

# Texas A&M The Battalion



## WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:  
Partly sunny and warm.  
HIGH: 78 LOW: 56

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## Student candidates reveal views on campus issues

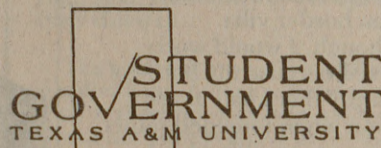
By SELINA GONZALEZ  
Of The Battalion Staff

Issues ranging from academics to bonfire were addressed Wednesday at the Texas A&M Student Body Presidential Forum. The candidates were evaluated by the student body as a panel of eight student organization representatives asked questions.

The candidates are Beth Ammons, junior political science major from Fort Worth; Ty Clevenger, junior genetics major from Gladewater; Russell Garrett, senior agricultural economics major from Yoakum; Dan Gattis, senior agricultural economics major from Friendswood; and Craig Sandlin, junior management major from Dumas. Kristin Hay, student government vice president of operations, was the moderator of the forum.

Kevin Buchman, student body president, asked the candidates what they consider their most significant accomplishment at A&M that qualifies them to serve as president.

Clevenger responded by saying that he helped in attaining \$200,000 per year in scholarships from profits



from Texas A&M driver's license plates. He said he successfully worked to change the Department of Food Services' confiscation of Aggie Bucks at the end of the semester.

Clevenger said he arranged to have Macintosh computers available 24 hours a day and he plans to extend computer availability on campus.

He said he submitted a report to the Board of Regents proposing funding for books for the library expansion and has approached the regents about improving academic advising.

Ammons said while serving in the senate last year, she authored a bill that provides for clearer expectations between professors and students through improved course syllabi. As executive vice president of programs, Ammons said she served

on a committee for improving undergraduate academic advising. As a member of President Mobley's committee for a discrimination-free campus, Ammons said she is working on a disciplinary policy that will be enforced in incidences of discrimination.

Garrett said he has been involved in student services from the advising standpoint. As a Corps member for four years, Garrett said he gained scholastic experience that will be helpful in stressing the importance of academics.

Gattis said he served as Class of '90 president for two years. He said his biggest accomplishment was motivating the student council to make its mark here at A&M and make a difference. He also said that he learned how the student government and University function.

"I had to meet a lot of challenges that I knew nothing about," he said.

Sandlin said he is most proud of his commitment to the student services development committee. He

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## Around and around



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

A clown spins his wheel during the Royal Lichtenstein Quarter Ring Sidewalk Circus, "The World's Smallest Circus."

## Write-ins pull votes in elections

Candidates can snag victories at polls

By KATHERINE COFFEY  
Of The Battalion Staff

Even after spending time campaigning and hanging up posters, a Student Government candidate can be defeated by a write-in name of someone not originally running for an office, a Student Government executive said.

Student Government Election Commissioner Perry Liston said that every year during elections, voters write in their names and names of others.

Liston said write-in candidates have won offices in the past, usually because no one else filed for the office. If requirements are met, these students become the newly elected officers.

Voting forms contain space for students to write in any name and the office for which they are being considered, he said.

While write-ins are possible for all Student Government offices, no one can be elected until the election commission goes through a record process to see if the student is a legitimate candidate and meets requirements, such as grades and classification.

About 20 to 50 percent of write-ins are jokes with names such as Mickey Mouse and Ollie North. Overall, the voting method is valid in the election process, he said.

"I feel write-in voting is an effective way to fill open seats of the Student Government offices," Liston said. "But if someone is written in as another candidate, they follow the same rules and regulations as the other candidates."

## A&M professor seeks damages, injunctive relief from University

By JULIE MYERS  
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M University, the College of Science, the biology department, A&M President Dr. William Mobley and four other A&M officials were named as defendants in a civil suit filed in a Houston district court March 2 by Dr. Lynn Lamoreux.

Lamoreux, an assistant biology professor, is seeking damages and injunctive relief because of what the plaintiff's original complaint describes as the defendants' discriminatory and wrongful conduct against her during her employment at A&M since 1982.

By seeking injunctive relief, Lamoreux is asking the court to prevent her termination in May.

Lamoreux, 56, claims she was denied tenure in 1987 due to age and sex discrimination.

Besides age and sex discrimination, Lamoreux also claims in the plaintiff's original complaint:

- Wage discrimination.
- Intentional infliction of emotional distress. Lamoreux claims that the actions of the defendants were conducted intentionally or recklessly in failing to provide her with proper equipment in a timely manner, in re-

quiring a performance evaluation before she had received materials she considered essential to her research, in terminating her and later revoking the termination, in failing to grant her tenure, in failing to follow the University's administrative procedures, in attempting to coerce her not to pursue Equal Employment Opportunity Commission claims, and retaliating against her for EEOC claims.

Furthermore, the complaint states that the defendants' conduct was extreme and outrageous, and caused Lamoreux emotional distress. The complaint claims the emotional distress was so severe that it caused physical illness. In addition, the defendants' conduct damaged Lamoreux's reputation as a scientist and teacher, according to the complaint.

- Conspiracy. Lamoreux alleges the defendants willfully conspired to deny her tenure.
- Tortious interference with contractual relations. The complaint states that the defendants' actions deliberately and intentionally interfered with Lamoreux's ability to perform the duties for which she was hired.
- Libel. The complaint states that Lamoreux was libeled as a result of an April 14, 1989, memorandum

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## Conference faces issues of Mexican-Americans

By STACY E. ALLEN  
Of The Battalion Staff

The Committee for the Awareness of Mexican American Culture (CAMAC) will sponsor a conference Friday and Saturday in Rudder Tower to discuss issues facing Mexican-Americans.

Mike Avila, a junior economics major at Texas A&M and executive director of communications for CAMAC, said this year's title for the annual conference is "La Familia, La Vida — Looking back into the past and into the future." The theme, he said, is the Mexican-American family.

"Mexican-Americans will be the majority in Texas soon, and we feel it is important now more than ever that we learn about other cultures," Avila said.

Michelle Alvarado, a senior psychology major and president of CAMAC, said nine different topics will be discussed throughout the two days. The conference will end on Saturday night with a keynote address on the evolution of the Mexican-American family by Texas A&M Board of Regent member Raul Fernandez.

Other topics to be discussed at the conference, she said, include Mexican-American traditions, history, health, education, folklore and poetry and female roles in society.

Alvarado said there also will be an employment and career fair and a debate on English as the official language as opposed to bilingualism.

The career fair will include 15 Mexican-American professionals from the Bryan-College Station community who serve as role models to students and can give professional advice about how to succeed in the workplace, Alvarado said.

This year's conference is only one of many ways CAMAC tries to promote Mexican-American culture throughout the community.

On Thursday at 7 p.m. in Rudder Theatre, CAMAC will sponsor two short plays about the exploitation of some Mexican-Americans in the past. Alvarado said they also will sponsor the first Mexican-American dance ever to be held on the A&M campus.

"Hispanics are a major part of our history and we feel all of us should know as much about the Hispanic culture as we can," Alvarado said.

"Our organization provides an education that students are often deprived of in the classroom."

Admission to the conference is free and one or all seminars can be attended. For more information, please call the student programs office at 845-1515.

## A&M hires company to dispose of waste

By TODD L. CONNELLEY  
Of The Battalion Staff

Departments on the Texas A&M campus that experiment with hazardous chemicals will have an efficient, safe way to dispose of toxic substances beginning this summer.

Jon Demere, safety coordinator for A&M's Safety and Health Office, developed a systematic method of toxic waste disposal to meet the University's needs.

This summer a company will be contracted to take care of the waste.

The company will go to each department, collect the chemicals and analyze them.

Demere said the chemicals must be properly analyzed and identified before they can be disposed of safely.

"In the past, people would sometimes leave non-labeled bottles out," Demere said. "We are hoping this system will eliminate that."

Demere said that in the past, individual departments were responsible for disposing of their own waste material.

"About five or six years ago, departments would come to us with these unknown chemicals," he said. "It was up to us to analyze them. This was a very expensive process."

Demere said he repeatedly received requests for a better, less expensive system so he talked to A&M officials, who gave him the green light.

"The University is in the process of coming up with a ball-park figure of how much we can spend for the contract," he said.

Demere sent notices to 40 differ-

ent departments in January informing them of the new waste-disposal system.

He said they received seven responses prior to the March 15 deadline.

Once the company identifies and analyzes the waste, it will dispose of it safely.

"There are any number of methods for waste elimination," Demere said. "It's really up to the company how they want to do it. Sometimes waste is recycled or even used for fuel recovery."

## Block-voting tales declared false

Corps leaders say cadets vote for personal choices in elections

By CHRIS VAUGHN  
Of The Battalion Staff

Rumors seem to surface during student election time at Texas A&M that the Corps of Cadets votes as a block to ensure cadets are in positions of leadership, but Corps leaders say the rumors aren't true.

Jonathan Whittles, the recently named 1990-91 Corps commander, said the Corps only votes as a block during Corps primaries to determine yell leader candidates.

Whittles said the Corps does not vote as a block in any other election, citing last year's student body presidential elections when Kevin Buchman, a non-Corps member, defeated Michael Kelley, who was in the Corps.

Clay Whitaker, public relations officer for the Corps, said each cadet is given a list of cadets running for student positions, but no one is forced to vote for the Corps member.

"We don't make it mandatory that they vote," Whitaker, a senior marketing major, said. "We just give them the list to make them aware which people are in the Corps. We don't check on them."

Whittles, a junior wildlife and fisheries science major, said Corps members like other cadets to win, but they vote for candidates who are responsive to Corps needs.

"To a certain extent, the Corps likes Corps



members in leadership positions, but that doesn't always work," he said. "The Corps votes according to how the candidate approaches it."

Whittles said the Corps has a major impact on elections, not because it votes in a block, but because it makes up a large part of those voting.

"The Corps candidates have the advantage be-

cause almost 100 percent of the Corps votes," Whittles said. "At least half or even more of the total number of people who vote are in the Corps. That's just the way it works."

Whittles said the Corps' ability to inform everyone about the candidates also plays a part in the Corps' voting impact.

"We have a better means of getting the word out," Whitaker said. "Most other organizations on campus don't have the system that facilitates it like the Corps. We can inform everyone fairly easily."

Whittles said the practice of having internal primaries to determine yell leader candidates is a Corps tradition.

He said junior and sophomore cadets who want to run for yell leader do things as a group for two weeks leading up to the elections.

That group of cadets, usually about 40 or 50 men, has primaries to name the final candidates for the yell leader positions.

"It's a pretty fair competition," Whittles said. "We narrow the number down so we won't split the Corps vote on the yell leaders."

Whittles said only an unwritten Corps rule keeps other cadets from running for a yell leader position.

"Theoretically, any guy in the Corps who wanted to run for yell leader and didn't make it past the primaries could run," Whittles said. "But there's an unwritten rule that you don't do that."

## Correction

Craig Sandlin was identified incorrectly in Wednesday's Battalion. Sandlin is the student body executive vice president of administration. The other executive vice presidents are Beth Ammons, who is in charge of programming, and Kristin Hay, who is in charge of operations.