

## Free trade proposal offers B-CS economic boost

By MONIQUE LUNSFORD

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Bryan-College Station could be on the brink of a major economic boost as a result of a free trade proposal currently being discussed in Congress that will lock the U.S. and Mexico into a more profitable joint trade market, local business officials said.

The proposal is the North American Free Trade Agreement, and its primary goal would be to establish more trade interaction between the two neighbors by eventually eliminating all tariff barriers on exports and imports from one country to the other.

The local business arena is already trying to capitalize on this idea by executing a game plan designed to give B-CS a piece of the action.

According to Sam Harwell, Senior Business Consultant in International

Trade with the Small Business Development Center, the area saw Mexico as a passage way to the cities' futures a little over two years ago, and planning has been in effect ever since.

"We're going to see the increase of trade between Bryan-College Station and Mexico regardless of whether the proposal lasts or not," he said.

"A lot of the merchants recognize that trade with Mexico is important. That recognition will benefit us."

Local business representatives have already traveled to Mexico on "trade missions", during which they can meet and interact with Mexican businesses who are interested in the products they (Bryan-College Station businesses) have to offer.

The purpose of these missions, Harwell said, is to increase cooperation between Bryan corporations and those in Mexico.

There are also plans to construct an international trade center in Bryan that will

be used to educate businesses and the public, in general, about the vast opportunities that exist for the community if direct trade with Mexico becomes an open door. Construction on the center could begin before Christmas.

The center would provide training sessions for persons who desire to become involved in international trade, offer counseling for local merchants and manufacturers, and hold workshops and seminars on different areas of international trade.

Services for Mexican business professionals would also be available, and an on-line, electronic bulletin board would allow goods to be sold directly from Bryan to Mexico.

"We can do a lot of training here," Harwell said.

"We're exporting our knowledge. I do expect jobs to increase in Bryan-College Station because of free trade."

Harwell also said another plan is to

send local business representatives, at least once this year, to Mexico to participate in trade shows where they would have a booth specifically for B-CS.

There are 3,000 businesses in the twin cities, only 50-60 of which are involved in these programs.

In the future, Bryan could become a distribution center in itself through which companies can sell all types of goods to all parts of Mexico without having to leave the city.

"We're looking at a broader Mexico," Harwell said. "Where we can cover a lot more area."

According to Gabriel Caranza of the Texas A&M Office of Mexican and Latin American Programs, the University will also have some involvement in the community's relationship with Mexico.

There are plans to construct the Texas A&M University Center in Mexico City in which several colleges of the University will have office space reserved for carry-

ing out business in Mexico.

Caranza said this would be an effort to bring together the "Aggie network" between Aggies in Mexico and those who are here.

The office space, worth \$3 million, being donated by a A&M former student, and the projected start-up cost for the center will be \$100,000.

Also, Caranza said the center would serve as an aide to help A&M students involved in the Study Abroad program get settled in Mexico.

"We're hoping by next summer we can open the center," Caranza said.

"The whole idea behind this is the Texas and Mexico are such great partners in business, we feel having free trade will benefit both countries from a cultural standpoint, business standpoint, and all types of standpoints."

## Drug prevention center changes its name to gain attention

By TANYA WILLIAMS

Reporter of THE BATTALION

The Center for Drug Prevention, located on the second floor of the Beutel Health Center, has renamed themselves the Rainbow Center, in hopes of getting more attention.

"We changed our name to help people identify us," said Lynann Moses, assistant coordinator for the center. "The rainbow represents the multi-faceted program that we have."

"We're taking a whole new approach to get

students interested. We're using a new philosophy."

One of their programs being presented is this Sunday's "Greek Talk" which will feature experts in drug prevention, university safety, and rape crisis in a talk show format.

The program is geared toward Greek life and reaching their target audience.

The center has worked with Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol (GAM-MA), to require new pledges of Greek organizations to attend.

The center also works with various organi-

zations that focus on drug and alcohol awareness. Other groups include: Lights, Camera, Action; Students Teaching on Prevention (STOP) and Students Making Awareness a Real Topic (SMART).

The center's goal is to educate students about drug and alcohol abuse, and assist them in making responsible choices about drugs and alcohol.

"We need students to know about the center and be educated to make responsible decisions."

## Graduate students sponsor Africa Day to promote culture

By TANYA WILLIAMS

Reporter of THE BATTALION

The African Graduate Student Association has planned an event in hopes of educating students at Texas A&M about the positive things occurring in Africa.

"We hope to educate fellow students and teach other cultures about the countries in Africa," said Martin Ayim, a doctoral student from Cameroon.

"Through Africa Day, the African students have an opportunity to share their culture with others."

The African Graduate Students Association consists of graduate and undergraduate students from 15 of the 51 countries in Africa.

Some students' educations are sponsored by their country and others are self-supported, but Nayim said the A&M African Graduate Student Association encourages the students to think about Africa when they

get their degrees.

"The national conference that we participate in, the All Africans Students Conference, encourages students to think about Africa when graduating," Nayim said.

"Students should consider how they can improve and help Africa."

Nayim said the mass media encourages negative views and fails to present equal views.

"No one presents an objective picture of both side. The only things that are presented are political upheavals and oppression. Many fail to mention the good parts, they tend to look at the continent from a negative viewpoint."

Africa Day will feature African dress, food, music and poetry from various countries.

Nayim said it will be both entertaining and educational.

Africa Day will be held this evening from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in 206 MSC.

## Student Government leader plays dual role

By JULI PHILLIPS

Reporter of THE BATTALION

Newly appointed Student Government Chief of Staff Warren Talbot said Thursday that despite his new position, and his commitment to Texas A&M students, he will continue to be the president of Off-Campus Aggies.

Talbot said he has a strong desire to do what is best for the students and feels that the two jobs will not detract from each other.

"There is no transition time needed for me," he said. "Since this is my second year as OCA president, I know all of the people I will be working with, and I am well acquainted with the issues and concerns of the students."

"If we are all working for the students, then there shouldn't be any problem."

After concern was raised during Wednesday's Student Senate meeting over whether the chief of staff will have power over the Senate, Student Body President Steve Beller stressed that Talbot's role will be to help with the student government executive branch agenda.

"Nothing that the chief of staff does can go without the approval of the Student Senate," Beller said. "The Senate is free to pursue its own issues no matter what

the executive branch is doing."

Talbot said some areas would overlap, but he expressed confidence that any problems resulting from the overlap could be resolved easily.

"If we are all working for the students, then there shouldn't be any problem."

Among the issues Talbot will be tackling in his new role are proposals to bring off-campus food services on campus, A&M budgetary concerns in the upcoming year, and communication between the students and parking and transit.

"I'm not here for the glamour of the position - it's not a glamour position," Talbot said. "I am taking this position because I believe what the students want is what they should get."

Talbot hopes students will soon be able to feel a responsive student government in and around campus.

"A lot of the time, students don't feel that anything is being done for them because they don't hear anything about (the efforts)," Talbot said. "I want the students to know that I am going to be very up front with them - there will be no back door negotiating."

## What's Up

FRIDAY

**STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICE:** Screenings continue this week for the Gay and Lesbian Therapy Group on the Third Floor of the YMCA Building. Contact Dr. Mary Ann Moore or Brian Reinhardt at 845-4427 for more information.

**AGGIE BLOOD DRIVE COMMITTEE:** Red Cross blood drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Commons Lobby and in the MSC.

**WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES:** Applications are available from the following locations across campus through Sept. 30 at 5 p.m.: Commandant's Office (Military Science Building), Student Programs Office (MSC), Student Activities Office (Student Services Building), Blocker Building (First Floor), Biochemistry/Biophysics Building (Reference Reading Room), Evans Library, Veterinary Medicine (Dean's Office), Office of the Vice President for Student Services (Tenth Floor Rudder), and in the Dean's Offices of all the colleges across campus. Completed applications must be received by the Student Activities Department no later than Sept. 30 at 5 p.m. Any questions may be addressed to the Student Activities Department at 845-1133.

**AGGIELAND:** Senior pictures will be taken for the Aggieland Sept. 7-Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at AR Photography, located at 707 Texas Ave. next to Taco Cabana.

**PISTOL TEAM:** Tryouts for 1992-93 team at 7 p.m. on the Range in the basement of the Military Sciences Building. Women, freshmen and Corps of Cadets welcome. For more information call Curtis Burns at 846-0906.

**ELECTION COMMISSION:** Freshman filing from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in 139 Student Services Building. For more information call Michelle at 845-3051.

**MSC NOVA:** Everyone is invited to attend our membership picnic from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Hensel Park. There will be free food and drinks provided, as well as a football game and other activities. Afterwards, we will return to the MSC Tunnel rooms for an evening of open gaming until 2 a.m. For more information call Randy Patermo at 845-1515 or 847-7707.

**BAHAI CLUB:** The topic will be the Bahai perspective on the Trinity. See More What's Up/Page 4.

**CLASS OF '93 AWARENESS WEEK:** '93 Night at Hurricane Harry's.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:** General discussion in the Rainbow Center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call the Center for Drug Prevention—The Rainbow Center at 845-0280 for more information.

**UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES (UCM):** Weekly Peanut Butter Fellowship from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of the Academic Building at the Sul Ross Statue. Our weekly student-led Bible studies are 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at A&M Presbyterian Church. This semester we will be discussing Galatians. For more information call Stacy Fletcher at 693-5623.

**ASIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION:** Our dance has been postponed from today to Sept. 25 from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. in 226 MSC. For more information call Meredith Rice at 764-1915.

**CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST:** Everyone's welcome at our weekly CRU meeting at 7 p.m. in 108 HECC. The topic this week is "Gods Will... The Grey Areas". For more information call Todd at 693-1934.

**MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION:** Friday prayer from 12:50 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder. All Muslims invited. For more information call Widodo at 846-4278.

**MSC NOVA:** Everyone is invited to attend our membership picnic from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Hensel Park. There will be free food and drinks provided, as well as a football game and other activities. Afterwards, we will return to the MSC Tunnel rooms for an evening of open gaming until 2 a.m. For more information call Randy Patermo at 845-1515 or 847-7707.

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**Could one of them be YOU?**

**AGGIE COUNSELING EXPERIENCE Student Volunteer Program**

The Aggie Counseling Experience, or ACE Program, is a student volunteer program at the Texas A&M University Student Counseling Service. ACE volunteers represent a variety of majors and interests. If selected, you will be given training in presentation skills and listening skills, and you will learn how to help students improve their academic performance and research possible majors and careers.

**Interviewing NOW!**  
Application DEADLINE Monday, September 28

Pick up an application and brochure on the third floor of the YMCA Building.

**Student Counseling Service 845-4427**  
...A Department in the Division of Student Services

**Aggie Ring Orders**

Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center  
Deadline: September 23, 1992

**Undergraduate Requirements**

- 30 credit hours must be completed (By/before SS-II '92) at A&M, if you were a transfer student.
- 95 total credit hours must be completed. (By/before SS-II '92) Any transfer hours from Summer '92 or before that are needed to meet this requirement must be posted to your A&M transcript by the payment deadline.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA at A&M.
- No blocks (delinquent parking tickets, past due fees, etc.)

**Graduate Student Requirements**

- You must have completed all degree requirements for December '92 by the above deadline. You will need to present a letter of completion, which you must obtain from the Office of Graduate Studies, when placing your order.
- No blocks (delinquent parking tickets, past due fees, etc.)

**Procedure to Order a Ring**

- Go to the ring office no later than September 23 and complete the form for eligibility verification. (Requires 1-2 days to process.)
- Order and pay in full (cash/check only) by September 25, 1992

Men's	10K - \$285.00	14K - \$388.00
Women's	10K - \$163.00	14K - \$189.00

The approximate date of the ring delivery is November 18, 1992.