



Rainy day bags Photo by DAVID LEYENDECKER

Ron Kelly, right, a senior business major from Chicago, braves the cool, wet weather to sell bookbags for the A&M Cycling Club. The club will be selling bags to raise funds until Friday. Their table is located by the MSC fountain.

Possible student group to council

BCC to consider request

By KIM JENSEN
Reporter

The Bryan City Council voted Monday night to consider a request from Texas A&M Student Government to appoint a campus liaison to the six-member council. The student liaison would act as an ex-officio member of the council and give input on issues important to Texas A&M students. Representatives from Student Government recommended a liaison plan similar to the one in operation in College Station. The council denied a request from the Bryan Downtown Improvement Committee to hire a city coordinator to oversee downtown renovation.

Committee chairman Travis Bryan Jr. said downtown Bryan is in "serious plight." He said citizens expect improvements in the area because of the recent bond passage. Bryan said if a coordinator was hired, city sales taxes would increase and new businesses would be attracted to the downtown area. The council extended annual contracts with the International Paper Co. and Master Meter Inc. for utility poles and small water meters. The council approved a proposal by O'Malley & Clay Inc. to provide engineering services for repair and painting of a one-half million gallon well field reservoir.

The council also approved a resolution to buy a second building in the Bryan Original Townsite for municipal government purposes. The council approved contracts with Brazos Beautiful, Bryan, College Station, Brazos County, the Brazos County Health Unit and the Sesquicentennial Committee for services rendered during fiscal year 1984-85. The council approved payment to Bryan Independent School District for the city's portion of net operating costs for the civic auditorium. The council also approved a rate increase request by the Texas Commercial Waste Co. for commercial trash disposal services.

Battalion Editor set to speak at symposium Wednesday

"I don't expect very many people there because students are generally apathetic — they're here at Texas A&M for jobs and dates," said Battalion Editor Stephanie Ross who'll be speaking 1 p.m. Wednesday at this week's Sully's Symposium. Sponsored by sophomore honors society, Lambda Sigma, the symposium is held weekly next to the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue by the Academic Building.

"The primary goal is still to improve communication between the students and the student leaders," said Robert Beard, the project's publicity chairman. Ross said she'll discuss The Battalion's editorial policy, the Editorial Board, how letters are chosen for publication, censorship and the internal structure of the Battalion. "My main interest is answering

questions and hearing student opinions," Ross said. Beard said Ross was asked to speak because of the prominence of The Battalion at Texas A&M. "We chose Stephanie because, in the position that she's in, she has influence over The Battalion, and The Battalion, as the student newspaper, is read by the majority of the students," Beard said.

A&M debate team wins honors; takes second place in tourney

The Texas A&M Debate Team won second place last weekend in a debate tournament in Kansas. A&M's debaters, Brent Brossman and Julia Sullivan, lost to a team from the University of Kansas in the final round of the 30th Annual George R. R. Pflaum Debate Tour-

namment at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas. The topic of the debate was whether the federal government of the United States should significantly increase exploration and/or development of space beyond the earth's mesosphere.

Bruce Daniel, A&M's assistant debate coach, said the tournament was one of the largest and best in the nation. Fifty-eight teams from 14 states participated. Daniel said A&M's debate team is probably one of the top 16 debate teams in the nation.

Chemist details theory

By KATHERINE HURT
Staff Writer

"I was just lucky," Professor Sir Derek Barton, a Nobel laureate, said Monday of his chemical research, to a near-capacity crowd in Rudder Forum. His lecture, "Some Recent Progress in Natural Products Chemistry: How to Win a Nobel Prize," chronicled his development of the fundamental theory and principles of conformational analysis, the determination of the three-dimensional relationships among atoms in a molecule. Barton's development of the theory and principles earned him the 1969 Nobel Prize in chemistry, which he shared with Norwegian Odd Hassel. Barton, speaking to an audience of mainly chemists, said "Everyone knows about conformational analysis, so this lecture will be mainly historical."

analysis, then about the ethane barrier. Then he said, "Now I'm going to tell you about myself ... I was born in 1918 and will die sometime in the 21st century ..." Barton earned his B.S. degree in 1940 and his Ph.D. in 1942 from Imperial College, University of London. In explaining why he chose Imperial College, he said, "There were 10 colleges where I could study chemistry ... I chose Imperial College because, since it was 50 percent more expensive than the others, I figured it should be 50 percent better." After graduating, Barton worked at his father's lumber company, in military intelligence and in industry before he started teaching college-level chemistry classes. Barton taught at Glasgow University until 1957 and at Imperial College until 1978. Since 1978, he has been the director of the Institut de Chimie des Substances Na-

turelles in Gif-sur-Yvette, near Paris. Barton has been a visiting professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and at the Universities of Illinois, Wisconsin, Sheffield and British Columbia. After discussing his publications, Barton showed slides of his colleagues, his chateau in Switzerland and the Institut de Chimie. He also showed slides of a French stamp honoring his achievements and slides of "his wife" and "himself," actually two new breeds of Orchid that he developed and named for himself and his wife. He said in Switzerland, one can develop new breeds of Orchid and name them for whomever he chooses. When asked if winning the Nobel Prize was the most important thing in his life, he said, "No, no, no ... I never did chemistry to win prizes, I did it to express myself."

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