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Editorial

What A&M did on its summer vacation

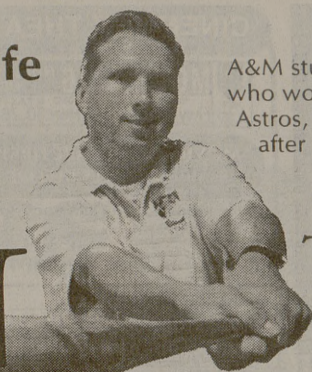
Weather

Thursday through Monday: highs in the 90s, lows in the 70s. Chance of isolated afternoon and evening thundershowers. (That's what they said yesterday.)

—National Weather Service

Aggielife

A&M students like Ken Troupe, who worked with the Houston Astros, line up internships for jobs after graduation



THURSDAY

August 4, 1994

Vol. 93, No. 185 (6 pages)

"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

THE BATTALION

Decrease in parking tickets continues

New garage, shuttle routes pave way to future

By Tracy Smith

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M students can expect fewer parking tickets in coming years as the University increases the number of parking spaces on campus and encourages students to ride University buses.

Construction may begin as early as Summer '95 on a new parking garage near the library, and A&M Shuttle Bus Services are planning new on-campus routes.

Tom Williams, director of Parking, Transit and Traffic Services, said the number of parking tickets has gradually declined over the

past five years because more spaces are now available to the students.

"For many years, there were no parking garages on campus so the number of spaces where students could park was limited," Williams said. "The number of parking tickets started going down as the parking garages were built and parking lots expanded."

Williams said the University receives \$900,000 a year for parking violations, but are trying to decrease this amount.

"All the money does go back into the University system," he said. "PITS uses the money to build new parking garages and keep parking

facilities running smoothly.

"The Board of Regents recently approved a new parking garage by the library, which will have approximately 650 spaces."

Williams said he is working in conjunction with Student Government to get the student's opinion on the parking and bus systems. He wants to offer incentives to students who have bus passes.

"Buses are convenient for the students and don't saturate the roads," he said. "It would be better for 50 people to ride a bus, than have 50 cars out on the road."

Woody Isenhardt, Texas A&M coordinator of Shuttle Bus Services,

said more people are riding the on- and off-campus shuttle buses, but they expect the numbers to increase.

"We are in the process of planning five new on-campus routes to better accommodate the students," Isenhardt said. "These should help get students where they need to go faster than before."

He said he sees a trend toward fewer tickets as more students begin riding University buses.

"We encourage students to leave their cars at home and ride the bus," he said. "Getting parking tickets on campus can be easily avoided with simple precautions."

But, sometimes it takes more

Please see **Parking**, Page 2

Vet students, animal shelter save pets' lives

By Christine Johnson

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M's Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery and the Brazos Animal Shelter have started a joint venture to help save animals' lives.

In a summer pilot program, senior veterinary students spay and neuter 12 animals from the Brazos Animal Shelter one day a week.

Kathy Bice, executive director of the shelter, said the venture adds flexibility for the animal shelter.

"Since our policy is that no animals leave here without getting spayed or neutered, having 12 animals a week ready for adoption really helps us," she said. "Especially with mobile adoptions (when the animals are taken to other

towns where there are no shelters).

"It has allowed us to save lives twice, here and at A&M, and saving lives is what we are all about."

The Brazos Animal Shelter has attempted to start such a program since 1989, but Bice said it did not actually start until a couple of months ago.

"The program has been so successful that we have agreed to continue to do this on a long term basis - 48 weeks per year," she said.

Dr. Lisa Howe, clinical assistant professor of Veterinary Medicine, said the program will become a permanent one.

"There are details to still work out, but it appears that the program is a success and will become permanent," Howe said.

She said the experience will be an asset to

the teaching program at A&M.

"It provides a day of intensive surgical experience under the supervision of a surgeon," she said, "plus, when we go to the shelter to re-check the animals, it gives the students a chance to see how an animal shelter operates."

Dr. John August, head of the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, said the idea for the project came from the department's long association with the humane society of Austin.

"We wanted to do a similar thing with the animal shelter here," August said. "We had quite a few meetings to find a way for A&M to help without interfering with the relationship between the adopted animals and local veterinarians."

Please see **Pets**, Page 2



Stew Milne/The Battalion

Fungus among us

Tubes suck fungus out of a tree between the Academic Building and the Cushing Library to save it from oak wilt disease. The fungus in question is *Ceratocystis fagacearum*.

ORIGINAL RECIPE

Other universities model programs after Fish Camp

By Brian Coats

THE BATTALION

Large universities interested in starting camp-style freshman orientations are taking notes on Texas A&M's Fish Camp, an off-campus summer program for incoming students.

Fish Camp consists of five four-day sessions held in August at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center in Palestine. It is designed to teach freshmen about A&M traditions, provide an opportunity to meet other freshmen and upperclassmen, and ease the transition between high school and college.

Mike Knox, director of Fish Camp '95, said schools across the nation have called him wanting information about Fish Camp.

"Other schools call all the time," he said. "Four or five schools called this year wanting information. Purdue and Oklahoma State came to camp last year, and Arizona and Oklahoma are coming to observe this year."

Within the last year, Purdue and Auburn Universities have

started off-campus orientations. The University of Texas will be holding the second "Camp Texas" August 22 to 23 and 25 to 26 on Lake Travis.

Although some Texas students said the camp is modeled after Fish Camp, Kristen Henry, student relations coordinator for the Texas Ex-Students' Association, said it is different.

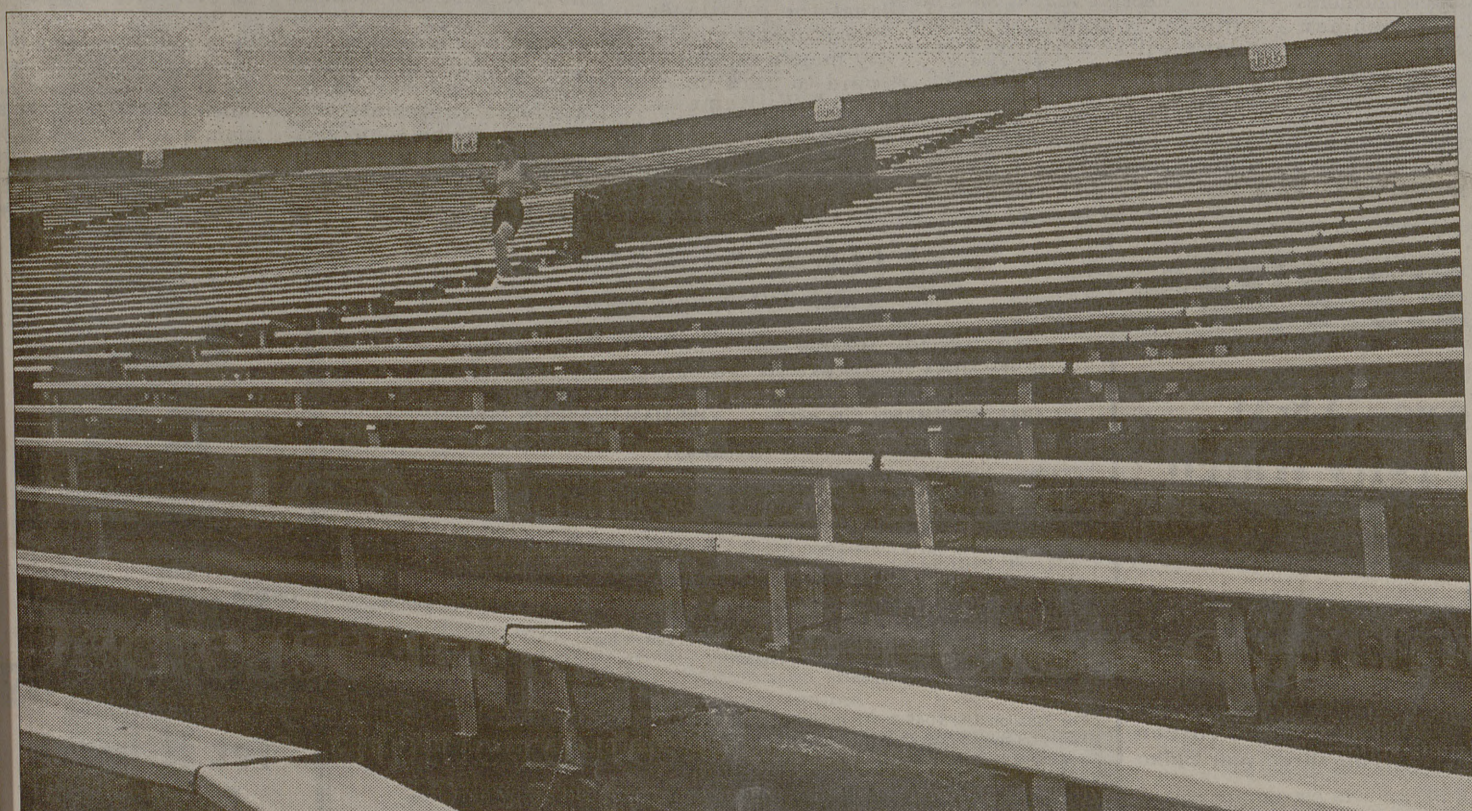
"We looked at programs which help students bond with their university, like Fish Camp," she said. "We created our own programs and activities though."

Many Fish Camp staff members said Camp Texas doesn't compare with Fish Camp because A&M's program is completely student-run, while Camp Texas is run by administrators and the Texas Ex-Students' Association.

Camp Texas is only open to 250 freshmen, while Fish Camp serves over 3,500 A&M freshmen.

Chris Cole, an associate director of Fish Camp, said Aggies

Please see **Camp**, Page 6



Stew Milne/The Battalion

I must be on the front row

Marcella Paull, an '84 graduate of A&M, runs the bleachers of Kyle Field Wednesday afternoon. Paull, who is a Certified Public

Accountant in College Station, began running again yesterday after recovering from a knee injury.

Summer Final Exams

This is the official final examination schedule as printed in the University's summer class directory. Individual classes may make different arrangements.

Second Term

Classes meeting	Final exam is
8- 9:35 a.m.	Tues., Aug. 9
10- 11:35 a.m.	Tues., Aug. 9
12 noon- 1:35 p.m.	Tues., Aug. 9
2- 3:35 p.m.	Tues., Aug. 9

Ten-week Classes

Classes meeting	Final exam is
MWF 8- 10 a.m.	Mon., Aug. 8
MWF 10 a.m.- noon	Mon., Aug. 8
MWF noon- 2 p.m.	Mon., Aug. 8
MWF 2- 4 p.m.	Mon., Aug. 8
TR 8- 10 a.m.	Tues., Aug. 9
TR 10 a.m.- noon	Tues., Aug. 9
TR noon- 2 p.m.	Tues., Aug. 9
TR 2- 4 p.m.	Tues., Aug. 9

Good Luck, Ags!

Campus adopts employee literacy program

By Stacey Fehlis

THE BATTALION

A Physical Plant program designed to help its employees learn literacy and math efficiency skills has expanded across the Texas A&M campus.

Gene Voelkel, training manager for the Physical Plant, said the program was designed to help employees qualify for other types of training that allows them to progress or possibly qualify for other positions above entry level.

"If an employee is hired at entry level and then is not offered an opportunity to compete for a chance to be promoted, that employee has been done a great injustice," he said. "Sooner or later it will result in an unhappy or unproductive worker."

Voelkel said a GED (General Education Development) program, which enables individuals to earn their high school equivalency certificate, was started in 1986 for Physical Plant employees.

"If an employee is hired at entry level and then is not offered an opportunity to compete for a chance to be promoted, that employee has been done a great injustice."

— Gene Voelkel, Physical Plant training manager

Soon after, three other programs were added when the department realized not everyone could start out at a high school learning level.

"Many people are not ready to pick up learning at a high school level," he said. "So the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program was added to help those with grammar school and junior high educations, as well as a program called English as a Second Language (ESL) for those who do not speak English fluently and a one-on-one tutoring program with Literacy Volunteers of America."

Voelkel said the Physical

Plant ran these programs for two years when, in 1988, the GED program was adopted campus-wide.

"The president of the University found out what success we were having with our programs and decided to adopt the GED program campus-wide," he said. "Since 1988, the Physical Plant still runs the ABE, ESL and the one-on-one tutor program, but the Human Resource Department has taken over the GED program."

Gib Sawtelle, senior training and development specialist for the Human Resources Department, said the main reason the

GED program was adopted campus-wide is because people are hired at different levels and some need the opportunity to further their education.

"Human Resource's main goal is to help people develop to their fullest potential," he said. "Our main resource is our employees and the GED program gives us an opportunity to help provide better opportunities for them."

Michelle Kinney, training and

Please see **Literacy**, Page 6

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