

A&M FASHION

A campus of more than 42,000 students creates a variety of fashion trends. AGGIELIFE, PAGE 3



TEMPE TOURNEY
The A&M golf team shoots for a win. SPORTS, PAGE 7

Watson: Common sense goes up in smoke in Kentucky. OPINION, PAGE 9

THE BATTALION

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Rony Angkriwan, THE BATTALION

IF THE BOOT FITS, WEAR IT

Brian Burnett, a junior business analysis major and cadet in E-2, is fitted for his handmade senior cadet boots by Dewayne Matheson.

Bowen lifts admissions, scholarship suspension

By Lily Aguilar
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M president, Dr. Ray Bowen, announced Wednesday that the 10-day admissions and scholarships suspension ordered by Dr. Barry Thompson, Texas A&M University System chancellor, on March 21, has been lifted.

Thompson reversed the decision, saying System schools can resume admitting students and awarding scholarships as long as their policies are consistent with the guidelines set by last week's 5th Circuit Court of Appeals decision in Hopwood vs. State of Texas.

In this case, which was initiated by students who claimed reverse discrimination after being denied admittance to the University of Texas Law School, the court determined that using race and ethnicity as an admission criteria is unconstitutional.

Thompson said in a press release Wednesday that System officials have assessed the ruling, and System's schools policies have been changed accordingly.

"The suspension was necessary for us to reassess our policies to ensure that they are in compliance with the law," he said.

"We remain committed to our responsibility of providing access to all

Texas who are qualified for and desire a college education."

After three days of reviewing A&M's policy, Bowen said in a press release that the University will proceed with Summer and Fall 1996 admissions.

"Following that review," he said, "we feel confident we can now proceed with the normal pattern of admissions and scholarship awards so long as we exclude race as a decision criteria."

Bowen said A&M will remain dedicated, within the constraints of the court order, to diversifying the A&M student body to reflect the state's population.

Panelists focus on harassment

The Women's Week teleconference featured attorney Anita Hill

By Kendra S. Rasmussen
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M faculty, students and staff participated Wednesday in a nationwide interactive teleconference about sexual harassment, an effort to increase campus awareness of the issue in honor of Women's Week.

The teleconference, "Sexual Harassment 1996: Defining Codes of Conduct," was sponsored by the vice president for student affairs, Student Life Programs and the Office of the Corps of Cadets Commandant.

The teleconference, broadcast live from Washington, D.C., included five panelists at the forefront of issues relating to sexual harassment in the '90s.

Joining them via satellite from Norman, Okla., was attorney Anita Hill, the University of Oklahoma law professor who testified against Clarence Thomas during his Senate confirmation hearings.

Panelists were Dr. Anne Bryant, executive director of the American Associ-

ation of University Women; Dr. Michael Greve, executive director of the Center for Individual Rights; Emma Jordan, Georgetown University law professor; Ellen Vargyas, legal counsel for the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; and Beth Wilson, assistant provost for Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action at Columbia University.

Texas A&M was linked via satellite to the program, which was broadcast on college campuses across the nation. Participating universities could ask questions of the panelists by telephone or fax.

Vargyas said the best way to battle sexual harassment is to make it an issue that people feel comfortable discussing.

"I think what we are trying to do here is change the environment so that people can feel open to talk about it," she said.

Vargyas said the number of sexual harassment complaints has increased in recent years because of changes in

federal law and awareness programs like Wednesday's teleconference.

Federal law concerning sexual harassment was amended in 1991 to include money damages for victims. But stereotypes still prevent many people from bringing sexual harassment cases to attention.

Bryant said the number of discrimination cases brought forward does not represent how widespread the problem is.

She said surveys indicate that 81 percent of students, both male and female, have experienced during their education some form of sexual harassment, which she defined as unwanted and unwelcome sexual behavior.

Wilson said people must be educated about what constitutes sexual harassment.

"We want to avoid situations where someone has sexually harassed someone else without realizing it," she said.

Hill said confronting myths about

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New GRE format considered adaptable

By Eleanor Colvin
THE BATTALION

Although some Texas A&M students are concerned about plans to change the Graduate Record Exam to a computerized format, John Lopez, director of the Princeton Review in College Station, said students should not have difficulty adjusting to the new test.

Lopez said anxiety and intimidation levels should decrease as students gain a clearer understanding of the similarities and differences between the paper-and-pencil and computerized versions of the GRE.

Lopez took the computerized GRE in July 1995 and said it was not more difficult, but it had to be approached in a different

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— JOHN LOPEZ
director of the Princeton Review in College Station

manner than the paper-and-pencil version that will be phased out by 1999.

"The key difference is that the computer test is adaptive," he said. "As a result, students cannot skip questions or go back over their work, which makes it a little more stressful for some students."

The test is considered adaptive because students' responses determine what the next question will be. Question ease or difficulty fluctuate depending on whether

students answer correctly.

Lopez said changes in the test's format mean that it will be scored differently. In the paper-and-pencil version, students are given a fixed number of questions in a fixed order, and scores are determined by the number of correct responses, regardless of the difficulty level of questions.

In contrast, the computer GRE begins each section with a question of average difficulty and adjusts the difficulty range

after each response. Scores on this exam are not determined by the number of right answers, but by where students finish on the scale.

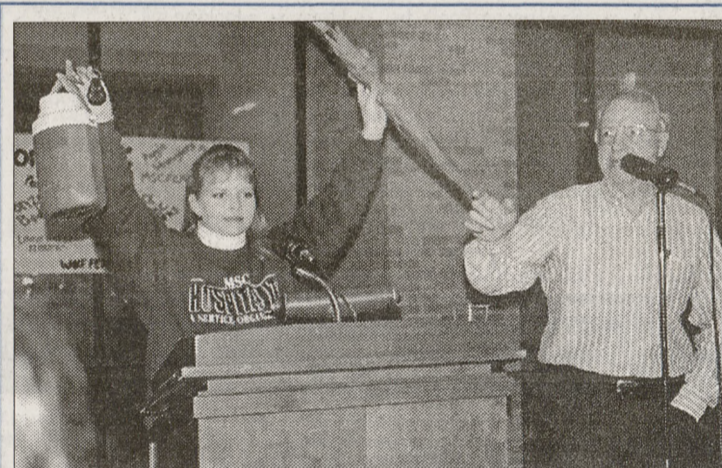
The scoring range for each of the three sections is 200 to 800.

Lopez said these changes will hopefully make the GRE more effective.

"This should make the test more objective because in the past, the GRE has not always been a good predictor of graduate student performance," he said. "They are trying to give students questions that are more appropriate for their varying skill levels."

Lopez said one of the primary advantages of the new format is

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Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Kristina Crystal, a junior agricultural business major, introduces the items up for auction as Lloyd Joyce, a professional auctioneer from Bryan, takes the bids at the MSC Lost and Found Auction in the Flag Room Wednesday.

Auction funds MSC community programs

By Kasie Byers
THE BATTALION

As a Texas A&M student entered the MSC Wednesday, he heard an auctioneer's booming voice.

Curious about what was happening, John O'Neill, a senior biomedical science major, walked into the Flagroom and began to browse through the numerous items he could bid on at the MSC Hospitality Lost and Found Auction.

It took him 15 minutes to decide on a koozie, a men's watch and a pair of sunglasses.

To O'Neill, the \$6 purchase meant keeping his drink cold, being able to tell the time and keeping the sun out of his eyes.

But for MSC Hospitality, \$6 allows a member of the organization to spend time with a

Bryan child whose parents are forced to leave him home alone while they are at work.

Penny Ditton, MSC Hospitality adviser, said money earned from the auction of campus' lost and found items will be used to fund Hospitality's community programs.

"The money from this auction isn't used for the committee's personal good," she said. "It goes into our service projects."

Programs funded by the auction include the Beck Street Delinquency Prevention Program and Mockingbird Run, which both focus on elementary-school children in the Bryan-College Station area who need mentoring, tutoring or just a little attention.

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Police give tips on avoiding unusual violations

Cutting through parking lots and flashing bright lights at other cars could result in citations

By Tauma Wiggins
THE BATTALION

Many offenses that Texas A&M students receive citations for seem annoying and inconvenient but commonplace, such as speeding tickets.

Suddenly noticing a police officer's flashing red and blue lights in the rearview mirror is not an uncommon experience.

But there are more obscure areas of the law that, if violated, can result in citations and fines.

Regina Stark, a sophomore English major, was surprised to receive a ticket for running over an empty fire hose.

Stark said she was driving through the Texas Avenue Whataburger parking lot one night after work. The building had caught fire earlier that day, but because it was late and there were no lights on, Stark said she was unaware there had been a fire.

"I usually eat there after work," she said. "I was just driving through to see why it was dark, and then all these firemen came out yelling, and then they called the cops."

Stark said the police officer issued her a \$215 ticket for running over the fire hose.

"They said the offense wasn't on the regular list, and they told me to call them and find out how much it would be," she said.

"I thought it would be, like, \$6. I was overwhelmed."

Sgt. Choya Walling of the Bryan Police Department said many people are not aware that certain actions can result in traffic citations.

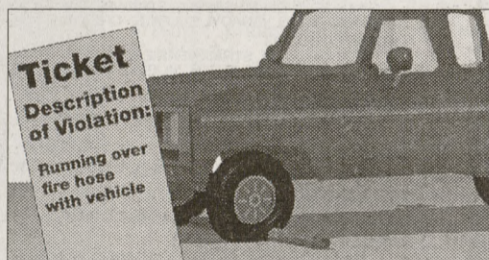
Walling said that recently there has been a problem with people running red lights and not realizing it.

"The way we judge what constitutes running a red light is by drawing an imaginary line from one curb of the intersection to the other curb under the stoplight," Walling said. "If the vehicle breaks that line after the light turns red, they can receive a ticket."

"Due to vehicle perception, you can't see 20 feet in front of your car. Most people don't know they ran a red light."

Walling said that when a light turns green, it does not always mean drivers should go.

"If someone's stuck in the middle of the



intersection," he said, "and you go on anyway when the light turns green, you could receive a citation."

Walling listed other areas in which traffic tickets can be issued, such as cutting through parking lots to avoid intersections, flashing bright lights at other cars, and having a television within the driver's view.

Traffic tickets are not issued only to cars and trucks. They can be issued to bicyclists and rollerbladers as well.

Walling said many individuals run stop

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