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TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY THE BATTALION

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Residents oppose Animal Complex

Brushy Creek community members are concerned that the new animal complex would cause water pollution, animal odor and heavy student traffic.

By Tara Wilkinson
THE BATTALION

Residents of the Brushy Creek

community pledged more than \$3,000 Thursday for a for an injunction they intend to seek against the building of Texas A&M's Animal Science Teaching, Research and Extension Complex. The total cost to apply for the injunction is \$5,000.

About 35 members of Residents Opposed to Pigs and Livestock voted unanimously to seek legal means of stopping the University from building a Sheep and Goat Center, Animal Euthenics Center and Nutrition and Physiology Center in the Brushy Creek area, located approximate-

ly 8 1/2 miles southwest of College Station on Highway 60.

A Beef Industry Center owned by the University already operates in the Brushy Creek area.

Brushy Creek residents said they fear water pollution, parasites, animal odor, disruption of social life and heavy student traffic would be problems caused by the approximately 1,600 sheep, goats, cows and pigs the complex would add to their community.

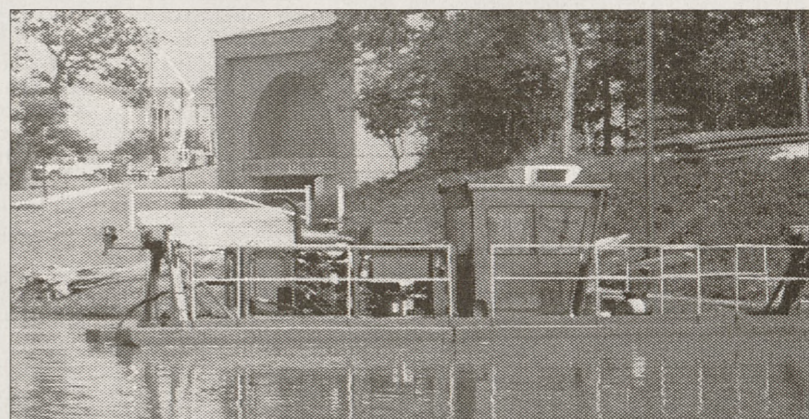
Dr. Al Schaffer, an A&M sociology professor and Brushy Creek resident, said the resi-

dents gained a major concession in June when University officials altered their original plans and decided not to build a Swine Center with up to 1,500 pigs in Brushy Creek.

But Schaffer said concerns focused on the Swine Center have become more widespread now that residents have researched the building of the complex and its implications more thoroughly.

Schaffer said the residents hope their case eventually will be heard at the federal level on the

See COMPLEX, Page 6



Mike Friend, THE BATTALION

A machine dredges Wolf Pen Lake on Friday.

College Station begins dredging at Wolf Pen Lake

The city is trying to restore the lake's original appearance.

By Tara Wilkinson
THE BATTALION

The City of College Station is dredging the lake at Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater, located at Holleman Drive and Dartmouth Street, in order to restore it to its original depth and shape.

Veronica Morgan, assistant city engineer, said that after looking at several ways to handle lake restoration, the City Council decided to hire a dredge to remove silt deposits that have emptied from Wolf Pen Creek into the lake.

The dredging project, which began June 16, is expected to last 40 working days and cost about \$63,000, Morgan said.

The dredge, a flat-bottomed boat on pontoons, is pumping silt and water from the bottom of the lake into two large holding ponds on the corner of the property built to hold this material. Another pipe returns water to the lake.

"Once dredging is complete, we will remove all pipes and take the silt to other areas around town, like parks," Morgan said.

She said most College Station residents are not aware of the natural forces at work on the lake.

"For someone who is not familiar with the project, it looks like the lake dried up," Morgan said.

However, Morgan said runoff from the creek has actually filled the lake. Originally 8 feet deep, the lake is now only

inches deep in spots.

Larry Ringer, mayor of College Station, said city engineers knew the lake would eventually begin to fill with silt, but did not expect the process to happen so quickly.

"The heavy rains we had last fall caused heavy erosion and caused silt to build up," Ringer said. "It took out some of the bends and curves of the lake."

Ringer said dredging the lake is a short-term solution that will not prevent future problems with the lake. Depending on available funds, he said the City Council will consider implementing a long-term solution in the future.

One option could be to line the creek to help reduce erosion and decrease runoff into the lake, Ringer said.

Lyn McIlhaney, city councilwoman, said Wolf Pen Lake and Amphitheater were built

"Once dredging is complete, we will remove all pipes and take the silt to other areas around town, like parks."

— Veronica Morgan
assistant city engineer

in an area with known drainage problems.

"Our desire for that entire corridor was to take a liability, an area with a drainage problem, and turn it into an asset," McIlhaney said.

Although residents have complained that the lake looks ugly, McIlhaney said aesthetic improvement is only part of the reason the City Council decided to dredge.

She said the lake's appearance has not negatively affected the number or quality of performances scheduled at the amphitheater.

See LAKE, Page 2



Eddy Wylie, THE BATTALION

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Robert Wright, a graduate student in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, prepares a cotton field on West Campus for irrigation Saturday afternoon. He is using the field as a genetic experiment for the study of blight.

See PETS, Page 4

Bicycle patrol officers promote campus safety

Since the introduction of the bicycle patrol on campus, there has been a decrease in the number of bicycle citations given.

By Michael Simmons
THE BATTALION

The University Police Department bicycle patrol has increased safety and battled crime in its first year on the Texas A&M campus.

Bob Wiatt, UPD director, said the patrol has been successful in fighting crime and opened the University police to the public.

"The officers are now easily accessible to people on campus," Wiatt said. "New students and their parents often approach bicycle officers with questions about the campus."

The bicycle patrol plays the more important role of monitoring the campus, both day and night. The patrol has the ability to silently monitor areas where a squad car may be more obvious, Wiatt said.

"There have been several occasions when the bicycle officers, because they are so quiet, have actually caught someone in the act of criminal activity on campus," Wiatt said.

The officers also monitor the bicycle traffic that runs through campus, Wiatt said. This is to ensure bicyclists

are aware they must follow the same laws as motorists.

Thomas Miller, Department of Parking, Transit and Traffic Services director, said during the fall or spring semesters up to 12,500 bicycles can be found on the A&M campus.

Officer Todd Tomlinson, UPD bicycle patrolman, said the patrol tries to advise students about bicycle laws and safety.

"Bicyclists aren't always aware that they must also yield to pedestrians and stop at a stop sign," Tomlinson said.

Tomlinson said there has been a noticeable decline in the number of citations and warnings given since the introduction of the bicycle patrol.

"We used to stop 15 bicyclists a day, but now we only stop three or four," Tomlinson said.

Being a member of the bicycle patrol gives the officers an advantage in the fight against crime, Tomlinson said.

"If criminals try to flee the scene of a crime, an officer on a bicycle can easily pursue them through a field or anywhere a car may not be able to go," Tomlinson said.

This also allows the University police to patrol in areas inaccessible to cars, Tomlinson said.

"The more places we are able to patrol, the safer students on campus will be," Tomlinson said.

The bicycle officers are not limited to bicycle violations or campus

See OFFICERS, Page 4

Study abroad program offers varied experiences

Applications for the Spring 1996 program are now available.

By Jill Saunders
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M students of all majors and classifications can take their educational experiences on the road, and learn the history and culture of foreign countries by utilizing the Texas A&M Study Abroad Program.

Mona Rizk-Finne, director of Study Abroad, said the program goal is to help every A&M student interested in studying abroad.

"The mission of the Study Abroad Program at Texas A&M is to provide students in all fields of study at all levels a wide range of

educational experiences abroad," Rizk-Finne said.

Rizk-Finne said that of the state universities in Texas, A&M has the largest and most comprehensive study abroad program.

"We have 32 programs in 18 countries," Rizk-Finne said. "We have something for everyone."

Study abroad programs can last from one summer session up to an entire year.

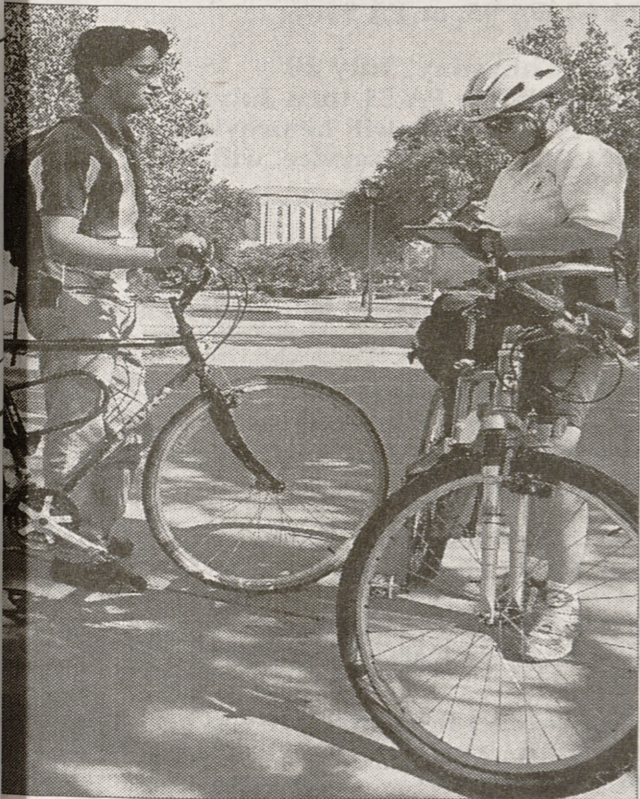
Applications are available for the Spring 1996 program to Italy for future teachers and a separate program for all majors.

Rizk-Finne said the Santa Chiara Study Center in Cas-

tiglion Fiorentino, Italy, is a part of the University Study Abroad Program, and all classes are taught in English.

Approximately 570 A&M

See STUDY, Page 4



Nick Rodnicki, THE BATTALION

Bike patrol officer Elizabeth Geick gives graduate business student Jeet Ahluwalia a warning for disobeying a traffic sign on Ireland street Sunday afternoon.