

# Texas A&M *The Battalion*

Vol. 93 No. 130 (14 pages)

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Thursday, April 14, 1994

## Fund-raising campaign approaches goal

**By Juli Rhoden**  
*The Battalion*

Texas A&M's Capturing the Spirit campaign has reached 73 percent of its fund-raising goal for the University, and members of the campus community are doing their part to support the effort.

The campaign, which is expected to reach \$500 million by August 1996, is an effort to raise money for scholarships and other needs of the University. The Department of Engineering Technology and the Department of Petroleum Engineering recently established Campus Endowment Campaign funds for faculty, staff and students to donate money for the use of the departments.

The Campus Endowment Campaign is part of the overall effort that is exclusively for faculty, staff and

### Planners say campus endowment ahead of projected \$500 million August 1996 schedule

students of A&M to make donations.

As part of the campus endowment, the engineering technology department created a fund for Engineering Technology Excellence.

Dr. John Weese, department head of engineering technology, said they are trying to do something for students that faculty and staff can enjoy.

"We created this endowment to do our part in the University campaign," he said. "This fund is for the students and staff to meet academic needs and fund programs within the department."

Weese said since the program began in December 1993, four faculty members have donated \$5,000 to the fund.

The petroleum engineering department's fund is not only for the campus campaign. It is also in honor of former department head Dr. Doug Von Goten, who was killed in a tractor accident in 1991.

The scholarship fund was originally the petroleum engineering students' idea and funded by their annual golf tournament. But faculty, staff and petroleum businesses have since taken charge of the

fund-raising efforts.

Carl Jaedicke, director of development for the College of Engineering, said both programs are in the early stages.

"Since the programs are in the beginning stages, not a lot of money has been raised, yet," he said. "But we're hoping the \$20,000 goal is met by the time the campaign is over."

Dennis Prescott, deputy director for the Capturing the Spirit campaign, said the campus endowment program was established to give faculty and staff a chance to donate to A&M and for donors outside the campus to see how supportive they are of the campaign.

"Since the program began in September 1990,

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## Clayton Williams Jr. to speak with Corps, engineering students

**By James Bernsen**  
*The Battalion*

Texas businessman and former gubernatorial candidate Clayton Williams Jr. will be on the Texas A&M campus today to speak to the Corps of Cadets and the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

Mando Avila, deputy commander of the Corps, said Williams will be speaking to Corps members about leadership in the business world at 5:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder Tower.

"He'll probably talk about how he got where he is today and how he learned from his experiences in the Corps," he said.

Williams will also speak to the Society of Petroleum Engineers at 7 p.m. in 106 Richardson Petroleum Engineering.

Ted Lafferty, vice-president of SPE, said Williams will discuss issues facing the petroleum industry today.

"We decided to bring him to campus because of his success in petroleum engineering," he said. "We'd like him to talk especially to seniors who are graduating, to give them an idea of what to expect."

Lafferty said SPE has extended an invitation to students and faculty of other engineering fields and the geosciences, but the speech will focus primarily on petroleum engineering.

Williams, Class of '54, is the founder of ClayDesta, a petroleum engineering company in Midland. He later expanded into the communications field in the late 1980s with ClayDesta Communications.

Williams also has a building named after him on the A&M campus. The Clayton W. Williams Jr. Alumni Center, which was built in 1988, was named after Williams because he was the major contributor to the project at the time.

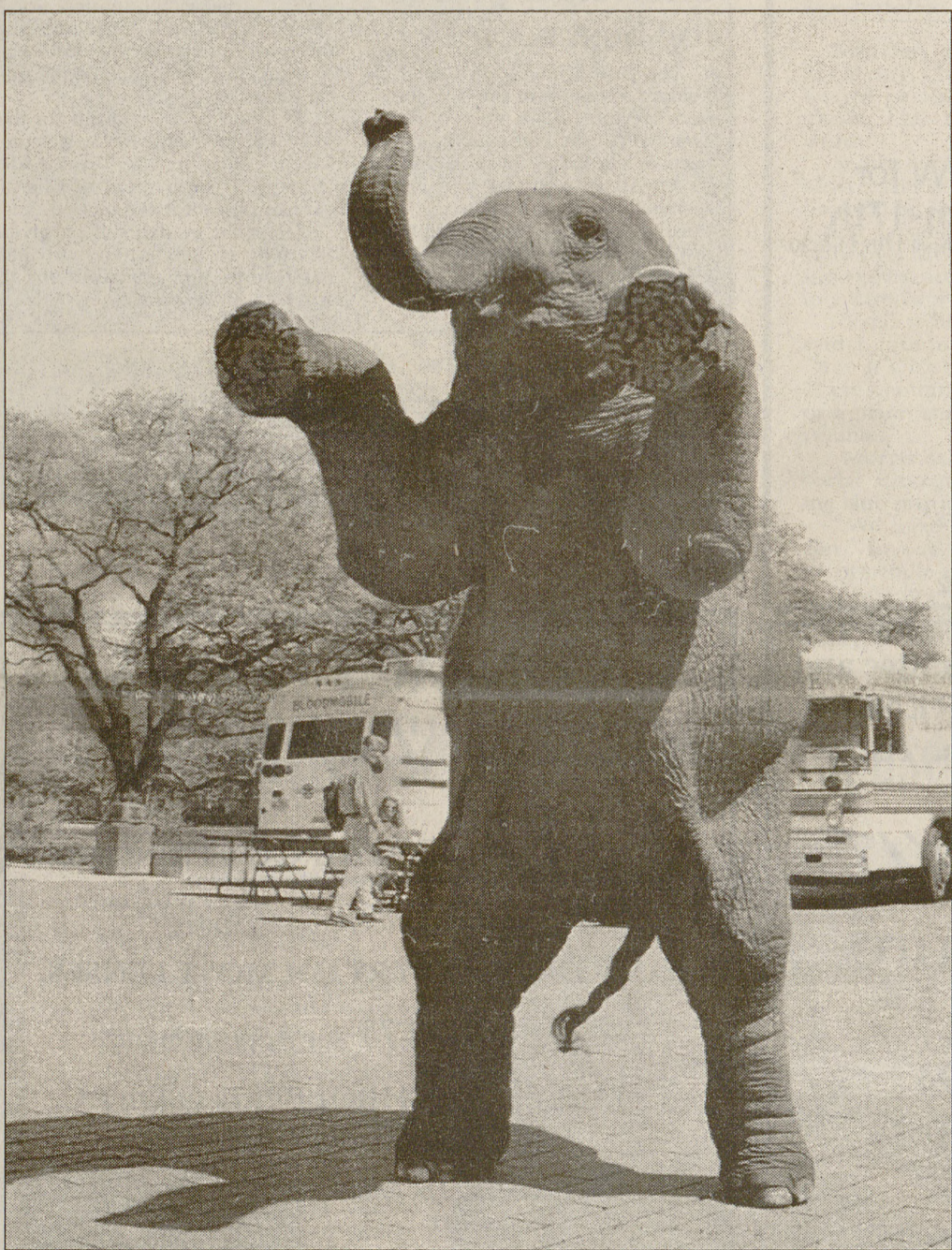
The \$7 million, 57,000 square-foot building began construction in June of 1985. It was expected to be completed in September of 1986.

The alumni center houses the offices of the Association of Former Students and the Aggie Ring Office.



Williams

## Hear me roar



Ben the elephant makes an appearance Wednesday at Rudder Fountain. Local Republican candidates used Ben to attract prospective voters.

## Tobacco industry forced to publish cigarette contents

**The Associated Press**

WASHINGTON — Under intense pressure from Congress, the nation's biggest tobacco companies released a top-secret list of chemicals in cigarettes on Wednesday.

"We really don't know the health effects of smoking a cigarette with a very specific quantity of chemicals added in a specific combination," said Rep. Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

"It's disingenuous at best to contend the absence or presence of certain chemicals means that cigarettes are safe," said Victor Zonana, spokesman for the Department of Health and Human Services.

"We've been misunderstood, misrepresented and we want the American public to know there is not any misrepresentation," said Dr. Robert Suber, a toxicologist for R.J. Reynolds, which spearheaded the unveiling.

"We decided the noise level got to the point where we had to put those concerns about trade secrets aside," added Reynolds spokesman David Fischel.

The release came one day before a congressional hearing on the content of cigarettes and whether the Food and Drug Administration should regulate them as drugs.

Key to FDA's decision is proving whether cigarette companies manipulate nicotine levels. On Wednesday's list of additives is tobacco extract, which contains a small amount of nicotine. Suber contended the amount is too tiny to justify FDA action.

Also Wednesday, Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., released a 1981 article written by a tobacco executive stating that companies specially blend tobacco to maintain high nicotine while reducing tar. The executive, Alexander Spears of Lorillard Tobacco Co., last month testified before Waxman's health subcommittee that companies don't do that, saying nicotine levels naturally drop when tar drops.

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## United Way Kiss-Off Event invites all pairs to kiss, raise money

**By Angela Neaves**  
*The Battalion*

When members of Texas A&M's United Way began planning Saturday's Kiss-Off to raise money for local organizations, they invited all couples from the Bryan-College Station area to attend.

Members of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Aggies are taking them up on that offer, and neither group expects any sort of disruption at the Kiss-Off, which will begin at 3 p.m. at Kyle Field.

Mark Martin, a senior psychology major and president of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Aggies, said he and a group of homosexual friends plan to participate in the Kiss-Off. So far, no one has expressed any concern over their participating, Martin said.

"I'm excited about the Kiss-Off," he said. "It will illustrate our key point; our struggle for equal rights."

Martin said he hopes people will understand their desire for equal rights after the Kiss-Off.

"We don't want special treatment that straight people don't get which is a popular misconception," Martin said. "We just want the same rights they have. I think the Kiss-Off will bring that idea home."

Dan Rose, a member of A&M's United Way, said the group discussed the participation of homosexual couples.

"It was a concern only because some people asked about it," Rose said. "We said all couples were welcome. Couple means heterosexual or homosexual. We can't sexually discriminate."

Rose said he does not foresee any problems for the gay couples.

"There will be no lashing out at them or anything like that," Rose said. "They are couples. There is no sign that says male-female couples only. The main reason for the event is to raise money for the community."

The goal of the Kiss-Off is to have thousands of couples participate in the largest crowd kissing at one time, Rose said. The couples will gather on Kyle Field and wait for a countdown to begin kissing. After the time expires, the couples will kiss as long as they want to, Rose said.

The event has not cost the United Way much money, Rose said. Many local businesses have contributed to the event by donating door prizes, and Kyle Field is being used free of charge. A local radio station is providing free publicity.

In 1984, an event similar to the Kiss-Off attracted over 2,000 couples at Texas A&M. Rose said the United Way hopes to set a new record this year.

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit Bryan-College Station community agencies and organizations, such as the Brazos Valley Food Bank.

Admission to the event is \$2.

## Transformer ignites fire in westside building, causes minimal damage

**By Kim McGuire**  
*The Battalion*

A broken transformer sent smoke spiraling through the Kleberg Animal Center and caused the building to be evacuated Wednesday night.

University Police Department received a call at 6:44 p.m. informing them a transformer in the basement had malfunctioned and caused a small fire.

UPD Lieutenant Cabrina Davis said the transformer ignited the insulation on the ducts when it blew, sending smoke up the west side of the building.

Jennifer Beckner, a sophomore animal science major, was working in the animal lab in the basement of Kleberg when the lights went out.

"About 30 minutes later, we began smelling smoke," Beckner said. "When we went out to investigate, the building was evacuated and we weren't allowed back in."

Bart Humphreys, College Station Fire Department battalion chief, said there was minimal damage caused by the fire, but there was some concern about ether in the building.

College Station Firefighter Johnny Ward said some people in the labs were boiling ether when the transformer blew, shutting off the ventilation system in the building.

Ward said firefighters extracted ether from the building and iced it down to keep it from emitting vapors.

Humphreys said firefighters were faced with the task of ventilating the building since the



Claire Petri/Special to The Battalion

Joe Warren (left) and Lt. Maggie McGraw (right) remove their protective gear outside of the Kleberg Building. Ether had contaminated the building after a transmitter overloaded.

used in the research labs but were concerned about the condition of the 100 other animals left inside.

"They've got their own ventilation system

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