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Heartlight Ministries P.O. Box 286 Hallsville, Texas 75650
FAX Number (903) 668-3453

news BRIEFS

Former students to honor faculty, staff

Texas A&M's Association of Former Students is sponsoring a University-wide ceremony Thursday to recognize 22 A&M faculty and staff.

The Distinguished Achievement Awards will be presented during the spring faculty meeting at 1:30 p.m. in Rudder Theatre.

Each winner will receive \$4,000, a plaque and a watch for their outstanding work in one of six categories.

The teaching awards will be given to John R. Giardino, Daniel T. Hanson, Melanie Hawthorne, James K. Hennigan, John W. Neilsen-Gammon, David Owens, Linda Perry, Roger Smith III, and James Benton Storey.

For research, Leonard L. Berry, Harold P. Boas, W. Lee Dees, Kenneth R. Hall, Robert L. Lytton and Leonard M. Pike will be recognized.

Suzanne M. Droleskey and A. Paul Henry will be awarded for their excellence in individual student relationships.

Continuing Education, extension and professional development winners include Bastiaan M. Drees and Judith L. Warren.

Thomas L. Baxter and Sheran Riley will be recognized as outstanding staff members, and Sallie V. Sheppard will receive the award for her work in administration.

Road construction nears completion

State Highway 47, which will link the Texas A&M main campus to the A&M Riverside campus, should be completed by the end of the summer, a spokeswoman for the Texas Department of Transportation said.

Remaining work on the highway includes paving areas of the roadway and placing road signs on the highway.

The project to connect FM 60 near Easterwood Airport to Highway 21 near A&M's Riverside campus began in October 1993 and is dedicated in memory of Raymond Stotzer, a former director of TxDOT.

Que Jam Session raises money for Ronald McNair Memorial Scholarship

By Courtney Walker
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M chapter of Omega Psi Phi hosted a three-on-three basketball and slam dunk contest, complete with door prizes and a barbecue, Saturday at its annual Que Jam Session.

The Omega Psi Phi chapter, an African-American organization with 8 members, raised \$1,000 for the fraternity's national Ronald McNair Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fund was established in 1993 in honor of Omega Psi Phi brother, Ronald McNair, who died in the 1986 Challenger 7 space shuttle explosion.

Tony Espritt, Omega Psi Phi president and a senior industrial engineering major, said the small number of members does not affect the Que Jam Session's success.

"We don't believe in numbers," Espritt said. "Eight men thoroughly immersed in the true Omega spirit are worth more than 80 men with lukewarm enthusiasm."

The McNair Scholarship targets African-American males as an incentive for them to attend college.

"There is a serious absence of African-American males in higher education," Espritt said. "When historically black universities, such as Dillard, Grambling and Southern have a female-to-male ratio of at least 6-to-1, it is obvious why we focus on African-American males."

Lisa Carter, a junior business major, attended the tournament held on the Recreation Center outdoor court and patio and said her favorite part was

the slam dunk contest.

"People would watch the tournament off and on all day," Carter said, "but during the slam dunk contest, people stopped what they were doing to come and watch."

Marcus Johnson, Omega Psi Phi vice president and a senior electrical engineering major, said the fraternity members wanted to have a basketball tournament because the community is devoid of basketball events.

"Anyone could come out and participate, and it didn't matter who you were or what you did."

— TONY ESPRITT
Omega Psi Phi president

"People really enjoy watching basketball games," Johnson said, "and there just aren't a lot of tournaments on campus besides the (A&M) teams."

Espritt said the tournament was also a way to break through some barriers between campus social groups.

"Anyone could come out and participate, and it didn't matter who you were or what you did," Espritt said. "It was just a basketball tournament to give everyone a chance to get out there and have some fun."

Johnson said Omega Psi Phi has had great success with the event during the past three years, and next year, the fraternity might try a five-on-five tournament.

Former CIA Chief presumed dead in accident

Boating accident claims life of William Colby

ROCK POINT, Md. (AP) — Former CIA Director William Colby was missing and presumed drowned Monday after what the sheriff said was an apparent boating accident near Colby's vacation home.

Colby's canoe was found on a sandbar Sunday a quarter-mile from his home on the Wicomico River, and divers searched the rough and murky water for the 76-year-old former spymaster.

"Right now, we are viewing it as an accident," Sheriff Fred Davis said. "We're not ruling out foul play, but we never rule out foul play."

Colby, who headed the CIA from 1973 to 1976 under Presidents Nixon and Ford, apparently went canoeing late Saturday, but his absence wasn't noticed until Sunday night, when neighbors became suspicious because

his car was still in the driveway. Colby usually has returned to Washington by then.

A neighbor who checked his home found his radio and computer still on. Investigators found dinner dishes on a table and clam shells in the kitchen sink.

Davis said Colby's wife, Sally Shelton-Colby, was out of town but had spoken to him during the weekend. He told her he didn't feel well but was going canoeing anyway.

Neighbors said the water was rough Saturday and not good for canoeing.

"I don't see why a man his age would be out there," said neighbor Joseph Hervey. "If I went out there it would be in a 16- to 20-foot boat — not canoe."

The sheriff ruled out the possibility of suicide.

Coast Guard crews searched the river for more than five

hours late Sunday and resumed the search Monday morning. Authorities didn't know if Colby was wearing a life-preserver.

Colby, who began his intelligence career parachuting into France to fight the Nazis, later headed the CIA's Saigon office during the Vietnam War.

In Vietnam, he was associated with Operation Phoenix, an infiltration effort to root out rural support for communist guerrillas. It led to sweeping arrests, torture and execution of suspects. Critics said most of those killed were innocent peasants.

He was dismissed by Ford as CIA director because of a growing feeling in the White House that he was cooperating too freely with congressional investigators looking into allegations of wrongdoing within the agency. The agency had been accused of plotting assassinations overseas and of spying on civilians in the United States.

Let's Talk

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