

September 29 & 30, 1994 8:00 p.m. Rudder Auditorium

MSC OPERA & PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY presents **THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES** September 29, 1994 RUDDER AUDITORIUM



"The Will Rogers Follies" takes us back to a bygone era to recount how Rogers' wit and charm made him a legend. From the splashy show tunes to the homespun humor and dazzling rope tricks, YOU will see why Will Rogers and "The Will Rogers Follies" will always be American treasures.

Your Season! OPAS22

MSC OPERA & PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY

Tickets are on sale at the MSC Box Office - TAMU, or charge by phone at 845-1234

Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our ability.

Join us for a Pre-Performance Buffet

on September 29 or 30. Dinner will be served from 6-7:30 p.m. Buffet tickets are \$10 per person and reservations must be made by Wednesday, September 28.

For more information, call 845-1118.

A&M focuses on student retention

By Susan Owen THE BATTALION

Although the percentage of minority students at Texas A&M is increasing gradually, the rate of retention has not changed much over the last seven years.

According to A&M's Office of Admissions and Records, the total percentage of students who enrolled as freshmen at A&M in 1992 and returned in 1993 was 86 percent.

For black students the number was 83 percent, and for Hispanic students it was 75 percent. Overall freshmen retention increased to 81 percent in 1986, but the figures for black and Hispanic student retention did not change significantly between 1986 and 1993.

Don Wood, A&M's assistant director of planning and institutional research, said minority retention rates for large institutions rarely change dramatically.

"Even if you add a big program and try to improve the numbers, sometimes it's still very hard to improve them," he said.

Among Texas public universities, A&M and the University of Texas at Austin have the highest minority and total retention rates, according to a survey conducted in 1992.

Wood said the high retention rates could be due to higher ad-

mission standards at A&M and UT. Schools maintaining open admission policies often have lower student retention rates, he said.

The percentage of minority students enrolled at A&M over the last decade and a half has gradually increased from 6.6 percent in 1978 to 21.8 percent in 1993, according to the Office of Admissions and Records.

Kevin Carreathers, director of A&M's Department of Multicultural Services, said although things are improving, the University has a long way to go in recruitment and retention before the minority students attain a "critical mass," or comfort level in the student population.

He described a "critical mass" of minorities as a percentage that allows minority students to feel less isolated, to walk across campus and see other students like themselves.

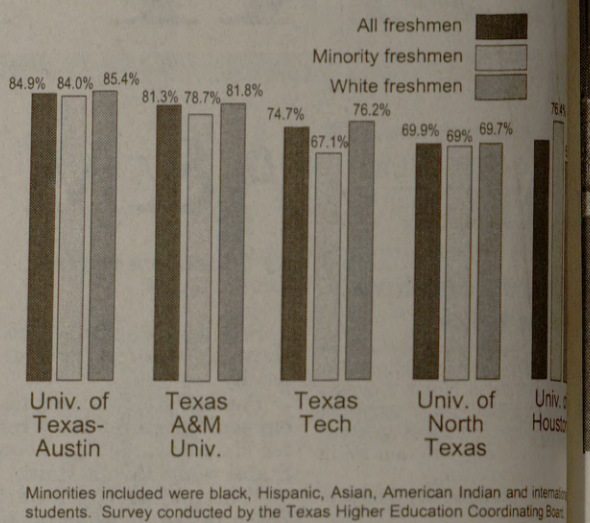
"Having a critical mass of (minority) students is important to retention," he said.

Carreathers said he would consider a critical mass at Texas A&M to be about 40 percent minority students.

Working toward a critical mass of minority students is only one way in which the University can improve its minority retention, Carreathers said.

Hanging on to freshmen

Percentages of freshmen who enrolled in college full-time Fall 1991 and returned for Fall 1992. The schools shown are Texas public universities whose retention rates were high.



Susan Owen

He said the Department of Multicultural Services is primarily concerned with minority retention and diversity education.

The department sponsors the student-run ExCEL, a freshman minority adjustment program,

which offers minority students two-day orientation programs before the start of the fall semester. ExCEL also sponsors workshops twice a month on study skills and adapting to college life.

Computer theft plagues campus

By Stephanie Dube THE BATTALION

In the past eight months, over \$65,000 in computers and computer equipment has been stolen on the Texas A&M campus.

Sgt. Betty LeMay, crime prevention specialist with the University Police Department, said there has been no pattern to the thefts.

"It could be anybody doing this; there are no fingers pointed in any particular direction," LeMay said. "It happens at all times of the day and night; there is no set pattern. It is very sporadic."

LeMay said the chances of recovering the lost items are slim, especially if someone decides to use the stolen items for personal use.

"Occasionally a suspect will appear when they try to sell or pawn the item," LeMay said. "But without a serial number, it's hard to get any lead. If an item is stolen with identification on it, you double your chances of getting it back."

LeMay said everyone who owns computer equipment should know his or her equipment's serial number. In addition, if the equipment is owned by A&M, it should have an A&M number on it. If the item is for personal use, it should be engraved

somehow for identification.

If someone steals an item and the item has no identification on it, a person will have a difficult time proving the item is stolen, she said.

William Newman, president and owner of Office Security Systems, said it is important for people to protect their computer equipment.

"Most of the people who steal equipment do so at the spur-of-the-moment," Newman said. "If they can't get away with it in a hurry, it will be a waste of time."

Security pads and cables must be secured, he said. Newman said the security pad sticks to the top of a desk and is locked to the computer. The pad has to be taken apart before the computer can then be removed. "They would have to take the top of the desk off before the computer could be removed," Newman said.

"Sometimes you can't secure a building and the equipment is in the open," he said. "But you can secure the desk and rest assured the computer will be there when you get back."

In addition, people can secure their computer equipment with cables, which are less expensive,

Please see Theft, Page 3

E-mail

Continued from Page 1

Through Texas A&M's computer services, students have access to many other forms of communication.

One such method is Relay Chat, or IRC.

IRC is comparable to a phone call. People talk to each other through the computer. Messages and files are immediate.

Vasquez-Ani said the people learn to use IRC are addicted.

"IRC is great for study but it can be addictive," she said. "New users get hooked fast."

Despite the convenience of electronic communication, said other forms of communication are still important.

"It does not replace mail or telephone conversations," she said. "It is simply an additional mode of communication."

Bargain Matinees
All Shows Before 6p.m.

SCHULMAN SIX
2000 E. 29th Street 775-2463

*CLEAR & PRESENT DANGER -PG13
\$5.00/\$3.00 1:55 4:30 7:10 9:55

COLOR OF NIGHT -R
\$5.00/\$3.00 2:10 4:50 7:20 9:50

*MILK MONEY -PG13
\$5.00/\$3.00 2:05 4:40 7:05 9:40

*TIMECOP -R
\$5.00/\$3.00 2:15 4:50 7:15 9:40

*TRUE LIES -R
\$5.00/\$3.00 1:55 4:30 7:05 9:55

THE NEXT KARATE KID -PG
\$5.00/\$3.00 2:00 4:35 7:00 9:45

SCHULMAN THEATRES
IS AGGIE OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1926

CLASS OF '45-'79-'81-'91

STUDENT NITE EVERY MONDAY LISTEN TO KKYS FOR DETAILS

HARRISON FORD
CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER

PG-13

SCHULMAN SIX

VAN DAMME

THEY KILLED HIS WIFE TEN YEARS AGO.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO SAVE HER.

TIMECOP

NOW SHOWING SCHULMAN SIX -DOLBY-

"★★★★★!
A MARRIAGE OF COMEDY AND CHAOS!
RIFE WITH LAUGHS.
A FEAST OF EMOTION."
-John Anderson, NEWSDAY

Everybody wants to kiss the bride, except the groom.

The WEDDING BANQUET

A little deception at the reception.

THURS. @ 8PM FRI. @ 7PM

THIS WEEK

FRI. @ 9:30PM SAT. @ 7 & 9:30PM

BRANDON LEE

"DAZZLING AND FIERCELY HYPNOTIC!
Brandon Lee is sensational as the avenging angel!"
-Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

the CROW

ADMISSION TO ALL FILMS IS \$2.75 WITH TAMU I.D.
TICKETS ON SALE AT MSC BOX OFFICE IN RUDDER

ALL FILMS PRESENTED IN RUDDER THEATER COMPLEX
MSC BOX OFFICE 845-1234/CINEMA HOTLINE 847-8478/MSC STUDENT PROGRAMS 845-1515

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE ASKED TO INFORM US OF YOUR SPECIAL NEEDS IN ADVANCE BY PHONE. PLEASE GIVE US 3 DAYS NOTICE TO LET US ASSIST YOU TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY.

MSC FILM SOCIETY OF TEXAS A&M

All Occasion Gifts
at
HEARTWORKS

♥ Complete selection of Mary Engelbreit including:
• Stationary • Books • Cards • T-Shirts • Much, Much, More!

♥ Bath Boutique of Upper Canada Toiletries

♥ Yankee Candles ♥ Angels, Bears, Bunnies

♥ Claire Burke Potpourri, Room Spray and Candles

♥ Large Selection of Throws ♥ Sunflower items

♥ Fall Decorations including:
• Scarecrows • Pumpkins • Door Decor, etc!

Porch Sale This Saturday, Sept. 17th
Lots & Lots of 1/2 Price Items!

Mon.-Sat. 10-6
108 E. North Avenue • 846-0512

The Garden District

WHOOPIING COUGH (Pertussis) VACCINE STUDY

We Are Beginning a New Whooping Cough Vaccine Study

Monday, September 19, 1994 & Monday, September 26, 1994
(First Come, First Served Until Study Is Filled)

For further information or to determine eligibility for the study Come To:

Beutl Health Center, Room 233, 2nd Floor
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Dr. John Quarles
845-3678

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE IT IN THE REAL WORLD, SPEND A SEMESTER IN OURS.

Walt Disney World Co. representatives will be on campus to present an information session for Undergraduate Students on the WALT DISNEY WORLD Spring '95 College Program.

WHEN: MONDAY, SEPT. 19 AT 7:00PM
WHERE: ROOM 201 MSC

Attendance at this presentation is required to interview for the Spring '95 College Program.

Interviews will be Tuesday, September 20. All majors are encouraged to attend.

For more information Contact:
Coop Education
Phone: 845-7725

Walt Disney World Co.
Where students spend a semester getting ready for the rest of their lives.

© The Walt Disney Co. An equal opportunity employer

THE BATTALION
BELINDA BLANCARTE, Editor in chief

MARK EVANS, Managing editor
HEATHER WINCH, Night News editor
MARK SMITH, Night News editor
KIM MCGUIRE, City editor

JAY ROBBINS, Opinion editor
STEWART MILNE, Photo editor
DAVID WINDER, Sports editor
ROB CLARK, AggieLife editor

Staff Members

City desk—Jan Higginbotham, Katherine Arnold, Michele Brinkmann, Stephanie Dube, Susan Fehlis, Eloise Flint, Amanda Fowle, Melissa Jacobs, Lisa Messer, Angela Newell, Owen, Constance Parten and Tracy Smith

News desk—Robin Greathouse, Sterling Hayman, Jody Holley, Shafi Islam, Jennifer Moore, Tiffany Moore and Stacy Stanton

Photographers—Stacey Cameron, David Birch, Blake Griggs, J.D. Jacoby, Tim Moog, Clint Panton, Nick Rodnicki and Carrie Thompson

AggieLife—Anas Ben-Musa, Margaret Cloughton, Christi Erwin, Jennifer Gressett and Jeremy Keddie

Sports writers—Nick Georgandis, Drew Diener and Stewart Doreen

Opinion desk—Jenny Magee, Lynn Booher, Josef Elchanan, Laura Frnka, Aja Henderson, Hill, Jeremy Keddie, Michael Landauer, Melissa Megliola, George Nater, Preston, Gerardo Quezada and Frank Stanford

Cartoonists—Greg Argo, Brad Graeber, Alvaro Gutierrez and Quatro Oakley

Office Assistants—Heather Fitch, Adam Hill, Karen Hoffman and Michelle Oleason

Writing Coach—Timm Doolen

The Battalion (USPS 045-360) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer sessions (except University holidays and exam periods), at Texas A&M University. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publication, a unit of the Department of Journalism. Editorial offices are at 013 Reed McDonald Building. E-mail: BATT@TAMU1.TAMU.EDU. Newsroom phone: 845-3313. Fax: 845-2647.

Advertising: Publication of advertising does not imply sponsorship or endorsement by The Battalion. For campus, local and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-2678. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-2678.

Subscriptions: Mail subscriptions are \$20 per semester, \$40 per school year and \$50 per year. To charge by VISA, MasterCard or Discover, call 845-2611.