

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Four students will play 100 roles in a play by a new production company.

Aggielife, Page 4

COLIN IT QUILTS

Littlefield: Colin Powell wisely decided not to play the game.

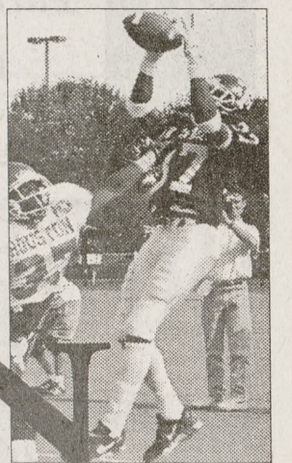
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DONTE'S INFERNO

A&M wide receiver Donte Hawkins is red hot on and off Kyle Field.

Sports, Page 9



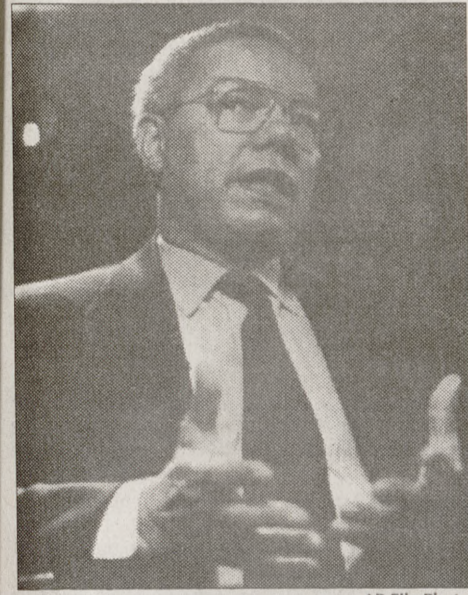
THE BATTALION

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Powell bows out of race to White House



AP File Photo

□ The retired general said he would devote his energies to restoring 'the spirit of Lincoln' to the Republican Party.

WASHINGTON (AP) — After months of "prayerful consideration" that captivated the nation, Colin Powell awkwardly embraced the Republican Party on Wednesday but said he would not run for president in 1996 because it was "a calling that I do not yet hear." Ending an extraordinary political mystery, Powell ruled out seeking any elected office next year. Instead, he said he would dedicate himself to restoring "the spirit of Lincoln" to a Republican Party he said was a lot more diverse than many conservatives would admit. "I'm sorry I disappointed you," the retired general said in a poignant trib-

ute to the thousands of everyday Americans who had urged him to run.

To run for president, Powell said, would demand "a passion and commitment that, despite my every effort, I do not have for political life, because such a life requires a calling that I do not yet hear."

"For me to pretend otherwise would not be honest to myself; it would not be honest to the American people."

Powell also ruled out being the GOP's vice presidential nominee, but said he might consider an appointed government position. Many Republicans, even Powell critics, said the retired general still was almost certain to be considered for the No. 2 spot on the GOP ticket.

The decision left 10 major declared Republican candidates and one GOP giant still sitting on the fence: House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

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Students react to announcement

□ Texas A&M's NAACP and College Republicans views differed on Powell's decision not to run for president.

By Lisa Johnson
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M faculty members and student leaders were split in their reaction to Gen. Colin Powell's decision to refrain from a run at the White House.

Powell announced Wednesday that he will not seek the presidency in 1996, nor will he be a candidate for vice president. He declared that he is a member of the Republican party, but will not commit his vote to the GOP nominee in the next election.

Dr. Patricia Hurley, a political sci-

ence professor, said Powell's decision not to run will lead the world of national politics back to "business as usual."

"I'm sure that all of the other Republicans in contention for the nomination, as well as the White House, are breathing big sighs of relief," she said. "Powell's popularity could have made things very difficult for the more established politicians."

Deputy White House chief of staff Harold Ickes contradicted Hurley's opinion, however, when he told the Associated Press that there are no "sighs of relief" about Powell's decision at the White House.

"We were prepared to take our case to the country no matter what Colin Powell decided to do," he said.

Powell's decision to remain out of the race was not surprising to Hurley, who

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Amy Browning, THE BATTALION

PRACTICE PITCHING MAKES PERFECT

Juniors Marco Cordon, a business management major, Kenneth Cox, an exercise technical major, and Carlos Garza, an agricultural engineering major, practice pitching a tent for a field exercise this weekend.

Centerpole erected today



□ Dr. Larry Grosse, head of the construction science department, is serving as a practical adviser to those working at Bonfire site.

By Lisa Johnson
THE BATTALION

Centerpole will be raised today with new precautions to ensure this year's Bonfire will not suffer a repeat of last year's collapse.

Carl Baggett, a redpot and a senior accounting major, said construction of Bonfire begins by splicing the two logs that form centerpole. After the two logs are spliced, they are bolted together and wrapped with wire. Centerpole will then be aligned and placed 15 feet into the ground at 4:03 p.m.

"The place where the two poles are joined together is actually the strongest part of the centerpole," Baggett said. "Last year when centerpole broke, it broke above and below, but not at the point of juncture."

Andy Webb, head civilian redpot and a junior agricultural development major, said measures have been taken to make certain

the ground is more resistant to the shifting that caused last year's partial collapse.

"About a month ago, we covered the ground out at site with fly ash," Webb said. "The ash causes the soil particles to bond together so they don't saturate with rainwater and become unstable like they did last year."

Fly ash is made up of fine carbon deposits, much like the ash made by a coal-burning stove, that serve as mild cementing agents to aggregate the soil.

This year, as in the past, logs are being placed in the ground at a depth of 5 to 6 feet. These logs are being placed in strategic positions so they can be wired into the stacks to hold the tiers of Bonfire in a more stable structure than before.

To help in the construction of this year's Bonfire, Dr. Larry Grosse, head of the construction science department, has been serving as a practical adviser to those doing the work.

"Basically, Dr. Grosse comes and checks up on us to see how things are going," Webb said. "He knows the amount of work that goes into this, and he knows how things should be going out here."

Thirteen students heading Bonfire construction, including several redpots, are taking one of Grosse's classes that

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Aggies address child care at forum

□ Students with children discussed the benefits of having an on-campus day-care center Wednesday.

By Heather Pace
THE BATTALION

Lydia Staland, a land economics and real estate graduate student, balances nine hours and two jobs. Her husband quit his job to take care of their infant because it was more cost efficient than paying for day care.

The Child Care Issues Open Forum brought many students with stories similar to Staland's together Wednesday.

The forum was sponsored by the Department for Student Life, the Division of Student Affairs and Students Over Traditional Age to discuss bringing a day-care center to campus.

Sandi Osters, assistant to the vice president for student affairs, said students would only pay about \$.50 a semester through the student service fee to help pay for the center.

One member of the audience said, "Students have to know what it is all about before they say they don't want this."

Some student parents are upset, though, that they have to pay for other services they are unable to use.

Royce Renfrew, whose wife is a math graduate student, voiced his concern that he pays for the use of the recreation center.

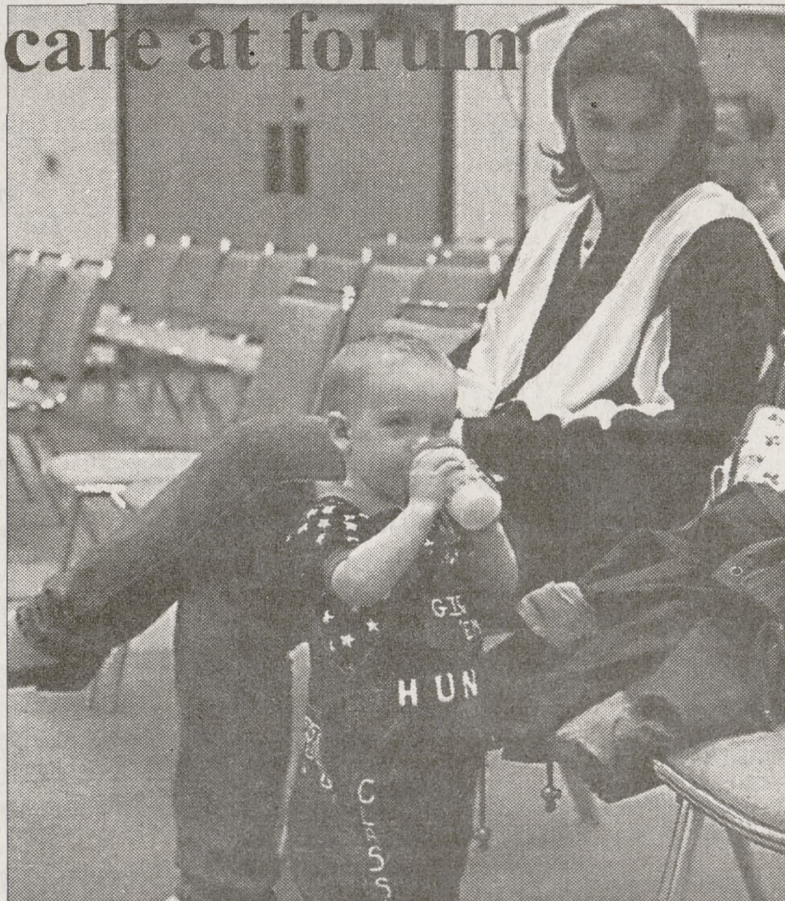
"We pay \$50 to use the recreation center; we can't use it because they don't have child care," Renfrew said.

While the day-care center would require start-up funds, it would eventually become self-sustaining and would compete with the Bryan-College Station day-care centers to keep costs low.

Currently, the future location of the day-care center would be on-campus, near Research Park.

A&M student parents said on-campus day care is of primary importance to students who are reassured by the fact that their children would be nearby.

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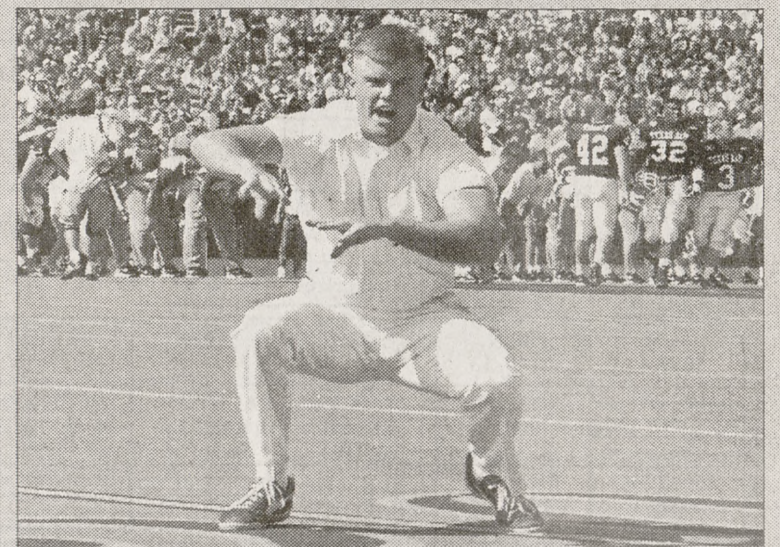


Amy Browning, THE BATTALION

Tanya Woodington, a political science major, and her son, Hunter, attend the child care forum Wednesday night.

Aggie Yell Afternoon Style

Yell practice for the today's A&M-Rice football game will be in Houston at 5 p.m. Meet at the southeast corner of the Rice stadium parking lot adjacent to Cameron field



File Photo