

The Battalion

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The *Battalion* news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism.

Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the editorial board or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Texas A&M student body, administrators, faculty or the A&M Board of Regents.

Comments, questions or complaints about any of the editorial content of the newspaper should be directed to either associate editor at 845-3313.

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BATTIPS

The Battalion encourages its readers to contribute story ideas and suggestions by calling BATTIPS, *The Battalion's* phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers.

The BATTIPS number is 845-3315.

Ideas can include news stories, feature ideas and personality profiles of interesting people. Readers also are encouraged to offer any other suggestions that could improve the newspaper.

Construction, convenience, and safety compel PTTs to reroute shuttle buses

By Alysia Woods
The Battalion

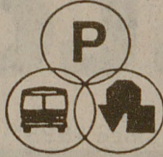
The safety of pedestrians and bicyclists is just one reason why two bus stops were relocated this fall, says Thomas Williams, director of Parking, Traffic and Transit Services.

Williams says the intersection of Ross and Ireland streets, near the Bus Stop Snack Bar, was simply too congested for buses.

"The intersection was very hazardous for buses and pedestrians," Williams says. "Too many students were crossing

that intersection."

The bus stops that were on Ireland Street were Gig 'Em and Traditions. Traditions is the new



BUS OPERATIONS

bus route for last year's Aggeland and 12th Man routes. Both stops, which serve off-campus buses, were moved to Coke

Street this fall near the Psychology Building.

Construction on Ross Street also contributed to the move, Williams says. The street was not designed to have heavy buses traveling over it every day.

"Ross Street was failing and the buses weren't helping the situation," Williams says. "The weight of the buses was causing the cement to break down and crack."

Construction of Ross Street, particularly in front of the Richardson Petroleum Engineering Building, has clouded the street on several occasions dur-

ing the past year.

Finally, the Ireland bus stop location was on the perimeter of the campus, Williams says, making it less convenient for students. The Coke Street location is closer to the center of the campus, he says.

Civil engineering major Troy Schulte, who rides Gig 'Em, says the new bus stop is not any closer to his classes.

"It's a lot further from engineering buildings like Zachry and the Civil Engineering Building," Schulte says. "But I guess it's more convenient for most students in the long run."

Instructors enhance their skills

By Melody Dunne
The Battalion

The Center For Teaching Excellence is possibly one of the best kept secrets on campus, says Dr. Larry Gresham, the new director of the program.

Gresham, also an associate professor of marketing, says the center is designed to assist the Texas A&M faculty in becoming better teachers and motivators. The center is there to help teachers in any way, whether videotaping classes or providing materials, he says.

The Center For Teaching Excellence began in 1983 and Gresham has been director of the program since June.

"We are currently in the process of developing a strategic plan for our program in the University," Gresham says. "Early this semester, the center will be conducting surveys of faculty and students to find beneficial programs the center could provide."

A limited number of incentive grants for innovative teaching are provided every year by the center. Gresham says these grants are mainly used for computers or software.

Large group workshops are given for professors and teaching assistants prior to the Fall and

World cultures available for study

MSC sends A&M students abroad

By Tammy Bryson
The Battalion

Texas A&M students have an opportunity to learn about diverse cultures and be able to get a closer look at the rapidly changing world through the MSC Jordan Institute for International Awareness.

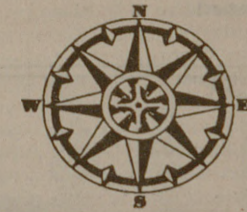
Luke Altendorf, director of the Jordan Institute, said the program provides international travel opportunities to A&M students and also educational studies on different cultures.

"With the world becoming a smaller place through telecommunications, any international experience a student can get is invaluable."

Students can be exposed to international cultures through such programs as the MSC Jordan Institute Fellows Program and the Living Abroad Program, Altendorf said.

"The Fellows Program has intense educational value for the students," said Penelope Bonnen, chairwoman of the Jordan Institute student committee.

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MSC Jordan Institute for
International Awareness

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