

# Summer degree seekers face deadline

Seniors who were eligible to graduate this summer have until next Friday to complete their degree requirements.

By Tara Wilkinson  
THE BATTALION

More than 2,000 students graduated from Texas A&M during the Aug. 11-12 commencement ceremonies.

Don Gardner, associate registrar, said an exact count of graduates from each college is not yet available because students have until Sept. 1 to complete all course work and confirm all transfer hours for their degree requirements.

Students who participated in commencement but have not met their requirements received an empty diploma tube when they walked across the stage. The diplomas will be given when degree requirements are met.

"I don't know how many [A&M graduates who have not met their degree requirements] there are hanging out there," Gardner said.

Of the approximately 2,000 potential A&M graduates, about 1,700 attended the commencement ceremonies.

State Rep. Rob Junell of San Angelo spoke at the Aug. 11 ceremony for the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Science, Business Administration and Graduate School of Business, Education, Geosciences and Maritime Studies and Science.

Junell, chairman of the House

Appropriations Committee, said the A&M graduates should take control of their lives and realize their power to make changes.

"You have the ability to change things," he said. "When you leave here tonight, make something happen."

He said education prepares leaders to solve society's problems with time and hard work.

"One of the things you have learned at this university is how to compete, to not be afraid to work hard for a goal," he said. "We have problems, but it takes people like you, who know what hard work is, to solve these problems."

Dr. Amy Freeman Lee of San Antonio spoke at the Aug. 12 ceremony for the Colleges of Architecture, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

Lee, chairman of the board of trustees of the Wilhelm School in Houston and a noted artist, art critic and humanist, said A&M graduates need to consider two areas when making choices in the pursuit of happiness.

Everybody, she said, needs to develop a definition of what life means.

"In order to get what you want out of life, you first must define what life means to you," Lee said. "And depending what your individual definition is, that is how you will live your life."

Lee urged the graduates to use their educations wisely.

"Life is a continuous education," she said. "We are constantly learning new things, but as we learn new things we must also try and gain experience from the things we already have learned."

# Economists disagree on wisdom of propping up dollar

Opponents of the Clinton administration's plan say the way to attack the trade deficit is to devalue the currency.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Economists see the Clinton administration's effort to prop up the sagging dollar as either a masterful market play or a boneheaded policy that will cost thousands of American jobs by aggravating the U.S. trade deficit.

While economists are notorious for disagreeing among themselves, seldom has a single issue sparked more divergent views. To critics, administration efforts to support the

dollar are the wrong prescription for an economy already saddled with huge trade deficits.

Under this reasoning, the way to attack a trade deficit is to devalue the currency, not increase its value.

On its surface, last week's coordinated effort by the United States, Japan and Germany was a clear-cut success in propping up the dollar.

The three countries intervened massively in global currency markets, selling Japanese yen and German marks to buy what by some estimates was as much as \$4 billion in the U.S. currency.

At its lowest point, the dollar was down 20 percent against the yen and 13 percent against the mark, compared to levels at the

beginning of this year.

But with last week's successful intervention, the dollar has regained almost all of that lost ground, ending last week down only 2.5 percent from where it started the year against the Japanese yen.

Washington economist William Cline called it "a brilliant downfield run, but in the direction of the wrong end zone."

Cline and other opponents contend that the administration has no business trying to support the dollar at a time when America's trade deficit is heading to the stratosphere.

A weaker dollar makes imported cars and other foreign products more expensive for American consumers while U.S.-made products are a better bargain overseas.

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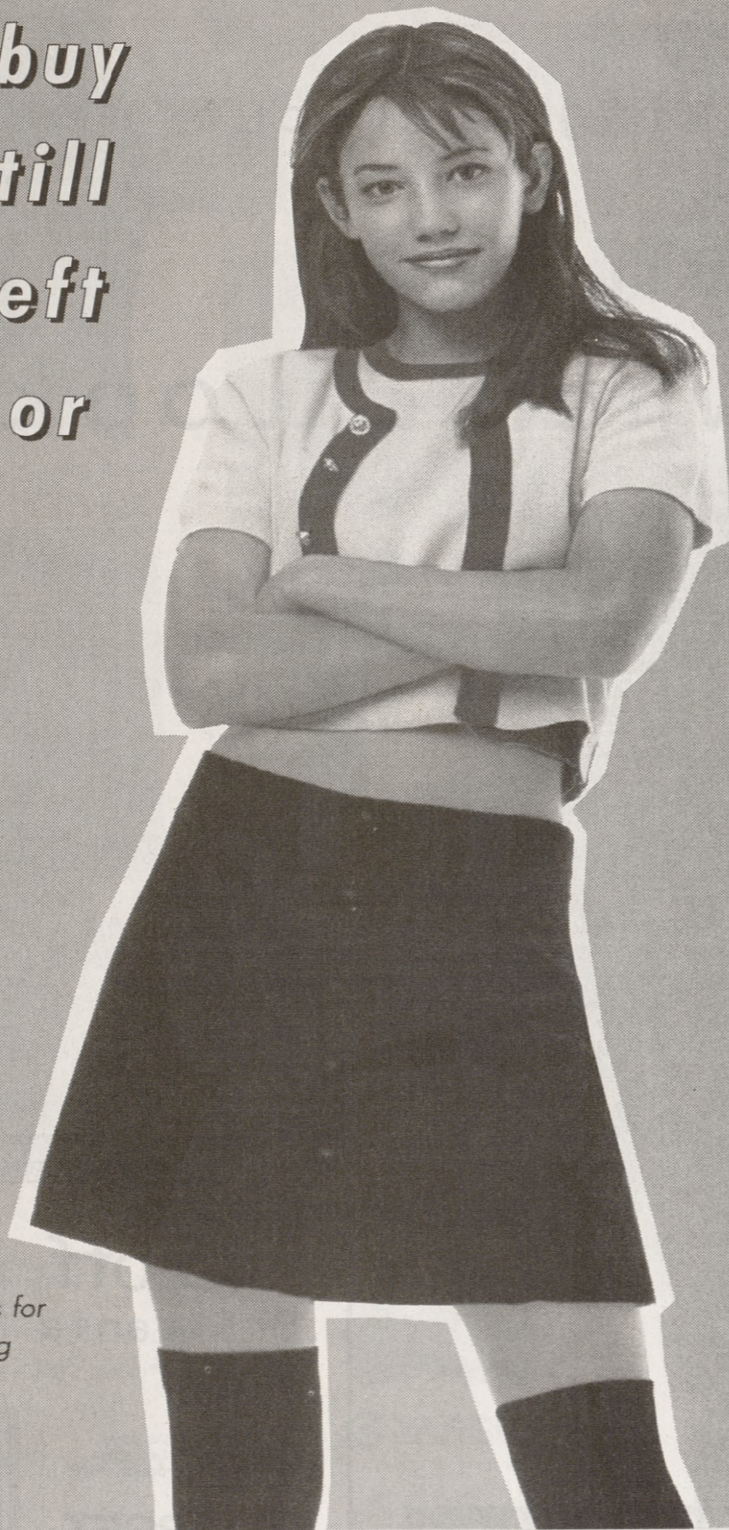


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