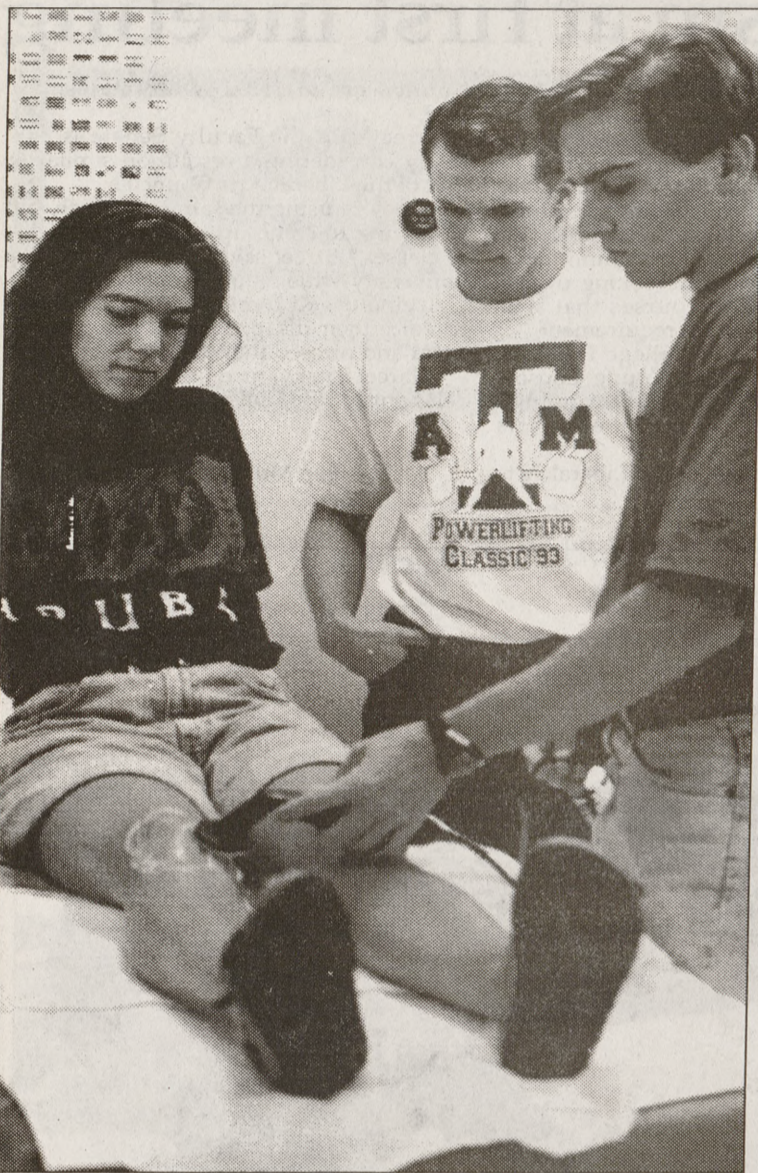


STATE & LOCAL

Knee needs



Amy Browning/The BATTALION

Emma Morales, a senior industrial engineering major from Venezuela, receives an ultrasound treatment for her twisted knee in Beutal Health Center at the hands of Andrew Merkle, a junior kinesiology major, while Randall Walton, a sophomore biology major, looks on.

Police Beat

The following incidents were reported to University Police Department between Aug. 26-31.

Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

Dunn Hall - A subject observed a piece of equipment in a first floor room that was apparently designed for the illegal consumption of a controlled substance.

Possession of Marijuana

Appelt Hall - Two individuals who were detected smoking a substance believed to be marijuana were arrested and incarcerated. A 'bong,' several marijuana cigarettes, a plastic bag of seeds and a plastic bag of a green leafy substance were found in the suspect's room.

Driving While Intoxicated

Joe Routt. Blvd. - An intoxicated motorist was arrested and incarcerated in the Brazos County Jail.

Public Intoxication

Parking Area 30 - An intoxicated individual was arrested and incarcerated in the Brazos County Jail.

Minor in Possession of Alcoholic Beverage

Parking Area 30 - Six individuals were issued citations. Parking Area 20 - Two individuals attempted to avoid apprehension by running from the investigating officer. The subjects were arrested and incarcerated. Texas A&M University Research Park - Two citations issued. Dormitory 2 - One citation issued. Moses Hall - One citation issued.

Felony Theft

Parking Area 42 - A 1990 white Mazda pickup truck was reported stolen.

Criminal Mischief

Parking Area 26 - Someone apparently damaged the victim's 1984 Honda Prelude by kicking the left front quarter panel and the driver's side door.

Misdemeanor Theft

Blocker Building - A red Ross Carrera 12-speed bicycle was stolen. Read Building - The victim's wallet and checkbook were stolen from his backpack that was left outside racquetball court #3. Fermier Hall - A black Murray 10-speed was stolen. Nagle Hall - A black and purple 18-speed bicycle was stolen.

False Alarm or Report

Dormitories 4, 8 and 12 - Fire Alarms on every floor of the three buildings were activated. No evidence of fire or smoke was detected by officials. Memorial Student Center Printing Center - A bogus report of an

explosion and injury of two individuals was reported.

Making Alcoholic Beverage Available to a Minor

Texas A&M University Research Park - Two citations were issued

Consuming After Hours

North Bizzell Street - Citation issued.

Warrant Arrest/ Indecent Exposure

Sterling C. Evans Library - A warrant of arrest was served on the individual who exposed himself on Aug. 1 in the library.

Burglary of Habitation

Mosher Hall - A silver James Avery ring with a Pisces symbol and a gold sapphire and diamond ring were stolen from the victim's room.

Texas workers respond to government cutbacks

The Associated Press

Federal workers in the Lone Star State watched with some skepticism and dismay Tuesday as their bosses in Washington announced plans for cut-to-the-chase changes.

"I've spent almost 29 years with the Department of Agriculture and never seen a time when we were overemployed," said Bobby Sparkman, servicing chief at a Rural Development Administration office targeted for closure.

Sparkman's office in Levelland makes loans for water and sewer improvements to communities in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Arizona. The office is among hundreds that would close under new White House plans to streamline bureaucracy.

"I guess anytime you can make something as efficient as possible, I guess it's good. But it's always going to affect some people," said

Ty Brisgill, officer in charge of the USDA's Livestock Market News Office in San Antonio.

Brisgill reports on cattle prices, livestock auctions and trade with Mexico. About 70 agriculture department workers nationwide do what he does, Brisgill said.

When asked how difficult it will be to cut federal red tape, he said: "I wouldn't want to comment on that, because I'd probably use too many four-letter words. It will be difficult. It's hard to change anybody."

Under plans unveiled Tuesday, the responsibilities of the Food Safety and Inspection Service would be consolidated under the Food and Drug Administration.

Yves Gerem, spokesman in Austin for the eight-state regional agency, said good arguments exist both for keeping the Food Safety and Inspection Service under the agriculture department and for moving it.

"In some ways it makes sense to move it

said. "FDA inspects all other foods," Gerem said. "I'm not in any judging."

In Texas, there are 513 food inspectors and 89 veterinarians examining meat and poultry from 304 slaughtering and processing plants, he said.

The Dallas-based regional headquarters employs about 50 people, and the agency has five area offices in Texas with six to eight employees, Gerem said.

One 15-year veteran of the federal workforce said Washington leaders should focus on bloated government - not on the payrolls.

"It's gotten so big, they have no idea what's going on," said Evelyn Leyba, an office assistant with the Fish and Wildlife Service in Houston. "I don't know what it's going to take, but it's not going to be anything simple."

"On a day-to-day basis you can see what is wrong, you can see the waste," Leyba said. "But it's not something you can pinpoint."

Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists



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