



LIFTING HIS WAY TO THE TOP

An A&M senior makes his mark at the US Powerlifting National Championships.

Sports, Page 7

BIG EVENT

More than 4,800 students gave a helping hand to the community Saturday at the 13th annual Big Event.

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U-ACT

Clark: Retreat provides a necessary examination of cultural diversity.

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THE BATTALION

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"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

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City designates money to renovate Northgate

Northgate to undergo \$500,000 in remodeling.

Eleanor Colvin
THE BATTALION

Merchants and patrons will soon benefit from the upcoming redevelopment efforts in the Northgate area.

Proposition Two of the 1995 Bond Election, which designates \$500,000 for Northgate revitalization, passed March 25.

Todd McDaniel, Northgate project coordinator and policy analyst for the Economic and Development Services in College Station, said this redevelopment

will cover a variety of issues. "Obviously a lot of things could be done in that area," McDaniel said. "Parking, infrastructure and the possibility of developing an urban mall are a few of the considerations being made."

McDaniel said Northgate merchants, area residents and churches are excited about the proposed changes.

"Churches, residents and merchants in the Northgate area make up an ad hoc steering committee," he said. "They have offered valuable information and feedback to the City Council."

John Raney, a member of the committee and owner of Texas Aggie Bookstore, said he is pleased that so many people are

involved in the effort to redevelop Northgate.

"I'm excited that the city has taken an interest in us," Raney said, "and that the University is helping to fund the study."

Raney said improvements in Northgate will benefit everyone.

"We are interested in bringing new businesses to Northgate through this effort," he said. "Northgate will be better for everyone. Students walking to Northgate will have easier access because of crosswalks and sidewalks to be added."

McDaniel said street construction and parking are the biggest aspects of the improvement plan. "Parking has to be addressed — sooner than later," he said.

Raney agreed that parking is an important issue.

"As a merchant, parking is a big concern for me," he said. "We don't live in downtown Boston or Austin — this isn't Sixth Street. People here are used to driving and if there's no parking, they won't come."

McDaniel said this is a long term project and they do not know exactly when construction will begin.

"Right now a revitalization and redevelopment study is being conducted by the Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum consulting firm," McDaniel said. "We can move forward after we receive their report, which will devise a strategy and time line, in July or August."



File Photo

A proposition on the recent bond election that was passed will designate \$500,000 to renovate Northgate.



Tim Moog/The Battalion

Building bridges

Brad Howell (left), a senior political science major and Laurel Wilson (right), a junior marketing major, take a walk Sunday afternoon with Ruth, a resident of Brenham State School.

Recycling bill receives financial support

Pilot recycling program may be implemented this summer.

By Wes Swift
THE BATTALION

This summer's on-campus residents may become guinea pigs for a summer recycling pilot program if a bill proposed Thursday by the Residence Hall Association is passed.

The program would put two recycling bins in the nine summer residence halls and provide money for two student workers to pick up the recyclables and monitor the recycling output.

Summer school students would recycle newsprint, white paper, mixed paper and aluminum cans.

Cassandra DeLarios, the bill's sponsor and RHA environmental director, said the program will provide information for future on-campus recycling efforts.

"I've talked to several agencies

and they all say we need to have a pilot program," DeLarios said. "This will give us some data on the best way to do it and how much will be generated."

DeLarios said two firms have contacted her about financing the program. The firms, a reprocessing plant and a recyclables broker, have offered to furnish the capital investment, such as equipment, to the program.

"This [program] wouldn't cost the University anything."

— Cassandra DeLarios,
RHA environmental director

"This wouldn't cost the University anything," DeLarios said.

After the summer, the administration will evaluate the program.

DeLarios said that while responsibility for the actual pro-

gram would fall on the Physical Plant, the program will involve many departments.

"This program will be University-wide," DeLarios said. "It will involve the Physical Plant, the Department of Student Life, the Department of Finance and Administration, the RHA and everyone."

Owen Ross, RHA president, said recycling at Texas A&M is important to the RHA.

"Recycling is an idea that's been around for a while," Ross said. "The only question has been how we're going to pay for it."

Ross said he thinks the program is a good first step, but it should not be the last. He explained that several universities he has visited, such as Georgetown University

See Recycling, Page 6

Owners accept union's offer

Baseball players may report to training camps as soon as Wednesday.

CHICAGO (AP) — The longest and costliest work stoppage in the history of professional sports ended Sunday night when baseball owners accepted the union's offer to play without an agreement.

The season, which had been scheduled to start Sunday night, will begin April 26 and each team will play 144 games, 18 fewer than the usual.

"Anyone who has gone through this eight-month experience will let it serve as a poignant reminder that we have a responsibility to make sure it will never happen again, certainly in our

lifetime," acting commissioner Bud Selig said after a 4 1/2-hour meeting.

Players may report voluntarily starting Wednesday to training camps in Florida and Arizona, although some were expected to start trickling in Monday. The mandatory reporting date is Friday.

The strike wiped out the final 52 days and 669 games of the 1994 season and forced the cancellation of the World Series for the first time since 1904. It also wiped out the first 252 games of his season, raising the total of games lost to 921.

"It was not a surrender. The players were on strike," Selig said, "they made an unconditional offer to come back, and we accepted that offer."

However, the owners did not

obtain a no-strike promise from the union, leaving open the possibility that players could walk out again late this season if owners again threaten to impose a salary cap.

"I think it's clearly a step in the right direction," union head Donald Fehr said. "If they had voted for a lockout, it would have been a clear indication they didn't want peace — at any price."

President Clinton, who failed two months ago in a personal effort to end the strike, said: "Today's decision is good news for the game of baseball, its fans and the local economies of the cities where baseball is played."

"While I am heartened to know this season will start with major league players, there are a number of underlying issues which still need to get resolved."

Community reflects on memory of slain music star Selena

Thousands of fans wait in line to pass by Selena's coffin.

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Thousands of grieving fans waited in line along the Corpus Christi sea wall Sunday to enter the convention center housing the coffin of slain Tejano music queen Selena.

Correction

In a Page 1 story in Friday's Battalion, Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. Thomas Darling's rank was stated incorrectly.

They began lining up at 4 a.m., five hours before the doors opened. About 3,000 passed in the first 12 hours of visitation.

The mourners paused as they walked by the singer's coffin, which lay on a stage amid two dozen arrangements of white roses. Some crossed themselves, others shook their heads. Many wept.

Two women sobbed so hysterically they had to be escorted out of the Bayfront Plaza Convention Center in wheelchairs. Five female students from St. Edward's University in Austin tightly held on to each other and sobbed heavily after seeing the coffin.

Selena Quintanilla Perez was gunned down on Friday at a motel where she went to fire the founder of her fan club, who also ran a San Antonio boutique

for her, police say. The suspect, Yolanda Saldivar, was being held on \$100,000 bond at the Nueces County Jail on a murder charge.

The 23-year-old star was an idol to young Hispanic women. But at her visitation, the bereaved ranged from young children to the elderly.

"I hope that this generation will follow her steps," said Efrain Guerrero, 66, who lives near the middle-class Molina neighborhood where Selena grew up and lived. "She did a lot of work for this community. She would talk about the necessity of education. She talked against drugs. She was a lady all the way."

At midday, about 2,500 fans, many from the Rio Grande Valley, Houston and other parts of the state, snaked from the building to the sidewalk of

Shoreline Boulevard, which runs along the coast.

Her followers praised her for serving as a role model for children. One neighbor said Selena would invite neighborhood kids into her home and feed them.

"She was a great inspiration to young children, and that's who I feel most sad for," said 33-year-old Lilia Pinon-Ortiz of Houston. "She did a lot for the Hispanic community. She did a lot for our culture."

Fans said Selena had a unique ability to cross cultural frontiers. They said they admired her because she broke ground in the Tejano genre of music — a mix of Mexican ranchera and German polka with pop, country and Caribbean influences.

Many portrayed her as a star who never allowed fame to lead to arrogance.

Selena's family encourages fans to oppose concealed guns bill

Bill under consideration would allow Texans to carry concealed handguns.

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The family of Selena, the Tejano singer shot in the back Friday, is urging fans to oppose a proposal in the state Legislature to allow Texans to carry concealed handguns.

Selena Quintanilla Perez was killed by a disgruntled employee whom the 23-year-old performer was about to fire for embezzling money from her businesses, according to police

and Selena's family.

"Though it's hard to find any positive aspects to this tragedy, we would urge the community to stand with the Quintanilla family in respect to our opposition to the present bill before the Texas House and Senate which would allow concealed weapons in our state," Selena's father, Abraham Quintanilla, said in a statement released Sunday.

The measure would allow Texans to obtain permits to carry concealed guns. It passed the Senate last month and is under consideration in the House, where it also is expected to win approval.