

# The Battalion

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"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

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## Center features Corps memorabilia, history



Joe Fenton, '58, stands in front of the Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center where he works as curator.

By MARK EVANS

Reporter of THE BATTALION

A jeep welcomes visitors at the north entrance while a bronze sculpture of Reveille I, donated by the classes of '33, '34, '35 and '36, waits at the south entrance. Past and present guidons (penants identifying corps units and carried during formation) hang from the ceiling.

The new Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center offers visitors a glimpse of both the past and present Corps, featuring exhibits on such Corps classics as Final Review and the Ross Volunteers.

The \$3.2 million center, which formally opens on Sept. 12, was funded entirely by private donations.

Exhibits explain both the history and the everyday life of the cadets. One display case shows how Corps uniforms have changed over the years while pictures along the walls illustrate the transition freshmen cadets undergo from high school to their first days on the Quadrangle.

Former students have donated everything from sabers to old yearbooks to the center, Curator Joe Fenton said. Old photographs, medals and other objects of Corps life decorate the display cases.

"We have had quite a bit of interesting memorabilia come in, and we will probably continue to highlight major events in the life of the Corps."

The Hall of Honor will pay tribute to former Corps members who have been selected as out

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## Teen found guilty in rape of student

College Station jury recommends 99 years, no probation

By REAGON CLAMON

Reporter for The Battalion

A jury recommended a College Station teen be sentenced to 99 years and fined \$5,000 last night after he pleaded guilty to abducting and raping a female Texas A&M student last spring.

Christopher Lee Worthington, 17, of College Station was found guilty after three days of testimony and a four and a half hour deliberation by the jury.

The jury recommended Judge Carolyn Ruffino of the 361st District court not grant probation when she sentences Worthington.

Worthington pleaded guilty to the first degree felony on Tuesday after the victim took the stand and described her ordeal in detail to the mostly female jury.

Raymond Gutierrez, the co-defendant in the case, pleaded guilty last Thursday after accepting a

plea bargain that guaranteed him an aggravated sexual assault charge with the jury recommending 40 years in prison.

Yesterday, jurors listened to Worthington describe to Defense Attorney Neely Lewis how he and Gutierrez went out the night of Feb. 20, looking for a car to "jack" (a method of car theft in which the criminal steals a car at gunpoint from the owner).

Worthington said he was carrying a .22-caliber rifle which he planned to use in the theft. He and Gutierrez approached an apartment complex parking lot, hiding the rifle in a bush.

When the victim's '90 Ford Tempo pulled up close to the two, Worthington said he approached with the gun and told the victim to get out of her car. Worthington told the jury the victim thought he and Gutierrez were joking.

After telling her he "was serious," Worthington told the victim

to move over and he drove the vehicle away from the parking lot and on a two and a half hour drive, during which time the victim was raped four times, including being forced to perform oral sex on Worthington.

Worthington said he and Gutierrez tied-up the victim and gagged her, leaving her in the parking lot of Oakwood Middle School in College Station.

Worthington told Lewis that as he walked away from the victim he felt remorse.

"The very last time I saw her, I saw the fear I had caused her," Worthington said. "I thought, 'How the hell can you do such a damn thing?'"

Assistant District Attorney Deena McConnell asked Worthington to describe the sexual as

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## Quake, tidal waves strike Nicaragua

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MASACHAPA, Nicaragua — Splintered huts and buildings littered a 200-mile swath of Nicaragua's coast Wednesday following a tidal wave that killed at least 36 people and left thousands homeless. Dozens were missing, and rescue workers expected the death toll to rise.

A major earthquake at sea caused a wall of water up to 30 feet high to sweep over most of the Nicaraguan coast. It submerged islands and rolled more than a half mile inland in some spots, destroying beachfront homes and hotels and scattering wrecked boats and cars.

The surge of water sucked people and small buildings out to sea as it retreated.

Nicaragua's government appealed urgently for international aid.

"The sea took us by surprise. All of sudden, I was swimming inside my own home, and all my furniture was floating around me," said Socorro Lopez, 47, who lost two grandchildren in Masachapa, a beach resort of about 2,000 people south of the capital, Managua.

"This huge wave swallowed us house and all. Now I'll never be able to bring my grandchildren back," the woman said, sobbing, as the recovered bodies of the 4-year-old boy and 2-year-old girl were laid out nearby.

Eight of the nine confirmed dead in Masachapa were children.

Lt. Col. Ricardo Wheelock, an army spokesman,

said preliminary figures indicated 36 people were known dead, 44 missing and 142 injured. More than 300 houses were destroyed, he said.

Jose Adan Guerra, vice minister of the presidency, said more bodies were being found.

Unconfirmed radio reports said there were more than 50 deaths.

In Geneva, U.N. officials said the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies reported at least 64 dead. They said the United Nations would release \$30,000 to buy urgent supplies.

The missing included at least 12 fishermen lost at sea near Masachapa, Red Cross officials said.

The earthquake, which registered 7 on the Richter scale struck, at 6:16 p.m. and was centered 75 miles southwest of Managua, according to the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo.

Aftershocks followed, and the center said they likely would continue for days but probably would not cause damage.

Nonetheless, authorities evacuated thousands of people from coastal areas and wailing ambulances sped through towns picking up the injured and dying.

The earthquake was among the most damaging to hit Nicaragua since a 1972 quake measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale devastated the capital, killing 5,000 people.

A quake of 7 is considered a "major" earthquake capable of causing widespread heavy damage. The Richter scale is a measure of ground motion as recorded on seismographs.

## Traffic signals set to save motorists money

By TANYA SASSER

Staff Writer of THE BATTALION

Even though gas prices may not be dropping, it is now cheaper for motorists in College Station to operate a vehicle.

The city's traffic signalization system has been completely synchronized in order to reduce the number of starts and stops motorists must make.

Mark Schoenemann, traffic system manager for College Station, said according to research conducted by the Public Utilities Department, this project will save

motorists millions of dollars in fuel costs annually.

"What we did was completely overhaul the signal system," he said. "We put in new traffic controllers everywhere and we purchased new computer software."

The Public Utilities Department worked with Barton-Aschman, a company out of Dallas, to carry out the research and implementation of the project.

Dave Carter, an associate of Barton-Aschman, said the new system should prove to be highly beneficial for College Station motorists.

"This should help out College

Station by increasing travel mobility," he said. "In addition, there should be fewer repairs needed, fewer breakdowns, and less need for maintenance."

Studies were conducted before and after the signal operation change in order to determine the effects of the new system.

"A lot of the traffic counts were done by A&M students," Carter said. "Through existing data, we determined fuel consumption and the number of stops."

The project was possible due to a \$240,000 grant from the state.

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## A&M invites fast food chains to set up in Sbis

By SHARON GILMORE

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Texas A&M is awaiting responses to bids which would allow fast food restaurants to operate in the basement of Sbis Dining Hall.

Over 20 food operators were sent invitations, and advertisements were placed in several newspapers according to Robert Smith, A&M's vice president of finance and administration.

El Chico, Fuddrucker's, Jack in the Box, Long John Silvers, Scholtzsky's, Subway, Taco Cabana, Taco Bell and I Can't Believe It's Yogurt are just a few of the vendors who were sent invitations to bid for some of the 10,000 square feet available in the basement of Sbis, Smith said.

"The Request for Proposals (RFP) were sent out several weeks ago," Robert Smith said.

"By September 14th we will know what interests the private sectors have for this proposal," he said.

Smith said he plans to brief the Board of Regents on the proposal's progress in September.

"The ultimate decision will be made by the Board of Regents," Smith said.

A&M is seeking approval soon so that operations can begin in January 1993, Smith said.

Fast food places take up all the street corners across the country but are looking to expand into

other areas, said Lloyd Smith, food services director.

"Fast food chains are looking for new avenues to expand and some of the new avenues are non-traditional locations like college campuses, airports, hospitals, schools, business and industry," Lloyd Smith said.

Students could have the option to select from a variety of well-known restaurants, Robert Smith said. The proposal for brand names on campus has come about because of students' interests.

"I think they want it," Robert Smith said. "What we envisioned was a food court in the basement of Sbis," Robert Smith said.

Lloyd Smith said most fast food businesses that move onto college campuses develop express menus and use downsized facilities.

"There is not a high cost to get into that," Lloyd Smith said.

Downsizing a facility and operating out of a building on campus will eliminate building costs. Fast food on campus would operate out of a carts or kiosks.

National advertising is the main reason for interests in putting branded concepts anywhere, Lloyd Smith said.

"A lot of people eat at certain restaurants because they know what they are getting," Lloyd Smith said.

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## B-CS financial institutions offer many student services

By MONIQUE N. LUNSFORD

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Whether a student writes many checks or just wants security for an emergency, Bryan-College Station banks offer a variety of services to satisfy the demands of students.

Benefits in the form of low cost checking accounts, savings accounts and interest-bearing accounts designed specifically with the student in mind are available to help individuals manage their finances and to cater to their different spending habits.

First American Bank provides the Twelfth Man checking account which has no minimum balance requirement or service charge. However, an initial deposit of \$100 and a setup fee of \$12 are required to open the account.

For the student who writes a lot of checks, First American also offers the Advantage checking account that includes a \$3 monthly service charge, 25 "free" debits per month, and no minimum balance requirement.

The interest-bearing NOW account and the regular savings account that allows the student three free withdrawals over a statement period are other options for students at First American.

Any student can benefit from

these services, said Winnie Garner, a bank officer in the marketing department of First American.

"I think the main feature is that we can offer something for everyone. We have checking accounts and savings accounts designed to meet the individual needs of each student," she said.

At First City Texas the Value checking account has the least amount of fees for students with a service charge of \$2.50. There is no minimum balance requirement and a \$50 minimum opening deposit.

Also, the bank offers a variable interest-bearing savings account that requires a \$100 initial deposit, a minimum daily balance requirement of \$200 with no service charge, and the student can use his ATM card to access this savings account or his checking account.

"Students basically use their checks to pay their bills," said Nicole Bewley, a new accounts representative at First City. "And then they use their ATM cards and make most of their purchases with cash."

Nations Bank now offers a student checking account for which students must pay a \$60 annual fee, but there is no monthly service charge for one year. The ac-

count has a \$25 startup deposit and no required minimum balance.

Breaux Daniel, the banking center manager at Nations, said the main concept behind this account is that students do not have to worry about balances and service charges.

Students who are minimal check writers can choose the Economy checking account at Nations Bank which has a 10-debit monthly limit, a \$3 monthly service charge, and a \$25 first deposit requirement.

Also, the Resource banking account and the Reward-Plus account, both interest-bearing, are also available.

Commerce National Bank offers the Freedom account which has no limit on the number of checks that can be written, but a \$200 minimum balance must be maintained.

The bank also has an interest-bearing savings account that allows the student three withdrawals at no charge and no service fee as long as the balance remains \$50 or more.

Students can contact these institutions for more information about special student services.