

New Miss Texas A&M begins reign

By MELISSA HOLUBEC
The Battalion

Leslie Fisher says she sees her new role as Miss Texas A&M as an opportunity to help other people. "You're not just the winner of a beauty pageant," she said. "You're not just an image or a role model that people go to to ask questions. You're actively participating and representing Texas A&M University."

Fisher, a chemical engineering major from Cincinnati, Ohio, was crowned Miss Texas A&M on Feb. 13.

"I've always been a real involved person," she said. "Serving as Miss Texas A&M will be a different aspect of involvement."

Fisher, a fifth-year senior, began her official duties Saturday as a judge and co-host of the Brazos County Youth Livestock Show Queen pageant.

Thursday she will ride in the Grand Entry at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo to kick off the performance by country and western singers Brooks and Dunn.

This Saturday at the MSC All Night Fair she will perform the gymnastics routine she used in the Miss Texas A&M pageant and will sit for a time in the Wiley Lecture Series dunking booth.

Fisher has set several goals for the time she will be Miss Texas A&M. She plans to work with a drug and alcohol prevention pro-

gram, give motivational and goal-setting speeches to high school students and do community and charity work.

She said she wants to emphasize environmental concerns and awareness.

"With a background in chemical engineering, I want to pursue a

see the glamorous side of the woman too."

Eleven years of gymnastics prepared Fisher for the talent portion of the competition. She performed a gymnastic dance routine to a country and western tune similar to Old West saloon music.

Along with talent, the contes-

I was getting into."

Fisher said the hardest part of the pageant for her was the end, when the winner was named.

"I didn't want to think I had it because I didn't want to be disappointed if I didn't make it," she said. "It could have been one of eight girls, but they called my name and number. It was one of the best feelings I've ever had."

Fisher will speak at Muster and take part in Parents' Weekend activities.

"I want to do more than just be presented," Fisher said. "I'd like to sing at baseball games and other events and give goal setting and motivational speeches to organizations like Aggie Leaders of Tomorrow and programs like Fish Camp and T-Camp."

Fisher has served as the president of Aggie Wranglers, counseled sixth graders on the dangers of drugs through Students Making Awareness a Real Topic and been a member of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and a Fish Camp counselor.

She also served as special events coordinator for Keathley Hall and represented Miami University with Model United Nations.

Currently, Fisher is a member of the Society of Women Engineers, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and Aggie Wranglers and serves as director of productions for the MSC Variety Show.

"You're not just the winner of a beauty pageant. You're actively participating and representing Texas A&M University."

- Leslie Fisher,
Miss Texas A&M



Fisher

career in environmental safety," she said. "I believe public awareness will help solve the environmental problem when coupled with the three R's: reduce, reuse and recycle. By educating the public on these important topics, I hope to increase community recycling of plastics, paper and other solid wastes."

Of course, Fisher is looking forward to formal events as well.

"I'll be able to do sophisticated things where I have to dress up formally and represent A&M," she said. "Even though Miss Texas A&M is not a beauty pageant winner, people want to

stants are judged on sportswear, evening wear and an off-stage interview.

Fisher said she feels that the pageant committee puts more emphasis on the talent and interview portions of the competition.

Once making it past the auditions in October, Fisher and 11 other finalists and three alternates met weekly to learn techniques and discuss pageant technicalities.

"We spent one Saturday from 8 to 5 going from the interview room to the fashion room to the make-up room," Fisher said. "It gave me more confidence because it gave me a better idea as to what

'Army' charges into the deliberately absurd

By RONSON PAGE
The Battalion

"Army of Darkness"
Starring Bruce Campbell and Embeth Davidtz
Directed by Sam Raimi
Rated R
Playing at Manor East Mall

"Army of Darkness" is a bad film—exactly as its director intended. Audiences will enjoy the offbeat approach as long as they realize the movie is deliberately absurd.

Though the film is actually a sequel to the spoofish 1987 "Evil Dead 2" (a remake of the scary, low-budget "The Evil Dead"—another story altogether), it is packaged as an entirely new film for mass appeal.

A discount store clerk, Ash (Bruce Campbell), finds himself transported to medieval times to save a castle and its inhabitants from an evil force.

Ash is first seen staggering captive through the fourteenth-century wastelands. His arrival in this period is told through flashback (or more completely in "Evil Dead 2"). It seems he was sucked through a temporal vortex while trying to dispel the evil force from his own time. Naturally, Ash wants to go home, but to do so he must find the Book of the Dead, which contains the incantations needed to send him back. However, Ash must correctly recite a magical phrase before he can take the



Store clerk Ash (Bruce Campbell) is sucked through a time vortex in 'Army of Darkness.'

book, and when his memory falters his problems (and the appropriateness of the movie's title) really begin.

Sam Raimi, who directed the first two "Evil Dead" films and the cultish "Darkman," provides numerous lines and scenes worthy of laughter and incredulous head shakes, as well as some stylish cinematography.

Through the course of his film, Raimi pays homage to almost every movie genre.

A movie buff will be able to pick out borrowed lines from "The Day the Earth Stood Still" and "Excalibur," plus a Three Stooges gag sequence, among others. Look also for a clip reminiscent of the opening of the old "Riflemen" series.

Campbell, who also co-produced the film, plays Ash in a way similar to Leslie Nielsen's character in the "Naked Gun" movies. Ash passionately delivers every euphemistic phrase with utter seriousness; a scene in which he refers to a captured enemy leader as "Mr. Fancy pants" is priceless. His expressions always complement whatever he's saying with equal absurdity.

As in "Evil Dead 2," Ash has a penchant for inviting a beating, but always seems to recover remarkably; the loss of a hand hardly fazes him. Not many actors could pull off such a role without looking really foolish; Campbell's acting is one of the best reasons to go see this movie.

Embeth Davidtz has a sizable part as Ash's medieval love interest, Sheila. Sheila is your stereotypically sweet, beautiful and slightly feisty princess, until she is swept up and away by an apparition of the evil force. Most of Davidtz's scenes are not too challenging, but her looks and mannerisms are well-suited to the role.

Musician-turned-composer Danny Elfman ("Batman") deserves mention for the film's excellent score.

"Army of Darkness" is zany and wacky, comical and clichéd. Some will undoubtedly miss the point, and leave the theater thinking it is a bad movie. But many will recognize that "Army of Darkness" is very clever, due in large part to how bad it appears.

And that's the whole idea.



Inside the ranks Book recalls life in the Corps

By SUSAN OWEN
The Battalion

"The Spirit Within"
Dan Quinn, Class of '81
Insite Press, Bryan, \$11.95

Anyone who's ever wondered what it's like to be in the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets should read "The Spirit Within," by Dan Quinn, Class of '81.

The book is a retelling of Quinn's experiences with the Corps from the day his family drops him off in College Station, through three and a half years in the Corps, to Final Review of his senior year.

Quinn gives an honest and emotional reaction to life in the Corps and its effects on his personality.

His detailed descriptions of life on the Quadrangle will satisfy the curiosity of anyone who's ever wondered, "What goes on over there?" It should also stir up many memories for those who have been through the experience.

Quinn shares his memories of experiences few A&M students have, such as campaigning for yell leader, leading yell practices and helping light Aggie Bonfire.

At a book signing on Feb. 26 in the MSC Texas A&M Bookstore, he said the book is not intended to represent exactly what goes on in the Corps, but to describe his own feelings.

"It's not the way the Corps is, it's the way it was to me," he said. "I didn't want to say 'This is going to happen to you, you're going to do this many pushups.' I wanted to say 'This is how you're going to feel.'"

Quinn said he knew nothing about the Corps when he got to A&M, and wrote the book primarily for high school students who are considering joining.

The first few chapters describe Quinn's arrival at A&M, decision to enter and introduction to the Corps.

"Did I really want to subject myself physically and mentally to this type of lifestyle?" Quinn wonders as a freshman. "Didn't I come to college to enjoy myself?...I'll never get any

Photo by DAN QUINN

dates if I cut my hair as short as these guys."

Many civilian students wonder why members of the Corps decided to join. Quinn explains in detail the influences and emotions that led him to join and stay with the Corps. "I simply knew that this is what I wanted to do," he says in the book. "I no longer wanted to be on the outside looking in."

Quinn spent his first semester at A&M living off campus and joined the Corps in his second semester.

He does an excellent job of letting the reader feel how uncertainty, endless rules and peer pressure formed the freshmen of Squadron Two into a cohesive unit—those who didn't drop out.

He describes his anxiety and misgivings during activities like doing pushups wearing rain gear in a steam shower, but also tells how such undertakings gave him pride, self-confidence and the determination to push himself further.

Several chapters of the book concentrate on Quinn's freshman year. "That's where most of the memories and most of the learning experiences come from," Quinn said.

However, he said that it was only after that first semester that he understood fully why he stuck to his decision. "Talk to any senior," he said. "I never in my life talked to one guy that made it all the way through the Corps and said 'I wish I hadn't done it.'"

Quinn held leadership positions such as squadron guidon bearer and senior yell leader.

The book fast-forwards through Quinn's upperclass days, describing memorable events such as handing down the guidon, or outfit flag, and Final Review. He also relates anecdotes of cadet life, describing pranks played and friendships made.

Quinn's writing is unpolished but effectively communicates his affection for the University and his days here without being cloyingly nostalgic.

"The Spirit Within" is a blank, honest retelling of one man's memories of the Corps of Cadets. It is valuable as a photograph of a unique organization, and interesting as a view from inside its ranks.

Professional Computing
505 Church St. College Station Ph. 846-5332
(One Block North of Kinko's Copies)

Featuring a complete line of Hewlett-Packard Scientific and Business calculators

HP 48SX Expandable Calculator
HP 48S Programmable Calculator
* 32K Built in RAM
* Combined Graphics and Calculus Functions
* I/O ports for data transfer to and from a PC
* SX features Expansion Ports for plug-in Applications Paces and RAM cards

HP 19BII Business Consultant
* Algebraic or RPN Logic
* Graphics for cash flow and Statistical Analysis
* Menus and Softkeys

HP 17BII Financial Calculator
* Choose between Algebraic or RPN Logic
* Menus and Softkeys for easy access to solutions
* Over 250 functions for real estate and finance

Business Hours
Mon.-Fri. 8:00-5:30
Sat. 10:00-3:00

HEWLETT PACKARD
Authorized Dealer

ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93

Orientation Student Assistants (OSAs) needed for ExCel '93:

"Aiming for Achievement-- Destined for Success"

Applications Now Available at the Student Services Building & the Multicultural Office (MSC 146)
Due March 5th in Multicultural Office. Sign-up for an interview there.

ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93 ExCel '93

WANTED:

INSTRUCTORS
With Something Interesting to Share

University PLUS workshops
Come by the MSC Basement and fill out an application to teach Summer 93 courses.
Good pay - Great hours - Good folks
Call 845-1631

*First Aid *Interviewing *Yoga *Watercolor
*Landscaping *Public Speaking *Guitar
*Voice Training *Interior Design *Accounting
*Clay Sculpture *Bird Watching and more...

To Worship, Or Not To Worship?

DEBATE
followed by questions from the audience

Agnostic & Atheist Student Group VS. Campus Crusade for Christ

Wednesday, March 3
7:30 pm
200 Heldenfels

Special Meeting
Tuesday, March 2
8:30 PM
Room 410 Rudder

COME VOLUNTEER FOR

EPHEDON

THE LARGEST SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY CONVENTION IN THE SOUTHWEST