

SWC SHOWDOWN

A&M baseball looks to extend SWC lead against Baylor this weekend.

Sports, Page 9

X-AMINING OUR GENERATION

Taylor: Our generation is so diverse, it is hard to define us with one label.

Opinion, Page 13

DRAMATIC ARTS AT A&M

Theater arts program and Aggie players present "Othello."

Aggielife, Page 3



THE BATTALION

"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

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RHA recommends fee increase Weekend starts early

Debate lasted less than a minute on the bill to make cable fees mandatory for on-campus students.

By Wes Swift
THE BATTALION

Cable TV may become a regular feature of residence hall rooms as a bill passed Wednesday by the Residence Hall Association is implemented.

The bill recommends that a mandatory cable fee be added to all rents that would not exceed \$7 per month, and include 32 channels with the possibility of adding more services and channels later. The fees and connections would be ready by Fall 1996.

TCA Cable TV currently contracts with on-campus students to provide cable services.

A decision on the bill came after less than a minute of debate, causing surprise among some.

Trevor Dunham, RHA vice president for operations, said that he was shocked by the lack of debate. He said he thought more would be said for those who would have to pay for the service but do not have a television.

But Dunham said he understands why there was little debate.

"We've been looking at this for a long time," he said. "The residents had time to examine everything. There's been a lot of opportunity to express all opinions."

Owen Ross, RHA president, said he agreed.

"We've had extensive discussion on this," Ross said. "We've been working on this since the beginning of last fall. The hall councils have had time to talk to the residents. We've got feedback and we've put a lot of effort into this."

Dunham pointed to a recent survey of on-campus residents that showed 82.7 percent of the 1,029 respondents agreed to pay the fee. Only 3.3 percent had neutral feelings, and 14.4 percent did not want to pay.

The recommendations come amid a flurry of possible fee increases. The Texas A&M Board of Regents raised parking fees in its last meeting, and is expected to consider raising residence hall rents in an upcoming meeting.

Ross said that the cable fee

sharply differs from other proposed fees, because residents will know what the fee will pay for.

"The biggest problem that residents have about fees is that many times they don't know what a fee is for," Ross said. "This is different. Residents can look at this fee and know exactly what they are paying for."

The bill will now be voted on by the Staff Council and sent to the Department of Residence Life and Housing for examination. The bill will progress from there, depending on the Department's ruling.

Ron Sasse, director of the Department of Residence Life and Housing, said since the Regents have to approve the fees, action may not be taken on the proposal until 1996.

But Sasse did say he expects the proposal to be passed.

"I think it can be in place by Fall 1996 like the bill says," Sasse said. "I don't see any reason why it would not happen."

Classes that begin after noon on Good Friday have been cancelled.

By Lynn Cook
THE BATTALION

Students, faculty and staff will get Good Friday off beginning at noon Friday.

The Texas Legislature passed a resolution that Gov. George W. Bush signed stating, "I... order that all State departments and agencies, except emergency services, be closed for half a day beginning at noon on Friday, April 14."

Dr. Ray M. Bowen, president of A&M, said in a memo that all faculty and staff will get half-a-day off beginning at noon.

Each department will determine which offices should remain open as emergency services. Employees who do not know if they are required to work Friday

should contact their supervisors.

Jeanette Phariss, assistant provost, said classes that begin after noon on Friday will be cancelled.

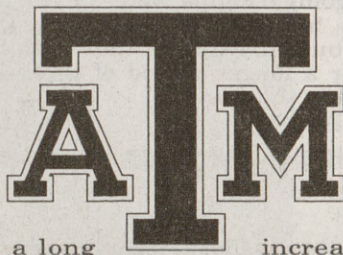
"If class begins at noon or later, the class will be dismissed for the day," Phariss said. "If class starts before noon, student will be expected to attend and finish class."

Sheran Riley, assistant to the University president, said the University has a limited number of holidays it can declare each year. Each agency head usually decides which holidays to take, she said.

Instead of Good Friday, this year faculty and staff had two days off at the end of spring break instead of one.

Riley said the University does not have any more holidays to give.

"This year, the faculty and staff got two days off at spring break, so the University has no more holidays," Riley said.



Campus Crime Stoppers put on hold

Lack of leadership has caused setbacks in getting program started this semester.

By Eleanor Colvin
THE BATTALION

Student leaders, hoping to make Texas A&M the second university in the nation to implement a campus Crime Stoppers program have faced some problems in getting the program off the ground.

The Student Senate approved the resolution to begin the Texas A&M Crime Stoppers last semester. Since then, no further developments in the program have been made.

Toby Boenig, student body president-elect, said he is interested in seeing this program grow.

"We've had some difficulty getting this program started," he said, "but I am interested in seeing it get off the ground."

Brooke Leslie, student body president, said this year was dedicated to working out the problems associated with the

program.

"There have been problems regarding the structure of the program, where the phones will be located and how the University Police Department fits into this," she said. "We feel like everything is in place now, and we're ready to take the next step."

Leslie said one of the biggest problems with the program was its leadership.

"We're hoping everyone will work hard to establish this program," she said.

Boenig said effective leader-

ship will be the key to the success of the Texas A&M Crime Stoppers.

"The first thing to be done is find a chairman that is a real 'go-getter,'" he said. "We need someone to really move this project in the right direction."

"We're hoping everyone will work hard to establish the program."

— Brooke Leslie,
student body president

Zdziarski said the Texas A&M Crime Stoppers would be structured in the same way as the county Crime Stoppers, and anonymous callers will be rewarded if the information they provide leads to an arrest or a conviction.



Amy Browning/THE BATTALION

Thank you, Easter Bunny

Anissa Summers, a freshman English major, offers to trade Easter eggs for donations to the American Heart Association outside the MSC Wednesday afternoon.

Leslie completes term as student body president

Leslie gives advice to incoming student body president, Toby Boenig.

By Kasie Byers
THE BATTALION

The transition between student body presidents has already begun as Brooke Leslie moves out of her office, making room for Toby Boenig to move in.

All of the items from her drawers and file cabinets are piled on top of her desk, but her platform still hangs on the wall, with every point checked off.

At the end of her term as student body president, Brooke Leslie has achieved the promise she made before being elected: implementing all of her platform goals.

Leslie said the most important points on her platform were the implementation of the bookswap and the student leadership scholarship.

"Both bookswap and the student leadership scholarship were main concerns of the student body and have been tried in the past unsuccessfully," Leslie said. "Their implementation is truly a landmark achievement."

She said that throughout her experiences as student body president, she is most proud of

the friendships and relationships she has built and the more complete sense of love she has gained for A&M.

"When you work so closely with a university, you begin to see the inside of it as well as the outside," Leslie said. "A&M has its share of problems, but I know without a doubt it is the best University to attend."

As Leslie prepares to leave her duties as student body president and graduate in May, she said she wants students to remember her work ethic, integrity and ability to motivate and lead.

"I hope I'll be thought of as doing this for the right reason, not for self-glorification or any kind of egotistical motive, but because I could do the best job," she said.

Leslie said she advises Toby Boenig, student body president-elect, to never forget that his main focus is the students.

"Stay focused and remember what your role is," she said. "You're not here for the administration, faculty or former students. You are in this office to do what is best for the students of Texas A&M University."

"Never lose the chance to take advantage of the many opportunities you have within this office to make a difference."

After graduation, Leslie said she plans to travel to Europe to



Nick Rodnicki/THE BATTALION

Outgoing student body president, Brooke Leslie will graduate in May.

take a break from school and have some fun.

"This office has reaffirmed my belief in taking some time to have fun or else you can never enjoy the job you're doing," she said.

After the break, she is going to law school.

Notice:

The Battalion will not publish tomorrow because of the University holiday. We will resume normal publication on Monday.

Maroon carrot has deep roots at A&M

New vegetable is healthier.

By Brad Dressler
THE BATTALION

If Texas A&M University scientists have their way, in a few years, the Easter Bunny and the general public will be enjoying maroon carrots.

Dr. Leonard Pike, professor of horticulture sciences, is developing the maroon carrot, which is crossbred from carrots with partial maroon color.

The maroon carrot began as a novelty concept aimed primarily at Aggies worldwide.

"We just had to have a maroon carrot from Aggieland," he said, "but after growing some

samples, it was determined that the maroon carrot had a nice crisp, crunchy texture similar to an apple."

Pike said that while working on the ideal maroon carrot, he discovered that the maroon carrot is healthier and tastier than traditional carrots.

Kilsun Yoo, research assistant professor of horticulture sciences, has been focusing on the maroon carrot's healthy, internal qualities.

"I have been working to ensure that the Aggie carrot is high in beta carotene, natural sugars and low in the terpenoid compound, which causes a bitter, harsh flavor," he said.

The crossbred maroon carrot is naturally high in beta carotene

and sugars. However, the scientists want to perfect the flavor and healthy qualities before releasing the carrots into the commercial market.

The inner portion of the maroon carrot retains the orange color.

Pike said the high-quality taste, texture and unique color scheme of these new carrots suggest a unique marketing idea — carrot chips.

"The maroon and orange color combination make an attractive package," he said. "We are working on how to create carrot chips, yet still retain the sweeter taste, high quality and unique colors."

The maroon carrot should be on the commercial market in about two years.