

**BEST IN THE WEST**

Spurs ready to make playoff run.

Sports, Page 7

**UNANSWERED QUESTIONS**

Tragic accident causes examination of the effects of drugs on families and society.

Opinion, Page 11

**FALLEN HERO**

Death of Tejano star Selena has sent shockwaves throughout B-CS

Aggielife, Page 3



# THE BATTALION

Vol. 101, No. 126 (12 pages)

"Serving Texas A&amp;M since 1893"

Thursday • April 6, 1995

## Legislature to vote soon on Aggie Bucks expansion

**Aggie Bucks may be expanded to off-campus businesses.**By Wes Swift  
THE BATTALION

The Texas Legislature will vote soon on a bill that could expand the Aggie Bucks system to off-campus use.

See Editorial, Page 11

House Bill 3122, proposed by Rep. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, gives the Texas A&amp;M Board of

Regents the ability to create a debit card system provided that "such cards shall not be limited exclusively to on-campus use for essentially the same merchandise or services."

The bill was passed Tuesday by the Higher Education Committee of the Texas House of Representatives.

The bill was referred to the Local Calendars and Consent Committee for scheduling on the House floor and should be voted on in the next couple of weeks.

If passed, the Aggie Bucks system would be ready for off-campus use by Aug. 15, 1996.

John Raney, owner of the Texas Aggie Bookstores, said the bill will give students an advantage when looking for bargains.

"This is great for students," Raney said. "There's no way students can lose. The last few years, Aggie Bucks were only accepted at the on-campus bookstores. You had to get your books at Barnes and Noble."

Raney said that using Aggie Bucks off campus would give students a chance to buy used textbooks, which the on-campus store did not always have.

"There's always a chance that you could get a textbook used,"

Raney said. "That's 25 percent less than you spend. There's no way the students can lose."

If the bill is passed, Raney said he hopes the system can be ready for off-campus use by fall semester.

Dr. Jerry Gaston, interim vice president for finance and administration, said he wants to add the off-campus vendors quickly.

However, he noted that the present contract with Barnes and Noble Inc., who own and operate the bookstore in the MSC, would have to be renegotiated because they have an exclusive privilege to use Aggie Bucks.

"We have to renegotiate first," Gaston said. "Obviously they paid for the option. But I think the renegotiations will go smoothly."

Gaston said he expects students will be able to purchase anything off campus that can be bought on campus. He said this could include books, souvenirs, food and soft drinks.

But Gaston also said the expansion will not include all vendors or products.

"We can't include every merchant or service off campus," Gaston said. "For instance, we don't sell alcohol on campus, so

students couldn't buy alcohol off-campus."

The Aggie Bucks System came under question after concerns arose that universities could profit from interest earned from the money in debit card accounts. Texas Banking Commissioner Catherine Ghiglieri sent a letter to Attorney General Dan Morales in April 1994 asking for a decision on whether debit card systems at universities should be regulated.

Earlier this year, local businessmen and the University agreed to have House Bill 3122 filed and voted on by the state Legislature.



Amy Browning/The BATTALION

### Serious research

Mindy Turner, a sophomore elementary education major, looks over the selection of books offered at the book fair outside of Harrington Wednesday afternoon.

## Hours limited for student workers

**Departments are taking special care with payroll because of pending lawsuit against the University.**By Tracy Smith  
THE BATTALION

Some Texas A&amp;M departments are taking measures to limit the number of hours a student works on campus, partially due to a pending lawsuit dealing with a 1992 architecture project, the Colonias project.

The Colonias project involved designing buildings for community centers in the Rio Grande River Valley.

Matthew Carroll, an architecture graduate student, filed the

lawsuit Aug. 29, 1994 against the University for conspiracy to falsify time sheets and for wrongful termination after Carroll refused to falsify these sheets.

According to the trial petition, Carroll said his refusal to change the time-sheets of the students working on the Colonias project in

1993. Carroll said the student worker time sheets were changed from eight hours a day to five hours a day.

Holly Johnson, assistant to the dean of architecture and environmental design, said the department informs the students before they begin working in the architecture department that they are limited to working 20 hours a week.

She said the architecture department has cracked down on the number of hours students work, partially as a result of the lawsuit.

While Johnson said the department has received

See Hours, Page 6

**"We consider limiting the hours an asset to the students as well, giving them time to study."**

- Holly Johnson,

assistant to the dean of architecture and environmental design

June 1992 led to the termination of his assistantship on June 1,

## University has second largest business program in nation

**Increasing enrollment due to strength of programs and faculty, dean says.**By Gretchen Perrenot  
THE BATTALION

Texas A&amp;M University has the second largest business program in the United States, according to a survey.

The College of Business Administration undergraduate program and the Graduate School of Business program have been the second largest out of 479 schools for two consecutive years.

The survey, conducted by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, was based on 1994 fall enrollment in which A&amp;M's undergraduate business program had 5,785 students.

Enrollment of full-time students in A&amp;M's undergraduate business program increased almost five percent from fall 1993 to

fall 1994.

A&amp;M's enrollment places second after Baruch College at the City University of New York, which had an enrollment of 7,295 in Fall 1994.

The University of Texas at Austin placed fifth. No other Texas schools placed among the top 10 largest programs.

Dr. Gary Trennepohl, executive associate dean for the College of Business Administration, said Baruch College has a different program from A&amp;M.

"Baruch College is a much different type of program, being located in New York," he said. "Since it's located in a large metropolitan area, it's going to have a large enrollment."

There are two things upon which A&amp;M's large enrollment is based, Trennepohl said.

"A&amp;M is a large university and people are interested in attending here," he said. "We're turning people away every year. Second, business is a very popular major."

The job market for business

majors has been strong, Trennepohl said, and this increase is not a passing phenomenon.

"There is more activity on the hiring side," he said. "Businesses are hiring business students more than they have been in the last three to five years."

Trennepohl said enrollment is up in the management and marketing fields of study and this increase is probably a reaction to availability in the job market.

Dr. Benton Cocanougher, dean of the College of Business, said the increasing enrollment is due to A&amp;M's strong programs and faculty.

"The continuing success of our undergraduate business program," Cocanougher said, "reflects our strong commitment to undergraduate education and the dedication of a very talented faculty to the teaching mission of the college."

"These same factors have clearly contributed to the high

See Program, Page 6

## Funding changes for Normandy Scholars

**Aggies voice concern about making students pay for their trip to Normandy.**By Stephanie Dube  
THE BATTALION

University faculty are researching ways to fund the J. Earl Rudder Normandy Scholars Program so A&amp;M students can continue traveling to France and study World War II.

Dr. Nathan Bracher, an associate professor of French, and Dr. Joe Golsan, a professor of French, are the co-chairs of the committee studying possible changes to the program.

Golsan said the committee should have a concrete proposal ready by the end of May, and a new version of the program

should be started by the spring or fall of 1996.

"There is a problem with funding," Bracher said. "There were sources available previously that are no longer available. Everybody agrees, though, that academically, the program has been a great success."

Students in the Normandy

**"There were sources available previously that are no longer available."**

- Dr. Nathan Bracher, associate professor of French

Scholars Program spend one semester taking four courses at A&amp;M about World War II. The students conclude their semester by traveling to Normandy to

learn more about the war.

The University of Texas and the University of Tennessee also have Normandy Scholars programs, Golsan said.

Dr. Larry Hill, an associate professor of history, was head of the history department when the program was founded. He was also one of the program's instructors for two years.

When the Battle of Normandy Foundation proposed the program to A&amp;M, Hill said, the foundation said it would support the program financially. However, he said, the foundation was unable to pay for the program, forcing A&amp;M and private donors to foot the bill.

See Funding, Page 5

## Education promotes awareness

**Self defense class offered for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.**By Eleanor Colvin  
THE BATTALION

Increasing awareness about personal safety and crime prevention is the focus of the Brazos County Rape Crisis Center's semiannual Women's Safety Awareness and Self Defense Class.

Linda Castoria, executive director of the Brazos County Rape Crisis Center, said the program was started to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

"People need to be more conscious of the fact that these crimes happen," Castoria said.

"We thought, 'What better way to make awareness a part of our communities than through this type of program?'"

Representatives from the University Police Department, Bryan Police Department and the Brazos County Sheriffs Office will take part. They will offer personal

**"People need to be more conscious of the fact that these crimes happen."**

- Linda Castoria, Brazos County Rape Crisis Center

safety tips, sex offender profiles, the pros and cons of weapons and self defense demonstrations.

The program is designed for

participants age 12 and older.

Castoria said women of all ages and backgrounds can benefit from this program.

"The self defense, stand up resistance maneuvers are low impact, so they're good for older women as well," she said. "Everyone can learn from this. It's not just for victims or women who know someone that has been victimized."

Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, UPD crime prevention specialist, said the increased concern about women's safety is encouraging.

"Women's safety has always been an issue, but increased media coverage has made more people aware," he said. "I'm seeing constructive

See Education, Page 6