

DANCERS \$\$\$
MAKE THE BIG BUCKS!
Silk Stocking
690-1478
www.thesilkstocking.com

If You Have Something To Sell,
 Remember:
 Classifieds Can Do It
 Call 845-0569
THE BATTALION

SHOP HASSLE FREE
AT
VARSITY FORD
www.varsityford.net
 NO SALESMAN
 UNTIL YOU NEED THEM!
 HIGH REBATES
 ZERO INTEREST LOANS
 COLLEGE GRAD PROGRAMS
 TRUCKS, MUSTANGS & FOCUS
 SPECIALS!
 (Questions? E-mail us at
ross@varsityford.net)

BRAZOS BINGO
 1805 Briarcrest
 BRYAN
 979-776-0999
Lowest Prices Ever!
 Come One! Come All! Come Early!
 — STARTING TIMES —
 Tues 6:45 Wed-Thur-Sat 7:15 & 9:00 Friday 6:00 & 8:00 Sunday 6:00 & 8:00
EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF WINNING
 LARGE NON-SMOKING ROOM
 * Drink Parity * Great Food * Security * Full Bar and More More!
 OVER \$30,000 WON EACH WEEK
 St. Joseph's Catholic School, Free Space, Olds Club of Brazos County, Brazos Valley Elks #808

Sewell Automotive Companies
 (representing Cadillac, Chevrolet, GMC, Infiniti, Lexus, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Saab, Hummer)
 invites you to visit our booth to discuss your opportunities in automobile retailing
 at the
Business Career Fair
February 6, 2002
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wehner Building
 Majors of specific interest:
 Marketing, Management, Industrial Distribution, Finance
 Dallas • San Antonio • New Orleans • Fort Worth

CAREER CENTER
 Texas A&M University

Steps To Planning Your Career

Tuesday, February 5
 3:45 p.m. 302 Rudder

Monday, February 11
 4:00 p.m. 302 Rudder

Wednesday, February 20
 4:00 p.m. 302 Rudder

Thursday, February 28
 5:30 p.m. 302 Rudder

Plan for the Future

Learn fundamental steps to successful career planning and learn how to conduct career-related research for informed decision making.

Steps to your Success!
<http://careercenter.tamu.edu>
 209 Koldus 845-5139

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY.
BSC
BUSINESS STUDENT COUNCIL

Business Student Council Career Fair Receptions

Monday, February 4th Café Excell
Tuesday, February 5th George Bush Library
 Both receptions are from 7-9pm
 Business casual dress please

Come by Wehner 159 for your FREE ticket, or clip this ticket and present it at the door.

<http://wehner.tamu.edu/bsc>

Business Student Council Receptions
ADMIT ONE
Monday, 4th Café Excell
Tuesday, 5th George Bush Library
7:00 - 9:00pm

EDITORIAL
MISGUIDED HOPE

A 90-year tradition was postponed indefinitely by A&M President, Dr. Ray M. Bowen. Although Bowen's decision was justified, the manner in which the decision was brought forth was unnecessary. The judgement should have been made after the 1999 Bonfire collapse, not two years later.

Two years ago 12 Aggies died building a tradition and it should have become apparent that Bonfire would not burn again.

This prolonged and burdensome journey has led to an inevitable and irreversible conclusion. There is no justification for the continuation of Bonfire regardless of the overwhelming response and support by students, former students and administrators.

Since the day of the collapse, Aggies have known Bonfire would never be the same but instead of accepting this they filled their minds with false hope. Two years passed, which allowed enough time to end a generation of Bonfire activists and lengthy protests, but also to overcome a "tunnel vision" and realize the harsh reality.

In spite of this, persistent actions were taken to continue the tradition. Bowen stipulated three important decision altering factors: money, safety and liability, the important aspects of Bonfire 2002. Thousands of dollars were uselessly spent rebuilding this tradition, student input was sought and substantial feedback in favor of Bonfire 2002 was provided, but all of this led to nothing.

Private meetings were held by administrators, pertinent information was withheld from a vitally interested public and the three determining factors suggested by Bowen had been evident all along. All the facts pointed one direction but were ignored. Therefore, as progress seemed successful, apprehension grew.

Students, administrators and even Dr. Bowen believed this facade because we held Bonfire so close to our hearts. Bowen is not to blame. As hope for Bonfire 2002 caught on, Aggies perpetuated this set of circumstances.

The time has come to stop fooling ourselves and realize that there was no malicious intent on anyone's part. We unconsciously hid the facts from ourselves because we were not ready to face the staunch reality. This recent decision will be difficult for everyone to accept but the deceit has finally ended.

Bowen did not end a 90-year tradition, Bonfire's fate was decided when Aggies were lost participating in the tradition.

THE BATTALION

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor in Chief | MARIANO CASTILLO

Managing Editor	BRIAN RUFF	Member	MELISSA BEDSOLE
Opinion Editor	CAYLA CARR	Member	JONATHAN JONES
News Editor	SOMMER BUNCE	Member	JENNIFER LOZANO
News Editor	BRANDIE LIFFICK	Member	KELLY ZIMMER

CARTOON OF THE DAY

THANKS AGAIN
 THE DUNCARTOONIST ©

MAIL CALL
SBP Houser stands strong

As saddened and disappointed at the decision was made at the Bonfire press conference, I was equally impressed with the job that Schuyler Houser did giving her speech. Student body president believe she has done an excellent job of representing the students of A&M. You know she cares about the tradition and has fought for the right to keep the tradition alive even though greater authorities would not do all they can to stop it forever. This is a tough job for all Aggies as we struggle with accepting a decision and a great tradition. I'm glad that we have leadership to get through.

David Smith
 Class of '02

Bonfire 2002 is lost Vision

Yesterday came the Bonfire decision that has been years in waiting. I am a member of the Class of 2003, and a worker on the 1999 Bonfire, anticipated the decision more than most. Bowen's decision, however, did not surprise me. Did it disappoint me? Yes. I was not surprised and dedicated though. Maybe Bowen was too blinded by the "Vision 2020" program to ever see what Bonfire meant to this school community. Maybe eliminating Bonfire, he thought that provided amount of hazing, drinking and tom-foolery that is in the way of that vision. It is unfortunate that something so cherished was sacrificed in such a way. Yesterday was a sad day for Aggies everywhere. Bonfire fell for a second time.

Brandon Gray
 Class of '02

Bowen is the hatchet man

It should be no surprise that Ray Bowen ran scared from the Bonfire issue. Do not hesitate to blame him though. He is just the hatchet man sent from politicians and academics who seek to "reinvent" University. Believe me, they have their way and will have nothing more than t.u. east campus. My only hope now is that Vet School can elect General Rudder.

Christopher J. Tolson
 Class of '02

Dickson Productions Presents...

CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEED

with very special guest
Seth James
THURSDAY
February 7th

at **Hurricane Harry's**
 • Newly Remodeled
 • New Huge Stage

ADVANCE TICKETS HIGHLY SUGGESTED
 Available at
 ROTHERS BOOKSTORES