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College Bowl to challenge Aggie minds

TODD WOODARD

Campus Reporter Mathias is a senior English or at the University of Texas. puring his four years at UT he has arried a 4.0 grade point average.

Mathias thought himself pretty smartuntil he tried answering questions in preparation for the College

The questions that Mathias tried other nations try to answer questions were similar to these: Name the famous Prussian who helped Washington drill his troops at Valley

Forge. Who painted the famous fresco titled "The School of Athens?" What is the stage name of Eric Weiss? Students from hundreds of colleges in the United States and 12

What's up at

Texas A&M

MONDAY

performance at 7:30 p.m. in the Brazos Center.

COMMUNITY SINGERS: Will hold a third rehearsal for Feb. 17

BAHA'I CLUB: Will hold a discussion on "The Relativity of Religious

Truth" at 7:30 in the Meditation Room of the All-Faith's Chapel.

WATER SKI CLUB: Will show the film "The Best of Tournament Water Skiing" at 7 p.m. in 308 Rudder. Plans for the Polar Bear tournament will be discussed

LUTHERAN STUDENT MOVEMENT: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in

TUESDAY

DANCE ARTS SOCIETY: Tap classes will begin at 7 p.m. in 267 G.

AGRONOMY SOCIETY: J. B. Dixon will speak on Saudi Arabia at 7:15 p.m. in 103 Soil and Crop Science Bldg.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS: Mark Wilson will speak on "Choosing Between a Large and Small Com-

SOCIOLOGY CLUB: Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 106 Bolton Hall. WOMEN'S LACROSSE: Will meet in the MSC Main Lounge at 7

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 108

NURSING SOCIETY: Will hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder. Anyone interested in joining is encouraged to attend. PHI THETA KAPPA ALUMNI: Will hold a meeting in 402 Rudder at 7:00 p.m. New officers will be elected and members are urged to

LAMBDA SIGMA: Will hold a meeting in 504 Rudder at 7:00 p.m.

AGGIE SCOUTS: Will hold a meeting in 137A MSC at 9:00 p.m. The Girl Scout cookie sale will be discussed and cookies will be distri-

TAMU STAMP CLUB: Will meet in 137 MSC at 7:30 p.m. A trading

RUDDER'S RANGERS: A meeting for juniors only will be held at

COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN: Will hold a meeting in 401 Rudder at 7:00 p.m. The topic will be the Special Olympics.

WEDNESDAY

p.m. Anyone interested in joining is invited to attend.

AGGIES AIDE: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 502 Rudder.

CLASS OF 1980: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

pany" at 7:30 p.m. in 203 Zachry.

on topics from mathematics to movie

Texas A&M University has joined these colleges in the contest called

"the varsity sport of the mind."
Ted Hoef, College Bowl program
adviser at Texas A&M, said 16 teams will compete for the Texas A&M title on Feb. 4-6. Matches will run from 7-0 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Main Lounge and the Base-

The Feb. 7 final matches will be held in 350-350A MSC, and in the MSC Ballroom, from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Hoef said.

While studying at The University of Southern Illinois at Edwardsville, Hoef competed in College Bowl. He said he remembered one question in particular

'They named a few of Snow White's dwarfs and wanted to know the ones unnamed.

Remembering dwarfs might not be a big accomplishment, but questions like "What is a yert?", show the extent of knowledge needed.
"It's kind of humbling to hear the

caliber of questions they ask," said David Ragsdale, a graduate student in English, whose heard sample's of the questions.

Reader's Digest helps the College Bowl Co. prepare the questions and publishes the Reader's Digest Colege Bowl Almanac. Hoef said the

book is a good preparation source.

A poll of 49 of the 64 competitors at Texas A&M showed that honor students are not the sole entrants. Both good and average students en-

ter, the poll showed. on College Bowl participants at Texas up A&M are not in a particular major. Twenty-five students were in engineering or science departments. The remaining 24 were liberal arts or

business majors.

The College Bowl is a business, even a way of life for its founder Don "I live for the College Bowl," Reid said.

In 1952 he organized College Bowl, "to create a program so people who do some thinking can get recognition like people who catch forward

NBC carried the early programs until 1959. College Bowl then went on CBS, sponsored by General Electric. College Bowl is not sponsored by GE anymore, Reid said. "College Bowl carries itself.

Some CBS radio affiliates carry College Bowl now, Reid said. They currently are negotiating with WNET (New York PBS) and a commercial network for television cov-

Broadcast changes have not changed the game over the years he said, "It's still the same game."

The game is played in 30-minute segments, said Patricia Price, MSC project chairman for College Bowl. is for introductions and rules before the game starts, she said.

only three seconds to answer toss-

The number of points for the bonus varies. Conferences are allowed on bonuses but not on tos-

with 16 teams in a double elimination tournament, entrants must be conditioned. Most of the competitors are reading almanacs and thumbing through old texts.

Brian Jossart, a senior in petoleum engineering, said he was the literature and movie expert of the group. "I've been watching a lot of old movies lately," he said. Any kind of specialized knowledge

could carry a team past the Texas A&M tournament to compete against Rice University Feb. 11, and later at regionals in Fort Worth and national finals in Miami.

The College Bowl system has sev-

eral different layers. Colleges like Harvard, Yale, Cornell, and David-son hold similar tournaments. They tra Davidson, a small college in New Jersey, won the national title last vear and traveled to Cambridge, England to compete against Sydney Sussex College of Cambridge.

Davidson lost in the last 10 seconds.

these people are athletes. They trai just like any other athlete."

'When southern schools were in vited, they weren't expected to de very well," he said, "But Texa teams have turned out to be gian killers."

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the copy Two teams answer questions for two seven-minute halves. The extra time shop Price said that during the halves, a 201 College Main

moderator asks two types of questions. Toss-up questions are worth 10 points, and the first team to answer the toss-up correctly gets a shot at a bonus question. Teams have

"TECHNOLOGY: TOOL OR TYRANT?"

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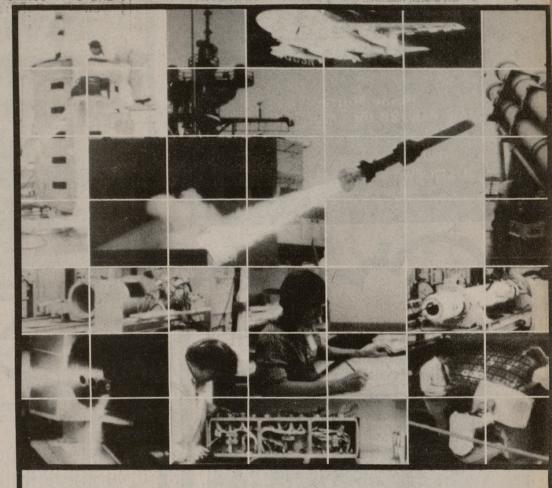
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