

Frontiers

KATIE ARNOLD: The idea of a purely technological society sounds great to some but scares others. Those who cannot figure out the word catalog will have to adjust to the Information age.

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Opinion

EDITORIAL: Students should serve as watchdogs for the A&M community and care about administrators' actions, as it is their money that is being used in illegal ways.

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Sports

A&M plucks the Cardinals 26-10 Saturday.

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# THE BATTALION



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"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Clinton reaffirms U.S. foreign policy goals

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — On his first overseas trip since the elections, President Clinton assured anxious Asian leaders Sunday that America's foreign policy will not be shaken by the Republican landslide in Congress.

"The position of the United States is certainly just as strong as it ever has been," Clinton said, setting the stage for a summit on expanding trade with Asia's booming economies.



Clinton

Organizers hope leaders of 18 Pacific and Asian nations attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum will agree to free trade in the region by 2020, though China and Malaysia are resisting.

In advance of the summit, Clinton was holding one-on-one talks Monday with the leaders of China, Japan, South Korea and Australia.

### El Paso leaders to ask for more state services

EL PASO (AP) — Senators with a powerful role in shaping Texas' budget will hear this week from local leaders who complain that El Paso deserves a larger share of the state services pie.

The Senate Finance Committee will listen Tuesday to leaders who plan to detail historical and systemic shortcomings in state funding for transportation, mental health and aging programs for El Paso.

On Wednesday, the panel will hear from state agency directors as well as residents who wish to testify.

"My expectations are for candor and specifics," said committee Chairman John Montford, D-Lubbock. "As to where it might wind up, I don't think we'd be bringing the full committee out here if we weren't serious about this."

"If there are identifiable funding inequities, we have to respond, no matter whether it's El Paso or Amarillo," he said.

### Deputy Mayor's murder incites fear in Haiti

MIREBALAIS, Haiti (AP) — Someone chopped off the head of Deputy Mayor Cadet Damzal just over a week ago. The murder is sowing confusion and fear among those who would build democracy in Haiti.

Damzal, like many other supporters of democracy in Haiti's central plateau, had only recently ventured out of hiding, encouraged by the presence of U.S. troops and the return from exile of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

News of the slaying spread a message across the country: Even the U.S. Special Forces can't guarantee safety in Haiti's remote rural communities, long dominated by military commanders and armed civilians known as "attaches."

"By killing Damzal, they want to kill what he represented," Mayor Paul Yvelt Millien said on the eve of Damzal's funeral, planned for Sunday.

### Lumber co., residents wrangle over preserve

HOUSTON (AP) — Lumber giant Temple-Inland has drawn a line in the forest, complete with spike-studded gates, along two picnic areas in the Big Thicket National Preserve.

Area residents, who hold their woody preserve north of Beaumont as birthright, want the access restored.

Until October, visitors gained access to the two small picnic areas in the preserve's 6,400-acre Jack Gore Baygall Unit north of Beaumont via private roads that crossed Temple-Inland Forest Products Corp. land.

Now, however, the timber company has blocked its roads with sturdy, spike-studded gates. The company claims the measure will stop poaching and the dumping of garbage on its property.

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# A&M officials show support for Smith

## Former A&M VP to appeal fine, year's probation

By Michele Brinkmann THE BATTALION

Texas A&M administrators expressed sorrow for former A&M Vice President Robert Smith after he received one year probation and a \$2,750 fine Friday for sol-

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Dr. Ray Bowen, A&M president, said he looked at Smith's conviction from two sides.

"From a bureaucratic view, I am glad



"From a bureaucratic view, I am glad the process is getting closer to an end. From a personal aspect, I have great concern for Robert Smith. He has been under great pressure and is ready to put this behind him."

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A Brazos County jury found Smith guilty Thursday of a Class A misdemeanor for soliciting a gift from Barnes &

— Dr. Ray Bowen, A&M president

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Noble Bookstores, Inc. in May of 1993. Smith was charged with encouraging the company to invite his wife Pat Smith to join him on a business trip to Barnes &

Noble headquarters in New York City.

Bowen said it was too soon to determine Smith's future at the University.

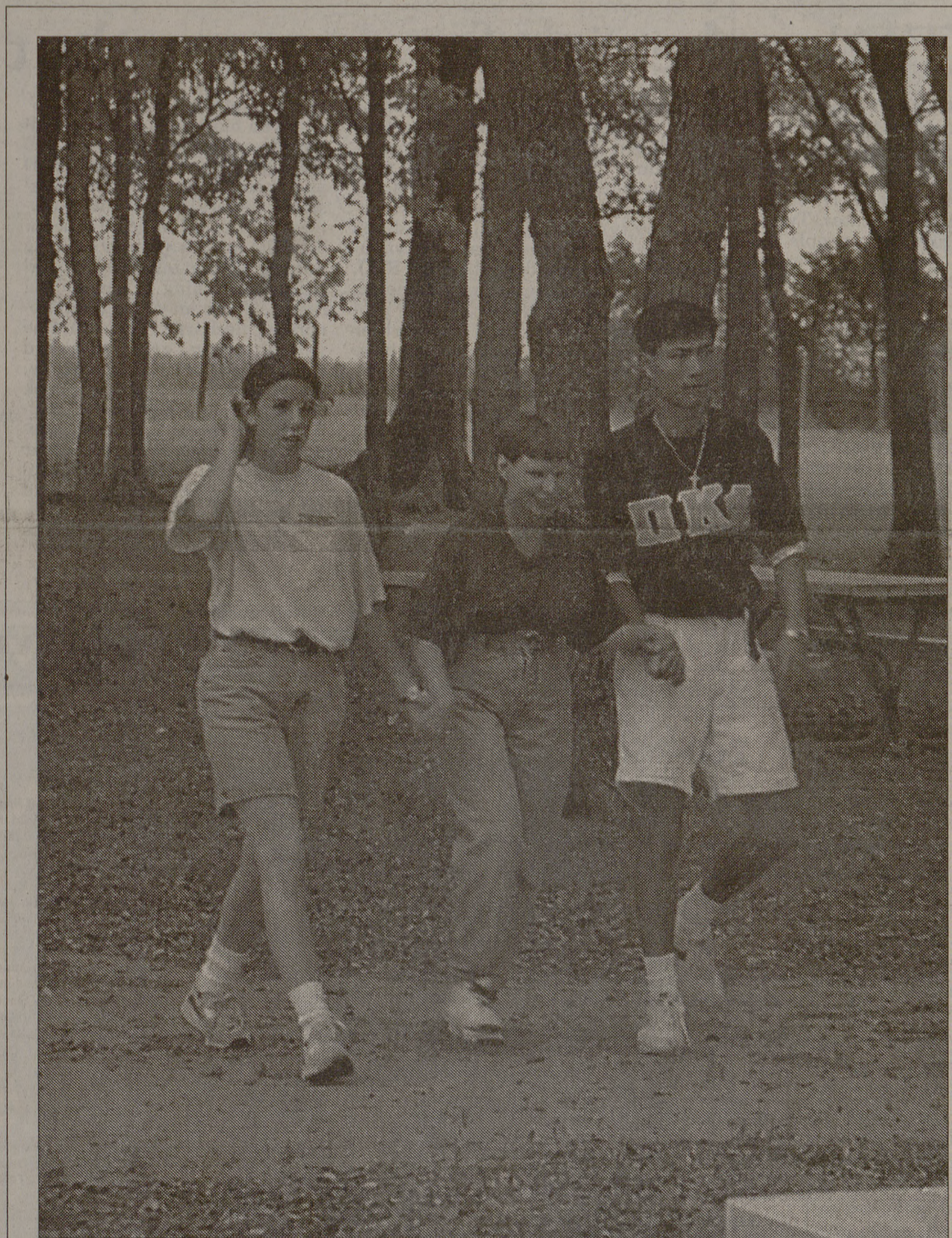
"I can't consider that until the appeals are done," Bowen said. "We have due process at the University, termination can take a couple of years."

Bowen said he would not be surprised if Smith left Texas A&M soon because of health reasons. Smith found out in 1993 he had prostate cancer and has since undergone three operations.

"Mr. Smith has been giving serious thoughts to his future at A&M," Bowen said.

Dr. Jerry Gaston, who has worked with Smith since 1986, took over as interim vice president for finance and administration in July after Bowen demoted Smith to director of special operations.

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Tim Moog/The Battalion

## A walk in the park

Members of Pi Kappa Phi and Kappa Alpha Theta take time out of their Sunday afternoon to spend with disabled children. Heather Hewitt (left) and Brian Roswell (right) walk with Vicky (middle) around the grounds of the Brenham State School, a home for the mentally and physically disabled.

## Students to begin addressing Regents

By Melissa Jacobs THE BATTALION

The communication gap between students and the Board of Regents may be bridged when students from each school in the Texas A&M System begin giving five minute reports to the Board.

The presentation of student reports was recently approved by Mary Nan West, chairman of the Board of Regents, and Dr. Barry Thompson, Texas A&M chancellor.

Becky Silloway, Student Senate external affairs committee chair, will present Texas A&M's report in December.

"I've worked on this issue through the Legislative Study Group for two years," she said. "It's something I'm very interested in."

Tobin Boenig, Student Senate speaker, said the student reports will be a permanent part of the meetings.

"Mrs. West said as long as we keep going, we'll have a spot," he said. "Chancellor Thompson seemed to like the idea."

Silloway said West and Thompson are very receptive to student input.

"They are very concerned about the students," she said.

Silloway said the idea of student reports has been around for 23 years.

"For the past 23 years LSG and Student Government have been working on getting the Texas Legislature to pass a bill requiring a student regent," she said, "but they've not been successful."

She said this year Brooke Leslie, student body president, and some other Student Government officers decided to go through the Board of Regents instead of through the Legislature.

"If the students develop a rapport with the Board they'll see we are interested in working with them and hopefully they'll be interested in working with us," she said.

Each school in the System will be on the agenda to give a five-minute report.

"It will be assumed that the student report will be given every time," Silloway said.

"The work we've done at A&M is definitely going to benefit all students in the System."

It has not yet been decided what topics will be included in the report.

"Many topics will be about what Student Senate and Student Government are doing, and probably topics like Bonfire," Silloway said. "I'll also ask other student leaders if they have any ideas or anything they want included."

Silloway said this will benefit students by providing a direct line of communication to the Board of Regents.

"In the past, when the administration has given reports they've had to assume how the students feel," she said. "Now they won't have to go through an indirect chain of communication."

Boenig said this will give the Board of Regents a chance to know what the students are thinking.

"The Board is pretty much student-oriented already," he said. "This is one of those things that will help out."

Alison Brisco, a member of the Board of Regents, said she thinks any interaction students have with the Board is very helpful.

"It takes the mystery away and allows us to get to know each other," she said. "From our point of view it will be great to hear from students about what is happening on the different campuses."

Silloway said one big problem is how to select the student liaison.

"There are a lot of questions," she said. "Will there be a committee? Will we have an alternate? Who will decide who it will be? Will it have to be approved by the governor?"

Silloway said she wants a different student to give the report each time.

"The Board can then become familiar with the student body," she said.

## Republicans want less cash for unwed mothers

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans are promising quick action to reform the welfare system with a plan to strip young, unwed mothers of cash benefits and funnel the savings into orphanages and adoptions — but not abortions.

Preparing to seize control of Congress, Republican lawmakers say they are willing to work with the White House to overhaul welfare by imposing strict time limits on benefits, work requirements and restrictions on aid to most immigrants.

But their legislation, included in the "Contract With America" signed by more than 300 Republican House candidates, may be too conservative for President Clinton, governors and moderate lawmakers.

Hearings on the bill could begin in early January and the House is expected to vote on it within the first 100 days of the session.

Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia, the likely House speaker when the GOP takes over in January, is interpreting Tuesday's Republican landslide as a mandate for the contract, a list of 10 pledges that also includes tax cuts and a balanced budget amendment.

Gingrich, speaking Sunday on ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley," suggested radical changes in welfare where no payments would go to people capable of finding work and those without jobs would depend on private charity.

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## Gramm declares candidacy

### Texas senator to run in '96 presidential election

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Phil Gramm said Sunday he would file this week as a Republican candidate for the 1996 presidential election and took a quick swipe at potential rival Bob Dole, saying Dole lacked his commitment to overhauling big government.

Sen. Arlen Specter, a moderate from Pennsylvania, is also announcing on Monday his interest in a presidential bid, adding to the list of Republicans seeking to challenge an incumbent president made increasingly vulnerable by Republican gains in elections last week.

Gramm, speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press," said he would file papers with the Federal Election Committee this week to "put the legal structure in place," al-

though he did not expect to formally announce his candidacy until March.

"I think people are ready for change. Maybe I'm that change," the Texas senator said.

Gramm, 52, a conservative who favors deep cuts in federal spending, said he thought he could make a better president than Dole, R-Kan., the Senate's next majority leader. "If I didn't think so, I wouldn't run," he said.

"I think that I am more committed to changing government fundamentally than Bob Dole is," Gramm said.

Dole, the current minority leader, said he differs from Gramm in being in a leadership position where he has had to work for consensus to pass legislation.

Gramm has had the advantage of being outside the leadership where "you can throw a bomb or a grenade now and then, and you can be a little more committed," Dole said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Dole, 71, said he will announce by Feb. 15 whether he will be a candidate. He said he foresaw



Gramm

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