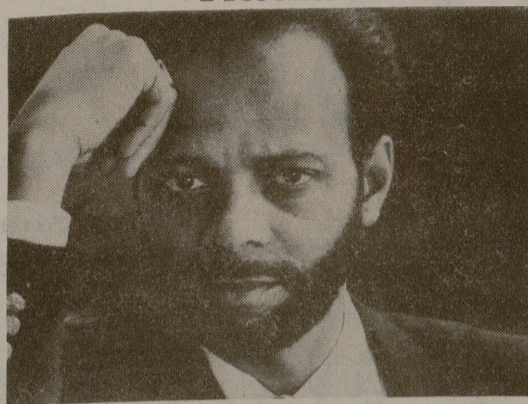


Presents



Haki Madhubuti

Editor of Third World Press and author of **BLACK MEN: Obsolete, Single, Dangerous**

November 11, 1993
601 Rudder 7:00 p.m.

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CAMPUS

CopCards feature Bryan officers

Local police find way to communicate with children

By Cheryl Heller

THE BATTALION

The Bryan Police Department has found a way to relate to children using CopCards, trading cards that feature pictures of the officers.

Sgt. Choya Walling said the cards provide a way for opening communication between children and police officers on patrol by using something that children can relate to. Police officers hand out the cards to children they meet.

"The fact that the officers have something that kids want initiates that first contact between them," Walling said. "We know from experience that in order to be effective in the community we have to have an open communication link with the citizens of that community, and we build that by beginning with the youth."

The department started handing out CopCards two years ago after Lt. Gary Wentreck became aware of a similar program in Los Angeles.

The first cards handed out by the Bryan police featured the department's three bicycle officer teams and street crime apprehension teams.

Based on the success of the first sets of cards, the department recently began handing out cards featuring only one officer.

Walling said some officers were reluctant at first to have their pictures on the cards, but now most think the cards are a good idea.

"Early on, there was some reluctance among a lot of officers to participate," he said. "They were hesitant to have their picture on a card and to hand out pictures of themselves, but we're seeing more officers participating and having cards made now."

Officer Alice Anderson, who is featured on a card with Officer Robert Smith, said she thinks the majority of the officers are pleased with the CopCards.



Courtesy of the Bryan Police Department

"I think at first a lot of officers were timid because they didn't know how the kids would react to the cards," she said. "But the kids are collecting them, and now the officers seem really proud to have their pictures on the cards."

The cards are very popular with children at the Bryan schools that she visits, she said.

"I visit the schools regularly, and I always like to give something to the kids I talk to, especially the younger ones," she said. "The kids seem very excited to get the cards, and every time I go to one of the schools, they ask me for more."

The cards open communication between children and the officers because a lot of children know that the officers carry cards with them, Anderson said.

"The children want the cards from the officers, and so they're more likely to ask the officers for them," she said. "They're a great way for kids to feel like they can approach police officers."

The Bryan Police Department's CopCards are funded by private sponsors. A \$120 donation pays for 1,000 cards.

RHA proposes cash machine in Commons lobby

By Jan Higginbotham

THE BATTALION

The RHA Facilities and Operations Committee is working with Texas A&M administration to install an automatic bank teller machine in the Commons lobby area.

Shana Sewalt, director of the Residence Hall Association facilities and operations committee, said the possibility is being looked into because the MPACT machine located in the Memorial Student Center is not beneficial for regular use by southside residents.

"We're doing this to increase the convenience for these residents," Sewalt said.

Members of the committee believe that the high amounts of traffic through the Commons area and the 5,200 students living on the southside could provide enough patronage to make such an installation beneficial to the university.

Sewalt submitted a letter with the proposal to Dan Mizer, Texas A&M student development specialist, and has received positive feedback from Mizer and other members of the administration.

The proposal also received wide support from RHA members present at last night's meeting.

Further legislation on the proposal was tabled by the RHA until more information concerning installation and costs becomes available for consideration.

"The legislation reiterates that the RHA as a whole supports the proposal," Sewalt said. "It would increase the strength of the proposal."

Jeff Nichols, president of Aston Hall on southside, told the RHA general assembly he has received many complaints from his residents because the nearest automatic teller machine at the MSC is not convenient.

Sewalt emphasized that the RHA is not trying to ignore the needs and interests of northside residents.

"Positive response from the southside proposal could bring about the possibility of putting one in on northside," Sewalt said.

Sewalt does not know when the proposal for a southside automatic teller machine might go through with administration.

"At this point, all we can do is wait for their response," Sewalt said.

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- You must receive your graduate degree from Texas A&M University to qualify for a ring. If you will graduate in December 1993, your order will be accepted (until November 12) contingent upon your December '93 degree being conferred and posted on SIMS no later than January 21, 1994.
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*Add \$8.00 for Class of '92 or before. White gold is available for an extra charge of \$10.83.
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A&M researchers criticize genetic cloning

By Lisa Elliott

THE BATTALION

With recent advances in genetic research, human cloning has once again filled the hopes of scientific dreamers, yet some researchers at Texas A&M questioned the ethics of such research at a forum Wednesday night.

Dr. Malcolm Skolnick, professor of Health Services at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, said many scientists are making advances that they don't know how to handle.

Skolnick said technology is a double-edged sword. It has the potential for producing an enormous amount of new knowledge, which leads to choices the researcher has to make about the ethics of the uses of that knowledge.

"More knowledge is being generated than people know what to do with," he said.

do with," he said.

Dr. Ryland Young, a professor in the biochemistry and biophysics department, said he is strongly against the Human Genome Mapping Project, an international project to create a map of all of the human chromosomes.

He said the project is an example of "bad science," science which gets bureaucratic support for its commercialization effect, and it takes away from "basic science," which is needed as building blocks for future important projects.

The human genome project doesn't have ethical beginnings and no real idea as a basis for it, he said.

Young said that because of all the propaganda surrounding this project, "it gets harder and harder to tell students that you need an idea before you have an experiment."

Dr. James Lupski, associate professor of microbiology and molecu-

lar genetics at the University of Texas Health Science Center, said forums are important for the field of science and the public because they allow the public to become better informed to make decisions about their health.

"Contrary to what people think, everyone carries eight to 20 recessive disease genes that they don't know they have until they marry someone that also carries it," he said.

Skolnick said he wished people were more informed about the positive effects of genetic projects.

"I know a number of groups that think it is evil to eat a tomato that is genetically altered," he said.

All the scientists agreed that funding is a continuous problem in their field. They worried that researchers are becoming too commercialized and concerned with making a product that will sell rather than finding useful information.

clip-n-save - tape it to your forehead

OFF CAMPUS AGGIES

Mandatory MARDI GRAS Meeting

THIS SUNDAY, Nov. 14, 8:30 p.m.
J. Koldus Bldg. Governance Room
(former Student Services Bldg.)

If you have signed up for Mardi Gras or would like to be involved, **BE THERE!!!**

For more info call Brent @ 845-0688 or 822-6510.

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