

Hacky sack tourney set

by Michael Raulerson

Battalion Reporter
The Texas A&M Footbag Association and the Brazos Valley Footbag Fanatics will host a hacky sack tournament Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Bee Creek Park.

A hacky sack is a small round leather bag filled with pelletized plastic beads.

Registration for the Brazos Valley Footbag Open begins at 8:30 a.m. Saturday. There will be a \$5 entry fee.

Members from hacky sack clubs in Dallas, Houston, Austin, San Marcos and possibly Corpus Christi will participate in the tournament, says Paul Cumings,

founder of the Brazos Valley Footbag Fanatics. Cumings expects between 25 to 50 participants.

The Fanatics, a club formed in August, will represent the

Bryan-College Station area, Cumings said.

Men's and women's divisions for freestyle, consecutive kicks, and singles and doubles net events are planned.

The freestyle event requires a four-minute, choreographed routine that is set to music, Cumings said. Any part of the body can be used to strike the bag in this event.

Participants in the consecutive kicks event will have three attempts to score the most kicks, Cumings said. The person with the highest total number of kicks from the three tries will be the winner.

Net hack is similar to volleyball. A person or team must serve to earn a point, but a match is the best-of-three 11-point games rather than 15-point games, as in volleyball.

The game is played on a 22-

by-44-foot court divided into quadrants. The halves of the court are separated by a 5-foot net. In net hack, a person cannot touch the bag with any part of the body above the waist.



Cadet receives award John Makely, Battalion staff

Acting Commandant Henry C. Hill presents Brian T. Cartwright, a Legion of Valor Bronze Cross.

The award is presented to ROTC members for outstanding military and academic achievement.

Walton to run bonfire torch

by Leslie Yoder

Battalion Reporter
Residents from Walton Hall will run their traditional marathon from Memorial Stadium at the University of Texas at Kyle Field this Saturday at midnight.

Kirk Barker, president of Walton, says volunteers from the dorm will hold their own midnight yell practice by the University of Texas emblem at Memorial Stadium before running a torch back to Texas A&M University in a marathon over 100 miles long.

An axe handle that is wrapped in gauze and dipped in oil is used as the torch for the marathon. During their yell

"We have to make sure from the start that we get responsible drivers," Barker said, "because the marathon is hard on everybody."

When all the runners have completed their first half-mile, the chain is repeated until all the miles are run.

"Last year, all of us in the trail car noticed that the runner was really hurting," coordinator Les Lehrmann said. "We started yelling and cheering him on. If someone gets too tired to run, one of us in the trail car takes over his distance."

During the early 1900s, Walton Hall used to be an athletic dorm.

"The athletes didn't have time to go out and cut on bonfire because of their sporting events," Barker said. "By running back the flame that lights bonfire, though, they felt they still had made a contribution."

Even though Walton isn't an athletic dorm anymore, the residents still hold the marathon in support of bonfire.

Three years ago, however, the tradition almost died. But six volunteers decided to keep that tradition going.

"Each volunteer had to run about 16 miles and this meant a really long, hard trip for everyone," Barker said.

Last year's marathon took its 23 runners about 10 hours and 57 seconds to complete. Barker said that the runners would like to break that record this Saturday.

He said there are 15 volunteers so far, but expects around 30 people in all.

When the marathoners are just outside of the city limits, all of the runners will run the last several miles together into Kyle Field and around the track for one last mile.

And what do the marathoners do when it's all over?

"Last year, all of us in the trail car noticed that the runner was really hurting, if someone gets too tired to run, one of us in the trail car takes over his distance." — coordinator Les Lehrmann said.

practice, both the torch and a candle are lit at the same time. The candle is kept in a car and serves as a back-up if the torch goes out, Barker said.

"When the lighted candle is brought back to the campus, it will reside in coordinator Steve Sparks' room in Walton until it is given to the C.T.'s who light bonfire with it," he said.

The route of the marathon will start on Highway 290 out of Austin, continue through Lexington on FM 696 and proceed down Highway 21 until the final destination — Kyle Field.

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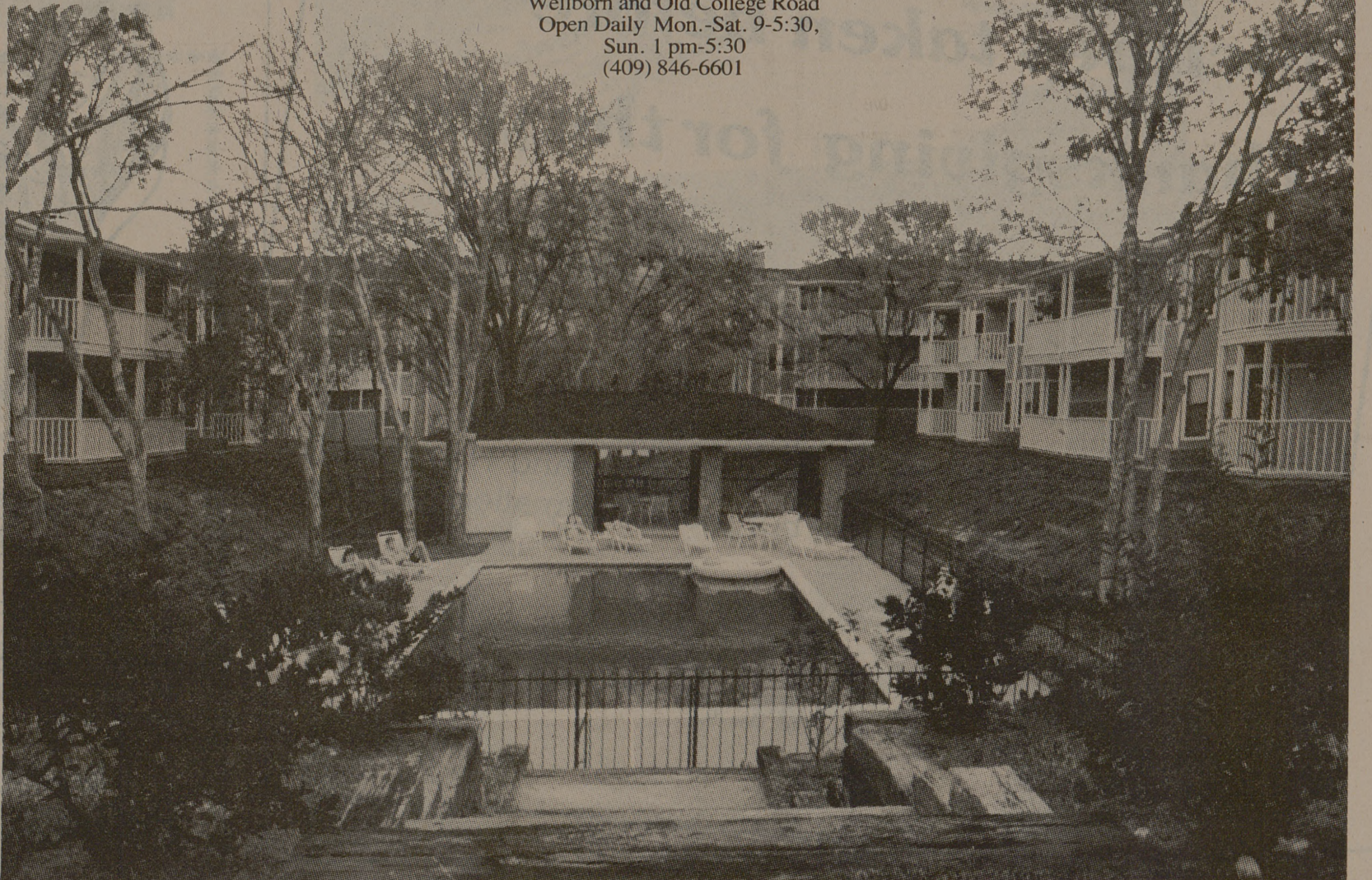
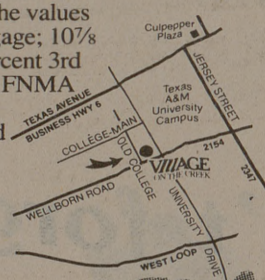
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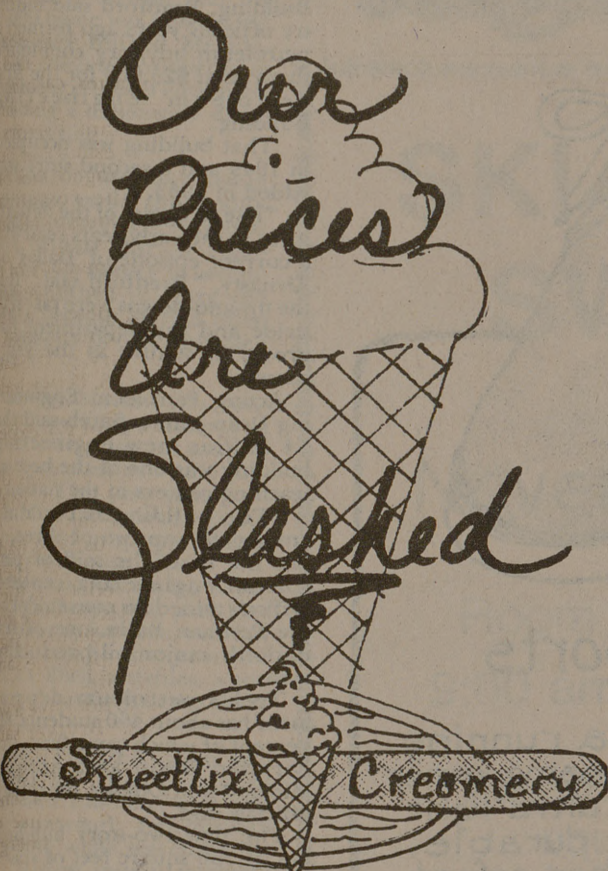
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