enacted by Bishop Michael Pfeifer who said sexual abuse, particularly among priests, is a "heinous crime."

The priests were to meet in San Angelo today to listen to Pfeifer outline the policy. Nuns, deacons, employees and volunteer workers in the diocese will be briefed later, he said.

The policy was not issued in response to any local cases, the bishop told the San Angelo Standard-Times. But he said there have been allegations of sexual misconduct in the diocese since he arrived in 1985.

"They've all been handled in a proper manner by the church, and none have grown into a legal case," he said. The new statement represents the fact that "the whole church is trying to take more leadership on this issue," Pfeifer said.

Kerrigan says no to Harding showdown

NEW YORK (AP) — Promoters were on their knees this year begging Nancy Kerrigan for another skating showdown against Tonya Harding.

But the Olympic silver medalist turned down all offers.

"They were serious offers, in writing, for multimillions," said Kerrigan's agent, Jerry Solomon.

Kerrigan withdrew from the spotlight soon after the Olympics where she last faced Harding. She re-emerged Monday for CBS' announcement of "Ice Wars: The USA vs. The World," a team competition involving Kerrigan and other skaters.

Kerrigan was clubbed on the knee in January while practicing at the U.S. championships. Harding is serving three years' probation after pleading guilty to conspiracy to hinder prosecution, but has claimed all along that she wasn't in on the plot to knock out her rival.

Jernigan released from hospital

By Jan Higginbotham
THE BATTALION

Jack Jernigan, the Aggie Band member who collapsed on Kyle Field during the band's 100th anniversary celebration Sept. 24, was released from the hospital Tuesday.

Jernigan, Class of '56, had been hospitalized at St. Joseph Hospital and Health Center since he suffered a heart attack during halftime of the Texas A&M-Southern Mississippi game.

"This is indeed a special day for us," Jernigan and his wife Marilyn said. "While we are obviously pleased to be leaving the hospital, we will miss the many people who have taken such good care of us here."

Band member leaves St. Joseph after recovering from heart attack

The Jernigans said they were grateful for the support they have received from the media, Bryan-College Station citizens and A&M former and current students since his attack.

"We are so grateful for the care and concern you have shown us," the Jernigans said. "This is a true example of the Aggie spirit at work."

"We also want to thank the excellent and caring staff here at the hospital and the wonderful medical team led by Dr.

James Rohack (Jernigan's cardiologist). We don't know what we would have done without them."

The Jernigans are planning to remain in Bryan-College Station for the next few weeks while he continues to undergo cardiac rehabilitation.

"We look forward to being a part of your community in the days and weeks ahead," they said. "We then plan to return to Champaign, Ill., sometime in November."

Don Powell, president of the Aggie Band Association who is also a member of the Class of '56, said he is pleased that Jernigan was released.

"Of course, I was very concerned when he collapsed on Kyle Field," Powell said. "I'm very pleased that only three weeks later, he is able to leave the hospital."

Powell said the Aggie Band Association has been active trying to keep members up-to-date on Jernigan's condition.

"We've gotten calls and letters from all over the country," he said. "The remarkable thing is that members of the Class of '56 are just as concerned as members of the Class of '56. I told him (Jack) they're trying to make up for all the things they did to us in school."

A&M educational center in Mexico City making strong bridge across Rio Grande

By Kari Whitley
THE BATTALION

The Office of Mexican and Latin American Programs, MeLAP, continues to succeed in making Texas A&M University's presence known across the Rio Grande Valley.

Since its opening in September, 1993, the Texas A&M University Center in Mexico City remains consistent with the educational, research and service missions of this University.

Dr. Gabriel Carranza, director of MeLAP, said Texas A&M has a great responsibility, being the largest university influence in Mexico.

"The challenge of A&M is to produce graduates with international sensitivity so that they can successfully work in the global economy," Carranza said.

Dr. Emily Ashwort, assistant provost for international programs, said Mexico is an important partner with the United States and Texas, and it enhances the University to be involved in the partnership.

"It is important to remember the facility is the result of a donation from a former student," Ashwort said.

Texas A&M former student Pablo Marvin, Class of '66, donated money for the center's establishment. The center offers services and programs for students and faculty and is funded through donations and fees for its use.

"The center works to create a better understanding between the people of Texas and Mexico while promoting business relationships," Carranza said. "The center also assists in developing academic and research links with Mexican universities, industries and governmental agencies."

During the center's first year, several new programs were established.

"Our programs have included a faculty abroad seminar, a student leadership

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Nick Rodnicki/The Battalion

Rain, rain, go away

Environmental design majors junior Rebecca Weis and sophomore Jeff Hall work on their renderings of Albritton Tower during a break in the rainy weather on Tuesday afternoon.

A&M officials research NAFTA transportation on I-35

By Stephanie Dube
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M's Texas Transportation Institute is studying the effects the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will have on highway transportation along Interstate 35 which has been dubbed the "NAFTA Highway."

"In the last couple of years, the federal government and the Texas Department of Transportation have placed more attention on the transportation system in South Texas," said Bernie Fette, media coordinator for TTI. "Much is directly re-

lated to NAFTA, and the increase in trade in the region. We are pursuing several research efforts."

Over 80 percent of the NAFTA trade will go through Texas, Fette said. Most of this transportation will be via highway transportation.

The majority of research the institute is conducting is related to the actual infrastructure or roads being affected and the policy related to these transportation issues, Fette said.

"We will make recommendations on the best way to maintain the highway

system in light of the NAFTA traffic increase," Fette said. "We will focus on how to make sure the mobility is insured, manage the increased traffic and keep the traffic moving."

The annual Transportation Conference for the Texas Department of Transportation, which was held Monday through today, has focused on NAFTA and border issues, Fette said.

"The border transportation issues and NAFTA are prominent in the Texas Department of Transportation's agenda for the conference," Fette said.

John Adams, Class of '73 and international manager of the Union National Bank of Texas in Laredo, said I-35 is a natural designation for the NAFTA highway.

"More international trade funnels from I-35 to Mexico than any other highway in the world," Adams said. "Here we call I-35 the 'Gateway to Mexico,' so I-35 is a natural designation."

Over 2,500 trucks with finished American goods move south on I-35 into Mexico and Latin America each day, he said.

In addition, I-35 is the only major highway that touches the border, Adams said.

Texas A&M Offshore Technology Research Center making waves

By Kari Whitley
THE BATTALION

Research hits the waves at the Offshore Technology Research Center where Texas A&M is unique in having the only model wave basin in the nation.

OTRC is one of 15 research centers sponsored by the National Science Foundation. In addition, 30 to 40 oil and oil support companies fund the wave tank. The OTRC program receives direction from the National Science Foundation and offshore industry.

The OTRC program was established in 1988 as a joint project between A&M and The University of Texas at Austin. There are 60 students and 30 professors currently in the program.

Arun Duggal, engineering research associate, said through the use of the wave tank many students get exposed to new learning experiences.

"The wave tank is a very important tool in our research program," Duggal said.

The wave tank measures 150 feet long and 150 feet wide with a depth of nineteen feet and a cen-

ter pit of fifty-five feet.

The waves are produced by a series of 48 wave paddles that are 12 feet long.

"Through the use of computers, researchers are able to determine what kinds of waves these paddles will produce," he said.

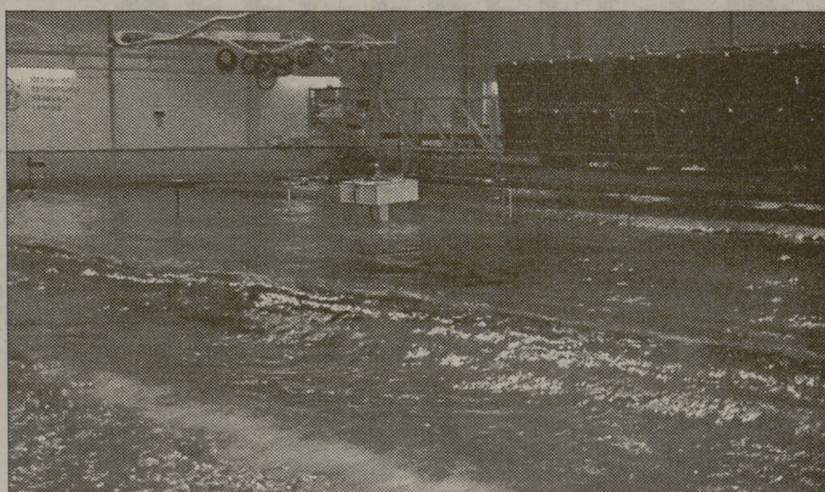
At the other end of the tank is a series of perforated panels that serve as a beach absorbing 98 percent of the energy created by the waves. The tank is also equipped with a system capable of generating winds up to 30 miles an hour.

"The wave tank is used primarily to help design and confirm models for production platforms which are subject to extreme loads from wind, waves and currents," Duggal said.

The OTRC also sponsors many commercial basin testing projects.

John van de Lindt, a graduate student in structural engineering, said many students could not have achieved their master's or doctorate in engineering without the data they used from the wave tank.

"It is imperative to have experimental data to validate your model," van de Lindt said.



Tim Moog/The Battalion

The Offshore Technology Research Center in Research Park tests wave stresses on scale model of an ocean platform.

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