

STATE AND LOCAL

# Seminar to debate Pleistocene age species extinction

By HOLLY A. HELT  
Reporter

Pleistocene extinction will be the topic of discussion during a seminar sponsored by the Texas A&M Anthropology Society today from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. in 301 Rudder.

Extinction of many North American species occurred near the end of the Pleistocene epoch, about 11,000 years ago.

Much debate has been generated about the cause of the mass extinctions. The issue has developed into two main views: one favoring human involvement and the other favoring environmental factors such as climate changes at the end of the last ice age. Both sides of the issue will be discussed at the seminar.

The seminar will be conducted in debate format. Dr. Vaughn Bryant, head of the anthropology department at A&M, will serve as moderator.

Bryant has research and teaching interests in archaeology, palynology (the use of pollen to study past environmental and cultural history), ethnobotany (the study of the past use of plants by man) and the diet of

prehistoric man. Bryant will introduce the topic and the panel of experts.

The panel will consist of Dr. Bruce Dickson, a specialist in North and Middle American archaeology; Dr. Harry Shafer, who has done extensive research in areas including Texas prehistory, Eastern North American archaeology, Southwestern archaeology and prehistoric stone technology.

Others on the panel are Dr. Gentry Steele, a physical anthropologist and zooarchaeologist with teaching interests in human evolution and skeletal biology; and Dr. Vance Holliday, a visiting professor from Texas Tech specializing in the application of geological studies in anthropology.

Each speaker will give a 15-minute speech on the issue. Two of the speakers favor human involvement and two oppose the issue. Following a short intermission, the four speakers will give an overview of their statements and then encourage audience participation.

The public is welcome and admission is free.

# 'The Visitor' to speak on U.S. rituals, beliefs

A visitor is coming to give Americans a new and different perspective of themselves and their country.

Today Dr. Howard Shapiro will present what he terms "a cross-cultural theatrical presentation." "The Visitor," a monologue based on real experiences Shapiro has researched, is sponsored by MSC International Programs Committee.

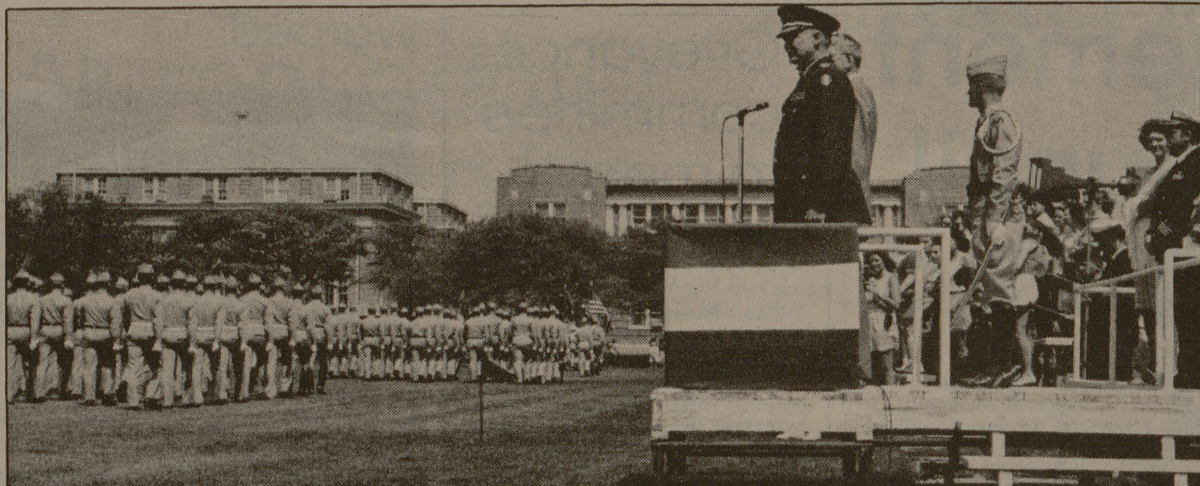
"The purpose of 'The Visitor' is to help Americans become aware of how others see their country," Shapiro says. "It touches on everyday

things — rituals, beliefs and values."

Shapiro will host a question-and-answer session after his presentation. The audience will then separate into smaller discussion groups to exchange ideas and meet back with Shapiro.

The discussion groups allow Americans to express their feelings and talk about their reaction to his impressions of America, Shapiro says.

The program will be in 601 Rudder Tower at 8 p.m.



Where Is Everybody Going?

Photo by WAYNE L. GRABEIN

Col. Donald L. Burton, Texas A&M President Frank Vandiver and retired Brig. Gen. Lynn Stuart review the Corps of Cadets on the Drill Field Saturday afternoon. Corps re-

view is an annual part of the annual Military Weekend activities. Corps Commander Charles Rollins stands behind the reviewing dignitaries.

## G force induces blackouts

# F-16 pilots risk crashing

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — The Air Force's newest fighter plane, the F-16, is so agile that pilots are flying it into maneuvers that can induce potentially fatal blackouts, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Sunday.

Air Force officials said they suspect blackouts are to blame in nine fatal crashes in recent years. Four — more than any other plane — involved the Fort Worth built, General Dynamics F-16, Air Force officials said.

The blackouts happen when the tremendous "G" forces generated by extreme acceleration force blood from the pilot's brain.

"In today's fighters we can demand more G's more rapidly and sustain them longer than pilots could in former days," said a recent article in an in-house Air Force publication warning pilots of the problem.

"Unfortunately, we are seeing a nasty by-product of that capability: Fully functioning aircraft are flying straight into the dirt after the pilot pulls back on the control stick and

takes an unscheduled nap," the article said.

The problem has only recently come to light, the Star-Telegram said.

"We had an awful lot of accidents that were of an undetermined cause. We could not understand why a guy would fly this good airplane into the ground," said Col. Edsel DeVille, a safety officer at the Tactical Air Command Headquarters at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The F-16 is built to withstand nine G's, or nine times the force of normal gravity, in tight turns and maneuvers, the newspapers said, but few pilots can remain conscious for long under such pressure.

The F-16 is also capable of delivering such power at the touch of a hand.

"Have we built a plane that's too hot?" asked Gary Logan, a Las Vegas attorney representing the widows of two F-16 pilots who were killed in crashes that may have been caused by blackouts.

The blackouts, which are called "G-induced loss of consciousness" or GLC, typically last about 30 seconds,

according to videotapes made during tests on an Air Force centrifuge at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio.

But Air Force officials say 30 seconds is long enough to kill.

"If you're in a hard, level turn or slice when you pass out, the aircraft may be screaming earthward in short order," the Air Force article said.

In one fatal crash described in the article the entire maneuver preceding impact took less than 30 seconds.

According to the Star-Telegram, Air Force officials have made the problem a top priority. The Air Force is considering designing new G-suits and increasing centrifuge training and instruction in special breathing techniques.

The problem is more acute in the F-16 than the Air Force's other front-line fighter — the McDonnell Douglas F-15 — because the F-16 fly-by-wire controls magnify the pilot's slightest pull on the control stick, feed it into the airplane's computer, which relays it to the plane's control flaps.

# Publications taking editor applications

The Student Publications Board now is accepting applications for the summer and fall editors of The Battalion and for the 1985-86 editor of the AggieLand.

Applications may be obtained in the communications department office in 230 Reed McDonald between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Completed application forms should be returned to Edward J. Smith, chairman of Student Publications Board, in 230 Reed McDonald. Deadline for submission of applications is 5 p.m. April 4.

The Battalion summer editor will serve from May 15 through August 26. The Battalion fall editor will serve from April 29 through Dec. 6. (With the exception of the summer term.)

The AggieLand editor will serve for the academic year 1985-86.

Qualifications for editor of The Battalion are:

- 2.0 overall and major grade point ratio at the time of taking office and during the term of office.

- At least one year of experience in a responsible editorial position on The Battalion or comparable student newspaper, or at least one year of editorial experience on a commercial newspaper, or at least 12 hours of journalism including Journalism 203 and 303, Reporting and Editing I and II or the equivalent.

The 12 hours must include completion of or enrollment in Journalism 301, Mass Communications Law or equivalent.

Qualifications for editor of the AggieLand are:

- 2.0 overall and major GPR at the time of taking office and during the term of office.

- At least one year in a responsible staff position on the AggieLand, or equivalent yearbook experience elsewhere.

Both editors are chosen by the Student Publications Board which interviews all the applicants. The board consists of faculty and students.

After the board appoints the two editors, Dr. Gordon P. Eaton, Texas A&M provost and vice president of academic affairs, approves the appointment.

# Voice your complaints directly to Student Government Issues and Grievances Meeting

Topics for Discussion will include:

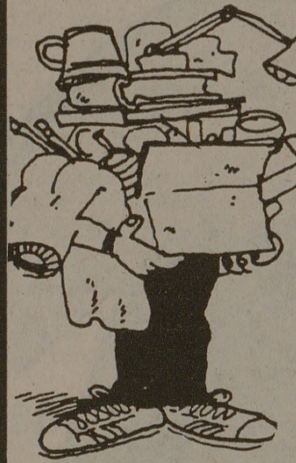
Bicycle Problem on Campus  
Let Us Know What You Want Next Year's Senate to Work On

Discussion will also be open for any other topic.

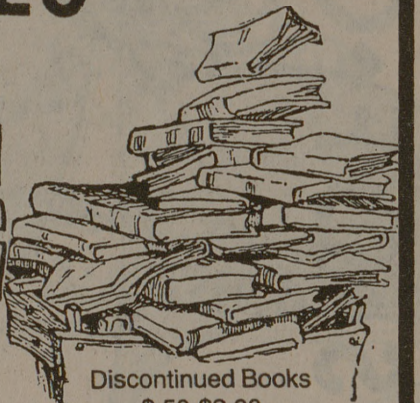
Monday, March 25 7:00 PM  
Room 510 Rudder

For Questions call Wayne Roberts at 846-3628.

# ROTHERS BOOKSTORES

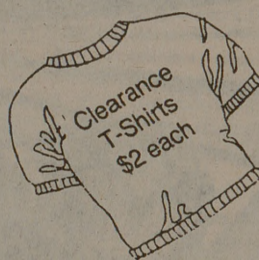


## SPRING CLEANING SALE



Discontinued Books \$50-\$2.00

Tuesday March 26 5p.m.-10p.m.



Clearance T-Shirts \$2 each



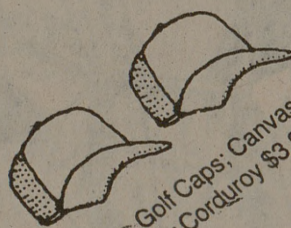
Foam Caps, Viscors, & Painters Caps \$1



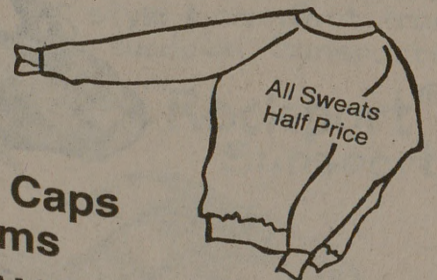
Jerseys \$4.00



Select Shorts \$.95-\$4.00



Golf Caps, Canvas or Corduroy \$3.95



All Sweats Half Price

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