

'Challenging, changing our habits' A&M kicks off alcohol awareness week

By Susan Maguire
The Battalion

Students at Texas A&M are joining their fellow students nationwide this week in celebrating the sixth annual National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week.

Jane Purry, assistant coordinator of A&M's Center for Drug Prevention and Education, said the center has been working closely with A&M's events planning committee, which is made up primarily of students.

"The students at A&M obviously feel there is a need for more alcohol awareness, and they have taken it upon themselves to encourage fellow Aggies to lead healthier lifestyles," Purry said.

The theme for the week is "Challenging and Changing Our Habits." Activities began Monday night with an address by former NBA star Spencer Haywood whose career ended in the early '80s, because of a drug and alcohol addiction.

The presentation is co-sponsored by the Athletic Department, the Center for Drug Prevention and Education, the Division of Student Services and the Multicultural Services Program.

Off-Campus Aggies (OCA) sponsored a "Mocktail Madness" party Tuesday with free refreshments, games and prizes.

Elizabeth Pope, public relations director for OCA, said last year's party was an invitation-only affair for faculty and school leaders. Pope said there is an open-door policy now, because all students need to be more aware about responsible party planning.

"It's important that all Aggies pull for each other and help safeguard the lives of all the innocent drivers," she said.

"Sleuth/Death by Alcohol," a mystery game sponsored by Aggies Advocating Designated Drivers, will be from 7 to 9 tonight at 504 Rudder. Prizes will be awarded to those who solve the mystery.

Also, today is T-shirt night at the Lady Aggie volleyball game against Baylor University at 7 p.m.

All students wearing NCAAW T-shirts will be admitted free and will receive a complimentary soft drink. The T-shirts will be available on campus throughout the week. T-shirt night is sponsored by the Athletic Department.

Students will be able to support their favorite residence hall Thursday during "Hall-y-wood Squares," sponsored by the Residence Hall Association.

The halls that will compete are Puryear, Eppright, Davis-Gary, Krueger, Underwood and Hotard.

Some of the players in the squares will include "Rock the Good Ag" and presidents of OCA, the class of '92, the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council. Dave South, the play-by-play commentator for A&M football games, will host the game.

The competition will be from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Davis-Gary quadrangle.

Bobby Barrett, the RHA secretary, said RHA wants to advocate responsible drinking. "The whole purpose of Hall-y-wood Squares is to do that in a fun way," he said.

The final event will be T-shirt day at the A&M/Baylor football game in Waco on Saturday.

A&M students are encouraged to wear their NCAAW T-shirts to the game and participate in a special appreciation activity given by Baylor. This event is a cooperative effort by the NCAAW planning committees at both universities.

Purry said the celebration has expanded every year.

"Every year, the programs get better and better," she said. "Some of them are starting to become traditions here."

Ross Volunteers selects members

By Fernando Del Bosque
Special to The Battalion

Seventy-two junior cadets were selected Monday for the 1991-92 Ross Volunteer Company and for the fifth time in its history, a woman was chosen for the organization.

Christi Evans, a junior psychology major from Ennis, is the female cadet chosen from the 175 cadets who applied.

Frank Guerra, Ross Volunteer company commander, said applicants are chosen for the team based on their accomplishments, grades, character and integrity.

"I've known Christi since she was a freshman, and we've been watching her for the last two years," Guerra said. "She was chosen at large by the committee because of her merit."

Evans, who is also a member of the Aggie Band, said it is an honor to be selected.

"I applied for the Ross Volunteers because it is an honor to be on and I wanted to uphold the 'soldier, statesman and knightly gentlemen' image they portray," Evans said.

The Ross Volunteer Company serves as the official honor guard for the Texas governor.

The company is named after Lawrence Sullivan Ross and was organized in 1887 making it the oldest student organization in Texas. The first year a woman was admitted to the Ross Volunteers was in 1985.

The Ross Volunteer Induction Banquet will be at 6:30 Thursday in the Clayton Williams Alumni Center.

The 1991-1992 Junior Ross Volunteers are as follows:

- Jeffery Carl Birdwell
- Matthew J. Michaels
- Scott Rodgers Olsen
- Jon Mattison Scott
- Chris P. Solis
- Michael Brant Stephenson
- James Thomas Bushong
- Samuel Antonio Byrd
- Frank Javier Lozano
- Chad Conn
- Phillip B. Porter
- Doyle Lewis Stone III
- Bradley Lunde Allgood
- Juan Jose Sanchez
- Theodore Fredrick Meissen
- Julian Dee Sven Jelinek
- James Lee Thomson II
- Eric Wilson Strother
- Ronald Sammy Hancock
- John C. Sweeney
- Stephen Michael Smith
- Michael Thomas Ripley
- Christi Evans
- Randy Saucedo
- Jeremy Noblin
- Kerry T. Merrit
- Robby Reeves
- John Ernst
- Garret Pye
- Robert Goodman
- Lawrence Russell
- Michael Mora
- Ross Malin
- Cary Tschirhart
- Jeremy Schubert
- Russ Gregg
- Gerardo Gonzalez
- Russell Guthrie
- Joshua Brooks
- Michael Sawyer
- Adolfo Garcia
- Charles Hinton
- Andy McGraw
- Chris Oljver
- Tom Kerley
- Michael S. Arnaud
- Adin Pfeuffer
- Christopher Davis
- Craig Sicola
- Roy Acton
- Casey Fischer
- David Baker
- Jason Deis
- Scott David Smith
- Bernardino Elizondo
- Timothy L. Isgitt
- Grey Swening Schroeder
- Earnest Bradley Young
- Kelly Wayne Schmoor
- William Hamilton Dean
- Matt Evans Daniel
- Jesse R. Humphries
- Ryan Colby Rogers
- David Mauris Vaclavik
- Lans Patrick Courtney
- Eric Obergfell
- John L. Thaxton, Jr.
- Lance DeSha McAnelly
- Alvin Jason Rudder
- Douglas Grant This
- David E. Stone
- Rick Bryan Taylor

A&M to research coastline

Agency awards University grant for environmental risk study of off-shore drilling

By Mark Evans
The Battalion

Texas A&M was awarded a \$10.8 million contract from the U.S. Minerals Management Service to conduct research which will allow the agency to better protect the Texas/Louisiana coastline from the risks associated with oil and gas drilling operations.

The three-part project, called the Louisiana/Texas Physical Oceanography Program (LATEX), seeks to build a comprehensive model of water circulation along the coast. This model will allow the agency to better assess the environmental impact of offshore drilling operations.

"The movement of Gulf water influences the stability of structures such as oil platforms, the transport of pollutants, and the ecosystems that may be impacted by oil and gas operations," said Dr. Worth D. Nowlin Jr., project manager of LATEX A.

"We are seeking increased understanding of these water movements and the properties they transport."

LATEX A includes a three-year field program which will begin in April 1992. Currently, the total cost of the program is estimated at \$12.2 million for the entire five-year period.

"If there's an oil spill, it (LATEX) may help us understand where the oil is likely to move based upon the time of year and the winds as well as other factors involved," said Dr. Ann Jochens, deputy program manager of LATEX A at the University.

A&M researchers will focus their efforts on the dynamics of water movement along the continental shelf at depths of up to 200 feet.

Anchored buoys and instruments suspended at different depths will record water currents and wind speeds.

Scientists periodically will make hydrographic cruises into

the Gulf of Mexico's coastal waters to collect data on water salinity, nutrient and oxygen levels, temperature, and light distribution all at varying depths and different locations.

"We're trying to look at what's happening in the water column at these different locations," said Jochens.

By examining this chemical data, researchers can trace the flow of the water, Jochens said.

Through the use of acoustic Doppler current profilers, scientists can calculate the speed at which ocean currents move through the water column, Jochens said.

Penetrating to a depth of 1,300 feet, these instruments measure currents by transmitting sound and listening to the echoes as it scatters after hitting particles in the water.

The team will release drifting buoys near Louisiana and watch them as they move west. The paths taken by the buoys will re-

veal the circulation patterns of coastal waters.

"We want to try to develop models that will take data that has been collected and assimilate it into the model so that we can get a better idea of how water might be moving," Jochens said.

MMS has divided LATEX into three parts. Other parts of the program include a study of the Mississippi River plume and a survey of Gulf eddy circulation along the continental shelf break.

Researchers at A&M will assimilate these results with their own once the program nears completion in five years.

A&M submitted a proposal and bid to MMS for the project. MMS awarded contracts to those groups whose proposal best met their needs.


"We think it's a good program that we've brought to the university," Jochens said. "I think it (LATEX A) will inspire other research in the Gulf of Mexico by A&M faculty. That can only be good."

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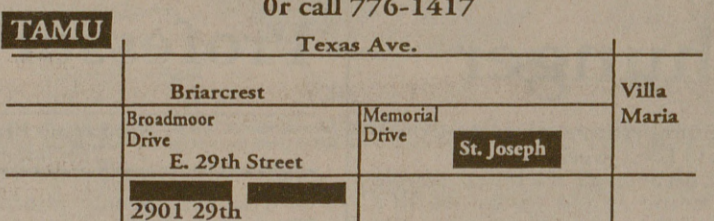
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