

Aggielife

Jailbait

for

the United Way

Students agree to temporary "imprisonment" to help raise money for Phoebe's Home and the Big Brother program.

By Amy Collier
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M campus will be crawling with criminals today starting at 10 a.m.

In its first Jail-A-Thon, the United Way Student Government Committee will "arrest" members of various student organizations for \$50 an hour by Rudder Fountain. The money raised will contribute to the committee's goal of raising \$15,000 for the Brazos Valley United Way.

Jenna Martin, subchairman of the committee, said she wanted to have a Jail-A-Thon because it would create exposure for the United Way on campus and get student organizations involved in their causes.

"We try to come up with creative and innovative ideas of getting the campus involved," Martin said. "It's not so much just a fund-raiser, it's also for awareness."

Mike Panozzo, subchairman of the committee, said the committee sent letters to over 100 organizations asking for participation. They will most likely reach a goal of having 20 people arrested, which would raise \$1,000, he said.

"We didn't expect to have as many people participating as it seems like there's going to be," Panozzo said. "It seems like it's going to be pretty good."

To raise the rest of their \$15,000 goal, Martin said the committee organizes other events such as Kiss Off at Kyle, the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Chili Fest and The United Way Night at The Hall.

With hard work and well-organized events, the committee will definitely reach their goal, Martin said.

"We'll be just ecstatic," she said, "but the main reason we're here is awareness and to get involved in United Way projects."

The money raised goes to causes such as Phoebe's Home, a shelter for battered women, and the Big Brother program, Martin said.

The student committee doesn't take all the credit for the money which is raised through the year.

"Although we are the committee that raises the money and awareness, the check that is made payable to the Brazos Valley United Way is from all Aggies," Martin said. "We wouldn't be successful if it wasn't for the students. It's their effort too."

Martin said she also wants to show people that involvement in the United Way goes beyond just college.

"This is an organization you can really get involved in when you graduate from college," Martin said. "It can be a life-long service for a lot of students."

Panozzo said students should be willing to participate because the money is donated to a local chapter of the United Way.

"We're putting back into our community," Panozzo said. "If you want to know how to get involved, this is it. This is your community."

Jennifer Scheifley, a freshman environmental engineering major who was nominated by Pi Beta Phi to be arrested, said she was willing to embarrass herself in public because the United Way is an important organization.

"It's going to be total humiliation because you're in front of everyone, but it's worth it because it's for a good cause," Scheifley said.

Scheifley said she is going to ignore the embarrassment and just enjoy it.

"It's going to be fun," she said. "I hope people come out and give me money."

Dolores plays same old song

By Amy Collier
THE BATTALION

Dolores Claiborne
Starring Kathy Bates, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Christopher Plummer, Judy Parfitt and David Strathairn
Directed by Taylor Hackford
Rated R
Playing at Post Oak Mall
★★ (out of five)

Kathy Bates is trying to win another Academy Award Oscar for playing another psychotic woman in another Stephen King movie.

With the motto of, "Sometimes being a bitch is all a woman has to hang on to," Bates stars in the title role of *Dolores Claiborne*.

Set in the fictitious town of Little Tall Island in Maine, the movie is a predictable and boring psychological thriller about a woman accused of first degree murder for the second time.

The mystery begins when Dolores' notoriously difficult employer of 22 years, Vera Donovan (Judy Parfitt), dies after falling down her stairs.

Dolores is accused of murdering her employer by Detective John Mackey (Christopher Plummer), a man who has dreamed of putting her behind bars ever since he couldn't prove she had killed her husband, Joe St. George (David Strathairn), 20 years earlier.

Claiborne's attitude toward Mackey and to others around her make her look as guilty as the circumstantial evidence stacked against her. She has become a social outcast and appears to be an insane murderer.

Jennifer Jason Leigh plays Dolores' estranged daughter, Selena, who is compelled to come home after a 15-year absence to help her mother. Although addicted to pills and alcohol, Selena has become a successful journalist and wants to help defend her mother.

Through constant flashbacks, the abuse Dolores and Selena have suffered at the hands of Joe St. George is shown, making their bitterness and anger more understandable.

Finally, the mystery behind Joe St. George's death is revealed. But the way he dies is com-



Kathy Bates stars as Dolores Claiborne.

pletely unrealistic, making the plot of the movie even more disappointing.

Although the movie is a mystery about what really happened to Vera Donovan, it also is a personal story of a troubled mother and daughter. Both women realize they have a lot in common through their terrible pasts and can help each other confront their horror.

After a long and drawn out plot, the movie's ending is predictable and is not worth the long wait. There's a sense of relief and indifference when the movie finally ends.

Jazz tour features musical history

By Amber Clark
THE BATTALION

To celebrate its 40th anniversary, the Newport Jazz Festival has packed a few bags and is taking a tour. The musical compilation, hosted by MSC Opera and Performing Arts on Thursday, features 11 jazz artists and music spanning three jazz eras — New Orleans jazz, bebop and swing.

Producer George Wein's first production was the original festival, held on the tennis courts of a casino in Newport, R.I.

Wein's festival featured several fledgling jazz artists, as well as jazz legends Dizzy Gillespie and Ella Fitzgerald.

Four decades later, Wein still presents top jazz artists, but he has condensed the original festival into a musical package that travels nationwide.

The festival has been changed to fit tour scheduling, so rather than a day-long event, the music is squeezed into a three-hour performance. But rather than try to recreate the original Newport Jazz Festival, Wein and the band travel with displays of vintage photographs and memorabilia from the first festival, and film footage from previous performances.

The band features traditional jazz sounds and instruments, including saxophone, piano and drums. The festival creates its own music, but the performance frequently features tributes to the great jazz artists.

Jon Faddis, trumpet player and band leader for the Newport Jazz Festival, began his musical career at age eight. Faddis found inspiration in the works of Louis Armstrong and Gillespie, and as a teenager Faddis was playing with Gillespie at the Jazz Workshop in San Francisco. He began performing with other famous artists and quickly gained recognition as a jazz performer.

By age 40, Faddis claimed sev-

eral studio accomplishments, including performances with several contemporary musicians and the trumpet featured in "The Cosby Show" theme.

The group has received critical acclaim for the festival, and they dedicate much of their time to continuing a unique jazz heritage.


"I think that knowing the history of the music is very important in order to go forward in the music," Faddis said.



Jazz performer Jon Faddis leads the Newport Jazz Festival band.

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