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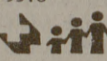
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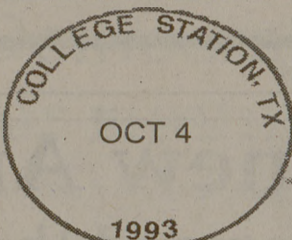
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MAIL CALL

Students must learn to understand cultures

This letter is in response to Eliot Williams' Sept. 27 column concerning cultural diversity and cultural strife. The bill passed by the Student Senate last Wednesday night is a bold and necessary step to help students at A&M move towards cross-cultural understanding. It is a societal contribution, in which all students should partake, to help abate the fear, hate and separateness that exists between the races in America today.

We cannot truly value that which we do not understand. Diversity is nothing more than the fine art of learning to value the differences which make each of us unique. The initiatives, which address this problem, provoke anxiety.

Mr. Williams, it is easy to learn jargon and buzzwords (i.e. liberal agenda, political correctness, etc.) to unjustly characterize this issue. Difficulty arises when we are forced to shift our paradigms and extend our comfort zones. Now, as America expands its global market (NAFTA), it certainly behooves us to establish and practice the core competencies necessary for achieving economic and pluralistic success. Wade through the rhetoric, A&M. The truth lies all around.

Brock R. Hajdik
Class of '93

Student Senator sheds light on diversity bill

Mr. Williams, referring to your column entitled "Too much focus on 'cultural diversity' leads to cultural strife" in The Battalion on Sept. 27, I would like to bring up a couple of points you have overlooked. The most important, which you and many others have disregarded, is that this bill will be implemented whether or not the Student Senate approves it.

I am one of the four College of Liberal Arts Senators, and it is hard for us to deal with the fact that although we were elected to represent our constituents, our voice is not quite as strong as it may seem.

Last spring, the Senate decided to ask for this bill to be tabled until we could better inform our student body and receive more opinions as to why they either support or did not support this bill. If you were in the College of Liberal Arts, you would have received a letter this summer explaining that this requirement had passed (with the support of the Student Senators).

Whereas neither I, nor the Senate as a whole, had given any sort of approval, I came to the conclusion that this bill would soon become a reality whether I liked it or not. And I think most of the Senate understood this. Therefore, we decided to review the Faculty's Senate bill and voice our opinion based on that.

Doing any research on this topic you would have found that on their bill the Faculty Senate had merely stated that the students would be required to take six hours of classes: one on American cultures and the other in international cultures. Of the prospective class list, there were only 50 classes that would apply to the American cultures requirement.

The Academic Affairs committee decided that we must more clearly define what these requirements were in order to avoid any strife. In the bill that we proposed and the Senate approved, we have suggested that there be only a three hour requirement which may either be of American cultures or international cultures.

In clearer terms, you have a choice of taking one class out of a prospective 261 classes. Not only this but that course may be applied to more than one area of your required hours to graduate.

We added the part that the classes offered each semester may not fall below 100 to ensure that students had a wide variety of choices. Estimating that approximately 7000 students would be taking these classes per semester, we included an amendment stating that at least 35 classes must have multiple sections per semester. That means that class enrollment will be approximately 50 or 60 per class.

Finally, we agreed that at least 35 classes must be offered per semester without the requirement of a prerequisite. This will allow freshmen to take a class as soon as they would like and not interfere with upper level class schedules if proper planning precedes the time.

Our boxes are located in the Student Government office and always open for any comments, and a phone list of the Senators numbers are also available there. We do the best we can in talking with our constituents, but we would also encourage anyone to take advantage of our availability.

Erin A. Fitzgerald
Class of '96

Lessons from Vietnam guide us in Somalia

The column written by Toni Garrard Clay (Sept. 23), raised the question, "If Bosnia is considered to be outside of our interests, why then is Somalia so different?" That question can be answered by three things we learned in Vietnam.

Don't enter the war unless there is a clear cut enemy the military is to destroy! Our military is not a punching bag police force to keep people with ethnic hatreds apart. When the U.S. entered Somalia, there was an enemy - the criminals like Aided who were killing and plundering relief aid workers. Bosnia is different. The Serbs, Croats and the Muslim Islamic fundamentalists, who are still trying to destabilize governments in the Middle East and North Africa, all wanted the war. It is a hatred that will have to burn itself out. There is no right, but instead all sides are wrong. The only thing the U.S. should do is support surrounding countries so the fire won't spread.

Once the president and Congress decide there is a right and wrong side and it's worth our effort, let the military carry out its objectives. Don't let a bunch of politicians tell the military they can't fight back and then tell the enemy three days before where our bomb targets are. The United Nations is a prime example of a military completely run by politicians, completely impotent.

Don't let the press into the battle zone. These soldiers in battle don't need liberal reporters to ignore any valor, courage, or kindness they do, but instead broadcast and multiply any mistakes and blunders. It was the press that turned those honorable soldiers that died and did their duty in Vietnam into baby killers and war mongers. The press is the one that publicized the atrocities in Somalia so much, demanding that we as Americans do something, and then when we do something say that we shouldn't be there, and it's not within our vital interest. The quality of reporting in most of the media today is that of smut reporters who complain about everything and give no real answers or insights to important issues.

Paul S. Grover
Graduate student

GRADUATE MANAGEMENT STUDIES IN FRANCE

The Consortium of leading French Grandes Ecoles of Management is seeking to recruit June '94 graduates for a 2-year International Management Program in French and/or English.

For further information about the Schools and the programs they offer, please meet our representative, Ms. Guilhène MARATIER-DECLÉTY, at a presentation:

at: "TEXAS SWING"
Memorial Student Center (MSC)
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
at: College Station
on: October 7th, 1993
from: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(contact: Sheila HUGHES, Career Center)



REC SPORTS HILLITES
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

EXERCISE CLASSES
INFORMAL RECREATION
INSTRUCTIONAL CLINICS
INTRAMURALS
SPORT CLUBS
TAMU OUTDOORS

Week At A Glance

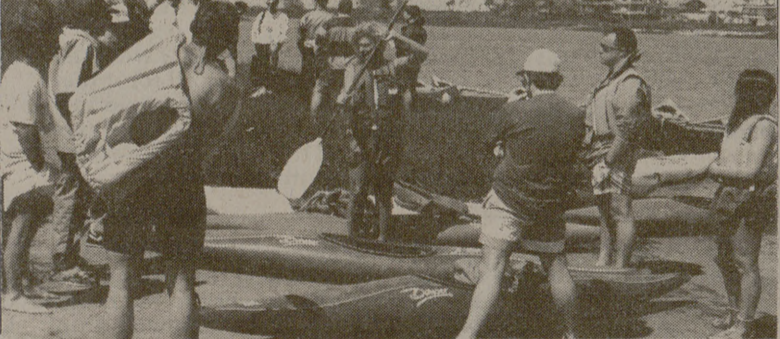
- Mon., Oct.**
- ★ **Entries Open:**
 - ★ CoRec Two-Pitch Softball
 - ★ Handball Singles
 - ★ Racquetball Doubles
 - ★ Track & Field Meet
 - ★ Wrestling
 - ★ Canoe Trip
 - ★ **Officials' Mtg:**
CoRec Two-Pitch Softball- 6 p.m., 267 G. Rollie White
- Tues., Oct. 5**
- ★ **Entries Close:**
 - ★ Preseason Outdoor Soccer
 - ★ Outdoor Soccer
 - ★ Preseason Volleyball
 - ★ Volleyball
 - ★ **Sport Club Mtg:**
164 Read-6 p.m.
- Wed., Oct. 6**
- ★ Preseason Outdoor Soccer & Preseason Volleyball Brackets Posted-2 p.m.
- Thurs., Oct. 7**
- ★ **Entries Close:**
 - ★ Cross Country Run
 - ★ **Captains' Mtgs:**
Outdoor Soccer-5 p.m.
Volleyball-5 p.m.
 - ★ Preseason Outdoor Soccer & Preseason Volleyball Tournaments begin-6 p.m.
- Mon., Oct. 11**
- ★ **Entries Open:**
 - ★ Badminton Doubles
 - ★ Pickleball Singles
 - ★ Punt, Pass, & Kick
 - ★ Kyle Field Ramp Romp

Intramurals

Listed below are the intramural sports opening for the rest of the semester. If you need more information, stop in the Rec Sports Office, 159 Read, or call 845-7826.

Sport	Open	Close	Fee
Field Goal Kicking	Oct. 18	Oct. 26	Free!
Flickerball	Oct. 18	Oct. 26	\$20
Bowling Singles	Oct. 25	Nov. 2	Varies
Archery Singles	Nov. 1	Nov. 9	Free!
Weightlifting	Nov. 1	Nov. 9	Free!
Eight-Ball Singles	Nov. 8	Nov. 16	Varies
Sports Trivia Bowl	Nov. 8	Nov. 16	Free!

Registration and fees are taken in 159 Read, Mon. - Thurs., 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and Fri., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Cash, local check, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover accepted.



TAMU Outdoors

Listed below are the trips and clinics for the rest of the semester. If you need more information, please call Patsy, 845-3093.

Trip	Trip Date	Entries Open	Entries Close	Fee
Kayak Roll Clinic	Oct. 14	NOW	Oct. 11	\$12*/15**
Intro to Hang Gliding	Oct. 16-17	NOW	Oct. 11	\$75*/82**
Kayak Workshop	Oct. 16-17	NOW	Oct. 11	\$50*/55**
Canoe Trip	Oct. 22-24	TODAY	Oct. 18	\$35*/40**
Backpacking Trip	Nov. 5-7	Oct. 18	Nov. 1	\$35*/40**
Mt. Biking Day Trip	Nov. 7	Oct. 18	Nov. 1	\$25*/30**
Rock Climbing Trip	Nov. 12-14	Oct. 25	Nov. 8	\$45*/48**

*Students & faculty/staff with a rec membership
**Faculty/staff without a rec membership & the Bryan/College Station community

Entries open next week for Kyle Field Ramp Romp IV

The 5K course begins at Kyle Field, winds its way through the A&M campus, and culminates at Kyle Field where runners tackle the ramps of the football stadium (not the stairs).

Divisions: Male/Female: 17 years & under, 18-19, 20-21, 22-24, 25-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+.

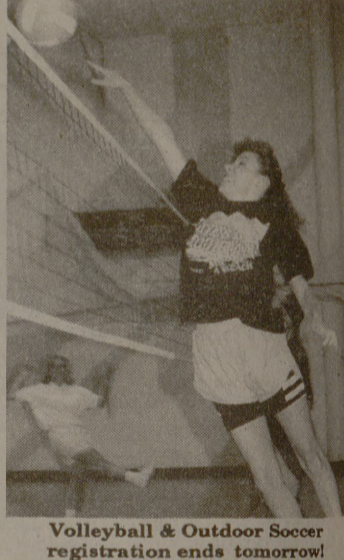
Entry Fees:
Texas A&M students & faculty/staff with a rec membership:\$7
Non-Texas A&M students and non-rec members:\$10
Late registration for all runners (after Nov. 2):\$12

Awards: Fastest male and female runners will each receive a \$250 travel voucher from Continental Airlines, a pair of Reebok athletic shoes, courtesy of Campus Sports and trophies from Awards & More. The first three males/females in each age group will receive medals.

Door prizes and awards will be given*
Proceeds to help benefit local Special Olympics.



*Two vouchers for round-trip tickets on Continental Airlines will be awarded as door prizes. The trips must be taken within the continental U.S. or Mexico. No purchase necessary. Winners must be present to receive their awards. For more info, stop in the Rec Sports Office, 159 Read, or call 845-7826.



Volleyball & Outdoor Soccer registration ends tomorrow!

Hey, have you been framed?

Has a Rec Sports photographer taken your picture at a rec sports event? If so, you can purchase a copy in the Rec Sports Office, 159 Read.

8 x 10 \$5
5 x 7 \$4

Proof sheets are available approximately ten days after the picture is taken and take about two weeks to process after the order is placed.

Fast Fact

What's Flickerball?
It's a game that combines both basketball and football skills. The game is played on a field 53 yards long and 30 yards wide with a rectangular goal at each end. The object is to advance the football toward the goal by passing and then attempting to throw the ball through the goal.