

WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 103°
LOW 76°

TOMORROW

HIGH 102°
LOW 77°

104TH YEAR • ISSUE 178 • 6 PAGES

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TOMORROW

Aggielife:

Students hit the road when they need a break from the real world.

THE BATTALION

WEDNESDAY • JULY 29 • 1998

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY • COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

Overusage causes water shortage

BRYAN (AP) — Early morning surgeries were postponed, the Brazos County Courthouse and many residents of Bryan were left without water.

Unprecedented use of water on Sunday combined with a mechanical failure and another unidentified problem to trigger a water shortage, officials said Monday.

Officials at St. Joseph Regional Health Center had to delay early-morning surgeries for up to an hour as Bryan city utility crews scrambled to make repairs.

Late Monday, city officials asked residents to postpone watering their lawn for a few days and to conserve whenever possible, but they said the problem has "hopefully been fixed."

Bryan public works director Rick Conner said the predicament developed overnight; people started noticing extremely low water pressure as the business day began on Monday, he said.

"I wish I had some brilliant explanation from my 25 years of experience in this field," Conner said. "Truth is, we're at a loss for a clear-cut, logical reason right now as to what happened."

Some residents in the northern area of the city could barely draw a glass of water from their spouts, and toilet-flushing was impossible until late Monday afternoon.

"We can produce 27 million gallons of water a day, so even on our worst day, which was Sunday where 25 million gallons were used, we'd have enough," Conner said. About 3 million gallons of water is usually kept in two different storage towers for immediate use, he said.

But officials discovered by about 6 a.m. Monday that the water in the storage towers was gone.

SEE WATER ON PAGE 2.

Forum mistakenly cancelled

GALVESTON (AP) — Texas A&M University-Galveston Vice President W. Michael Kemp said he canceled a forum planned by the environmental group Greenpeace because he did not know it had been scheduled.

Kemp said he canceled the forum only hours before it was scheduled to start because university officials and Greenpeace members had not met in advance to discuss scheduling the forum.

No other administrator knew about the event, Kemp said Monday. "It turned out one of my lower-level staffers just assumed it would be all right," Kemp said.

"We have policies that if we're going to have a group on campus, whether it's Greenpeace or the Boy Scouts or whoever, we sit down with them and find out what they want, how they want to do it, and we set out some sort of written agreement that protects them and protects us," he said.

No one pressured him to cancel the meeting, he said. "There was no political agenda here," Kemp said.

The forum was held at a Unitarian Universalist church facility Monday night.

Greenpeace representatives and members of the local chapter of the Sierra Club were miffed at the sudden change in plans, but Sierra Club spokesman Calvin Wehrle said he accepted Kemp's explanation.

"It sounded to me like a communications problem is why they couldn't do it," said Wehrle, 43, a restoration carpenter. "I'm very disappointed."

SEE GREENPEACE ON PAGE 2.

Campus Parking

Central Garage opens to the public

ROD MACHEN
City Editor

A new parking garage has opened to serve the Texas A&M campus.

The central parking garage opened last week to faculty and staff contract parking and began accepting visitor parking on Monday. The new 600-space garage was built in conjunction with the soon-

to-open library annex next to Sterling C. Evans library.

Because of the way the garage had to be arranged, there is no room for a pay station at the garage. Instead, cars must obtain entry at a station located at the corner of Lubbock and Bizzell streets.

Sherryl Wine, Associate Director of Parking Traffic and Transit Services, said the garage will stay available only to staff and visitors.

"There are no plans to have resident contract parking," she said.

Due to the loss of the resident lot next to the new football practice fields near the corner of Wellborn Road and George Bush Drive, Wine said PTTS will change another lot to accommodate.

"The lots along Wellborn will change to blue and red," Wine said. This means these former commuter-only lots will now be for both commuters and residents.

The new parking garage shows

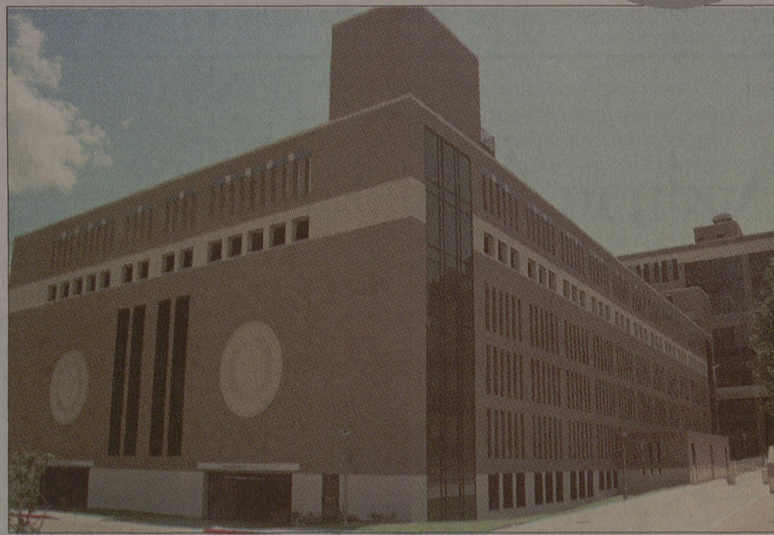
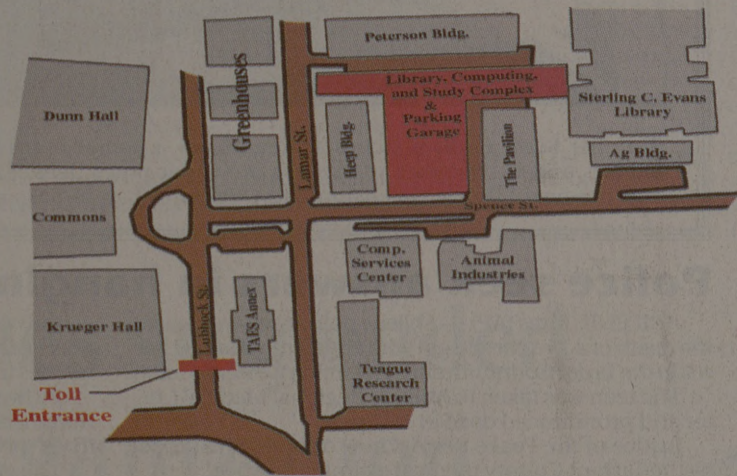


PHOTO BY JAKE SCHRICKLING/THE BATTALION

a sign of things to come. Instead of 75 cents an hour for visitor parking, it charges \$1, with a daily maximum of \$8. Beginning in the fall, the other three garages will switch to this pay structure.

In an earlier statement, Tom

Williams, Director of PTTS, said the fee increase was necessary.

"The cost of parking permits will not go up to pay for the garage," he said. "The revenue from visitor parking in the garage will go to cover the cost."

Claymation



JAKE SCHRICKLING/THE BATTALION

Yun Hee Jung, who is currently seeking a doctorate in medical biochemistry and genetics, spins clay at the University Plus pottery area in the basement of the Memorial Student Center Tuesday.

Starr grants Lewinsky high form of immunity for her court testimony

WASHINGTON (AP) — Monica Lewinsky has been given blanket immunity in exchange for testimony in Kenneth Starr's six-month investigation of her relationship with President Clinton, Ms. Lewinsky's attorneys said today.

"We, as counsel for Monica Lewinsky, have reached an agreement today that for her full and truthful testimony she will receive transactional immunity in this case," said Plato Cacheris, one of her attorneys.

Ms. Lewinsky's mother, Marcia Lewis, was granted the same level of protection from prosecution, said her attorney, Billy Martin.

The mother had frequent telephone conversations with her daughter about Ms. Lewinsky's relationship with Clinton, according to 20 hours of tape recordings between Ms. Lewinsky and former friend Linda Tripp.

After talking to prosecutors for five hours in New York on Monday, Ms. Lewinsky has agreed to testify that she had a sexual relationship with the president, legal sources said.

Ms. Lewinsky's account also includes information relevant to Starr's probe of possible obstruction of justice by Clinton and his associates in Paula Jones' sexual harassment case against the president, said the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity. But she did not say Clinton asked her to lie, the sources said.

"Her lawyer said that she's going to give complete and truthful testimony, and if she does, that should present no problem to the president, obviously," White House spokesman Mike McCurry said. "I think he's pleased that things will work out for her." Clinton talked with his lawyer, David Kendall, earlier today, McCurry said.

The former White House intern arrived by taxi at her lawyers' office

about an hour before the statement was read to scores of reporters. She did not appear with Cacheris and her two other attorneys, Jacob Stein and Nathaniel Speights.

Transactional immunity means that Ms. Lewinsky will not be prosecuted for any testimony that she gives to Starr's office regarding matters under investigation. It is the most protective type of immunity that can be granted to a witness.

Ms. Lewinsky's account closely tracked her lawyers' proffer of evidence to prosecutors early in the probe, according to a key source. In that proffer, Ms. Lewinsky was said to have told of having a sexual relationship with the president.

The source said the earlier proffer contained "a fair amount of information" dealing with Ms. Lewinsky's conversations with the president and his confidants about how they would deal with Mrs. Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit against Clinton. The president denied under oath in the Jones case that he'd had sexual relations with Ms. Lewinsky and she filed an affidavit in the suit saying "I have never had a sexual relationship with the president."

Ms. Lewinsky's former friend, Mrs. Tripp, whose secret tape recordings triggered the criminal investigation of the president, testified for a seventh day before the grand jury. She was carrying a large, square briefcase. "It's going to be an interesting week, we think," said Mrs. Tripp's spokesman, Philip Coughter, who accompanied her to the federal courthouse today. There is a "possibility but by no means a certainty" that Mrs. Tripp will finish her testimony Wednesday, Coughter added. A number of Secret Service personnel also entered the courthouse to testify before the grand jury in the perjury and obstruction probe.

"Her lawyer said that she's going to give complete and truthful testimony ... that should present no problem to the president, obviously."

— Mike McCurry
White House spokesperson

NEWS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

Financial Aid postings available on Internet

The Financial Aid office has changed the location of job postings from their former location on the second floor of the Pavilion.

Since April, all job postings are available on the Internet through a program called Millennium.

The system allows students to supply potential employers with personal information and employee skills.

The Student Financial Aid Web page at faid.tamu.edu. Millennium is available 24 hours a day and changes are updated immediately.

Only part-time student jobs are posted on the system.

Summer School at Sea program nearing its end

Texas A&M University at Galveston's "Summer School at Sea" program is drawing to a close.

For the past two months, 141 students have worked and lived on the Texas Clipper II, a 394-foot training ship operated by the Texas Maritime Academy.

Activities include four hours of classes, fire and boat drills, standing watch and ship maintenance.

Since its departure on June 2, the Texas Clipper II has visited Balboa, Chile, Valparaiso, the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Panama. After a stop in Key West, Fla., the ship will end its trip at Port Arthur, Texas.

SEE LEWINSKY ON PAGE 2.