

NEWS BRIEFS

SSSD works to improve campus accessibility

Search continues for health services director

Dr. Lucille Isdale, director of the McKinley Health Center at the University of Illinois, will interview Thursday for the position of Texas A&M director of student health services and the A.P. Beutel Health Center.

The interview will be held at 3 p.m. in 707 Rudder Tower.

A&M's division of student affairs began interviewing for the position last Friday.

The interviews are open to all staff members of the Division of Student Affairs, Health Promotion, the Employee Assistance Program, the College of Medicine and members of the Federation of A&M Mothers' Clubs.

The Division of Student Affairs plans to fill the position by the end of the month.

Memories haunt survivors of 'death march'

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Bahrem Ektic, 16 and frail, saw dozens of Muslim men lying dead or dying as he made a seven-day trek to safety from conquered Srebrenica. The memory of one victim will remain with him.

"One had nose and ears cut off, and only two fingers left on each hand. When we passed by, he whimpered. He begged us to kill him. But we could not shoot him, for fear Serbs will hear us. And nobody mustered strength to put him out of his misery with a knife."

"So we left him there whimpering. The sound will always be in my head," Ektic said softly Tuesday, his shoulders appearing too slight to handle the rifle he carried.

Ektic was among 15,000 Muslim men who fled Srebrenica to evade the Bosnian Serb fighters who overran the "safe area" last Thursday. Most had been conscripted for the defense of Srebrenica.

Fewer than 5,000 have made it safely to government-held Tuzla, 70 miles to the northwest, and there is growing concern about the fate of the 11,000 who remained missing.

Democrats express concerns about hearings

WASHINGTON (AP) — After two years, one trial and a series of government reports and hearings, Rep. Bill Zeff says he will try "to get to the bottom" of the siege that left 91 people dead near Waco, Texas.

Some Democrats say they are concerned that Republicans will turn the eight-day hearing that starts Wednesday into an attack, with federal agents as the primary target.

But Zeff and GOP aides say the hearings — the first into the Waco matter since Republicans took control of Congress — will help clear up remaining questions about what happened when agents tried to serve a search warrant on the Branch Davidian compound.

"Nobody can say I'm engaging in a witch hunt," the New Hampshire Republican said. "With all the honesty and integrity in my body, I'm trying to get to the bottom of this."

Committee aides said the hearings will cover everything from the planning of the Feb. 28, 1993, search warrant raid to the April 19 fire that destroyed the compound. Four federal agents and six residents of the compound died in a shootout.

For 17 years, Support Services for Students with Disabilities has helped students work around their disabilities.

By Tara Wilkinson
THE BATTALION

Support Services for Students with Disabilities is working to provide all Texas A&M students with an equal opportunity to succeed.

Dr. Donna Williams, interim director of Support Services for Students with Disabilities (SSSD), said they have been helping students with disabilities within the Texas A&M System since 1978.

"We help students with disabilities negotiate their way through the University and get a college education the same as everybody else," Williams said. "All we do is make inroads."

Gail Walters, former director of SSSD, said most people immediately think of wheelchairs when they hear the word disability.

Learning disabilities are more common among A&M students than physi-

cal handicaps.

Many A&M students are challenged by hearing and vision disabilities, psychological disabilities, chronic health ailments and neurological impairments.

SSSD services include extended-time testing, audio textbooks for the blind, class registration assistance, note takers and sign language interpreters.

Most of the reading for the blind and note taking is performed by student volunteers.

Walters said students with disabilities are responsible for seeking out SSSD services themselves. Students must register with SSSD each semester they wish to utilize the services.

An SSSD brochure explains that A&M officials are not necessarily aware of needs of students with disabilities.

"Texas A&M University does not have special admissions programs for individuals with disabilities and does not make pre-admission inquiries regarding disabilities,"

the brochure said. "Students have the opportunity to state any extenuating circumstances that have affected their academic performance."

SSSD assists registered students and advises others about disability-related issues.

Williams said she encourages students to take control of their situations and become more confident.

She said students with disabilities should introduce themselves to their professors personally.

"We try to encourage them to advocate for themselves in every situation," she said.

SSSD picks up where individual students leave off, working with University officials to make A&M more accessible to all

students.

Williams said SSSD is constantly working with physical plant officials to improve the accessibility of campus buildings.

Recently, automatic doors were installed in the MSC, the Koldus Building

and Harrington Education Center.

If a student has a class in a building that is not accessible, SSSD will help the University to move the class to a more accessible location, Williams said.

SSSD has made progress, she said, but is always looking for further improvements.

"We've made tremendous strides in the past four years in the number of students served and the quality of those served," Walters said. "But I think the work is something we constantly look at and not ever feel like we've done everything we can."

SSSD is currently developing a Learning Resource Center in the Harrington Education Center, Walters said. They are equipping it with the latest access software, Book-Wise-Edge, the most advanced of technology SSSD owns. Book-Wise-Edge is a machine that scans, reads it aloud and prints the words on a screen.

"Assistive technology is a bridge that fills the gap for students with disabilities," Walters said.

Renee Harris, accommodations coordinator for SSSD, said the lab will be full time in the fall and will be open hours of operation to include even-

ing her teacher certification, said she has always wanted students seeking secondary certification are not required to spend as much time training in public schools as elementary education majors are.

"I feel like I won't get that necessary experience," she said. "A&M already has a highly ranked education program, and redesigning the secondary education program put us over the edge."

A&M does not offer a degree in secondary education, but students wishing to teach at the secondary level must earn their degrees in a field other than education and take a number of teacher-education courses for their certifications.

Leigh Weisinger, a senior English and speech communication major, participated last semester in a pilot course designed to provide feedback for planning field-based experiences.

"I don't like the program as it is now," Weisinger said. "It's a very subjective sort of thing. As long as there is a grade attached to it, you aren't going to have a helpful experience."

The first and second phases of the program each consist of a semester-long course. These classes will require students to work with teachers and adolescents in and out of the classroom.

The third phase consists of two teacher-development courses, one in the fall semester and one in the spring.

The final year of secondary-certification training consists of a semester-long, senior-level methods course and a semester of student teaching.

Students will have a choice between a nine-hour student teaching program.

Weisinger said substitute teaching is the only experience that is realistic training for teachers.

"I've heard over and over that student teaching doesn't prepare you to be a teacher," she said. "It's like trying to prepare an astronaut to go up in space. There really isn't anything like it on Earth. You can simulate space, but it's not the real thing."

Woodman said Keim and Keim's awards exemplifies the talent of the faculty at A&M.

"It's extremely positive," Woodman said. "These grants are highly respected. It reflects very well on the school."

Raymond said objectives of the program have changed dramatically in the years. Originally, she said, the program was a vehicle for American scholars to share their knowledge with the world.

"Now I think it has evolved to be more give and take," Raymond said. "I think it's a good opportunity for American academics to see the world. I have met many people who come back from the program and say, 'I have learned so much...'"

GROUPS

Continued from Page 1

Bowen said that if the fee increase is not approved, it may be necessary to cut expenses across the University, including \$5.3 million from academic affairs, which would decrease class availability.

"The biggest impact on students, I think, would be getting into classes, largely in liberal arts and science," he said. "It's going to impact mostly on class access and in a major way on lower division classes."

The increase would generate \$15.4 million in revenue. Most of the money would be used to make up for the budget deficit, and \$5 million would be used for staff and faculty salary increases.

The remaining funds would be used for a \$1.5 million addition to need-based financial aid, \$1.38 million for special reserves and \$1 million for maintenance of campus facilities.

When Bowen proposed the increase, he said he knew it may meet student opposition.

"I fully understand that most of the students won't be happy to hear about this," he said. "But I hope they'll see the silver lining."

An open forum was held on June 21 to hear from students, staff and faculty. Texas law mandates that any increase in the general use fee must be subject to public hearings before approval.

Students at the forum overwhelmingly objected to the increase. Many students questioned the necessity of the increase, and others said the increase was too much and would force some students to drop out of school.

Any fee increase must be approved by the Board of Regents.

The next official Board meeting will be Aug. 31. The Board may vote on the proposal before the formal meeting if it chooses.

CERTIFICATION

Continued from Page 1

with secondary education as it is, you don't get that experience until you student teach," she said.

If the proposals are approved, the first redesigned course would be implemented in Fall 1996. The other courses would be phased in until the program is fully implemented in Spring 1999.

Dr. John E. Morris, professor of educational curriculum and instruction, said secondary certification can be obtained in as few as three semesters with the existing program. The redesigned program consists of four sequential phases that will take six semesters to complete.

Kristy Eastham, senior English and history major, said she does not think a six-semester program will deter students who are serious about teaching.

"The main point of all this is to make us better prepared to teach the kids," Eastham said. "Teachers aren't as respected as they should be, but if we get more training, maybe that will help."

Beasley said she is hesitant about recommendations to make the program longer.

"I think people will be a little wary about taking six semesters," she said. "Most people haven't even thought about getting their certifications before their sophomore years."

Marcel LeJeune, a senior history major, said he has considered returning to A&M in Spring 1996 to start working toward secondary certification.

"If they change the program, I'm definitely not coming back to A&M to get my certification," he said. "I can go somewhere else and get it a lot quicker."

Carrie Lively, a senior journalism major who is studying for

GRANTS

Continued from Page 1

"A lot of the teaching [in Austria] is one-way," Keim said. "Professors come in and lecture, and the students listen."

Dr. Richard Woodman, head of the Department of Management, said the experience Keim gains from his trip will help the A&M business school tremendously.

"The knowledge he'll get from this experience can only help his teaching. It can only enhance what he has already done and improve his credibility, especially when teaching international business classes," Woodman said.

Keim, who has taught at Texas A&M since 1974, will also research the differences between political and social institutions in the Western world and in Eastern Europe.

Kimber and Keim join a group of 75-80 Fulbright scholars who teach at A&M.

The J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board, which was created in the 1940s, awards money to scholars, scientists and artists to study outside the United States.

Professors are judged on their proposed teaching or research, past performance and the needs of the country to which they want to travel. The entire process takes one year to complete.

Junior FULBRIGHT


Grants for Grad Students and Graduating Seniors

Research abroad is only a few steps away for U.S. citizens who receive a Fulbright grant.

For more information, attend one of these meetings in 154 Bizzell Hall West:

Tuesday, July 18 at 10:00 am
Thursday, July 20 at 9:00 am
Thursday, July 20 at 4:00 pm

Study Abroad Program 154 Bizzell Hall West 845-0111



A little space can say a lot.

The Battalion Advertising

To place an ad, call 845-2696

MSC FILM SOCIETY PRESENTS...

~~Free~~ ~~Save~~ Ferris!!

Free Screening of **Ferris Bueller's Day Off**

601 Rudder

FRI. @ 8:00pm

Admission \$3.75 w/t.D. \$3 w/out t.D. Persons with disabilities please call 845-1915 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification 3 working days prior to the event. To make us the most fun to be at, we offer special Apple Cinema tickets \$14.95. All times are presented in the Rudder Theater Complex. e-mail: films.july@mac.tamu.edu. Box Office 845-1384

1 TUV 8

CHOOSE FEE OPTION 18 to order your copy of the 1995-96 CAMPUS DIRECTORY when you register for fall classes. The student directory includes listings of students, faculty, staff and other information about Texas A&M. Only \$3.25.

A Matter of Understanding.



Understanding goes beyond simply knowing what a person wants. It means having a compassionate and empathetic awareness that comes only from experience.

Sue Coté, our Registered Nurse Practitioner, understands the delicate nature of a woman's health care needs. From answering your health and treatment questions to providing routine gynecological evaluations, you can expect the highest level of sensitivity and advanced quality care in the Brazos Valley.

David R. Doss, M.D.
G. Mark Montgomery, M.D.
Royal H. Benson, III, M.D.
Fellows, American College of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Sue Coté, R.N.P.
Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner

Linda Kapusniak
Registered Dietitian

Mary E. Walraven, ICCE
Certified Childbirth Educator

BRAZOS VALLEY WOMEN'S CLINIC
1701 BRIARCLIFF
STE 100 BRYAN
778-6401

BWVC is a member of Alliance, MetLife and most other health care plans.