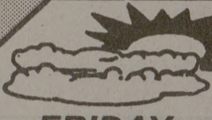


**FORECAST**



**FRIDAY**  
Partly cloudy  
Highs in 80s  
Lows in 60s


**OPINION**

**"I do think everyone needs the concept of hell."**  
-Stacy Feducia columnist

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**LIFESTYLES**

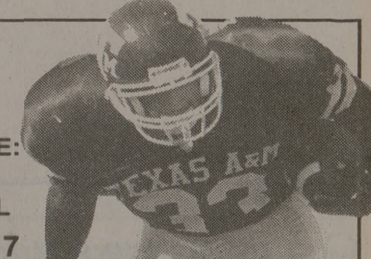
**AGGIE WRANGLERS**  
make their cable TV debut on The Nashville Network



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**SPORTS**

**LAST CHANCE:**  
Aggies aspire for shot at NFL



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# The Battalion

Vol. 91 No. 137 College Station, Texas "Serving Texas A&M since 1893" 12 Pages Thursday, April 23, 1992

## Additional funds save summer courses, increase sections

**By Michael Q. Sullivan**  
*The Battalion*

Additional funds from the Office of the Provost for Texas A&M will not only save current summer courses in the liberal arts and science colleges, but will also allow more sections to be opened, according to an assistant provost. He warns, however, that the problem is not going to go away.

"We have provided some additional funds to the College of Liberal Arts," said G. Dan Parker, assistant provost for Texas A&M. "The message is, if the cuts continue, the students are going to start seeing it

in the instructional program. Sooner or later, if the cuts continue, it's going to show up big time in the instruction (program). We have not started planning on the summer of '93 yet, but right now it's going to be a problem."

Parker said the colleges will open additional sections and recruit new instructors, lecturers and graduate assistants. He said that the science and liberal arts col-

leges have been the hardest hit by budget problems and lack of courses.

"That's where the core of the teaching is done in any university," he said. "Everybody has to take history, math and English, regardless of major. As far as standing on the edge of the instructional budget, those are the two that are right there. Anytime budget cuts come up, some of it spills off into them."

Parker said his office wants class size this summer to be the same as last year.

"We want to provide for the same number of opportunity — the number of seats available to students (as last year)," he said. "We've communicated that to sci-

ence and liberal arts and we think we've finally reached equilibrium.

"Evidently all the courses haven't been reopened, but they should. The deans' offices have assured us that we will approach that number."

Charles Johnson, associate dean for the College of Liberal Arts, said although the summer sessions are out of danger, the future is still uncertain.

"This summer is not in jeopardy," he said. "There will be some impact in the next year or two and the college is struggling."

Johnson said offerings in liberal arts, and specifically English, will be increased,

especially in high enrollment and problem areas, but was cautious about the long-term situation.

"We are going to increase the number of seats available — seats that aren't on the books right now — with the help of the departments and the provost's office," he said. "We are in the process of redressing that (summer courses) and I suspect there will be additional courses and sections for the fall and spring, thanks to the help of the provost's office."

"It still may not match the course and seat offerings of last year, but we will

See Diverted funds/Page 10

## Barton appears at Bryan meeting

**By Reagon Clamon**  
*The Battalion*

Rep. Joe Barton came to the Bryan Library Wednesday to tell residents, among other things, he is still their representative.

The Republican Congressman traveled to Bryan to participate in a "town meeting" with the residents of Congressional District 6, expressing his opinions on various issues and fielding questions from constituents.

Barton started the meeting by clearing up a misunderstanding he said seemed to be prevalent in his district.

"I am still the representative for Brazos County," he said. "I will be the representative — unless there is an act of God — until January 1993."

Under the new district lines that will go into effect next January, Brazos County will be split between District 8, which includes Houston, and District 5, which includes Dallas — and will no longer be a part of Barton's district.

Barton said he will continue to fight the redistricting.

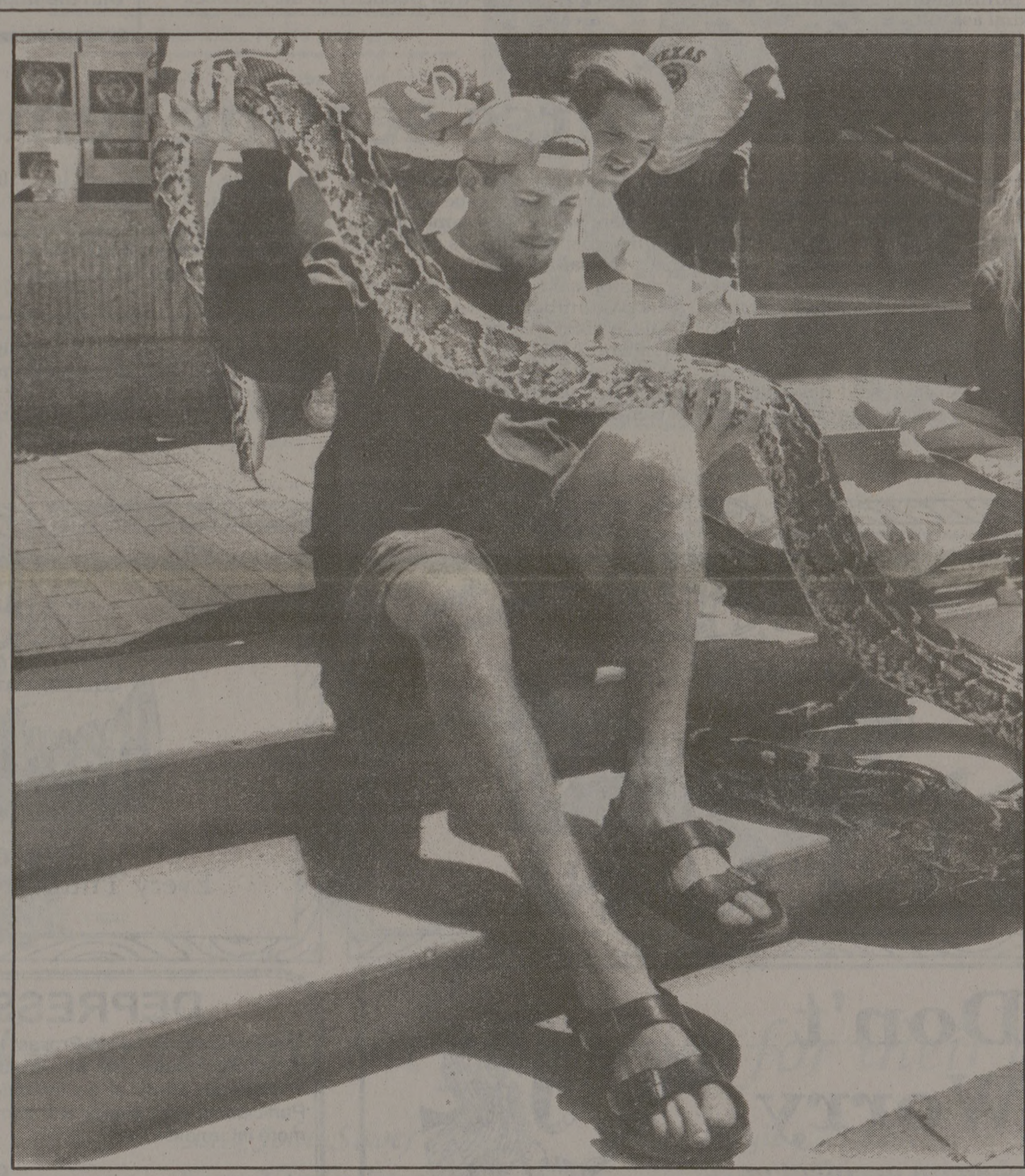
"We have a court case pending in Austin under a three-judge Federal panel," Barton said. "The case will be heard in the spring of 1993 and I am still optimistic the Federal court will throw out the plan the state legislature adopted."

Barton said if the Federal court



Barton

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ROBERT J. REED/The Battalion

## Snake's alive!

Todd Traylor, a graduate of Texas A&M, plays with his 15-foot Burmese python, Natasha, at TEAC's Earth Day 1992 at Rudder Fountain Wednesday. Traylor's exhibit was to show people snakes and dispel some of the myths

about them. He was also letting people know about the destruction of the snakes' natural habitat. The objective of Earth Day is to teach people more about the planet and how we affect and hurt it, and how we can help it.

## Explosions in Mexico kill 184

Multiple blasts devastate Guadalajara; leaders deploy military to keep order

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP) — A series of explosions in the sewer system ripped open streets, flattened buildings and hurled trucks and cars in the air in Mexico's second largest city Wednesday. Witnesses said 184 bodies had been recovered, and 600 people were reported injured.

The federal government sent the army to keep order in the city of three million, where telephone, electricity and water services had been cut.

At least nine explosions beginning at 10:30 a.m. (12:30 p.m. EDT) blasted enormous craters, tossed trucks and buses on their sides and left jagged trenches along Gante Avenue and other streets in the Reforma district of southeastern Guadalajara.

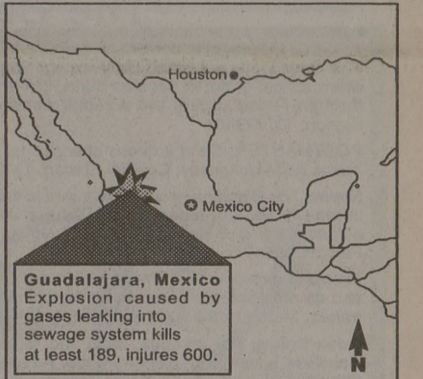
Some residents of the lower- to middle-class neighborhood hacked feverishly at rubble with picks and axes as they searched through the day for neighbors. At least 700 rescue workers were searching for victims.

Rescuers helped free passengers trapped in a bus that fell into a hole caused by the blast. Cars were crushed by falling debris or flipped over like children's toys.

Some residents wandered aimlessly among the ruins.

Others stumbled through the debris in tears, their clothing shredded.

A statement by Pemex, Mexico's state oil monopoly, said the



STEPHEN TREXLER/The Battalion

explosions in the southeastern Reforma district were caused by liquid hexane, used to extract edible oils from seeds. The hexane leaked from a private cooking oil factory, La Central, into the sewage system, Pemex said.

Even in cool weather, a spark can ignite hexane violently.

The city's fire chief claimed the explosions were caused by gasoline. Residents said the stink of a gas had filled the air for at least a day. Hexane's smell resembles that of kerosene.

"The leaders of the police and fire department of Guadalajara should be tried as those responsible for the catastrophe," Homero Aridjis, the poet and leader of Mexico's biggest environmentalist group, said in an interview in Mexico City.

## Issue of abortion faces toughest battle in 19 years

### MSC Political Forum debate addresses controversial topic

**By Matari Jones**  
*The Battalion*

Women will exercise the right to an abortion with or without the blessing of the government. Abortion is the destruction of human beings.

These were the opposing viewpoints presented Wednesday evening at a debate sponsored by the MSC Political Forum.

"The decision concerning an abortion — in both practical and moral terms — lies with the woman, and no one is going to change that," said Susan Nenny, director of communications for Planned Parenthood of Houston.

"Abortion is always the taking of a human life," said Dr. Joseph Graham, president of the Texas Right to Life Committee and a

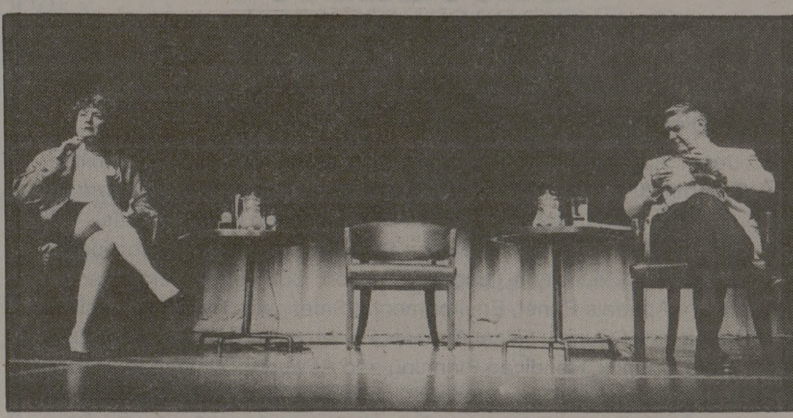
professor at St. Thomas University in Houston.

Rural people, poor people, young adults and specifically women of color will be hurt the most if abortions are made less available and more expensive, Nenny said.

Regardless of legislation, each woman will decide for herself — as did her mother and grandmother — if they need to seek an abortion.

Graham said that since Roe vs. Wade, enough babies have died by abortion to populate the State of California or the country of Canada.

If the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion is overturned, abortion will no longer be a constitutionally protected right and the issue will be decided and controlled by indi-



ROBERT REED/The Battalion

Susan Nenny, a pro-choice advocate, and pro-lifer Dr. Joseph Graham discuss the abortion issue at a MSC Political Forum debate.

vidual state legislatures, Graham said.

Abortion has polarized political parties, politicized churches, and split families, Nenny said. It is now a political and, therefore, a governmental issue. She said the "anti-choice" movement puts the government squarely in the bed-

room — directly between husband and wife.

Nenny asked the audience to think of themselves as the government and answer the following questions:

"If you were the government at

See Speakers/Page 10

### Pro-choice groups, Bush pressure Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (AP) — With legalized abortion potentially in the balance, the Supreme Court on Wednesday was urged by an abortion-rights advocate to keep women from returning to "back alleys for their health care" while the Bush administration pressed for protection of "those who will be born."

Activists on both sides of the national debate carried placards and chanted slogans outside the court building as the justices presided over a low-key but high-stakes argument in a Pennsylvania case.

Both sides predicted the court's conservative majority

would uphold the restrictive state law in an election-year decision expected by July. Among other things, the law imposes a 24-hour waiting period and requires married women to tell their husbands before getting abortions.

The greater question is whether the decision will reverse or drastically undermine the court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade ruling that abortion is a fundamental constitutional right.

The Supreme Court in 1986 struck it down, by a 5-4 vote. Three members of that five-justice majority are retired now. The Court today is seen as far more hostile to abortion.