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Opinion

FRANK STANFORD: It's such a shame when so many lives can hinge on a foreign president's party affiliation. It's just politics as usual.

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Sports

The Texas A&M football team prepares for this weekend's game against the TCU Horned Frogs.

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THE BATTALION



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NEWS BRIEFS

Armstrong pleads not guilty to assault

Texas A&M linebacker Antonio Armstrong pleaded not guilty yesterday to an assault charge. Armstrong is charged with the Oct. 10 early morning assault of A&M senior Jason Wirt outside J.D. Wells Harvey Road. Armstrong's defense attorney Steven Steele said Armstrong is not guilty of the charge. "Antonio's position is that he was trying to break up a fight between Mr. Wirt and his (Armstrong's) brother," Steele said. "He was interceding to break up a fight or the beginning of a fight and doesn't feel he is guilty of the charge." Associate Judge C. Randall Michel said Armstrong's trial would not be held until after A&M's semester break, probably in February or March, to ensure that witnesses, who are students, can be present at the trial. The assault charge against Armstrong is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to \$500. No jail time is included.

Who's who in Gingrich brain trust

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dick Arme, John Kasich, Tom DeLay and Bob Walker may not be household names — but just wait. They are the brain trust for Newt Gingrich, a cadre of House lawmakers who stand at the speaker's right hand as the Republicans prepare to take control. These four men — combative, conservative, middle-aged, white — are at the core of the tough-talking, hard-ball strategy that helped put the GOP in the driver's seat. Arme will be the House majority leader. Walker and DeLay, currently competing for the majority whip position, also are sure to get top leadership positions. Together, Gingrich's lieutenants are working out a strategy for the transition to power — from deciding which Capitol staff members will get the ax to setting the legislative agenda.

Trucker confesses to mother's slaying

RICHARDSON (AP) — A Richardson truck driver indicted in the murder of a Greenville man has confessed to killing his mother for her 1991 Chevrolet Corsica and \$50 cash, authorities said. Terry Lynn Brown, 29, remained jailed Thursday at the Richardson Detention Center charged with capital murder in the slaying of Sandra Vonne Brown. Brown, who faces numerous other charges, also is a suspect in at least one other murder in East Texas, said Richardson police Capt. David Golden. "There are some unique similarities, and because of that we believe there may be a pattern there," Golden said. "The mere fact that he is a truck driver and has access to travel around the country is a cause for concern among police investigators because he could be in one state and commit a crime, then be in another state three days later and commit another crime."

Man charged for stealing condom machine

WATERFORD, Mich. (AP) — A man was charged with stealing a condom machine from the men's restroom at a bar. "All we can figure is, he was anticipating a big weekend," said Officer John Grimm, a police spokesman. Keith Bradford, 34, was arraigned on larceny charges Wednesday after allegedly dislodging the machine from a wall at the Irish Tavern. Bradford had three beers early Tuesday before heading into the bathroom, bartender Jodi Malone said. She told police she looked out a window a while later and saw Bradford walking down the street, carrying the machine. "There were dozens of witnesses. And he went straight home," Grimm said.

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Women cadets celebrate 20th year in Corps

By Lisa Messer
THE BATTALION

Twenty years ago 51 women eager to join A&M's ROTC program entered the Corps of Cadets, ending its 98-year all-male tradition. Those women belonged to W-1, the all-female unit created under The Minerva Plan, the 1973 outline designed to integrate women into the Corps. Under the plan, W-1 was to be added to Corps Staff during 1974, and after five years, the unit was to officially join the Corps. The plan, however, progressed faster than schedule, and W-1 became a company of the Third Battalion after one semester. The Minerva Plan didn't provide for Corps housing or uniforms so the women lived in civilian residence halls or off campus and were identified only by nametags. They were required to sign in twice a day and meet in the afternoons for drill. The upperclassmen of W-1 were all male because the 51 women who joined the Corps entered as freshmen, despite their University classifications. Don Roper, the first commanding officer of W-1, said he volunteered to be C.O. the same night the First Sergeant told cadets that women were going to be admitted into the Corps. "W-1 was just a vision and a written plan," Roper said. "It was a part of the historical transformation of A&M and the Corps of Cadets. It had been a male institution, and a lot of animosity was there. We knew we had our hands full." Ruth Ann Schumacher Burns, the first female commander of W-1, said the women faced "a hostile world" when they entered

the Corps in 1974. "We received negative feelings from the cadets, female students and even professors," Burns said. "It was very difficult, especially as commander of W-1. I had a Battalion commander who never spoke to me the whole year." According to University archives, male cadets refused to "whip out" to the women and asked the women what outfit they were in (the response to which is a company yell) so many times that it often took ten minutes of yells for the women to cross the Quadrangle. Women's spirit signs were bombed, pig manure was dumped in their rooms and a live piglet was placed in occupied female showers.

When W-1 passed in review at the Corps' traditional Final Review, male cadets turned their backs on the unit. Twenty-five women finished that first year in the Corps. The next year women were fitted for uniforms, and female residences were available on the Quad by fall 1976. Senior women ordered their first knee high cavalry boots in 1979. Women joined Corps' special units, such as the Aggie Band, for the first time in 1985, after a five-year sex-discrimination battle between cadet Melanie Zentgraf and the

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Highest ranking female remembers struggles

By Lisa Messer
THE BATTALION

When Amanda Schubert Scott joined the Corps of Cadets in fall 1983, she did not think that she would be changing history, but she did — three times. Scott spent four years serving as a cadet at A&M, becoming the first woman to be selected for Corps staff, the first female member of the Ross Volunteers and the highest ranked woman in the Corps ever. "When I joined as a freshman, I wasn't interested in a military career," Scott said. "I saw the Corps as an extracurricular activity. It wasn't very popular to join as a female, but I thought, if I was a guy I'd join for sure." Scott came from an Aggie background,

including a father who served in the Fight-in' Texas Aggie Band. "My parents were just thrilled with me joining," Scott said. "They were always there watching me. My dad was known as the man with the movie camera attached to his arm. They were supportive of everything I got involved in or set my mind to. Family was very important to making it." Scott said female cadets often faced negative feelings by people in and out of the Corps. "In the past, the guys would hang out the windows," Scott said, "and call out 'Waggies, Waggies.' That was supposed to be insulting, but we got a kick out of it. It's all in the attitude you take. No, every

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Battalion File Photo

UT student body president shows his true colors



Tim Moog/The Battalion

University of Texas Students' Association President John Black proudly displays his Gig 'Em while wearing an A&M sweat shirt as part of a bet he made with Texas A&M Student Body President Brooke Leslie.

A&M/UT bet begins new tradition for rivals

By Melissa Jacobs
THE BATTALION

The man in the Texas A&M sweat shirt at the Dixie Chicken Thursday night wasn't just another proud Aggie, he was the University of Texas Students' Association president. John Black fulfilled his end of the bet he proposed to Brooke Leslie, A&M student body president, before the Nov. 5 football game between the Aggies and the Longhorns. The bet stated "the student body president must pose in his/her loser's regalia" for a photo opportunity by both school's newspa-

Leslie said wearing maroon and white doesn't make Black an Aggie. "John Black can only hope and wish and dream about being an Aggie," she said. Black said he thought the Longhorns would play up for the occasion, which is why he made the bet. "I guess this is the price you pay when you put your pride on the line," he said. "It's always a little embarrassing when your school is put in this situation." Leslie said the appearance of Black in Aggie clothes promotes school spirit. "This will be great for Texas A&M spirit considering we beat the hell outta t.u. 34-

"John Black can only hope and wish and dream about being an Aggie."
— Brooke Leslie, A&M student body president

pers. The losing student body president will display the opponents' hand sign during the said photo opportunity." Leslie said the decision to have Black wear maroon and white at the Dixie Chicken was a group decision. "The Dixie Chicken is such an Aggie tradition and we decided it would be a good place for John to wear his Aggie sweat shirt," she said. When Black arrived, Leslie announced to everyone at The Dixie Chicken that Black was there because A&M beat t.u. 34-10. "I'm going to be sure that all the Aggies know," she said. "The announcement is to let everyone know who he is." After putting on maroon and white, Black held up the Gig 'Em hand sign and posed for a photograph. Black said he felt really different wearing maroon and white.

10," she said. Black said he hopes the bet adds to the rivalry, camaraderie and school spirit of both schools. "I think it has," he said. "I think it increases spirit and it promotes rivalry." Black said there is a lot of history between the two schools. "I think this is pretty positive," he said. Black will wear the A&M sweat shirt all day tomorrow, including when he is on UT's campus. "I have an Athletic Council Meeting in the morning and I don't think it's going to go over to well," he said. "They are going to wonder what the hell I am doing." Black said he will probably propose more bets to Leslie, but he will be a lot more careful. "Hopefully we will have more of an advantage in any future bets," he said. But, Black said, you have to take risks.

Changes to Wellborn, railroad may create high-speed roadway

By Stephanie Dube
THE BATTALION

The Texas Department of Transportation will spend the next year studying the possibilities of making Wellborn Road into a high-speed roadway and moving the railroad to a more efficient location. Bob Appleton, advance planning engineer for the Bryan district of the Texas Department of Transportation, said the department's Austin headquarters is reviewing a possible consultant to conduct the study. The consultant engineering firm Rust Lichliter/Jameson could finish the study within the next year, Appleton said. "We are looking for a way to get better access to the west side of town for people traveling north or south," he said. "We

want to enable people to have a high-speed access to the west part of town."

Denise Fischer, public information officer for the Texas Department of Transportation, said that because so much studying has to be done on the possibilities, it could be several years before any construction would actually begin. "The cost of the project will depend on the consultant's recommendation," Fischer said. "After it comes back with a recommendation, the Department will put a price on it and then decide on the funding." Appleton said the consulting firm will review possible options for providing this access and then make a recommendation based on its study. One possibility would be to make Wellborn Road into the high-speed road-

way, he said. "Since A&M attracts a lot of people for its special events, Wellborn Road could be a means of providing that type of access," Appleton said. However, if Wellborn is not a feasible option, the firm could also consider making a connection from state Highway 6 to 2818, he said. If the firm decides to use Wellborn, substantial modifications will have to be made to the already heavily congested roadway, Appleton said. "Widening will have to be done to Wellborn at some point regardless," Appleton said. "The problem is that there is not room to widen it because of the campus and the railroad." The firm could also consider lowering

Wellborn and the railroad below street level and leaving the pedestrian paths at street level, Fischer said. If Wellborn is widened, pedestrian access would be even more difficult than it is now, Appleton said. "Right now, all the options are equal," he said. Another possibility would be to move the railroad that runs parallel to Wellborn farther west, Appleton said. Moving the railroad would make more land available for widening Wellborn, he said. "The problem is that the railroads are private and to get it moved we must show how moving will benefit them or we will have to pay to have the railroad moved,"

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