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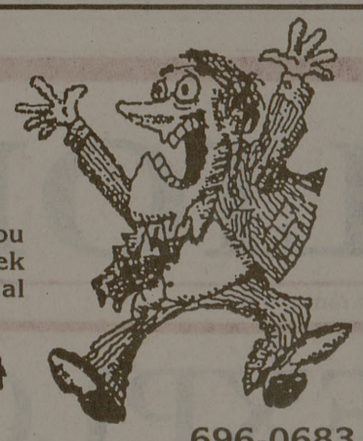

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Informational Meeting
TUESDAY JULY 16 at 1pm
WEDNESDAY JULY 17 at 1pm
THURSDAY JULY 18 at 2pm
All Meetings Held in Bizzell Hall West room 358

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news BRIEFS

Westbound Joe Routt Blvd. reopened

The westbound (outbound) lane of Joe Routt Boulevard was reopened yesterday evening.

Debris from the continuing demolition of DeWare Field House and the Downs Natatorium obstructs the eastbound lanes.

PTTS officials are not sure when the eastbound lanes will be reopened or whether the the westbound lanes will remain open. The roads will be closed again when the dump trucks have to be loaded.

Demolition of DeWare and Downs began three weeks ago.

Engineering prof wins research award

Dr. Wilbert E. Wilhelm, an industrial engineering professor, recently received the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) David F. Baker Distinguished Research Award for his research and contributions to assembly systems design and operation.

The award recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of the industrial engineering profession through outstanding research activity.

The IIE cited Wilhelm for basic research contributions to assembly systems that have led to "rules of thumb" for intuitive managers and solution methods that have produced significant cost savings in industry.

Industrial engineering receives endowment

Mildred and Ross B. George recently endowed $25,000 to the Industrial Engineering Endowed Scholars Program at Texas A&M.

The Mildred and Ross George '55 Endowed Scholarship will award scholarships to outstanding youth, ensure excellence in the student body, and provide for future leaders in industry.

Each scholarship in the Industrial Engineering Endowed Scholars Program will provide a four-year award of $1000 per year to scholastically superior students and qualified students with financial need.

The first George scholarship will be awarded in Fall 1997.

DuPont gives grant to Engineering college

DuPont and its subsidiary Conoco recently presented an $80,000 grant to the Dwight Look College of Engineering. The grant, made through the DuPont Aid to Education Program, is part of a $150,000 donation to the University to enhance teaching and research in engineering, science, business and minority education.

Included in the donation in a $25,000-per-year research grant, renewable for three years, that provides start-up support for young professors who may not have the reputation early in their career to obtain federal grants.

A&M wins second at NASA

The Lunar Shelter Team competed at NASA's Space Conferen

By Brandon Hausenfluck
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Lunar Shelter Team won second place at the 1996 NASA Space Conference and Robotics for Challenging Environments Competition in Albuquerque, N.M.

Engineering students represented A&M June 3 and 4 at the Space Education Initiative Subcommittee of the Aerospace Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The subcommittee was created to gain new ideas for space exploration from engineering students from across the country.

The teams were required to design teleoperated robotic equipment that could unload, carry and place a scale-model habitat on the surface of the moon from a standard landing surface.

Natasha Gray, a team member and senior civil engineering major, said in a press release that remote control of the machine is important.

"Radio waves take 26 minutes to travel from the Earth to the moon," she said. "Live control from the Earth would be impossible. The vehicle has to be able to stop itself immediately when it comes to a cliff."

John Connally, lunar and Mars mission designer for NASA in Houston and co-creator of the competition, said the competition is good for the space industry because engineering students with little field experience can often contribute new ideas.

"The competition is beneficial to the industry because it produces a whole new pool of talent to help solve some of the problems we are confronted with in space exploration," Connally said. "It's also very important because when you have something on the moon, you can't go and repair it every five minutes."

Dr. Walter Boles, an assistant professor of civil engineering and chairman of the competition, said in a press release the competition was good for the students because they can use creativity to build something NASA could use.

"NASA can look at ingenious student solutions," Boles said. "Students participating in the competition are not seasoned engineers with mental records of past failures and strong ideas of what is and is not practical and workable. One wild idea might be the next engineering breakthrough for the space program."

Boles said the students had to be aware of the moon's terrain and build the model accordingly.

"Knowing of the harsh environment, they (students) had to use a lot of robotics," Boles said. "There are intense radiation waves on the moon and it c thousands of dollars per po to transport things from eart the moon. There's really n more convenient way to insp [the shelter] than by using golith (lunar soil)."

The team began meeting October to discuss plans to prove previous years' models

Ray Wells, a graduate s dent in engineering, constru the habitat cover to hold the golith. Gray invented a br loader to brush regolith on conveyor belt, which then tra ports it into a holding bin.

Jim Griffin, a junior mech cal engineering major, said year's model was better adap to function on the moon.

"The brush loader is sign cantly lighter and more effic than last year's bulldozer-t scoop," Griffing said.

Other teams in the comp tion included Carolina St University, the University Washington, and the Univer of Mississippi.

Connally said the invitat to compete in the contest global. He hopes more sch will attend the next comp tion in 1998.

As a reward for winning s ond place, the Aggie team been invited to the Nov launch of the Space Shu Columbia.

Time Warner-Turner deal cleared

WASHINGTON (AP) — A $7.5 billion deal combining Time Warner and Turner Broadcasting into the world's largest media firm can proceed — with strings attached — under an agreement Wednesday between the government and the companies.

Federal regulators had closely scrutinized Time Warner's proposal to buy Turner Broadcasting, worried it could deprive Americans of variety in the cable TV shows they watch or cause cable prices to rise.

The Federal Trade Commission's five commissioners will consider the tentative agreement Friday, said spokeswoman Victoria Streitfeld. Approval is expected, clearing the biggest regulatory hurdle to a deal announced last September. But it's unclear when the final vote will occur, Streitfeld said.

Under the agreement, "the deal can go through and the public interest will be protected," said William Baer, director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition.

The deal as originally stru tured had "serious potential raise prices to consumers, and limit their choices by giving Ti Warner control over 40 percent all programming," Baer said.

Regulators were particula concerned about the role of Te Communications Inc., the n tion's largest cable compa which now owns 21 percent Turner but planned to reduce stake to roughly 9 percent of merged company.

Gustafson steps down as UT baseball coach

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas baseball coach Cliff Gustafson, the winningest coach in NCAA Division I history, stepped down Wednesday after questions were raised about the finances of his summer baseball camp.

School officials said an audit of the camp revealed an account set up by Gustafson outside of university regulation, a potential NCAA violation. It was used to pay Gustafson and his son, Deron, a voluntary coach for the Longhorns until last year, the university said.

NCAA rules prohibit voluntary coaches from being paid for camp services.

"We are not saying he stole money. We are saying he used school funds for unauthorized purposes," said Patricia Ohlendorf, vice provost and counsel to the university president. "There are three potential NCAA violations that we have found."

Gustafson, 65, who led Texas to national championships in 1975 a 1983 while building a record 1,466-377-2 in 29 seasons, said was unaware of regulations preve ing him from setting up his own a count for camp revenue.

He said any money paid to h son "were considered gifts, which am allowed to give to my children.

"It's not exactly how I wou have liked to go out," Gustafs said. "But my conscience is clea with the way we handled the called 'extra account.'

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