

20, 1995  
ency  
at his du-  
rizing the  
r finance  
with the  
s, should  
s. 26 years,  
nk I can  
e changes  
continue  
the next  
finished  
ton said.  
Friday

**NEWT GINGRICH'S TRUE COLORS**

New Speaker of the House starts new year with a thud.

Opinion, Page 11

**BEEF VS. CHICKEN**

Both beef and chicken are important parts of a healthy, balanced diet.

Page 2

**HOME SWEET HOME**

Aggies improve perfect home mark, look to take success on the road.

Sports, Page 7



Monday • January 23, 1995

# THE BATTALION

Vol. 101, No. 78 (12 pages)

"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

## SBSLC weekend conference ends in gunfire

An unknown gunman fired shots during the SBSLC party early Sunday morning.

By Kasie Byers

Gunshots fired on campus early Sunday morning interrupted

the Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference party.

The shots were fired towards DeWare field house around 2 a.m. As of Sunday afternoon, no one had been taken into police custody.

Bob Wiatt, director of the University Police Department, said that although it was apparent from what direction the shots were fired, the atmosphere of the party made it impossible to determine who fired the shots.

"The shots came from the direction of Clark and Lamar

Streets," Wiatt said, "but the place was a madhouse with people dancing in the streets. There was no way of knowing who was involved in the incident."

Bruce George, a Texas A&M student who witnessed the incident, said the shots caused a panic.

"A friend and I were going to get something to eat when the shots occurred," George said. "As soon as we heard the shots we saw people running across the grass toward Cain Hall. We didn't wait around to see what

**"Two of the shots hit DeWare field house, one about ten feet high, the other about four feet high."**

— Bob Wiatt,

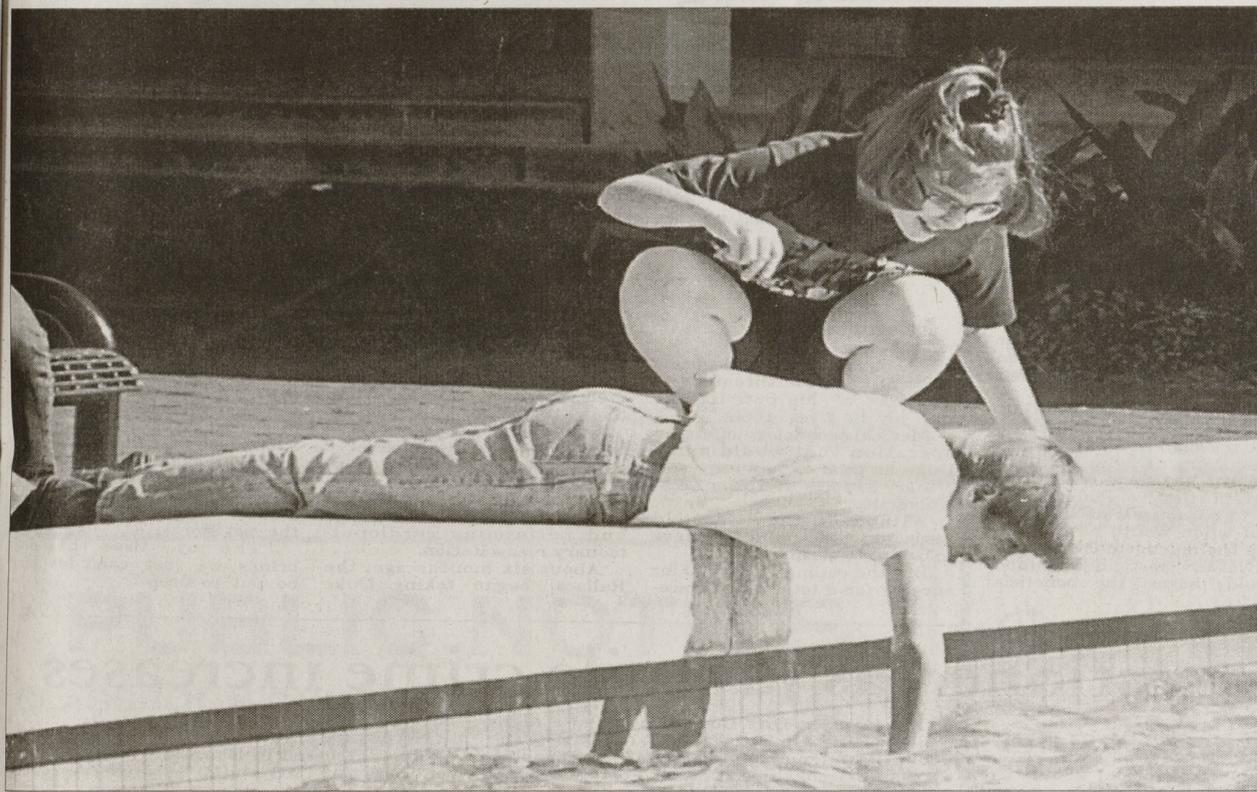
director of the University Police Department

ten feet high, the other about four feet high."

University officials including Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president of student affairs and Kevin Carreathers, the advisor for the SBSLC, said they were unaware that such an incident had occurred.

"I have yet to receive a report of the incident," Southerland said. "I hope by Monday the full details of the matter will be made known to me."

University Police will release the police report today.



Amy Browning/The BATTALION

### Searching for sunken treasures

Nine-year old Jodi Singer and her friend, ten-year old Emily Rockett, play in the MSC fountain Saturday afternoon. The girls were part of a Methodist Youth Fellowship group from Caldwell that was at A&M to watch the basketball game in G. Rollie White.

## Panel undergoes restructuring for changing needs

The former Students Rights Appeals Panel has been expanded and renamed the Illegal Discrimination Appeals Panel.

By Lynn Cook

The BATTALION

Students who feel they have been discriminated against by Texas A&M faculty or staff can seek recourse from the new Illegal Discrimination Appeals Panel.

Dr. Ray Bowen, Texas A&M President, approved the revised purpose and procedures for the new panel Jan. 4. Last May, then Interim President Dr. E. Dean Gage appointed a task force to look into questions raised by students and faculty concerning the Students Rights Appeals Panel.

Dr. Bill Kibler, assistant vice president for student affairs and chair of the task force, said the Illegal Discrimination Appeals Panel evolved from the old Students Rights Appeals Panel. The new panel, however, has a clearer purpose and definition of the types of discrimination it will hear cases about, he said.

"We have redefined the description and purpose of the panel," Kibler said. "We hear cases and incidents of illegal discrimination. In reality, the Illegal Discrimination Appeals Panel is far better than the Students Rights Appeals Panel. The Students Rights Appeals Panel involved a lot of steps and affirmative action. It was too onerous."

Illegal discrimination, as defined in a letter and proposal sent to Bowen, is discrimination based on but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disabilities, the right to free speech and the right to freedom of the press.

Dr. Ruth Schaffer, professor of sociology emeritus and former chair of the of Students Rights Appeals Panel, said the revising and restructuring were necessary.

"We worked for many months on this and there were just

See Panel, Page 5

## Earthquake leaves Japanese with endless frustrations

### Quake survivors battle rain, fear of disease

KOBE, Japan (AP) — Bone-chilling rain Sunday grounded relief flights, delayed search operations and bred fears of disease among survivors of Japan's deadliest quake in more than 70 years. The death toll neared 5,000.

Resentment and frustration appeared to grow among thousands of survivors. Many showed signs of deep psychological scars, while others struggled to get by without basic services.

"We just need a bathroom," Mun Wah Soon, a Korean, said as she pattered about the tent she and her husband share with about 20 others. "There's no water. We can't wash anything."

Five days after the 7.2-magnitude quake, police put the death toll at 4,936, with 171 people still missing. Nearly 26,000 have been injured.

Doug Copp of the San Francisco-based American Rescue Team said there was a "good possibility" more survivors could be found.

A strong aftershock shook Kobe overnight. There were no reports of damage or injury. The aftershock measured 4 on the Japanese 7-point scale. Tuesday's quake measured 7 on that scale, which cannot be converted to the standard international scale.

Underscoring the danger still facing this once-vibrant port city, three people were trapped Sunday when a quake-damaged building collapsed, blocking the entrance to their home. Rescuers saved them.

The search for 30 people missing in nearby Nishinomiya had to be called off for fear of mudslides caused by the rain.

The rain also made conditions even more miserable for nearly 300,000 people left homeless by the quake. Almost 52,000 buildings, many of them

homes, were damaged or destroyed.

Virtually all of Kobe's 1.4 million residents lack natural gas for heat, and the Osaka Gas Co. said restoring service could take six weeks. More than half the city's households still lack running water.

The bad weather heightened fears of disease, especially influenza.

Signs of emotional stress are also emerging, causing a breakdown in the social order for which Japanese society is renowned.

For the first time, merchants are complaining about theft, and on Sunday many organized a neighborhood watch to guard against night pilferage.

At the Kansai Rosai Hospital in nearby Amagasaki, many patients are experiencing breathing difficulties at night. Doctors call the symptom common among people suffering delayed stress syndrome.

"The people think we'll have another big quake," taxi driver Yoshikazu Morimoto said. "Most are very afraid another big one will come. Many people are leaving, and many of them have lost their jobs" because businesses were destroyed.

Frustration about the government's relief operation boiled into open hostility Sunday during a live, nationally televised hookup of government officials and survivors.

"You should have told us or showed us what we could do in such a bad situation," barked one man, abandoning the honorific style of speech that Japanese ordinarily use to address leaders.

A teacher noted that volunteers walked to Kobe to help survivors. "Why can't officials do the same?" she asked. A high school student told Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi: "I want you guys to do something, not as politicians but as human beings — as soon as possible."

## Simpson acquires new lawyer

### Cochran leads defense team, calms Shapiro, Bailey

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Smart, glib and effervescent, a mover and shaker in the black community, Johnnie Cochran Jr. was from the start the top choice of legal experts handicapping the O.J. Simpson murder case.

Cochran himself was the last to know. This summer, like so many other lawyers, he was a spectator, doing television commentary on preliminary legal maneuvering.

Then Simpson called. "My concern was, could I represent someone I know and be objective?" Cochran recalls.

"I decided, if you couldn't help someone who was a friend, who can you help? I made that decision after talking with my minister and praying over it."

When Cochran took on the sizzling murder case, he stepped into a spotlight already glaring on such notable legal talent as Robert Shapiro, F. Lee Bailey, Gerald Uelman and Alan Dershowitz. Those in the know predicted he would take control, although they could not have anticipated how.

On the eve of opening statements, a feud between Shapiro and Bailey over news leaks turned the defense team topsy-turvy. It fell to Cochran to soothe egos. By week's end,

Shapiro and Bailey were embracing, at least for the cameras, and Cochran was leading the team.

"He's a genuine star," says attorney Leslie Abramson, who defended Erik Menendez in his first murder trial. "He's earned it, not because he's represented big people but because he's won money for little people against the cops. ... He does what he does out of concern for his clients."

The 57-year-old Cochran has represented pop star Michael Jackson on child molestation allegations, former Cleveland Browns football great Jim Brown on rape and assault charges, actor Todd Bridges on attempted murder, rapper Tupac Shakur on a weapons charge and Snoop Doggy Dogg on murder.

Cochran's proudest mementos, however, are framed multi-million-dollar checks he won from Los Angeles for ordinary citizens abused by police. In the last 10 years, Cochran's

firm has won more than \$45 million in judgments against California police departments.

"He's a miracle worker," says Los Angeles defense attorney Harley Braun. "And there's no better lawyer for the Simpson case, especially since there's a racial element."

Cochran lives in the upscale Los Feliz area overlooking Hollywood but gets his Simpson feedback from the barbershop and dry cleaners in his old predominantly black, working-class neighborhood and the Second Baptist Church he attends regularly.

After the volatile court exchange over race with prosecutor Christopher Darden this month, he says, "I walked in to get a haircut, and everyone in the barbershop stood up and clapped."

But, he adds: "This case won't go to my head because I stay in the community. I always say there's life after Simpson."

Cochran is easy to spot around the courthouse. In a world dominated by dark business suits, his finely tailored wardrobe includes shades of lavender and olive green. He wears tinted glasses and drives a Rolls-Royce with the personal

See Simpson, Page 6



Simpson