

## United Way drive looks for Aggie aid

### Students, faculty can help reach goal

By Michele Brinkmann

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University students and employees can "invest in the community" by donating to this year's United Way Plus Campaign.

Student Campaign Chairman Ranjan Natarajan said the student activities will begin within the next couple of weeks. Area coordinators launched this year's drive earlier in September.



"This is the first time we have had committees to help plan the activities and it has helped us come up with some very creative ideas," he said.

"The campaign will be highly advertised and students will be able to get involved."

Bob Fleischer, area executive director of United Way, said this year's goal is \$190,000. Last year, \$173,000 was raised.

Fleischer said last year A&M students were responsible for raising \$6,000 of the total amount and the goal is \$10,000 this year.

Natarajan believes the amount of money students raise will definitely exceed this number.

Dr. William L. Perry, dean of faculties and this year's University campaign chairperson, said employees began giving their donations last week.

The Physical Plant is holding a University Charity Golf Tournament Oct. 22 to raise money for the University's portion of

the drive.

Perry said the University committee will offer incentives for participation.

"If a unit achieves a 75 percent participation rate, then everyone in the unit will get in free to a A&M basketball game this season," he said. "It's not the amount we get that is important, it is the participation."

In the weeks ahead, area coordinators and representatives will contact all University and College Station-based system employees to give them an opportunity to contribute to the drive.

United Way Plus expanded the giving options of students and employees by offering additional ways to direct gifts. Participants can direct their gifts to general or specific agencies within the United Way. They can also contribute to as many as four other local health and human services agencies at the same time.

"With the exception of the A&M student activities, it is a straightforward campaign, there are no parties or gimmicks," Fleischer said.

"People know that their money will go directly to an organization, and not to other campaign costs."

United Way started in the mid-1950s. At one time, several separate campaigns existed in Bryan and College Station, but the campaigns merged in 1978.

## AMPHITHEATER ENDS SEASON ON A GOOD NOTE

### Wolf Pen Creek theater looks for future success

By Mark Smith

THE BATTALION

The first season of the Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater has gone well, said Sheila Walker, program director for the College Station Parks and Recreation Department.

"We have had overwhelming success with this season," Walker said. "Our staff was well prepared for the events."

Steve Beachy, director of College Station Parks and Recreation, said, "I would give us a B+ on our first season. After getting started late in the season and not having much experience in this area, I think Sheila has done a great job."

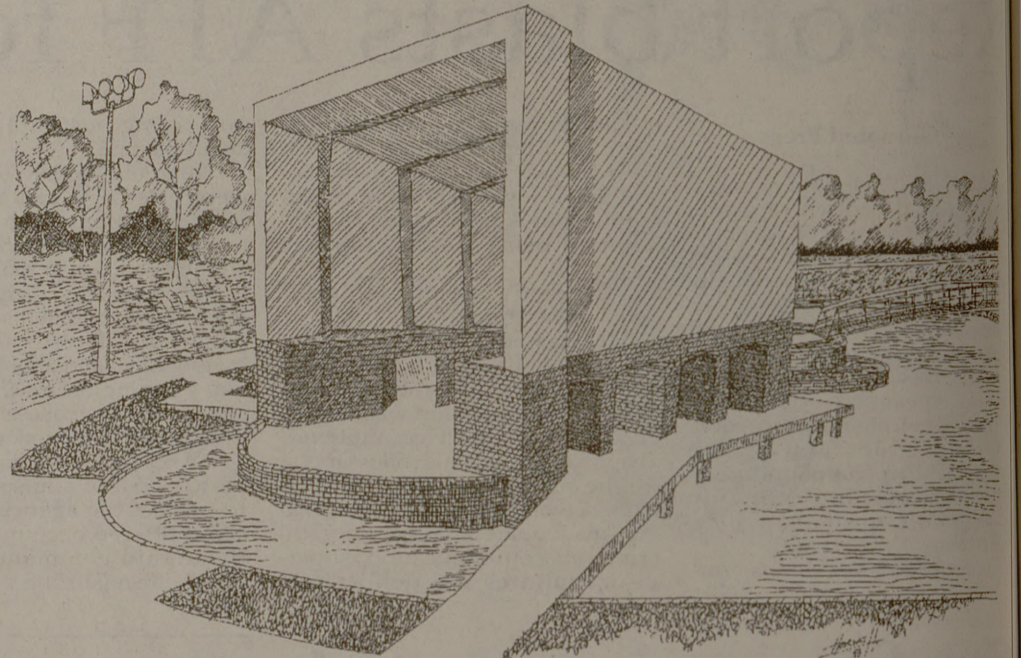
The amphitheater has had 13 events in its 18 weeks of operation. Those events were seen by 23,000 people and raised \$50,000 for the Parks and Recreation Department. However, Walker predicts the amphitheater's next season will be even better than this year's.

"I expect just bigger and better events," she said. "A lot of promoters have called about information. Probably only 20 percent of those will actually come through, but that would give us a number of entertainers. With the demographics of this community, and the good facilities we have, I think we have all the pluses in our column."

Beachy said, "I think we will get more third-party groups wanting to use the facility, as well as better, named entertainers."

Walker said she felt the amount of entertainers performing at the amphitheater during the first season was more than expected.

"We feel very good about the talent we



The Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater

brought in," Walker said. "We've had five national touring artists on the schedule season, and we've been able to expose some of the local talent. We'd just like to touch everyone's heartstrings with the selection of music we've got."

Beachy said the facility has proven to be well-designed.

"From what the entertainers and sound technicians say, the acoustics are very good," Beachy said. "The entertainers also can relate well with the audience."

There are, however, areas Beachy wants to

improve.

Beachy said the lack of restrooms and concessions were a concern, but both would be taken care of.

Despite the problems that have occurred during the season, Beachy said the important thing to remember about the amphitheater is its uniqueness.

"The bottom line with the theater is that it has added a whole new dimension to the area," Beachy said. "It's a whole new element. You would probably have to go to Houston or Dallas to find a similar facility."

## NAFTA

Continued from Page 1

If the U.S. doesn't have free trade with Mexico, then other countries will, Kolari said.

"If we shut out Mexico, other countries are going to laugh in our faces," Kolari said.

Kolari, who was appointed by Gov. Richards to a special com-

mittee to study NAFTA, said the agreement could give the American economy a "booster shot."

"When Mexicans buy goods, that creates more jobs here," he said. "Production down in Mexico is not all straw hat stuff. We export more TVs to Mexico than Japan does."

"Texas is really going to benefit from NAFTA," Kolari said. "Texas is still an oil based, agricultural economy. With NAFTA,

diversity of economy will make Texas more stable."

But Zaeske said he fears NAFTA will not be enforced if an agreement is made with Mexico. He cited what he calls the Mexican government's "conquistador mentality" as the reason for the country's poor economic status.

Because Mexico has a single party dictatorship and is run by about 36 wealthy families, he said the people of Mexico are being exploited much like they were the first

conquistadors invaded Mexico.

"How can we have free trade with a country as corrupt as Mexico?" he said.

Kolari said, "The stakes may be high in signing the agreement, but they will be even higher in not signing it."

"NAFTA is much bigger than Mexico," he said. "It is a western hemisphere agreement. Other countries are lining up at the door to be part of it."

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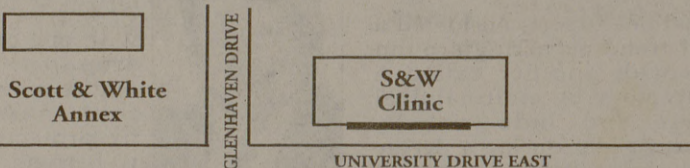
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(at least you'll be a part of A&M history if you get your picture in the AGGIELAND)

All classes:  
From now to Oct. 8, become a part of history by having your picture made for the 1994 AGGIELAND yearbook.

Pictures are being taken at A R Photography, located at 707 Texas Avenue S., near Taco Cabana, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 693-8183.

If you did not purchase your picture in the AGGIELAND during tele-registration, it can be purchased in 230 RDMC for \$1. 1994 yearbooks can be purchased in 015 RDMC for \$25.

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## LATE DEADLINE for 1994 AGGIELAND ORGANIZATION CONTRACTS has been extended to October 8th.

Please turn in your contract to room 230 RDMC with payment (including late fee of \$10) by 5 p.m., Oct. 8. If you have not yet picked up a contract, they are available in room 012 RDMC. Please DO NOT wait until the last minute to turn in your contract!

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