

CULTURE CLUBS

DIVERSITY DILEMMA

SETTING UP TO WIN



Aggie Players, Town Hall and OPAS bring a variety of shows to campus.

Aggielife, Page 3

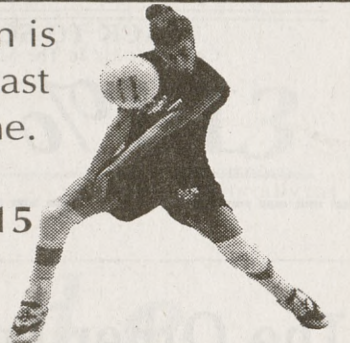
Assimilation into American culture can leave many people without identities.

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The A&M volleyball team is determined to bring the last SWC championship home.

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THE BATTALION

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Regents to vote on student liaison Friday

Students are encouraged to voice their opinions at the Board of Regents meeting today.

By Tara Wilkinson
THE BATTALION

Members of Texas A&M's Student Government are closer to reaching their long-time goal of gaining student representation on the Board of Regents. The regents will vote tomorrow on whether to allow a student liaison to represent students in the A&M System. The liaison would have full speaking privi-

leges at Board meetings and membership on Board committees.

Toby Boenig, student body president, said members of Student Government have lobbied unsuccessfully during the past 20 years to have a student regent as a full member of the Board.

Two years ago, members of Student Government altered its goals and decided to push for a student liaison, rather than a full regent.

The student liaison would not be permitted to vote or attend Board of Regents executive sessions, in which regents make decisions about personnel, tenure and legal issues.

Becky Silloway, Student Senate speaker, said a liaison would open up

lines of communication between students and board members.

"A student at each Board of Regents meeting would provide board members insight into the concerns and issues students of the System are facing," a Student Government position paper stated. "This is an exciting opportunity for the Board of Regents to have questions answered by students first hand, a participant of higher education who lives the daily routine."

Boenig and Silloway said students in favor of the proposal who show up for the vote might influence the regents' decision.

"If we show up in force and have students lining the walls, it will show the regents that the students really care," Sil-

loway said.

The Board's academic campuses committee, schedule to meet at 9:15 a.m. in 292 MSC, will vote on the proposal first. This discussion will be closed to the public, but regents are free to ask for comments or input from anyone present during the rest of the meeting.

If passed in the committee, the proposal will continue on to the 3 p.m. Board of Regents meeting for a final vote.

The student liaison and one alternate would be elected from the Chancellor's Student Advisory Board, a body consisting of two representatives from each of the eight campuses in the Texas A&M University System. The advisory board does not include representation from

East Texas State University or Baylor College of Dentistry, both recently added to the System.

The proposal prescribes that the student liaison and alternate cannot be from the same campus, nor can the liaison be from the same campus two years in a row.

Martin McLemore, student body president of System member Tarleton State University, said a student liaison representing all schools in the System will benefit students who cannot attend the regents' meetings held here at A&M.

"The students at A&M have a luxury because they can be at all the board meetings," McLemore said. "A student liaison would be a big plus for the smaller System schools."

Shuttle service available for football fans this weekend

The bus system was created by a traffic task force to provide game-goers an alternative to parking on campus.

By Javier Hinojosa
THE BATTALION

The mad mesh of cars on campus during game weekends will be alleviated by suggested exit routes from Kyle Field and a shuttle bus system for football fans off campus.

A Traffic Management Task Force created the bus system to give local and out-of-town fans an alternative to parking on campus while attending the game.

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The task force is made up of representatives from the Texas A&M Athletic Department, University Police Department, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Transportation Institute, the Brazos Transit System and the cities of Bryan and College Station.

Brazos Transit will

provide the shuttle buses for all A&M home football games.

Evelyn Davenport, Tx-DOT office manager, said buses will run two hours before and after the games. "Depending on how successful it is, it can be continued every year," Davenport said.

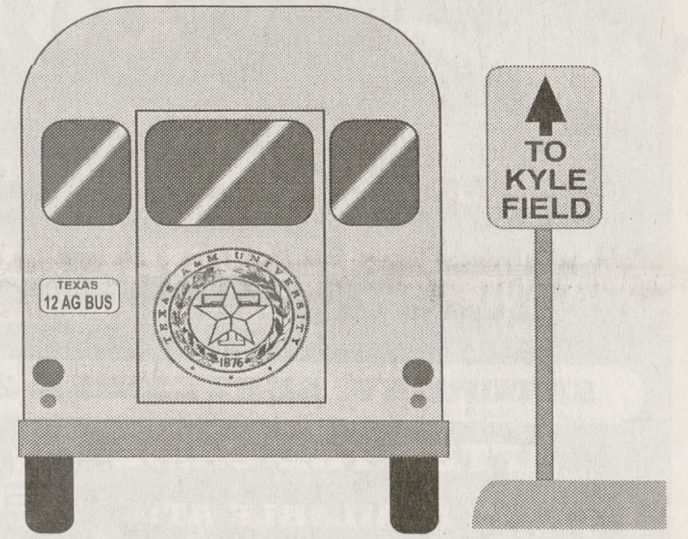
The eight bus stops include six at local hotels and two Park and Ride stations at Bryan and A&M Consolidated high schools.

The task force also suggests exit routes for those who park on campus during this weekend's football game.

Phil Russell, task force chair and director of transportation planning and development for Tx-DOT, said the routes are part of a traffic management plan to ease congestion before and after football games.

"The plan hinges on educating drivers about the best possible routes for leaving the football game," Russell said.

"We don't want to mislead the fans into thinking there won't be any traffic congestion after a football game with 60,000 people in attendance, but we do want to



advise them on how to avoid the worst bottlenecks by following the routes on the map."

Two maps that show green paths indicating the routes with the least congestion, and will be available around Kyle Field and at local retail and grocery stores.

Denise Fischer, Tx-DOT public information officer, said upcoming road construction around the campus created a need for the plan.

Texas Avenue between University Drive and Do-

minik Drive, George Bush Drive between FM 2818 and Wellborn Road, and Wellborn Road between Greens Prairie Road and FM 2818 will undergo major construction late this year.

Fischer said the construction will start after the Dec. 2 game against the University of Texas. Although the construction will not affect this year's football season, she said, it will have an impact on the following two seasons.

"The task force has

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A&M System streamlines structure

Two deputy chancellors will oversee the System's universities, finances, agencies and operations.

By James Bernsen
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M University System is reorganizing to streamline its structure and improve communication among System divisions and the chancellor.

Dr. Barry Thompson, A&M System chancellor, said he made the decision to restructure and rename some positions in a downsizing move, with the approval of the Texas A&M Board of Regents.

Thompson will appoint two deputy chancellors who will report to him on behalf of the System's departments and research agencies. It is a change from the current



Thompson

structure, in which numerous departments report directly to him.

"Rather than having 20 plus people reporting to me, I will have

two," Thompson said. "When it is all said and done, it will eliminate several positions."

Thompson would not comment on the future of the people currently in those positions that will be eliminated.

Richard Lindsay, vice chancellor for finance and operations, will be promoted to deputy chancellor for finance and operations.

Lindsay said the change is more than just a renaming of his old position, with no one replacing him in his previous position.

"The old position of vice chancellor [of finance and administration] will be eliminated," he said.

The reorganization is planned to streamline the system and improve communications, Lindsay said.

"Hopefully, it will do both," he said. "It will enable Dr. Thompson to lead the organization into the 21st century."

Lindsay will oversee several departments that previously reported directly to Thompson, including the Office of the General Counsel, the System's legal department, the Department of Facilities, Planning and Construction and the vice chancellor for business

services, a new position created as part of the reorganization.

Tom Kale, vice president for business and finance at West Texas A&M University, has been picked as the new vice chancellor for business services.

"Basically, I feel like I'm continuing the same thing on a higher level," Kale said. "This has a little different slant on it, but I think it will be very similar."

Kale will be responsible for budgeting, payroll, personnel, comptroller's functions for the System and human resource functions.

The Office of Legislative Affairs, Communications and Special Programs will report to Lindsay, rather than to Thompson, on day-to-day business. However, these departments will continue to report to Thompson on vital issues that merit the chancellor's personal attention.

Lindsay will coordinate the establishment of regional service offices in Dallas, Austin and Corpus Christi that will assist universities and agencies in their areas.

Each office will have an attorney and an auditor for facilities, planning and construction.

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Tim Moog, THE BATTALION

LIGHTNING CRASHES

Steve Swisher, a squadron one junior accounting major, holds a piece of Duncan Dining Hall. Lightning hit the top northside corner of the building at 5 p.m. Tuesday. Pieces of the building were thrown up to 150 feet away on impact.

Sippial joins Physical Plant team as new assistant vice president

The department's new leader was one of more than 198 people who applied for the job. He said the school's small-town atmosphere attracted him here.

By Kasie Byers
THE BATTALION

The Physical Plant's new assistant vice president said he wants to bring back confidence to those who work for the plant and to the people it serves.

Charles Sippial assumed his duties Monday and began meeting with Physical Plant personnel and University officials. He will oversee the campus infrastructure, including sewage, water and utility systems.

"I'm meeting with the deans and administration to find out their expectations of the Physical Plant," he said. "I'm already im-

pressed with the appearance of the campus and have already been informed of the good people who work in the Physical Plant."

Sippial, who is a member of the Association of Physical Plant Administrators, served 6 years as director of the physical plant at San Diego State University before coming to A&M.

His accomplishments there include saving the school \$2 million in energy costs by implementing changes to the school's energy conservation program. He also began a clean campus and grounds improvement plan.

The University's advertisement attracted Sippial to the position at A&M.

"When I saw the advertisement for the position, the one thing that drew my attention was at the top, in bold letters, it said, 'Women and Minorities Encouraged to Apply,'" he said. "I'm African-American, and I had never seen it presented like that before."

Sippial said he could already tell from his previous experiences with A&M that he would

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