

May Graduates

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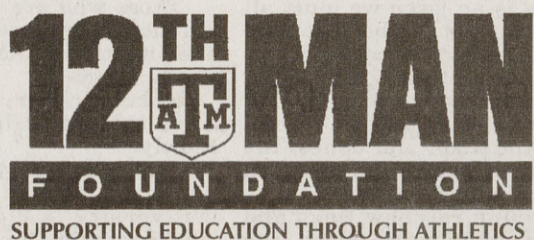
- ◆ An insulated 12th Man mug or 12th Man Calling Card
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Sign up at our table in the MSC

April 22-24 & 29-30

Between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Or come by the Koldus Building, room 109



news BRIEFS

Virtual gender topic of conference today

Texas A&M's Women's Studies Program and the Interdisciplinary Group for Historical Literary Study will host a conference, "Virtual Gender: Past Projections, Future Histories," April 11-14 at the College Station Hilton.

Many fall prey to new Speed STEP program

The College Station Police Department issued 248 speeding tickets during March as part of the Speed STEP effort to reduce traffic accidents and to reduce speeding by 3 percent.

Skirmish on drill field injures one student

A skirmish occurred between a group of about 150 Corps of Cadets members and 80 Aggie Band members early Tuesday morning. Cadets attempted to rush the Simpson Drill Field where the Aggie Band practices.

Perot speaks to group at University of Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Ross Perot intertwined dire predictions for America with quotes from Cicero and lines from show tunes as he told students Wednesday night about the country's problems.

Q-drops decrease in number this year

By Kendra S. Rasmussen THE BATTALION

Almost 7,000 Texas A&M students poured into their deans' offices this semester to Q-drop difficult courses or relieve themselves of unbearable course loads.

Don Gardner, associate registrar, said the junior class had the highest number of Q-drops this semester.

"I really figured it would be sophomores (who Q-dropped most often)," he said. "The only thing I can figure is that juniors have been around long enough to know the system and what a bad grade can do to their grade-point ratios."

Sophomores dropped courses the second most frequently, and the freshman class was third. Seniors Q-dropped the fewest classes.

There were 6,996 Q-drops this semester, down from 7,739 in Fall 1995 and 7,418 in Spring 1995.

Gardner said fewer students Q-drop in the spring semesters because enrollment is lower.

Poor performance, he said, is the most common reason for Q-dropping a class, but students have not always had that luxury.

"Years ago, (if a student was performing poorly) they either stayed in the class," he said, "or withdrew from the University."

Gardner said that when Q-drops were first allowed at A&M, no policy limited the number allowed to students. Q-drops became an easy way out, he said, so administrators decided to enforce a limit.

"The Academic Operations Committee decided it was time to start putting a handle on them," Gardner said.

Today, students are limited to three Q-drops, but deans can

make exceptions.

"Every college has their philosophy (on extra Q-drops)," said. "The deans do a good job looking at each case on an individual basis."

Deans' offices were flooded last two days before the Q-drop deadline, April 1, when more than 2,500 students realized their time to drop was running out.

Gardner said many students wait until the last minute because they want to see if they can salvage their grade before dropping a course.

"I think there are a lot of students who feel like a Q is a luxury," he said.

Karin Johnson, College of Liberal Arts secretary, said the number of students who came in for Q-drops increased steadily the week before the deadline. Students were more aware the approaching deadline that year, she said, because it was well-advertised.

She said the 15 minutes before deadline were the most hectic, but she completed the Q-drops with five minutes to spare having processed 350 drops in one day.

"All I did all day long was process Q-drops," she said.

Vanessa English, a College of Business Administration secretary, said her office processed between 500 and 600 Q-drops the last day and never fell behind.

"Fortunately, they do not have to see an adviser to drop a class," she said. "They just have to fill out a form. It only takes as long as it takes them to build in a form."

English said business students drop Accounting 229 and 230, Economics 202 and 203, Math 141 and 142 more frequently than any other courses.

Environment

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"because they didn't want to have to worry about having to recycle it."

Recent legislation at the state and federal level has begun to use incentives and penalties to promote clean up of the environment.

The first bill passed by the Texas Legislature, Senate Bill 1340, set forth environmental guidelines but imposed no penalties on violators. However, Gibson said the subsequent Senate Bill 1051 has improved

the collection of everything from tires to oil by providing incentives to consumers and businesses.

One struggle for environmentalists has been to convince government of both the importance and benefits of recycling.

Gibson said it took \$1 billion to catch the city of College Station's attention.

Porrazzo cited a statistic that estimates that 89.2 percent of all trash can be recycled. She said efforts must be made to recycle, because 60 percent of the nation's landfills are projected to be full by 2000.

THE BATTALION

Staff list including Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Photo Editor, Opinion Editor, City Desk, AggieLife Desk, Sports Desk, and various other roles.

Calendar Craze advertisement for TAMU AMA featuring a sports card and comic show.

Need A Job For The 196 Fall Semester? advertisement by The Kids Klub, including a list of questions and application information.

Large advertisement for Post Oak Mall with various discounts like 10% off total purchase, free drinks, and value meals.