

CULTURAL RETREAT

U-ACT helps students become aware of the cultures around them.

Aggielife, Page 3

SACRED FUNDS

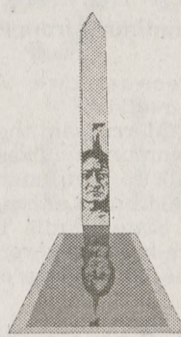
The American Indians should not have any of their much-needed funding taken away.

Opinion, Page 7

SPEED

Danny McCray has become a deep threat for the Aggie football team.

Sports, Page 5



THE BATTALION

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African-American men to march for unity

A representative of the Nation of Islam asked African-Americans of all religions to join the "Million Man March" on Washington or stay home in self-reflection Oct. 16.

By James Bernsen
THE BATTALION

African-American men hold the key to their future, and it is up to them to turn it into a bright one as they march on Washington, D.C. this October, a spokesman for the Nation of Islam said Thursday night.

Brother Cedric X, a representative of Minister Louis Farrakhan from the Austin Mosque, asked African-American

men to join Farrakhan and other leaders in the non-partisan, non-religious "Million Man March" set for Oct. 16.

"This march will cause us to come into unity together," X said. "It will allow black men to stand up together once and for all, not falling backwards, but going forwards from here on out."

The Nation of Islam is calling on all religions to proclaim Oct. 16 a holy day, and for all African-Americans to stay home from work and school in self-reflection.

"No matter what you call him, he is still God," X said. "We are going to atone for our sins; you are going to become one with God."

X said African-American men need to stop pointing the finger and stand up for themselves.

"Can white people atone?" he said. "Yes. But we've got to atone first before anybody, because we sat here and tolerated 400 years of madness. You and I have allowed the women to be abused,

raped and drug across the fields while we just sit there and watched.

"We have sat around for 400 years. We have been cowards for too long."

African-Americans are the only ones who can solve the problems of drugs, violence and poverty which face them, X said, and they cannot become dependent on the government.

"Think about the power we would have if 1 million men marched on Washington and came back to all the gang-bangers and said, 'You've got to stop,'" he said.

The march is for men only because African-American women have been forced to carry too much of the load, X said.

"I know you live in a society where people want to oppress the woman," he said. "But when you see him trying to be a man, step off. Step off and let him be a man."

X said cuts in government make self-

help a more pressing issue.

"This country is dying," he said. "We have a \$400 trillion debt. When they get ready to get rid of affirmative action, where are you going to work?"

The solution is for African-Americans, especially those with a college education, to start their own businesses, X said.

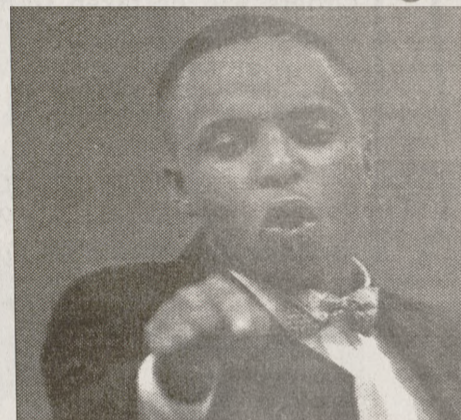
"Please finish," he said. "We need your minds. Without your ingenuity, we can't do it."

X said the march will also attempt to set up a network for African-Americans to better their own communities.

Darius Morris, a member of the Nation of Islam and a senior business analysis major, said the march is planned to bring African-Americans all over the world together to fight their worst enemies — themselves.

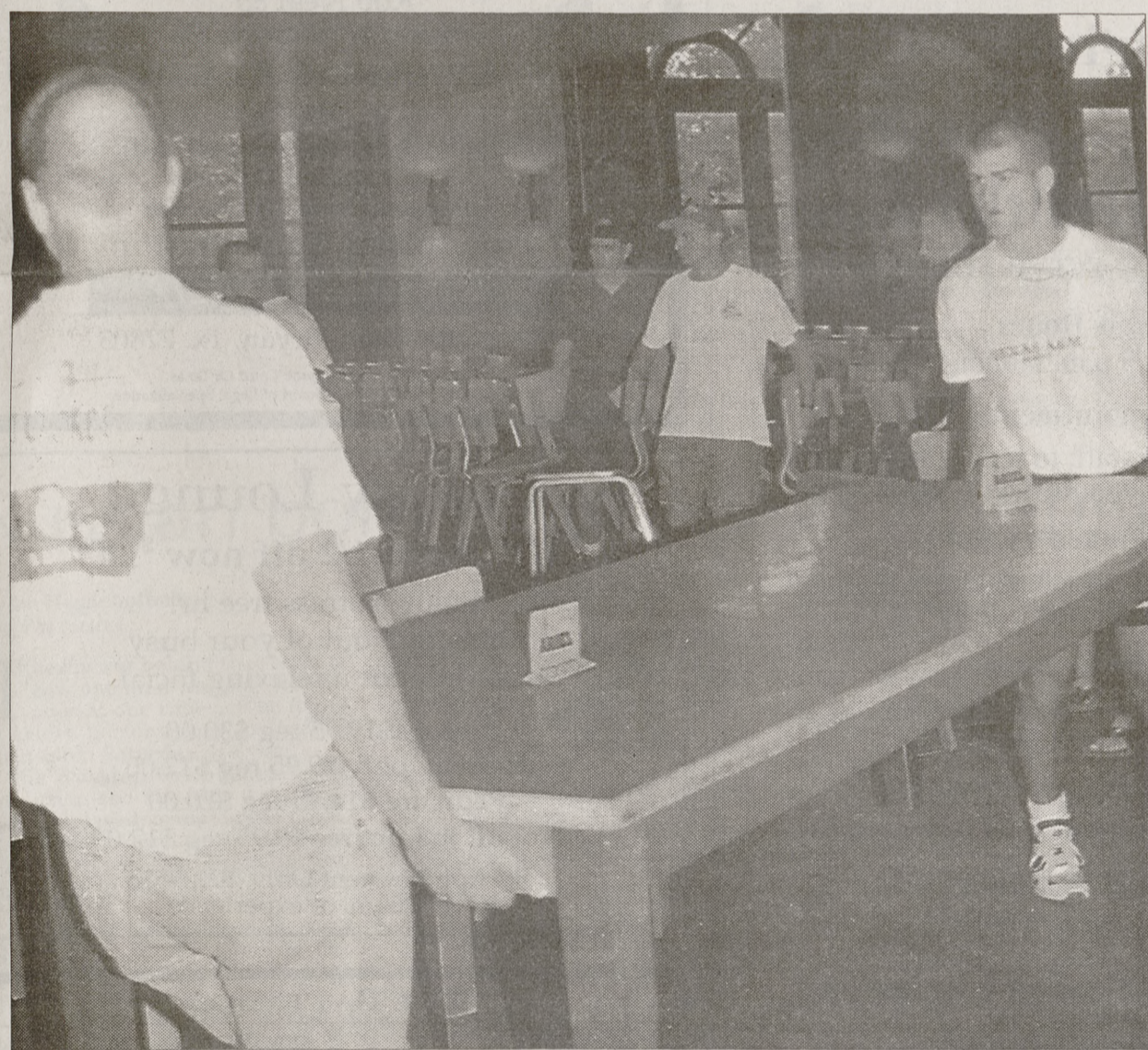
"We're one of the most disrespected groups on the earth," Morris said. "Why?"

See MARCH, Page 2



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

Thursday night, Brother Cedric X asked African-American men to join in the "Million Man March" on Washington on Oct. 16.



Louis Craig, THE BATTALION

KEEP IT MOVING

J. C. Bennett and Alex Cabanes rearrange the tables in Sbis Dining Hall after several complaints about this semester's table setup.

MSC Council to consider veterans' flag proposal

If approved, seven flags representing the United States, Texas and military services will be added to the MSC Flagroom.

By Kasie Byers
THE BATTALION

The MSC Council is following up on a request made by Texas A&M Veterans to place the National Ensign Flag, the State Flag of Texas and the five military service flags in the MSC Flagroom.

The National Ensign Flag is the United States flag, and the five service flags represent the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

Texas A&M Veterans approached Jim Reynolds, MSC director, at the beginning of the summer. Reynolds passed the proposal along to the Council.

Jimmy Charney, executive vice president of finance and administration for the Council, said the general concept was approved at a recent Council meeting, but further steps must be taken before it is implemented.

"The request will go to the building operations committee in the next two weeks for final details," Charney said. "It must then go to the Council for final approval before the flags will be placed in the MSC."

William Zarco, Texas A&M Veterans president, said the group first noticed that the American and state flags were not in the MSC when the club met to take an organizational picture in the MSC Flagroom.

"It's a shame," Zarco said. "We were a

brand new organization and wanted our picture taken in front of the national flag in the MSC. No U.S. Flag was there.

"The Flagroom represents importance at A&M, but there are only Corps [of Cadets] flags there. Everyone can see that the U.S. and state flags belong there as well."

Bill Walding, Texas A&M Veterans member, led the Project Colors Committee's effort to get the flags in the MSC.

Walding said the seven flags were chosen because the same flags hang in the Roosevelt Room, where the President of the United States meets with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Charney said the additions to the Flagroom are important because many people do not even realize the absence of the national and state flags.

"The MSC is something that we, as Council members, see and deal with everyday and we never noticed [the absence of the national and state flags] before," he said. "It took someone from the outside to bring it to our attention."

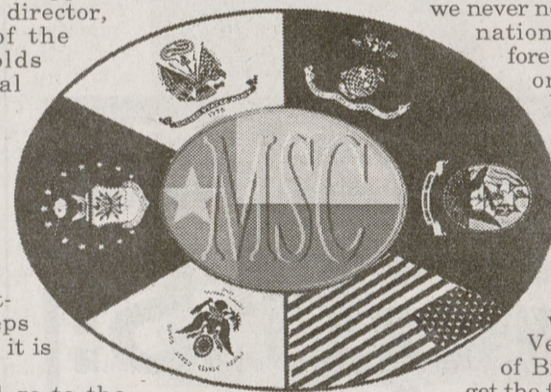
The MSC Council and the Texas A&M Veterans are working out the details of where the flags will be placed and who will provide the flags.

Walding said they were working with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Bryan-College Station to get the flags donated to the MSC.

If the flags are added, Zarco said, then the MSC will serve its purpose as a memorial for those former students who gave their lives while defending their country.

"The flags will exemplify what the MSC is supposed to represent," he said. "We want people to recognize that the flags weren't there before, but now they are."

"And they are there, not because of what our organization did, but because the student body cared enough."



Interns prepare, organize Muster

Muster interns work up to 20 hours and are responsible for contacting former students to speak at the annual event.

By Courtney Walker
THE BATTALION

Students who want to experience Muster around the world can apply for an internship with the Association of Former Students.

Roll call, the 21-gun salute and Silver Taps are all part of the Aggie Muster tradition in College Station, but former students in Australia and Russia celebrate Muster in different ways.

David Wilkinson, director of club programs for the Association of Former Students, said students can inquire about employment for a Muster internship through his office.

Applicants must be full-time students interested in Muster and its traditions.

Interns are responsible for finding former students to speak, sending out roll call lists, helping

organize and prepare for Muster and writing the Muster handbook used by chair members around the world.

Kim Greebon, Student Government Muster Committee member, said Muster is an event students expect to happen, and sometimes students are not aware of the work that goes on behind the scenes.

"Some people do not realize we plan all year and the little nit-picky things done to make things go right the night of Muster like talking to the families and burning candles the night before," Greebon said.

Wilkinson said interns should be prepared to work 12-15 hours a week during the fall and 15-20 hours during the spring.

Jana Hartman, Class of '95, was an intern for Wilkinson and said it was one of her best experiences at A&M.

"It was a very time-consuming job," Hartman said. "But after Muster was over, I had a wonderful sense of being part of a whole instead of individual. It felt good to know all the tedious

See MUSTER, Page 2

Courses offer future teachers valuable classroom experience

A&M students take classes at participating elementary and middle schools while learning how to handle classroom situations.

By Michelle Lyons
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M education majors are getting some real-world training through a semester-long program that allows students to spend time in middle and elementary school classrooms.

A&M students are given the opportunity to observe teachers and their students at Somerville Junior High, South Knoll Elementary and Crockett Elementary. Because they observe at least three teachers over the course of the semester, students are able to see different teaching techniques and styles.

Laura Smith, a senior education major, said the course has a lot to offer future teachers.

"Before, I've never really been in the classroom [as a teacher]," Smith said, "and now I'm getting 2 1/2 hours a day in a classroom watching a teacher. It's a lot of hands-on training instead of just using a textbook."

Dr. Donna Cooner, project coordinator for South Knoll Professional Development School and an A&M education professor, agreed that the program has much to offer students.

"Basically, the program is designed to give the students a combination of theory and practice," Cooner said. "They are able to take what they are learning and apply to real-world classroom settings."

Cooner said she believes the program will be an asset later on in the students' teaching careers.

"When we turn out new teachers, they will have already

See TEACHERS, Page 2