

**DEION WORTH IT?**



Pro/Con: Should Deion Sanders be able to sell his talents to the NFL's highest bidder?

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**STICK TO YOUR GUNS**



Percival: Concealed handguns will make for safer streets.

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**PRETTY BOYS**



Appearances do not matter: *To Wong Fu* is duller than it seems.

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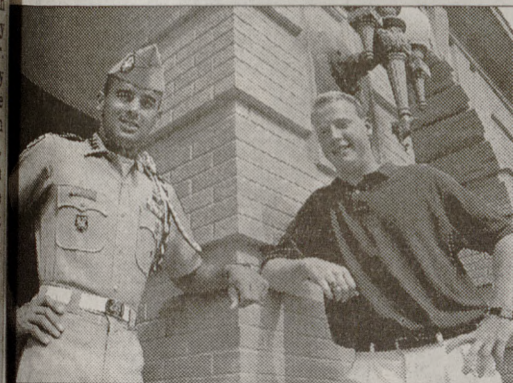
**THE BATTALION**

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**MSC, Corps aim to increase Cadet involvement**



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

□ The MSC Council and the Corps are working to increase cadet representation in MSC activities. In recent years, participation has been lacking.

By Kasie Byers  
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets and MSC Council are making good on a promise from last spring to improve cadet involvement in MSC activities and organizations.

Tyson Voelkel, Corps commander, said that as a first step in heightening

relations between the two organizations, he is encouraging cadet involvement in activities outside the Corps.

"Every freshman was required to attend this semester's MSC Open House," Voelkel said. "We're getting more numbers involved in the MSC and making [cadets] more aware of other activities they can get involved with besides the Corps."

Jonathan Neerman, MSC Council executive vice president of relations, said the Corps has strong roots in the MSC because it was built when all students had to be cadets.

However, in recent years the Corps has not shown an interest in the Council, Neerman said.

"In the three years I have been here, there hasn't been much Corps involvement in the MSC," he said. "Cadets are

so busy with the Corps, they have no time for outside activities.

"No concerted effort by either group was made to find common ground. But this year, the communication gap has been bridged with hopes of making progress in many areas."

Voelkel said he views Corps involvement in the MSC as a means of improving leadership among the cadets.

"A&M is one large leadership lab," he said. "And as Corps commander I believe the [Corps] to be the strongest component of this lab as far as student leaders go."

"However, I want the Corps to gain outside leadership and let others see we're students too. We're not some kind of monsters or skinhead Nazis running around the campus."

Patrick Conway, MSC Council pres-

ident, said he sees a better relationship between the two groups this year.

"The Corps and MSC will have a strong bond this year due to the individuals involved: Tyson Voelkel, Carl Baggett and Marc Mulkey from the Corps, and Jonathan Neerman from the MSC," Conway said.

A total turnaround in relations is already evident, Neerman said.

"The MSC Council has always had a place for the Corps commander at its meeting table," he said. "In the past, that place was always empty, but since Tyson [Voelkel] has become Corps commander, there has been Corps representation at every meeting."

Neerman said this representation makes MSC decisions more complete because the Corps makes up a significant population at the University.

**TEES awarded grant for research center**

□ The National Science Foundation Center at A&M will allow engineering graduate students to see the direct results their research has on industry.

By Javier Martinez  
THE BATTALION

The National Science Foundation has awarded the Texas Engineering Experiment Station \$250,000 to establish an Industry-University Cooperative Research Center for Electronic Materials, Devices and Systems.

The CEMDAS is a joint effort with the University of Texas at Arlington where

complementary experiments will take place. The center will also work with Prairie View A&M University's NASA Center for Applied Radiation Research.

TEES received \$50,000 a year for five years for the program.

Dr. Raghvendra K. Pandey, an A&M engineering professor who will direct the A&M facility, said the center will help bridge the gap between industry and educational research facilities.

"One of the goals of the center is to work in collaboration with industry, government laboratories and private foundations to facilitate information exchange, technology transfer and commercialization," Pandey said.

Industry advisers will work closely with the universities to help direct specific projects with practice industrial applications.

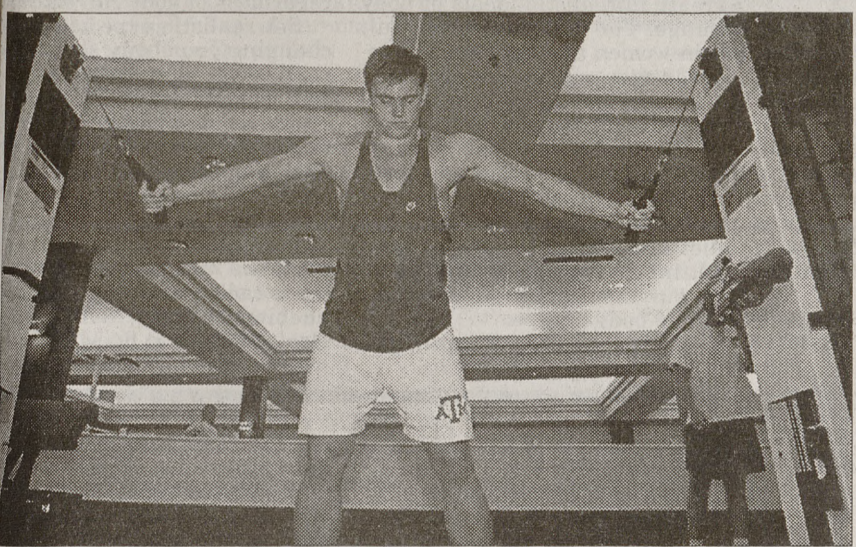
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Tim Moog, THE BATTALION

**BROTHERLY LOVE**

Brett Mendenhall, sophomore business administration major, and Brett Scheleand, sophomore mechanical engineering major, are lifted up by their new fraternity brothers after accepting their bids Friday afternoon in front of the Systems Building.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

**Club owners remain optimistic despite Rec Sports Center success**

□ Local health club owners and managers said long lines at the Rec Center and loyal clientele will keep their businesses in shape.

By Elizabeth Todd  
THE BATTALION

Health club management in the Bryan-College Station area have noticed a decline in business since the Aug. 28 opening of the Student Recreation Center.

However, some clients went to the

center on the first day of classes, eager to try out the new equipment, health club management reported, but they returned the next day to their regular gyms.

Don Pietro, general manager of Lifestyles gyms, is remaining objective about the center's opening.

"Anytime you get a new guy in town, it's going to affect established businesses," Pietro said. "They built a state-of-the-art facility over there, but we've been here for 10 years."

Pietro said he believes students will not settle for waiting in line for a Rec Center workout. While the center does

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**Planning ahead simplifies graduate, professional school application process**

□ The complicated application process can be alleviated through the help of the Office of Professional School Advising.

By Melissa Keerins  
THE BATTALION

Students who are interested in applying for graduate or professional school should start finding out the admission requirements now.

Dr. Anne Blum, head of Texas A&M's Office of Professional School Advising, said as soon as a student has a notion that they want to go to a professional school, they should come to the office and get started.

"We have full-time pre-law and full-time pre-health advisers on staff," Blum said. "We also have free medical and law newsletters that students can sign up for."

The office has information about professional schools in Texas and their prerequisites and has an extensive library with information on out-of-state schools.

The office provides student workshops that explain the entire application process step-by-step.

Greg Ritchie, a student worker at the professional school advising office and a senior biomedical science major, said the longer students wait to the apply, the harder it is to be accepted to a graduate school.

"People need to get their applications

started now," Ritchie said. "If you wait too long then you will not have as great a chance to get accepted."

Students should start the long application process as soon as they meet all the prerequisites, Ritchie said.

"The sooner they get an application sent in, the sooner they can get an interview from the school and then get accepted," he said.

He advised students to register for the basic workshop and pick up a general information sheet as soon as possible.

During the application process, students must write an essay, which the office will help edit.

Jennifer Pettit, a senior biology major, is applying to dental school and said the process has been easy because of the professional advising office.

"They have a time line in the office that tells you where you should be in the application process," Pettit said. "It tells you when you should take your application test and other important dates."

If a student is interested in graduate studies, many departments offer graduate degrees. Students should talk to the departments to which they are applying and find out if there are any deadlines.

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**Graduate students face pressure from committee**

□ To finish their degree plans, graduate students must have their thesis or dissertation approved by a committee, which some students say is a hindrance.

By Courtney Walker  
THE BATTALION

Graduate students say they face pressure from graduate advisers and

committee members who have the power to make or break their chances of getting a degree.

Graduate students begin by filing a degree plan and choosing a committee to approve the plan, classes, hours and all details related to their degree plan.

Dr. James C. Hoiste, associate director for the office of graduate studies, said every degree plan is different because graduate students present their own list of courses and curriculum.

"The whole premises is designed to be flexible and meet the students'

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