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AGGIE RING ORDERS
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DEADLINE: **SEPTEMBER 21, 1994**

- Undergraduate Student Requirements:**
- You must be a degree seeking student and have a total of 95 credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System. (A passed course, which is repeated and passed, cannot count as additional credit hours.)
 - 30 credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University. If you did not successfully complete one semester at Texas A&M University prior to January 1, 1994, you will need to complete a minimum of 60 credit hours in residence. (This requirement will be waived if your degree is conferred and posted with less than 60 A&M hours.)
 - You must have a 2.0 cumulative GPR at Texas A&M University.
 - You must be in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

Graduate Student Requirements:
If you are a December 1994 degree candidate and you do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree year, you may place an order for a '94 ring after you meet the following requirements:

- Your degree is conferred and posted on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System; and
- You are in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

If you have complete all of your degree requirements prior to September 16, 1994, you may request a "Letter of Completion" from the Office of Graduate Studies and present it to the Ring Office in lieu of your degree being posted.

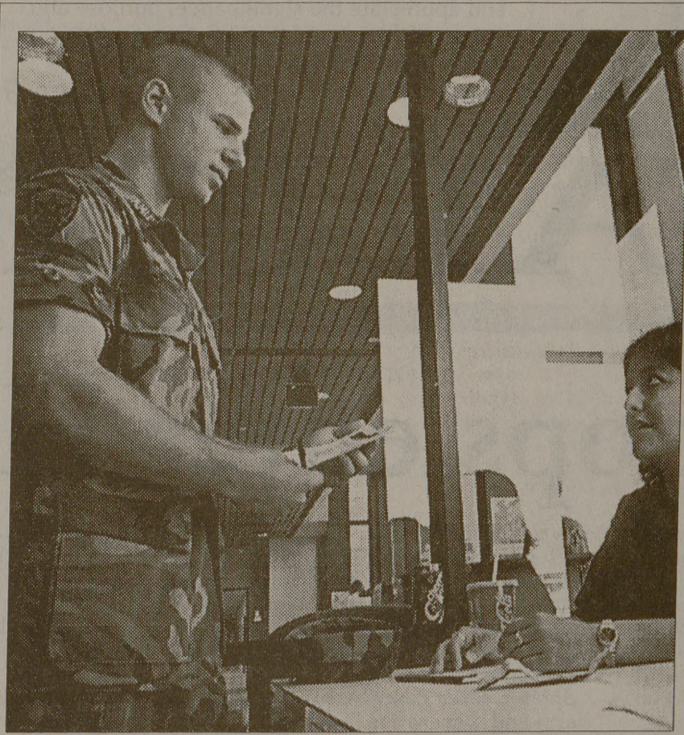
Procedure To Order A Ring:

- If you meet the above requirements, you must visit the Ring Office, no later than Wednesday, September 21, 1994, to complete the application for eligibility verification (requires several days to process).
- If your application is approved and you wish to receive your ring on approximately November 16, 1994, you must return and pay in full by cash, check, money order, Visa or Mastercard no later than September 23, 1994.

Men's 10KY - \$309.00	14KY - \$421.00
Women's 10KY - \$174.00	14KY - \$203.00

Add \$8.00 for Class of '93 or before.

The approximate date of the ring delivery is November 16, 1994.



Michelle Lyons/The Battalion

Where do I sign up?

Freshman Blake McKinney gets brief instructions on some of this week's election activities. Freshman candidate filing began on Monday and will extend through this Friday. Approximately 55 freshmen filed for positions the first day alone.

Computer system provides student information

By Amanda Fowle
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M students have access to a little known computing system that makes getting information about staff, students, and organizations easier.

The ph system is an electronic directory listing an individual or organization's name, phone number, E-mail address, postal address, and any other information the person puts in it.

Mike Bolton, project director, said that A&M has had the system for about four years, but only about 6,000 people use it.

Correction

In Thursday's issue of The Battalion, the sponsorship of Unity Rally '94 was incorrectly identified. Unity Rally '94 was sponsored by the Hispanic Presidents Council and marks the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month.

"That is not a great representation of the 40,000 students here," he said. "The system hasn't really been picked up on yet."

Bill Ambrose, a systems analyst, said many students are die-hard users of the phonebook through the Access screen on the A&M network computers.

"The current phonebook users are very dedicated users and do not have any desire to look at anything else," he said. "Hopefully, if we get the word out about the ph system, they will find it more favorable to use it."

Bolton said the ph system has more options than the phonebook screen.

"Ph is a large database that has room for so much more information," he said. "Faculty can put in their office hours, projects they are working on and any other information they wish."

Ambrose said that since students update their own information, the ph system is more accurate than the phonebook.

"I think since students can go in and update their own record," he said, "the probability of them doing so is much higher than of them turning their new information in

to some department on campus."

Bolton said that ph is linked to the mail system by a postmaster.

"Phonebook has nothing to do with it," he said. "With the ph system, you can E-mail to the person by name and the master routes it to the correct address."

Ambrose said that this way of sending mail is much easier.

"It is difficult to remember people's mail addresses," he said, "so it is easier to address the mail to a simple form of their address."

Ambrose said that the ph system is all over the world and at many other universities.

"Once you become familiar with the system locally," he said, "you can use it at other universities."

The ph system is accessible from the mainframe system on campus, like VAX, VM and UNIX machines.

Personal computers connected to the network can use the software for the system at no charge, Ambrose said.

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7:00 pm Blocker 125

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Results of study to aid struggling goat producers

Producers look for alternative market

By Tracy Smith
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M researchers hope a survey determining potential demand for goat meat in the United States will help goat producers who are struggling to make up for lost government incentive payments.

Rick Perry, Texas agriculture commissioner, said the Texas Department of Agriculture was awarded a \$109,000 United States Department of Agriculture grant and \$38,300 from the Office of State-Federal Relations for the survey to determine the potential for a goat meat market.

"This survey is essential to help our goat raisers recover from the loss of wool and mohair incentive payments and to find an alternative market in meat production," Perry said.

A Texas A&M research proposal team, which defined market channels and strategies for the goat meat market, said President Bill Clinton passed a law that phases out wool and mohair incentive payments by

December 1995. Wool producers will receive 75 and 50 percent of their calculated payments for the 1994 and 1995 marketing years.

Dr. Ernie Davis, Texas agricultural economist, said phasing out these incentives will not save the government money.

"Without the incentive payments will see a decreased number of goats and sheep," Davis said. "This decreased number of goats will lower corn prices because a bushel because of demand reduction for feed."

"Every cent we lose per pound will end up costing the States \$45 million dollars," Davis said. "What the government saves now, the government ends up paying back later."

Davis said while goat is considered a specialty there is a market.

"A survey can decide what kind of market we want and with that we can begin getting with marketing agencies," he said.

The department will use the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station to help wholesalers, retailers, and consumers.

Take it to the next level

Graduate School

Graduate School Information Nights:
September 20 & October 27
From 6 to 8 p.m.
110-111 Koldus Bldg.

Topics covered will include:

- How to apply to graduate school
- GRE/GMAT
- Fellowships and assistantships
- And more!

For more information, contact the Office of Graduate Studies at 845-3631

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