



### KILTS AND CLUBS

The A&M women's golf team is raising money for a trip to Scotland this summer.

Sports, Page 7

### UP IN SMOKE

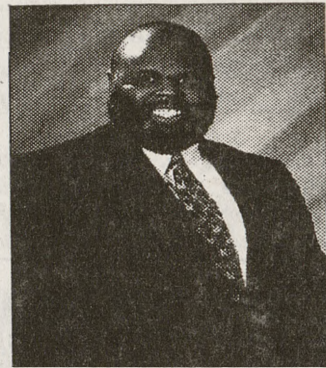
Littlefield: Cigarettes negatively control people's lives and take away their freedom.

Opinion, Page 9

### PASSION FOR TEACHING

Dr. Rick Rigsby receives two awards in recognition of his teaching.

Aggielife, Page 3



# THE BATTALION

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## TAMIU bill halted in committee

**Dr. Thompson says A&M will do whatever necessary to keep Texas A&M International University.**

By Brad Dressler  
THE BATTALION

The bill proposing that Texas A&M International University in Laredo be transferred to the University of Texas System has hit a dead-end in the House Higher Education Committee.

Senate Bill 11, proposed by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, quickly passed the Senate in March, but has faced strong opposition by the Texas A&M System

administration and the Friends of Texas A&M International University Association.

The bill calls for the university to be transferred to the UT System, and its name be changed to the University of Texas International.

Zaffirini also tacked the transfer proposition onto Senate Bill 1298, which calls for the Baylor College of Dentistry and East Texas State University to be transferred into the A&M System. It passed the Senate.

The House Higher Education Committee, however, amended the bill to exclude the TAMIU transfer. The bill

must now go to a joint committee for negotiation.

Dr. Barry Thompson, chancellor of the Texas A&M University System, said the A&M System is prepared to oppose any efforts to lose TAMIU to another system.

"We will hold on to the Laredo school at all costs," he said.

"Currently, the A&M System is trying to anticipate moves by legislators to use any tricks or sneaky behavior in an effort to get TAMIU transferred."

Prospects of the bill passing the committee currently look doubtful.

Danny Salinas, president of the Friends of TAMIU Association, is distressed with the division, and she mentioned that those involved should work together for the best interests of the TAMIU students.

"She made a point of saying that if people have had, and still have, problems with TAMIU being in the Texas A&M University, they should address the problems directly and work together to solve the problems," he said.

Randy Blair, a member of the Friends of TAMIU Association, attended the April 18 committee hearing about the bill, and said that no one presented any evidence that TAMIU would be better off in the UT System.



## Aggie Parents of the Year announced Sunday

**James and Shirley Bilhartz have five children who have graduated from A&M.**

By Eleanor Colvin  
THE BATTALION

If anyone actually could bleed maroon and white, James and Shirley Bilhartz, the 1995-96 Aggie Parents of the Year, would.

The couple was recognized at the Parents' Weekend All-University Awards Ceremony for their dedication to both Texas A&M and their family.

Susan Bilhartz, the couple's

daughter and a freshman business administration major at Texas A&M, said she and her siblings had always wanted to nominate their parents for this award.

"My sister, brothers and I wanted to do this for a long time, but we wanted to wait until we were all Aggies (five other Bilhartz children have also graduated from A&M: James Jr., Class of '78; Dale, Class of '80; David, Class of '81; Anna, Class of '89; and John, Class of '91).

"Being a freshman, I was a little worried about trying, but I figured we've only got three more years to get them nominated."

She said her parents always

See Parents, Page 6



Bart Mitchell/The Battalion

### All in a day's work

Firefighters from Monsanto Chocolate Bayou practice putting out gasoline tanker fires on Monday afternoon at Breyton Fire-fighting School as part of their industrial firefighting training.

## Changes in housing to prevent vacancies

**The percentage of rooms available for incoming freshmen has been increased for this fall.**

By Wes Swift  
THE BATTALION

The Department of Residence Life and Housing is changing its procedure for housing arrangements in an effort to eliminate vacancies in the residence halls.

The changes come in response to the abnormally high number of vacancies this past fall, when late cancellations left 636 open spaces in Corps and non-Corps residence halls.

Ron Sasse, director of the Department of Residence Life and Housing, said the Department is using several new procedures and tools to cut down on the vacancies.

"First, we're going to use the cancellation numbers from last fall as a basis for this year," Sasse said. "We're also offering more spaces initially."

Sasse said the cancellation date will be moved from July 30 to June 1. Students canceling their reservations after this date will lose their deposit.

He said the department will alter the proportions of spaces that are offered.

Previously, freshmen were allotted 80 percent of the available spaces, while transfer students and students moving from off-campus housing re-

ceived 10 percent.

Now freshmen will be allotted 90 percent with transfers and returning students each receiving 5 percent.

Owen Ross, 1994-1995 Residence Hall Association president, said he was glad to see the changes in the procedures.

"Last fall there were fewer freshmen, of course," Ross said. "That had a particularly hard effect on the non-air-conditioned dorms. There were all these vacancies, and when freshmen saw there was a chance to get into an air-conditioned hall, they moved."

Jennifer Enos, a member of the Student Housing Input Committee, said she had heard of several dorms affected by the mass cancellations. Puryear and Law were considering closing some of their ramps because of empty rooms, and a number of international students were moved into Walton to fill the vacant rooms.

Enos said the vacancies decreased the spirit in some of the halls.

"I guess that when you have fewer people, you have fewer people to motivate," Enos said.

Ross said the changes have met little resistance in the halls.

Enos said she was not certain what effect the changes would have.

"I think moving up the cancellation date will help to a point," Enos said. "But some people will have to cancel, so they'll go ahead and do so, even if they lose their money."

## Sketch of John Doe No. 2 updated

**Officials at the bomb site decide that it is time to begin using heavy machinery to remove bodies.**

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The FBI released yet another sketch of the elusive John Doe 2 on Monday as agents chased clues in Arizona, Oklahoma and a Kansas lake where the Oklahoma City bomb may have been mixed.

Outside the shaky ruins of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, officials acknowledged the inevitable: It is time to give up the search for signs of life and switch to heavy machinery to remove bodies.

"I think they need to do whatever is necessary to ensure the safety of the rescue workers," said Jim Texter, whose wife, Victoria, was still missing. "Nobody wants to be responsible for more hurt."

The death toll reached 137, including 15 children. About 50 people were missing.

FBI agents also sought as "witnesses" two men who in recent months stayed at a cheap Arizona motel near one used by

bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh. The two men may also have spent the night of the bombing in a motel 180 miles from Oklahoma City.

Outside Junction City, Kan., where the Ryder truck that carried the bomb was rented, agents searched the woods and sent divers into Geary State Fishing Lake looking for evidence that materials for the bomb were mixed nearby and that tools and equipment used in the mixing were thrown into the water.

The search was prompted by witness reports of a Ryder truck at the site after April 17, the day McVeigh allegedly rented his Ryder truck, said a senior federal official in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity.

McVeigh is under arrest on charges of building the ammonium nitrate and fuel oil bomb that exploded April 19 in front of the federal building in the worst domestic terrorist attack in U.S. history.

Investigators have found a receipt for one ton of ammonium nitrate in a search of Terry Nichols' house in Herington, Kan., the Washington official said. The receipt bore a finger-

print of McVeigh's, the official said.

The receipt could establish a link between the bombing and Nichols, a friend of McVeigh's now being held as a material witness.

Meanwhile, the FBI hoped a third sketch of John Doe 2 — the man who was with McVeigh when he allegedly rented the truck — might bring new leads. In the new, profile view, the suspect appears stocky and wears a baseball cap. He is very tan and muscular and may be a weightlifter, FBI agent Weldon Kennedy said.

Acting on information gathered around Kingman, Ariz., the FBI also searched for a 1981 white Thunderbird with Arizona license plate JWK923, believed to be driven by Gary Allen Land and accompanied by Robert Jacks.

"We are looking for a possible witness to the bombing," the federal official in Washington told The Associated Press.

An FBI bulletin reported that Land was last seen April 24-25 at a motel in Vinita, Okla., said Sgt. Dave Myers, spokesman for the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

## Surgeon general conformation looks difficult, officials say

**Dole says the problems with Henry Foster's nomination were caused by the White House.**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Buffeted for months by abortion foes and other critics, President Clinton's surgeon general nominee declared himself primed to "define who Henry Foster is" at a Senate hearing Tuesday. Administration officials conceded confirmation still looked difficult.

Brushing off questions about Foster's abortion record, Clinton called him a "pro-life, pro-choice doctor" on Monday. And the president added, "If we can't confirm Henry Foster to be the surgeon general of the United States, what kind of person can we confirm?"

But Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, who has said he may not call up the nomination for a vote even if it gets out of committee, said the White House had caused whatever problems there were.

"This is not about abortion. This is about credibility. This is about telling the truth. This is about the White House leveling with the American people and not letting it drip, drip, drip out as the American people find out," said Dole, who is running for president.

Foster smiled and joked at Monday's Capitol Hill news conference, surrounded by teen-agers who are enrolled in his "I Have a Future" program back in Tennessee and who rode a bus to

Washington to show their support. He said he was ready for the tough grilling he's likely to get Tuesday before the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee.

"Am I intimidated? No. And I'm not being immodest, I'm not being cocky," the 61-year-old obstetrician-gynecologist said. He said he looked forward to the hearing "because that is the place where I get the chance to define who Henry Foster is."



**"If we can't confirm Henry Foster to be the surgeon general of the United States, what kind of person can we confirm?"**

— President Clinton

Ever since President Clinton put his name forward in February, Foster has been under attack from conservative groups and lawmakers — primarily over the fact that he performed abortions and gave several different answers about how many.