

A&M agency links education, research efforts

By Tanya Sasser
The Battalion

The Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) is "bridging boundaries" by strengthening the bond between research and education at Texas A&M.

TEES is an agency of the Texas A&M University System whose purpose is to conduct research in all engineering disciplines, said Laura Nowlin, TEES director of information and publication.

"Most people don't realize the amount of paperwork that is necessary to get money for research and to actually conduct the research," Nowlin said. "TEES is responsible for managing that paperwork."

TEES also helps put together proposals when a certain department is applying for a grant.

"Basically TEES brings money into the system," Dr. Richard Hall, deputy director of TEES, said. "Eighty-five to 87 percent of TEES funds go back into the University."

Agency researchers brought in \$32.4 million in contracts and grants last year for a wide range of research projects.

"TEES is the primary agency through which we do engineering

research in the College of Education," Hall said. "About 99.9 percent of the school of engineering works through TEES."

Most of the present TEES researchers are A&M faculty members within the College of Education, Nowlin said. Because of the rapid growth of TEES, the number of researchers from other universities is increasing, as are programs within those institutions.

Nowlin said TEES is also beginning to collaborate research efforts with other countries. Joint study projects involving faculty and students from the United States and Mexico are being planned.

"We are forming some agreements with some Mexican agencies which highlights our theme of 'bridging boundaries.'"

Former TEES Director Herbert Richardson was recently named to the chancellorship of The Texas A&M University System. Through Dr. Richardson's leadership, support for TEES' research has tripled.

"Since Dr. Richardson was appointed chancellor, it has been a time of change for TEES," Nowlin said.

"We have so many projects going on at one time, we can't report on all of them," she said.

Health worker quits amid HIV scare

'Our town is scarred; Her credibility is zero,' newspaper editor says

BOGOTA, Texas (AP) — In a town as small as this, everyone seems to know his neighbor.

Except no one seems to know the area's most visible resident, Dona Spence, the health worker who alerted residents three months ago that 36 area teens were carrying the HIV virus.

But now health officials say they can neither verify nor dispute the numbers, and Spence has quit her job.

"It's going to take a long time for this town to recover from this," Denise Wood, editor of the weekly Bogata News, said Thursday, the day after Spence unexpectedly resigned from the Ark-Tex Council of Govern-

ments. "Our town is scarred," Wood said. "Her credibility is zero."

Three weeks ago, the small East Texas town made headlines when the Dallas Morning News reported that area high school basketball teams were refusing to play nearby Rivercrest High School because of Spence's chilling information.

The resulting publicity, Wood said, has turned a cheerful, farming community into one hurt and distrustful of outsiders.

"This is a town where you leave your keys in the car when you go to the store," she said. "The whole town is very anti-Dona right now."

But Rivercrest students continue to direct their anger at the media.

"I don't think they're mad at her because they didn't believe her in the first place," said 18-year-old Tiffany Parish.

"And besides," Parish said, "Hoax or not, Spence accomplished her original mission to educate the area about AIDS."

As for Spence, she has changed her telephone number and remained out of sight. There was no one at her home Wednesday night or Thursday.

"Now they know it can happen," Parish said.

But Dona Spence and the furor she has sparked remain the talk of the town.

Ladies pay to play at charity auction

By Alysia Woods
The Battalion

Local ladies paid big bucks Wednesday night for eligible bachelors from the Bryan-College Station area in the fifth annual "Dream Date" Bachelor Auction sponsored by the Sundance Club in the Hilton in College Station.

This year's proceeds from the event went to the Sheltering Arms Emergency Shelter, a licensed emergency shelter for abused, neglected and abandoned children. The shelter is a branch of the Twin City Mission, a local non-profit organization.

Kevin Wood, administrator of

the shelter, said the proceeds will be used for several projects, primarily a new shelter.

"We're in the beginning stages of getting a new shelter," Wood said. "We're looking at land right now."

Sheltering Arms provides a temporary home for children under 18 until a permanent home, such as a foster home, is found. The shelter also provides free counseling for children and their families.

The auction featured 24 area bachelors. Admission of \$1 was collected at the door and everyone was allowed to bid.

Leigh Kubin, chairperson of the Bachelor Auction Committee said

the shelter was a good choice for this year's auction.

"They (the shelter) are really in need of food and clothing for the children," Kubin said. "Basically, they don't get any state funding."

Kubin said the auction, which is always a success, chooses different charities each year. Past charities have included the Muscular Dystrophy Association and prenatal clinics.

Bachelors that were auctioned included local students, physicians, waiters and club managers. Ages of the bachelors ranged from 21 to 45.

Each bachelor was introduced by emcees Brooke Stevens and Chris Scott and modeled on a run-

way. Some danced and the crowd cheered when a few bachelors stripped.

The highest bid went to local television reporter for KBTX, Jose Thomas, who sold for \$425. Texas A&M quarterback Bucky Richardson was scooped up for \$400. Each bachelor had their own plans for the date with the person who bid the highest.

One onlooker commented on the courage of the bachelors.

"I sure wouldn't do it," said David Todaro, a Blinn student.

Bachelor Joe Gimblet said he was not having much fun, although it was for a good cause.

"Now I know how some girls feel," Gimblet said.

Chief plans community policing

Continued from Page 1

"I feel confident and think we have a quality program," he said. "But down the road, there might be some things we'll want to look at."

One of the programs Feldman hopes to develop is community policing. An officer presently patrols the Southgate area in College Station - bordered by George Bush Drive, Dexter Drive, Hollman Drive and Wellborn Road.

The program involves officers on foot patrolling door-to-door

and speaking with residents about crime.

Feldman, who says he "bleeds Aggie maroon," earned a degree in education from Texas A&M, and then played professional baseball for six years as a pitcher with the San Francisco Giants.

After Feldman left baseball because of a bad arm in 1965, he returned to College Station without any plans about what he was going to do. Then some acquaintances told him about an opening for a police officer.

"My friends asked me if I want-

ed to be a police officer, and I said 'You've got to be kidding,'" he said.

Feldman said after about a week or two of thinking about it, he decided to join the force and has stayed with it.

Brymer said Feldman brings a strong sense of loyalty and devotion to the community and the department, as well as a strong sense of vision about departmental goals for the future.

"He brings a lot of strong expertise to police work," Brymer said.

Students give views on war

Continued from Page 1

whenever asked upon. Many A&M students who served in the Gulf attended the rally and gave their testimonials and opinions about the war.

Mike Yeager, a junior psychology major from Galveston who is also in the Marine Reserves, said he volunteered to blow up mine fields in Kuwait.

"There were guys there who were married and had kids," he said. "I felt it was the right thing to do."

John Fernandez, a sophomore at A&M, dropped out of school to serve in the Persian Gulf.

"I was proud to serve and have no regrets in serving my country to its fullest capacity," said Fernandez, a Marine.

A handful of students protested the rally's glorification of war and the killing of innocent people.

"I don't think this war should be celebrated as a victory," said protester Mark Fletcher, a research associate in chemical engineering at A&M.

Many of the people who were

killed were innocent civilians who had nothing to do with the war, he added.

"I feel it (the war) was unnecessary in the first place," said protester Kade Roberts. "It was highly politically motivated and could have been avoided."

The rally was not meant to be a pro-war effort, said Brandi Smith, vice-president of public relations for College Republicans.

"It was meant to show our support, to commemorate and to honor those who served and are still serving in Desert Storm," she said.

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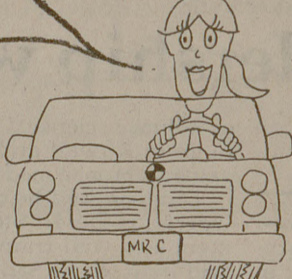
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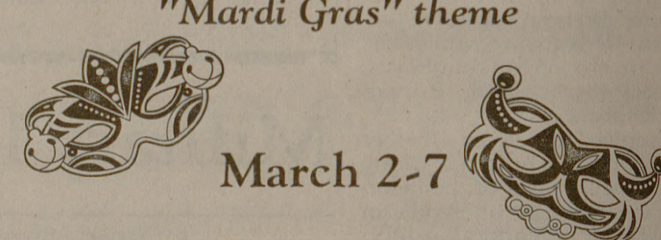
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