

## And the winner is . . .

BILE • BUICK • CADILLAC • GMC



BILLY MORAN/The Battalion

Texas A&M University Basketball Coach Tony Barone draws the winning name in a \$500 giveaway Wednesday afternoon near Rudder

fountain. The drawing was sponsored by the Recreational Sports Department and General Motors. The winner was Barbara Fletcher.

## Health Tips

By KASANDRA MCDANIEL

The Battalion

Smokeless tobacco causes oral cancer, gum disease, mouth sores and increased blood pressure.

Smokeless tobacco, chewing tobacco or snuff, is not a safe alternative to smoking. The use of smokeless tobacco has been linked to cancers of the mouth and throat as well as gum disease, tooth loss, bad breath and an increased heart rate.

Snuff can cause leukoplakia - ugly white patches or sores - which in turn could lead to cancer. These patches cannot be scraped off and often must be removed by surgery. The patches sometimes disappear when an individual stops using tobacco.

Users of smokeless tobacco are more likely to get oral cancer which accounts for 92 percent of oral cancer cases. Treatment for oral cancer includes surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

Currently, about 9,000 U.S. citizens per year die from oral cancer. Oral cancer accounts for 4 per-

cent of all cancers that occur in the United States each year.

Smokeless tobacco contains 100 times more nicotine than the FDA permits in other products. By chewing or dipping, users can rapidly achieve nicotine levels comparable to or higher than those of smokers.

The use of smokeless tobacco products may lead to nicotine dependence and thereby encourage cigarette smoking.

When thinking about quitting, cutting down is the key. Set a limit on the number of times you chew or dip each day. Cut out chewing or dipping in specific places or times.

Immediately after quitting, carry sugarless gum, sunflower seeds, or something healthy to chew for those times when you get the urge to dip or chew. Avoid foods high in sugar, keep busy and plan ahead each week.

Remember: Have alternatives ready for situations when you would be tempted to dip and chew.

## Campus News Briefs

### Pet store to celebrate week with animal adoption offer

National Pet Week is the first week in May. The Brazos Animal Shelter, Post Oak Pets and Science Diet Pet Foods are teaming up to find homes for the shelter's animals.

Some animals - vaccinated and neutered - will be available for adoption at Post Oak Pets.

Any animals adopted from the shop or the shelter this week come with a free bag of Science Diet Food. For more information, call the Brazos Animal Shelter at 775-5755.

### Family endows scholarship for engineering undergrads

Amanda Howze Amsler, widow of Hervey M. Amsler '18, and her daughter Kathryn Amsler Pridy have donated \$50,000 to Texas A&M University to establish the Hervey M. Amsler '18 Endowed Scholarship in engineering.

The scholarship is annually awarded to a student who meets the following qualifications: is a U.S. citizen, has graduated from a Texas high school, and has a minimum GPA of 2.75.

The first scholarship was awarded to Jerod Markley, a freshman engineering student, last fall.

Hervey Amsler attended Texas A&M from 1914 to 1917, when he joined the Naval Air Service and fought in World War I. He received his bachelor's degree in textile engineering in 1918.

### Assistant professor receives history institute fellowship

Dr. Brian Linn, Texas A&M assistant history professor, has been named as one of the 12 recipients of a post-doctoral National and Peace Fellowship awarded by the Hoover Institution.

The fellowships provide scholars with an opportunity to spend one year at the institution to conduct independent research on historical and public policy issues of the 20th century.

The National Fellows Program has awarded more than 280 fellowships to outstanding scholars from universities in the United States and Canada.

### Contest challenges students to design fuel-efficient trucks

Texas A&M University engineering students will compete against students from 22 other universities next month in the Natural Gas Vehicle Challenge.

The event, which will be held in Austin, is an international competition among engineering students to redesign pickups to operate on natural gas.

This is the third year of the Challenge, an event attracting students from Canada, Mexico and the United States.

Students try to develop and demonstrate advanced natural gas technologies for vehicles. Judges will assess the vehicles for fuel economy, emissions, performance and overall design.

## Rural

Continued from Page 1

environmental health hazards, Sweeney said. Emergency care is slow because rural hospitals usually depend on volunteer EMS operators. The hospitals treat patients with more severe illnesses, he said, because the patients put off expensive health care until they no longer can.

Hurst said many patients do not feel they should pay health care or cannot afford it.

"Eighty percent of our patients are on Medicare or Medicaid, which reimburses us according to the patient's diagnosis," she said. "Some reimbursements are considerably less than what we spend treating the patient."

McKay said recruiting staff is another problem in rural hospitals.

Medical students searching for communities in which to open a practice often have large debts to pay after graduation, she said. The rural hospitals cannot offer competitive incomes, so the students locate elsewhere.

Lack of technology also can discourage medical students from establishing a rural practice, McKay said.

"When you are a new resident out of school, you've had all of this high-tech equip-

ment," she said, "and then to go to someplace where you have to relearn how to do diagnostic thinking without it is just not easy."

"We don't even have electronic thermometers," she said. "If there is something you need and don't have, you just have to wing it."

Sweeney said the shortage of general practitioners also limits the number of doctors able to open a rural practice. Rural communities are in need of primary care: family medicine, general internal medicine and general pediatrics. With older physicians retiring and younger doctors locating in cities, some rural areas have no one to treat patients, he said.

In 1989, the Texas Legislature mandated that all Texas medical schools offer a one-month family practice residency in a rural setting to provide the community with an extra doctor for a month and expose the student to rural medicine.

National strides have been made as well.

"Recently Medicare recognized that rural hospitals that are close to larger hospitals pay the same wages and have the same costs as larger hospitals," Hurst said, "so they allowed some rural hospitals to be reclassified as large urban hospitals. That has increased our reimbursement from Medicare about \$500 per pa-

tient, which for us is a lot of money."

Sweeney said efforts such as these may offer short-term solutions, but to cure the health care system in the long run, the nation must ask, "How come it's the way it is?"

The greatest cause of the problem is the inability of leaders in rural communities to change, Sweeney said.

"They get enormously attached to their hospitals," he said. "Rather than struggle to keep the hospital alive until it finally closes, they should be pro-active."

In many cases, Sweeney said, rural community leaders should close the hospital, and open clinics and emergency care units equipped to transport patients to an urban hospital. These new facilities affiliate with urban hospitals rather than duplicate services.

In other cases, the hospital should remain open but still collaborate with the urban hospital to control costs, he said.

These arrangements, called community care networks, could be incorporated into the existing health care system, into the managed competition model or into other proposals being considered by the task force.

"We can't fight these trends," Sweeney said, "So we'd better work with them."

## MSC hats

Continued from Page 1

These students cited many reasons for not removing their hats including their right of free expression, and they feel the tradition does not include them since the University was all-white when the MSC was dedicated.

However, MSC Director Jim Reynolds said the tradition should be honored by all students out of respect.

"We understand that the reason people died was to protect freedom of expression," he said. "If people don't choose to remove their hats to recognize the tradition, that's really their prerogative."

The role of the MSC is to clarify the tradition, Reynolds said. "It's up to the members of the community to observe it."

The University also is planning to work with ExCEL (Excellence Uniting Culture, Education, and

Leadership), Fish Camp and T-Camp to educate incoming students about Texas A&M traditions.

"We're hoping the education might be a positive step so people understand the reasoning behind the traditions at Texas A&M," she said.

Hartman said the MSC Council is working with the Traditions Council to develop a brochure about the traditions of removing hats and not stepping on the MSC grass. The brochures will be placed by the signs in the MSC for people who have questions about Texas A&M traditions.

The MSC Council is accepting suggestions to make the MSC more open and friendly to people of every ethnicity, Hartman said.

"It's difficult to know what is offensive," she said. "We'd like to stress that if people have a suggestion to make the building more inviting, we'd love to hear it."

**TAMU Santa Chiara Day 1993**

**MAY 5, 11:00-3:00, MSC Foyer**  
Hosted by Dr. E. Dean Gage, Vice President and Provost

11:00	FREE Food provided by Double Dave's
12:00	Pizza, with a pizza-making demo
12:00	Dr. Gage speaks; Art Auction of works by Prof. Paolo Barucchieri, Dir. Santa Chiara (Proceeds to go directly to Santa Chiara Center)
1:00	FREE Samples of Espresso provided by Espresso Plus, and drawings for free dinners at Rosalie's Pasta and Cenare

Double Dave's Pizza 211 University W. 268-DAVE	Espresso Plus in the Postoak Mall 764-0815	Rosalie's Pasta 102 Church Ave. 846-0950	Cenare 404 University E. 696-7311
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Study Abroad Programs; 161 Bizzell Hall West; 845-0544

a presentation of  
MSC TOWN HALL

# COFFEEHOUSE

Friday, April 30  
8:00 Rumors  
non-partisan

The last incantation.

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