

FORECAST
Thursday
 Mostly cloudy
 High low 80s

SPORTS
Basketball analysis
 The ups and downs of the NBA:
 The Spurs and the Rockets.
 page 7

OPINION
 "Are students to blame for asking professors questions pertaining only to test material?"
 — Greg Mt. Joy
 page 2

INSIDE
Tests stolen
 Officials search for 290 Medical College Admission Tests stolen from the University of Texas.
 page 4

The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 143 USPS 045360 10 Pages College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" Wednesday, May 1, 1991

Report predicts cigarette smoking decrease in next decade

By K. Lee Davis
The Battalion

Smoking will decrease over the next 10 years, but a recently released report conducted by a Texas A&M professor states no one knows how drastic the reduction will be.

Dr. Thomas Blaine, an assistant recreation parks and tourism sciences pro-

fessor, found that about 30 percent of the U.S. population continued to smoke in 1990, down from more than half of the total population that smoked cigarettes in the 1960s.

Blaine said he believes there are two scenarios for cigarette consumption in the next 10 years — less smoking or drastically less smoking.

The reasons given for this drop include higher prices and the negative

public attitude toward the smoking habit.

Dr. Jane Cohen, health education coordinator at the A.P. Beutel Student Health Center, said she believes smoking will decline, but adds that there are many problems still

to be faced.

"Experimentation with cigarettes is occurring at younger ages than it has before," Cohen said. "Sixteen percent of young people have had their first cigarette by the sixth grade, rising to 94 percent by the 11th grade."

Cohen said, however, smoking is not declining uniformly. She added that women smokers are decreasing at a slower rate than men, so that they

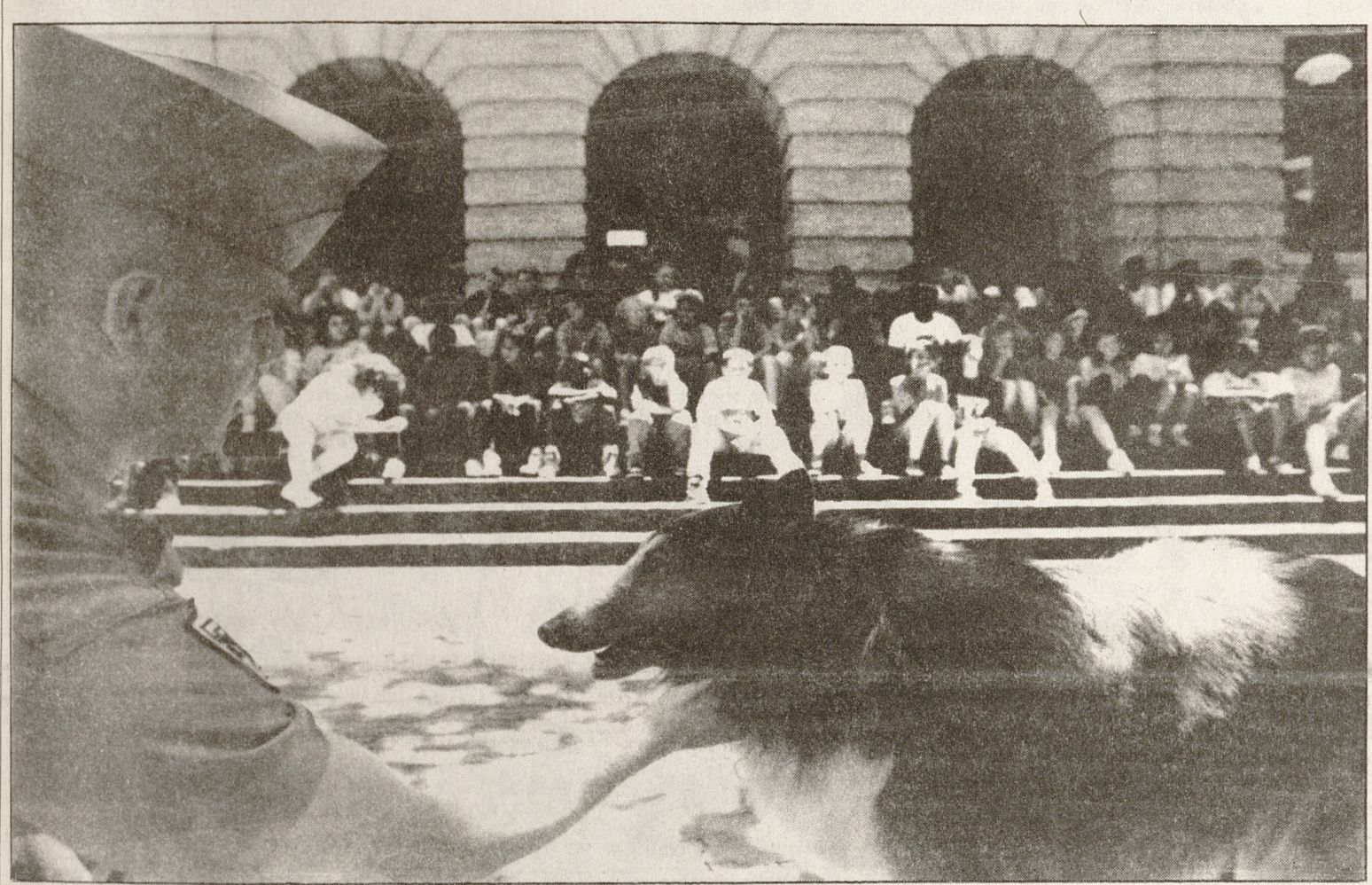
might overtake men in total consumption by the year 2000.

Cohen said she finds this statistic disturbing.

"Women who use oral contraceptives and also smoke have an increased risk of heart attacks and stroke," she said.

Blaine said he believes the decrease

See Risks/Page 8



Reveille struts her stuff
 Greg Riels and Reveille give a personal welcome to a group of visiting elementary school students from Navasota who gathered in front of the Military Sciences Building Tuesday. Riels is Reveille's new keeper. He recently took over caretaker duties from John Draeger.

Committee voices ideas

Top student leaders tackle tough campus issues as advisers to A&M administration

By Timm Doolen
The Battalion

A student advisory committee composed of Texas A&M's top student leaders has met throughout April to better address students' needs, a University administrator said.

Robert Smith, A&M's vice president for finance and administration, said the committee was proposed last fall but did not meet until early April because of procedural difficulties in getting members together.

The student leaders have direct contact with Smith while the arrangement allows communication between students and University administrators.

Smith's office oversees diverse areas of the University including business services, parking and buses, human resources, grounds maintenance, University police, the physical plant and the airport.

The group already has met twice and discussed concerns such as parking, bus operations, the MSC's catering policy and a proposed on-campus banking facility.

David Brooks, speaker of A&M's Student Senate and a member of the advisory committee, said the committee's purpose is to find ways for students to voice their complaints and get answers.

Brooks said the student body now needs to give their input to student leaders, who will then bring it to the attention of Smith and his office during committee meetings.

Off Campus Aggies President Warren Talbot said he believes

See Advisory/Page 6

A&M leads Texas Space Grant Consortium University guides program's growth

By Mack Harrison
The Battalion

The space-grant program, conceived of by an A&M official, has doubled in size since its beginning in 1989.

Dr. Frank Vandiver, director of the Mosher Institute for Defense Studies and a former A&M president, based his idea on the concept of land and sea grant colleges.

The government provides money to sea-grant schools for ocean-related research, and land

grant schools get federal and state funds for agricultural research.

Likewise, space-grant universities receive money from NASA for space-related research.

Vandiver proposed the idea of the space-grant college six years ago.

Dr. Frank Vandiver, (left) proposed the idea of the space-grant college six years ago. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, (right) introduced legislation to establish a space-grant program in 1986.



space-grant program in 1986.

Two years ago, A&M and the University of Texas were the first schools in the state's space-grant program.

Now the Texas Space Grant Consortium includes 23 universities, 18 aerospace and research companies and two state agencies.

The University's engineering and science programs keep A&M at the forefront of the program, officials said.

In addition to the University's aerospace and computer research programs, the Texas Engineering Experiment Station's Space Research Center contributes to the consortium.

Oran Nicks, director of the Center, also serves as the consortium's chairman.

Another A&M official, Asso-

See Program/Page 8

Final exams schedule begins Friday

Final examinations for undergraduate courses begin Friday. The following is a schedule for finals:

Thursday
 Reading day — no classes

Friday
 Final at 7:30 a.m. — Classes meeting on MW at 4:30 or later
 Final at 10 a.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 8 a.m.
 Final at 12:30 p.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 12:30 p.m.
 Final at 3 p.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 11 a.m.

Monday
 Final at 8 a.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 9 a.m.
 Final at 10:30 a.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 12 p.m.
 Final at 1 p.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 8 a.m.
 Final at 3:30 p.m. — Classes meeting on MW at 3 p.m.

Tuesday
 Final at 8 a.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 10 a.m.
 Final at 10:30 a.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 2 p.m.
 Final at 1 p.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 3:30 p.m.
 Final at 3:30 p.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 1 p.m.

Wednesday
 Final at 8 a.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 9:30 a.m.
 Final at 10:30 a.m. — Classes meeting on MWF at 11 a.m.
 Final at 1 p.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 2 p.m.
 Final at 3:30 p.m. — Classes meeting on TR at 5 p.m. or later.

Professor: Language degree not limiting

By Lauri Reysa
Special to The Battalion

Language majors at Texas A&M are dispelling the myth that they can only teach with a language degree, an associate professor in the Modern Language Department said.

"Nothing could be farther from the truth," said Dr. Roger Crockett, who is also a student adviser. "There is a narrow mind set toward language majors. Because there are no clear-cut jobs, like in engineering or business, people are not aware of the job market potential."

Although there are no defined career choices, language majors

do have the potential to choose from a variety of diverse career options, he said.

Most language majors work toward pure, combined or practical knowledge language careers, Crockett said.

The traditional route for language majors has been the pure language track, he said.

"This is where teaching falls," Crockett said. "The usual secondary or college professor has engaged in a pure language career."

Interpreters and translators also fall into this category, he said.

"Translators can be employed by a major company or free-

lance for a translation service," he said.

Crockett said the more glamorous of two is the interpreter, who might work with prominent officials in the United States or overseas.

Another option for language majors might take skills from two areas of a student's education, he said.

A combined career does not require a major in the language but proficiency in a foreign language would be helpful, Crockett said.

"This is a foreign language plus that business would equate with international business,"

Crockett said. "Basically, with a combined career, you combine your foreign language with another skill."

A normal job is internationalized with the language skill, making a person more marketable or competent in a field, he said.

"The ability to speak a foreign language will have more value later in one's career as more ways are found to employ it," he said.

The employee, however, is not the only person to value language fluency, Crockett said. Employers also value language

majors because they are excellent writers and speakers.

"The key is employers know language majors have discipline," he said. "More importantly, they know these people are trainable."

An education in modern languages also provides students with the freedom to choose from a cross section of diverse courses.

Crockett said he believes this well-rounded schooling gives students a broader-based education while providing employers critical information about prospective employees.

"The range of jobs (for language majors) can be just incredible," he said.