

NO HEADLINER

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

THE BENCH BRIGADE



Uptmor: Buffalo Tom's new album ensures it a place in the shadows.

Aggielife, Page 3

Editorial: A&M should be commended for providing equal opportunities to disabled students.

Opinion, Page 11



Reserves of the A&M Volleyball Team keep their teammates up while they're sitting down.

Sports, Page 7



THE BATTALION

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Shamburger makes no plea in murder trial

The case will continue today at 9 a.m. in the 361st district court at the Brazos County Courthouse.

By Lily Aguilar and Melissa Keerins
THE BATTALION

Ron Scott Shamburger went on trial Monday for the Sept. 30, 1994 capital murder of Lori Ann Baker, a 20-year-old Texas A&M accounting major.

Prosecutor Vanessa Muldrow reviewed the indictment, which charged Shamburger with murder and robbery of a habitation. Shamburger declined to enter a plea.

Prosecutors pointed out that Baker was found wearing a shirt

and underwear at the murder site, indicating that the murderer did not gain entry to the house with Baker's permission.

Robbie Herndon, roommate of the victim's brother, said Baker wore shorts and a T-shirt that evening and said she never entertained company wearing less.

"Lori never greeted people in a T-shirt and underwear," Herndon said. "Lori was a modest girl as far as the way she dressed."

Victoria Kohler, Baker's roommate, said that when she came home that evening, she discovered the front door was unlocked.

She said she heard Baker's bedroom door open and went to see her.

"I walked toward (Lori's) room to talk to her," Kohler said. "I rounded the corner and there was a guy standing there holding a gun. I said, 'Who are you?'"

He said he was a friend. "I screamed and tried to run. He grabbed my hair and threw me on the ground. Then he sat on my back."

Kohler identified the intruder as Shamburger, and said he began asking her questions while straddling her back. "He asked me if I was a Christian, if I was a believer," she said. "He asked if I

had a boyfriend and did he treat me nice. Then he started asking me about money."

Kohler said Shamburger asked if she had any cash or

credit cards, and she told him she had some money and credit cards in her room.

She also said Shamburger held a gun to her back during the conversation.

"He kept repeating, 'Don't move, don't scream or it will be over,'" she said.

When Shamburger went to retrieve the money, Kohler said she did not try to escape and lied when Shamburger asked if she could identify him because, "I was afraid of dying."

Kohler said she "slithered" along the floor with a blanket over her head, and Shamburger guided her to the bathroom. He then bound her hands with duct tape and left her to "talk to Lori," she said.

Shamburger returned five minutes later, Kohler said, put her in the trunk of her car and

left her again to "talk to Lori some more." He returned about 10 minutes later, she said, and started driving the car.

Kohler said he kept talking to her and told her casually, "I guess you know Lori's dead."

Shamburger then asked her if he should commit suicide because he had done something "very bad," she said.

Shamburger stopped the car, she said, opened the trunk and told her to stay there for a while or until she heard sirens.

Shamburger told her he was going to burn down the house and left her, she said. Kohler said she waited about 15 minutes before she climbed out of the trunk and into the driver's seat.

She went to the house of her friends' neighbors and woke the women who lived there.

"I was hysterical, screaming

and crying," Kohler said. "They let me in once they knew I would not hurt them."

Kohler stayed at the house until the police arrived.

Mark Baker, the victim's brother and neighbor, said he had noticed a strange white car parked across from his house after he returned home from Baker's, and later decided to investigate when he heard a loud bang.

Mark Baker said he and Herndon walked toward Baker's house, saw a person's shadow in the garage and smoke pouring out of the back of the house.

He said he yelled for his sister, and then he heard a voice coming from the back yard saying, "She's dead."

Mark Baker said he encountered a man, whom he identified

See TRIAL, Page 12



Shamburger

Addressing the issues

African-American men dedicate selves to unity, brighter future

Monday's Million Man March harbored a generally prayerful and inspirational tone.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Praying, chanting and reveling in a day of racial pride and brotherhood, vast numbers of black men stood united Monday to dedicate themselves to uplifting each other and their families.

In a dramatic finale, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan proclaimed divine guidance in bringing to Washington the largest assemblage of African-Americans since the 1963 March on Washington.

The "Million Man March" had critics who cited Farrakhan's inflammatory statements about Jews, Catholics, gays and Asians, but he brushed them aside.

"Whether you like it or not, God brought the idea through me, and he didn't bring it through me because my heart was dark with hatred and anti-Semitism," Farrakhan said.

"If my heart was that dark, how is the message so bright?"

The throng stretched for blocks from the foot of the Capitol down the grassy expanse of the national Mall. The day was chilly but bright, the mood serious yet buoyant.

"There is no violence here, no

racism," said Omar Holt of Detroit. "It's very moving."

Young men dressed in jeans, sweatshirts and jackets dominated the crowd. But men of all ages were jammed shoulder-to-shoulder in front of the stage. Others climbed onto statues, light posts and trees for a better view. A few waded through the Reflecting Pool.

"It's a healing feeling to see so many black men come together, and not a whole bunch of violence or drugs or all that stuff," said Donald Simms of the Brooklyn borough of New York

City. "This whole thing is about self-respect."

People lined up 10-deep around the food vendors, and the mixed aromas of barbecue and vegetarian curries filled the air. Scores of Nation of Islam members, standing erect in suits and their trademark bow ties, lent an air of solemnity.

Civil rights veterans Jesse Jackson, Rosa Parks and Dick Gregory were among dozens of back-to-back speakers who

See WASHINGTON, Page 10

Group holds "mini march"

The event brought the issue of Washington's Million Man March closer to home.

By Kasie Byers
THE BATTALION

More than 50 African-American men marched from Rudder Fountain to the University Administration Building Monday, sparked by the Million Man March in Washington, D.C.

Darius Morris, a senior business analysis major, and Cheez Washington, political co-chair for Texas A&M's NAACP chapter and a junior computer engineering major,

addressed the crowd about the importance of the D.C. and campus march.

Morris said this is the time in America when African-American men need to focus on changing their image.

This starts with strengthening their relationships with women, he said.

"Black men need to condition themselves to respect not just African-American women, but all women, because they are the ones bringing forth future generations," he said. "All physical and verbal abuse of women ultimately affects the mentality of the child."

Monday was the time for

See CAMPUS, Page 10



Shane Elkins, THE BATTALION

YIKES!

Junior animal science major Mandy Blackmon is startled when Jennifer Wahrmund, junior agricultural development major pulls out one of Bossy's teeth. Bossy is the resident cow skeleton in the Rosenthal Meat Science and Technology Center.

Support Services works to make A&M more accessible

The department offers such benefits as extended-time testing, interpreters and registration assistance.

By Melissa Keerins
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M facilities and services are readily accessible to students with any kind of disabilities, Donna Williams, Support Services for Students with Disabilities accommodations coordinator, said.

See related EDITORIAL, Page 11

"A&M is doing very well with handicap accessibility, considering the age of the University," Williams said.

The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that all facilities constructed before June 3, 1977 do not need to be made accessible as long as program and activities are accessible to persons with disabilities.

If a building is modified, it must be made accessible to the maximum extent feasible. Buildings constructed after that date must be readily accessible and usable to individuals with disabilities.

"If someone needs accommodations in our older buildings, the class is moved to an accessible building," Williams said. "We don't need to go and tear up buildings that have been here prior to 1977."

Support Services maintains a physical accessibility guide that describes access to buildings on campus.

Several residence halls have handicap-accessible rooms, Williams said. The rooms are

held for students with disabilities, but those students must come to Support Services so they can work with the housing department.

"There are enough rooms, and they are held in reserve until I make sure they are not needed," she said. "Then the rooms can be released for other students to use."

Support Services not only helps students in wheelchairs, but blind, deaf and other disabled students who need services.

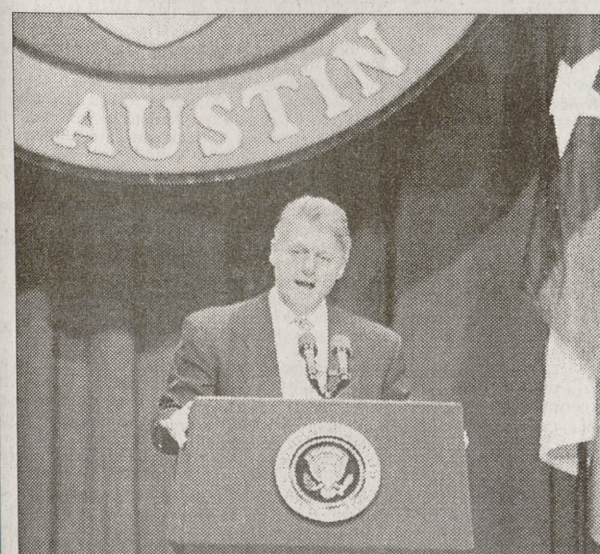
Academic accommodations are provided to allow students with disabilities to have an equal education opportunity. These accommodations may include extended-time testing, interpreters, note-taking services, reader services and registration assistance.

Reggie Deal, a senior speech communication major, is a blind student who takes advantage of Support Services.

"Basically Support Services works with me

See SERVICES, Page 4

Clinton claims country at crossroads



Sterling Hayman, THE BATTALION

President Clinton addressed a UT audience Monday.

The president asked whites and African-Americans to become educated of each other's history and fears.

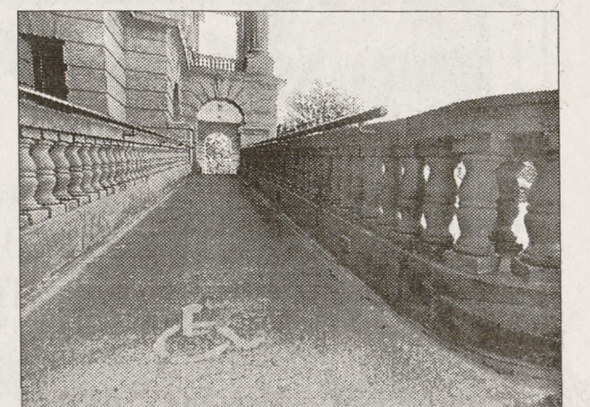
By Wes Swift
THE BATTALION

President Clinton urged African-Americans and whites to work toward racial harmony and "clean our house of racism" Monday in Austin, while thousands of African-American men marched on Washington, D.C. for unity.

The president told a crowd of more than 11,000 at the Frank Erwin, Jr. Special Events Center at the University of Texas that the United States is at a crossroads of race relations.

"Today, we face a choice," Clinton said. "One way leads to further separation and bitterness and

See CLINTON, Page 10



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

The Academic Building is handicap accessible.