

Bonfire cut classes prepare students for tradition

Aggies learn lessons of on-site safety

By CHERYL HELLER

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Classes to prepare students for this year's cut for Texas Aggie Bonfire were held Tuesday at the Grove at 6 and 7 p.m.

The 30-minute classes provided students with a humorous look at how to cut down trees, how to dress for bonfire cut and some general safety tips to follow during the cut.

Licia Pratt, a freshman general studies major, attended the class to be part of the annual tradition that reflects Aggies' burning desire to beat the University of Texas in their annual Thanksgiving Day football game.

"I think it'll be fun to at least attempt to cut down a tree," Pratt said. "The class was very funny, and I think I learned what I need to know."

Todd McGehee, a senior microbiology major and resident adviser, attended the class to be informed if the residents in his dorm have any questions concerning bonfire cut.

"As an R.A., I think it's important for me to participate for the

benefit of the residents," McGehee said.

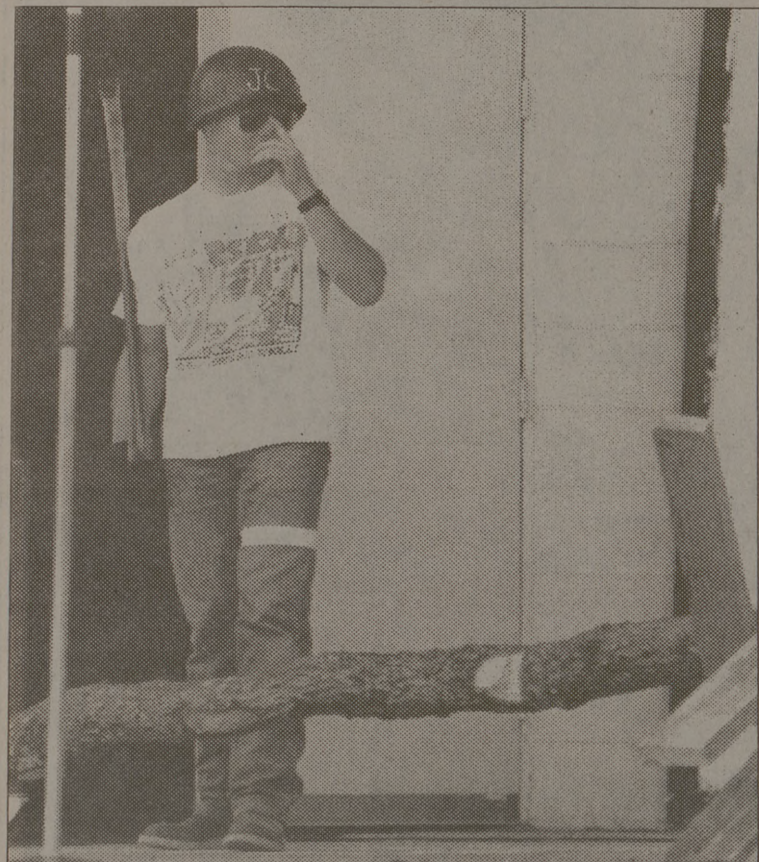
One student, however, did not feel that the classes were informative enough. Wendy Dalchau, a sophomore psychology major, doesn't feel that she learned enough to actually cut down a tree.

"I attended the class, and it was a lot of fun, but I don't think it was taken seriously enough," Dalchau said.

Students must attend cutting class in order to participate in bonfire cut. Students who attended cutting classes received cutting stickers that allow them on the cutting site in Snook. Those who didn't attend a cutting class will be given the opportunity to participate in a class given in the parking area at the cutting site.

Dan Tracy, a senior civil engineering major, is a brown pot in charge of equipment maintenance. According to Tracy, the first bonfire cut is a "double cut," the weekend of Sept. 26 and 27.

Centerpole is scheduled to arrive at the Texas A&M polo fields Oct. 22 and is scheduled to be raised Oct. 29.



RANDALL NICHOLS/The Battalion

Shannon Caldwell shows how to cut a tree at Bonfire cut classes.



RANDALL NICHOLS/The Battalion

Kirk Anderson, a senior Bonfire Climber, watches the crowd at Cut classes held Tuesday night in the Grove. The classes taught students how to keep Cut safe and how to handle the equipment.

Educators discuss program to fund international studies for graduates

By BRANDI JORDAN

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Representatives from the state's higher education institutions met at Texas A&M University Wednesday to examine how to best implement the National Security Education Program. The day-long seminar was an opportunity for higher education officials and business leaders in Texas to make recommendations for implement-

ing the National Security Education Act of 1991.

Texas A&M President Dr. William H. Mobley opened the session with a welcome for those attending, which included Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs E. Dean Gage, representatives from the Mosher Institute for International Policy Studies and the Study Abroad Program. Rhonda Snider, director of Texas A&M's Office of Inter-

national Coordination, said the legislation is an attempt to correct U.S. deficiencies in international studies. She says educators believe it is one of the most important federal initiatives in international education since the creation of the Fulbright Program in the 1940s.

"We hope to be able to develop a network of higher education officials who can work together and better implement any funding opportunities that may

arise," Snider said.

The act calls for using an unspecified amount of defense funds to enhance international education of university graduates. John Richey, a National Defense Fellow on a one-year assignment with the Mosher Institute, said the grants were an important part of educating students regarding domestic as well as international political issues. "We want to learn about the grants and see if it's possible to obtain

some of the money so that we can be credited to teach courses."

The Mosher Institute provides facts and opinions concerning what international policy should be in the United States. Under the legislation, a federal trust fund will be established to provide program support in three major areas: graduate fellowships, grants to universities and scholarships for undergraduates to study abroad.

Police arrest man accused of beating informant

By MARK EVANS

Staff Writer of THE BATTALION

The FBI arrested a painter working on renovations in the basement of the Chemistry Building Monday morning.

Wesley David Whittaker was arrested in response to an indictment handed down in Sherman, Texas, charging Whittaker with conspiracy and obstruction of justice.

"Whittaker and others conspired and then, in fact, retaliated against a victim, witness or informant by causing bodily injury," said Bryan FBI agent Mike Williamson, reading the indictment.

Whittaker and others stand accused of using a baseball bat and a set of nunchakus, a Japanese weapon, to physically harm a federal informant.

The victim had been providing federal authorities with information regarding an ongoing investigation into violations of the Lacey Act (the act involves the selling of commercial game fish), Williamson said.

Det. Sgt. David Villareal of the University Police Department went with the FBI agents to pick up Whittaker.

"It went without incident," he said. "He was very cooperative."

Whittaker was working on the renovations as a painter for a subcontracting company, Texhoma, when he was arrested, Villareal said. Whittaker was taken to Houston Monday where he was placed in the custody of the U.S. Marshal. He was slated to appear before a judge on Wednesday.

If convicted of both charges, Whittaker may face a 15-year prison term and a \$260,000 fine.

Proper precautions lessen risk of crime

By CPL. BETTY LeMAY

Special to THE BATTALION

Residence hall security and personal safety are a shared responsibility. Any time the outside doors to your residence hall are unlocked or illegally propped open, no one can regulate the traffic into the hall. Unfortunately, not all visitors have friendly intentions. One resident who chooses to prop open an outside door will compromise the safety and security of all the residents in the hall.

Small pebbles, coins, paper racks and pizza boxes or any object used to leave the door unsecured could lead to disciplinary charges and even eviction from the hall.

Many students develop a false sense of security while living in a university environment.

Texas A&M is a city of over 40,000 and is open to a neighboring community of over

100,000. It is naive to think that we live in a totally safe society.

Some things you can do to lower your chances of becoming the victim of a property or violent crime are:

Never prop doors open or let strangers into a hall.

Always lock your room door.

Even when you are only gone for short periods.

Do not give anyone the keys to your room or hall doors.

Report immediately to the University police and hall staff: solicitors, strangers, obscene or irritating phone calls, and all suspicious activity.

Remember clothing description, height, weight, direction of travel and a license plate number are important to apprehend offenders.

If you have questions concerning resident

hall policy, talk with your resident advisers.

For crime prevention information or to schedule a seminar, contact the crime prevention unit at 845-8900 or 845-6713.

The following incidents were reported by the University Police Department for the period between Aug. 27 - Sept. 11.

- 25 cases of misdemeanor theft
- one citation for the unlawful carrying of a weapon
- 25 Minor in Possession citations were handed out
- eight cases of criminal misdemeanor
- four cases of DWI
- one vehicle burglary
- three cases of harassment
- one assault
- three cases of public intoxication
- two burglaries of a habitation
- one building burglary
- one burglary of a motor vehicle

The Battalion

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Class of '93

Committee member applications are now available in the Student Programs Office in the Class of '93 cubicle.

They are due Friday, September 18 by 5:00pm

AND

Class of '93 Awareness Week
September 14 - 18!! Check the
What's Up column
for daily events!!



Guess who's coming to Garfield's,
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