

THE BATTALION

102, No. 147 (6 pages)

Serving Texas A&M University Since 1893

Wednesday • June 12, 1996

Atlanta Aspirations



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Rosa Jolivet has never let success interfere with who she really is. This is obvious as the A&M Track Team's 100- and 400-meter hurdles star prepares for the upcoming Olympic Trials in Atlanta on June 14-23.



As the pressure of competing in the biggest event of her athletic career mounts, Jolivet has maintained her trademark laid-back mentality. Her even-keel demeanor on and off the track is one of the secrets to her success.

"People describe me as a goofy person, always cracking jokes," Jolivet said. "That's just the way I am."

One might expect a more competitive, temperamental personality from one of the best track athletes in the history of Texas A&M.

But A&M Head Track Coach Ted Nelson said this is just not the case.

"She is one of the most positive people I have been around in a long time," Nelson said. "She has been positive for the whole team. She is very supportive of her teammates, always encouraging them and saying good things."

As you open the 1996 A&M Track and Field Media Guide, the first words you see under Rosa Jolivet's photo are the words "... expected to have an immediate impact in the 100- and 400-meter hurdles, as well as both relays."

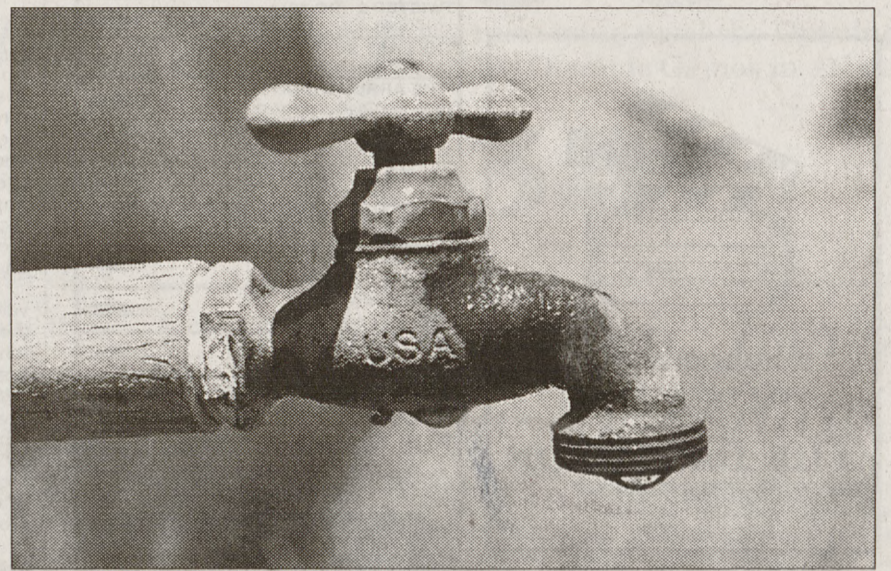
This understatement of her accomplishments on the track team in her first year at Texas A&M.

Jolivet, one of the most unheralded athletic talents on campus, came into this year with much hope and promise. In just a few months, she has been one of the finest track athletes in the history of the school and promises to be one of the country's best hurdlers in years to come.

Olympic hopeful Rosa Jolivet jumps hurdles at practice Tuesday afternoon.

See **SPORTS**, Page 3

Physical Plant cuts water use



Pat James, THE BATTALION

The drought has caused the A&M Physical Plant to cut its water use. Here, a faucet at the Horticulture Center on University drive drips.

By Christine S. Diamond
THE BATTALION

During one of the worst droughts in Texas history, Texas A&M sprinklers continue as usual. Fortunately, Charles Sippial, assistant vice-president for Physical Plant, said College Station has no water shortage.

"In essence, from ground water, there is not a drought," Sippial said. "The only thing that has happened to that aquifer is that the level has been lowered. But we consider the problem that has brought the drought the lack of rainfall."

The Palmer Drought Severity Index, taken in mid-May, indicated all 10 of Texas' climatic zones were experiencing moderate to severe droughts. The index examines hydrologic factors such as precipitation, evaporation and soil moisture. Because of the statewide problem, officials have asked for voluntary water conservation.

Texas A&M pumps its water from wells located on the Riverside Campus. The water comes mainly from the Simsboro Sand and Wilcox Aquifer.

To serve its roughly 50,000 users, A&M pumps an average of 8 million gallons of water a day. Landscape maintenance uses 712,000 gallons a

day for irrigation.

Sippial said the Physical Plant follows a water conservation and drought contingency plan. The plan sets procedures designed to reduce water use.

Thomas Dew, superintendent for landscape and pavements maintenance, said the department reduced water use by 35 percent six weeks ago. This week, Dew said, the department cut back an additional 15 percent.

"We try to put down an inch to an inch-and-a-half of water a week," Dew said. "If we can get a rain to help that's great," Dew said.

Physical Plant officials said approximately 25,000 sprinkler heads water the A&M landscape. Officials have taken steps to ensure sprinklers do not water sidewalks or roads instead of lawns and flowerbeds.

"We are sensitive to that (faulty sprinklers) and are going to make sure every drop of water that goes out of here goes to the right place," Sippial said. The Physical Plant asks anyone aware of faulty sprinkler heads to call 845-4311.

"As good citizens we should do two things: conserve water and be sensitive to the folks that are losing their farms and losing their livelihood," Sippial said.

Animal shelter faces overcrowding problem

By Protas
THE BATTALION

At the beginning of the summer, the worst time of year for the population. The Brazos Animal Shelter hopes to alleviate the problem by placing animals in new homes and owners.

Shirley Bice, director of the Brazos Animal Shelter, said breeding cycles are the main cause of the overcrowding.

"This is the time of the year we see the biggest increase in animals," Bice said. "The breeding cycles cause all the cats to breed in the late spring and then they have pupped kittens in late May and June."

John Schwarm, a volunteer at the shelter and a graduate student in chemical engineering, said pet owners can help with the overcrowding.

"The main problems are caused by people who don't neuter their pets," Schwarm said. "It's actually more humane because they have the urges they can't live about."

When the animals are brought into the shelter, they are evaluated for adoption. Those from Brazos County are evaluated to see if they are abandoned or an owner's pet," Bice said. "If they are surrendered or abandoned, they are evaluated for adoption. If they are lost or found, then they stay 72 hours so we can evaluate them."

"Pet owners have time to miss their pets and come get them."

"If the pets are approved, they are adopted for \$65. Bice said



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

One of the many kittens at the Brazos Animal Shelter waits to be adopted. Breeding cycles have caused overcrowding at the shelter.

the price includes other benefits. "All our adoptions are \$65, which includes an adoption package of over \$150 worth of benefits," Bice said. "You get their first shots, worming, spaying or neutering and a two-week health warranty. If you adopt a cat, you get a cat-carrying box and a leash for a dog. There are coupons from all local businesses that support pet ownership, such as grooming, pet sitting, training, supplies and food."

Pets can be adopted at either the shelter or at mobile pet adoptions around town.

Schwarm said mobile pet adoptions are a convenient way for people to adopt a pet.

"A mobile pet adoption is

where we take several animals and bring them to a public place," Schwarm said. "People can adopt them right there and they don't have to wait. In the past we've gone to the Messina Hof Winery, the Hollywood 16 movie theater, Sam's Club and St. Joseph's Hospital."

Bice said if adoptees' other animals are up-to-date on their records and their landlord allows pets, they can adopt a pet from the shelter.

Scott Neeman, a senior math major, said adopting his cat, Ramona, from the shelter was easy. He said he would encourage anyone to consider adoption.

See **Shelter**, Page 6

Provisional admission has high success rate

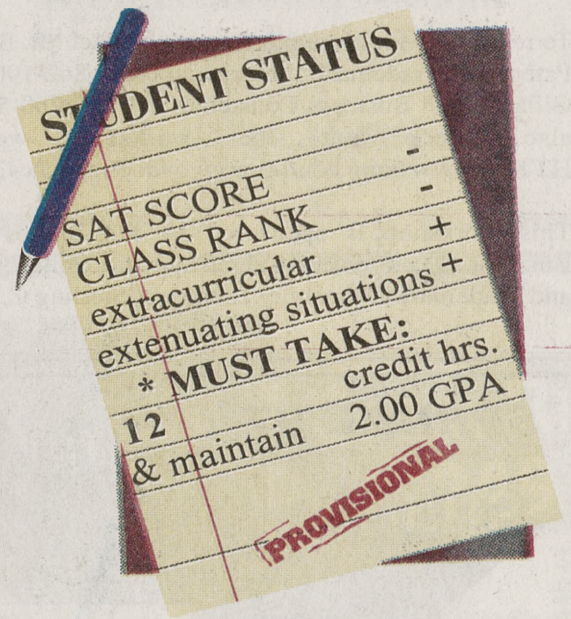
By Brandon Hausenfluck
THE BATTALION

Approximately 230 freshmen students who would have otherwise been denied admission to Texas A&M are taking part in a provisional enrollment program offered through the Department of General Academics.

Applicants who do not meet early admission criteria by not having the necessary SAT scores and class rank are selected through a review process. The admission board then considers all contributing factors to the student's performance in high school, such as extracurricular activities and extenuating circumstances which might have affected his or her performance. If these students can prove to the board there is more to be considered, they will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their true abilities.

Kriss Boyd, director of General Academics, says the program is important for students who have issues which could have affected their performance in high school.

See **Provisional**, Page 6



License plates stolen over weekend

By Melissa Nunnery
THE BATTALION

Twelve license plates were stolen from vehicles at College Station hotels last weekend.

Lt. Scott McCollum of the College Station Police Department said most of the stolen plates were from out-of-state vehicles. Some of the stolen plates came from tax-exempt city- or state-owned vehicles.

He said reasons to steal the plates are purely speculative, but said "it could be that the person stealing them is a collector."

"It is highly probable that the same person stole all of the

plates," McCollum said.

McCollum said someone who is going to use stolen plates for criminal purposes might put them on a different vehicle to mislead witnesses.

McCollum said there is usually no need to worry about license plates being stolen, but there are specialty stores that sell fasteners for plates.

With these fasteners, a special adapter is needed to remove the plates.

The police are checking several leads. McCollum said, normally, someone parks a car in the evening and goes out in the morning to find the plates are missing.

"It doesn't take long to remove a license plate," McCollum said, explaining why there are not witnesses to the crimes.

A spokesman for the Ramada Inn in College Station said the hotel has regular security which checks the property every half-hour.

Bob Wiatt, director of University Police Department, said no license plates have been reported stolen on campus.

He said there has been no activity, but officers patrol parking lots regularly and are aware that anything can happen to a car.

"We're on the alert," Wiatt said, "but luckily we've had no similar problems."