

EXTRA SYMBOLISM

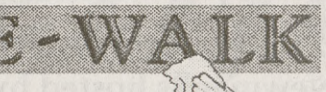


Day Without Art aims to raise awareness of the AIDS epidemic.

Aggielife, Page 3

KEEP IT CLEAN

Guest Column: Juniors should respect seniors' wish to have a respectable Elephant Walk.



Opinion, Page 11

JUMP START

The men's basketball team opens its season with a 75-47 win.



Sports, Page 7

THE BATTALION

Vol. 102, No. 66 (12 pages) Established in 1893 Wednesday • November 29, 1995

Clinton urges Congress to support deployment

Sen. Bob Dole said he wants to support the president's decision.

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Clinton pressed his case for sending 20,000 U.S. ground troops to Bosnia, the Pentagon said Tuesday an additional 17,000 Americans would provide support in and around the former Yugoslavia. Even Republican critics acknowledged that the deployment seemed inevitable. "He's hell-bent to do it, so we're going to have to support him," said Rep. Dan Burton, R-Ind.

Clinton had more persuading to do outside Washington. Thousands of Americans called the White House after his televised speech, and "there was a great deal of skepticism," conceded spokesman Mike McCurry. "The American people clearly want to know more," he said. Asked what he would do to overcome public skepticism, Clinton said, "More of what we're doing. We'll keep answering questions and reasserting what is at stake here." On the day after his speech to the nation on Bosnia, Clinton held a series of meetings with congressional leaders and members of the House and Senate

committees that will examine the Bosnia peace agreement reached last week in Dayton, Ohio. House Republican Leader Dick Armey of Texas said he told Clinton that if members of Congress are "getting the kind of phone calls from their districts that I'm getting from my district, that getting a winning vote on this matter would be like pulling teeth through the back of your head." "I am extremely skeptical of this whole operation. I am not at all convinced," said Armey. McCurry said that after the speech, Clinton talked by telephone with former President Bush and retired Gen. Colin

Powell, who was the nation's top military officer during the Persian Gulf War. The spokesman declined to characterize the conversations. Senate Democrats closed ranks behind the president during an hour-long meeting at the Capitol. "I was impressed that we didn't hear a single mention of a poll," Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada said after the meeting. Emerging as Clinton's most powerful ally among the Republican leadership of Congress, Sen. Bob Dole said, "I want to support the president if I can." He also said, "Congress will have hearings and we'll debate it."

Fort Hood troops consider U.S. involvement in Bosnia

It is unlikely that the 45,000 soldiers in Killeen will take part in the peacekeeping effort. KILLEEN (AP) — Ask a soldier what he thinks about U.S. military involvement in the region of the world that used to be Yugoslavia, and the first answer you get is purely official. "Wherever they tell me to go,

I go," said Douglas Washington, a 38-year-old Army sergeant who is a veteran of the Persian Gulf conflict. But in interviews with more than a dozen soldiers Monday night at the Fort Hood Army post, the second answer — the personal response — contained the diversity of opinions that reflects the debate nationally over President Clinton's decision to

See TROOPS, Page 6

Regents open house a second time tonight

Items that could surface for discussion are the Kyle Field expansion and Bowen's rejection of the cultures bill.

Kyle Littlefield THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Board of Regents will hold its second open house of the semester today at 6 p.m. to get to know students and answer their questions.

See related EDITORIAL, Page 11

Today's open house, which will be held at the Regent's Annex in the MSC, precedes the Board meetings Thursday and Friday. Regent John Lindsey of Houston said the open house is for students. "If the students have a question to ask they can do so," Lindsey said, "or if they just want to come out and have a glass of punch and a cookie, that's fine too." Because the students, not the Regents, dictate the content of the open house, Lindsey said he is not sure what

issues will be discussed. Toby Boenig, Texas A&M student body president, said he expects students will ask the Regents how they feel about the decision by Dr. Ray Bowen, Texas A&M president, to reject the Faculty Senate's cultures requirement. The Board's Academic Campuses Committee is scheduled to discuss the multicultural course requirements. Boenig said other possible issues that may be discussed are the possibility of yet another general use fee increase for the spring semester and the Kyle Field expansion. Becky Silloway, Student Senate speaker, said A&M System issues will be discussed in addition to campus issues. The Chancellor's Student Board, which is composed of student representatives of the A&M System schools, will also attend. The first open house drew more than 100 A&M students and was considered a success by student leaders and Regents. "It was a good start," Boenig said, "but you have to realize you're not going to get the whole campus to come out on the first one."

See REGENTS, Page 6



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

CHARITABLE EXHAUSTION

Chris Gaines, a sophomore civil engineering major and member of A&M's student "Y" organization, collapsed on top of the group's model bonfire Tuesday. The canned goods will be donated to a local food bank.

The Bilhartzs of Duncanville have raised six Aggies

By Heather Pace THE BATTALION

For their lifelong dedication and devotion to A&M, James and Shirley Bilhartz were recognized for their time as Texas A&M Parents of the Year at the A&M-Middle Tennessee State football game Nov. 18. The Bilhartzs of Duncanville, Texas, who were elected to the positions in Spring 1995, have six children who have either graduated or are currently attending A&M. James Bilhartz Jr., Class of '78, said he was excited when he learned his parents had been named 1995-96 Parents of the Year. "I was thrilled to death," Bilhartz said. "I felt they had deserved it all their lives." Bilhartz said his parents merited the award because they have continually supported A&M for as long as he can remember. "They have put six children through A&M," he said. "They have lived and breathed A&M for 40 years. They encouraged all their children to attend A&M and have been extremely supportive of the University."

See PARENTS, Page 6

CAMAC hosts Las Posadas procession

The event is the Christmas Mass celebrated in Spanish for members of the Hispanic community.

By Lily Aguilar THE BATTALION

The MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican American Culture will host "Las Posadas," a re-creation of Joseph and Mary's journey on the eve of Jesus' birth today at 7 p.m. Miguel Gonzalez, CAMAC cultures director and a junior management major, said the journey is unique to the Mexican culture because it combines the traditional story of Mary and Joseph with the food and songs of Mexico. The procession will trace the couple's journey from All Faith's Chapel to The Grove, with stops at a residence hall and Albritton Tower. "The couple will proceed from All Faiths Chapel to one of the residence halls, which is supposed to be the first inn, where they will be turned down," Gonzalez said. "While they are walking, the followers sing Spanish songs describing the journey."

"The second stop will take place at Albritton Tower, where another inn keeper will turn them away. The final stop is The Grove. This is where they are accepted, and Jesus will be born. After the procession piñatas will be broken, and tamales, rice and beans will be served. Las Posadas is celebrated throughout Latin America and Mexico. In the United States, the procession is seen in strong Hispanic communities. "Las Posadas is a family celebration," Gonzalez said. "It is the Christmas Mass celebrated in Spanish for members of the Hispanic community." Translated, Las Posadas means "the stations" or "the inns." The ceremony began when the Spaniards came to the New World, spreading the Catholic faith. Jerry Perez, a CAMAC member and a junior bioengineering major, said the Spanish had to use a procession and symbolism to communicate with the Aztec Indians in Mexico about the journey of Mary and Joseph. This ceremony became a tradition within the developing Mexican culture, Perez said, and migrants from Mexico brought the posadas

See CAMAC, Page 6

OPAS gives Aggies chance to bash Bevo

The car bash will start off this week's A&M-University of Texas pre-football game activities.

By Michelle Lyons THE BATTALION

Members of the MSC's Opera and Performing Arts Society will "beat the hell outta t.u." — literally. OPAS is sponsoring a "Beat the Hell Outta Bevo-Car Bash" at Rudder Fountain today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students and faculty members are invited to purchase tickets for a chance to bash an old van painted to resemble University of Texas at Austin's mascot, Bevo.

Tickets are \$1 for one swing at the van and \$2 for three swings. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit OPAS. Patricia Wehner, OPAS secretary, said the event is an excellent way to kick off the A&M-University of Texas pre-football game activities. "It's going to be cool," Wehner said. "[The van is] painted orange; it has eyes and Bevo horns on the side that you can bash, too. "Just take out all your frustrations there. It's really going to be fun." In addition to the Bevo look-alike van, Wehner said, Aggie 96 radio station will broadcast live from the site. Other Aggie spirit items such as bumper stickers with the slogan, "Visualize No t-sips" designed after the popular "Visualize World Peace" stickers will also be available.

Karen Allen, MSC OPAS chair and a senior biomedical science major, said obtaining the car for the bash was the easiest part of organizing the fund-raiser. "It was very strange," Allen said. "We called up some people in town, and they said that they couldn't help us, but

See BEVO, Page 6

