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Parking

Continued from Page 1

readily and improperly approves forms for handicapped tags, which adds to the problem.

He said much of the abuse of handicapped tags stems from ignorance.

"A lot of students here will borrow Mommy or Daddy's tag," Jackson said. "They do this from ignorance. At least I'd like to think that."

Reasons students have for parking in handicapped spaces vary.

Janice Coffey, a junior marketing major, said she has parked in handicapped spaces.

"In the parking lot by 4.0 and Go there is a parking spot that

doesn't have a handicap sign but has it painted on the parking spot pavement," she said. "I've parked there before."

Some students who park in handicapped spots may not appear physically handicapped, but actually are.

Christi Stiles, a junior agriculture development major, has severe asthma and is unable to walk long distances on campus.

Because she does not appear disabled, Stiles said, many people leave angry notes on her car.

"I get a letter on my car or some note every week," Stiles said. "Most of them say 'Aggies do not lie, cheat, or steal,' but the most recent was a two-page letter calling me every name you can think of."

Stiles said before she obtained

a handicapped tag, she was in the hospital every three months because of asthma attacks.

Contrary to popular belief, she said, obtaining a handicapped tag is a difficult process.

"You can't just run out and say, 'Can I have one of those?'" she said. "You have to go and get forms and have a doctor verify them and then get more copies."

Stiles said PTTS officers are particularly watchful of her and readily give her tickets.

"I got a lot of (PTTS) attitude," she said. "One time I was parked over the line and I got a ticket for that. During the spring I got a \$100 ticket for using my boyfriend's car but my tag."

Jackson said the high intolerance rate on campus for individuals who park illegally in handi-

capped spots is understandable.

"It's easy to see why officers and students think they aren't handicapped when they just throw a backpack on and run into class," Jackson said. "People should consider them innocent until proven guilty."

Jackson said PTTS takes several different angles in dealing with the problem.

"We try to educate offenders and let them know they are taking up someone's space," he said. "We also thought about having all people with legitimate tags come in and talk with us."

Jackson said the problem extends beyond Texas A&M.

"We don't have an answer that makes sense," he said. "This is a nationwide problem, not just an A&M problem."

Ags

Continued from Page 1

the college students."

Shanna Nugent, a senior economics major, said the number of A&M students gave the University a lot of influence at the convention.

"Considering at least 12 Brazos County delegates were current A&M students," she said, "we formed a pretty cohesive group and could vote as a block to represent A&M."

GOP leaders recognized the strong Aggie contingent in San Antonio.

Kevin Brady, who is running for U.S. Rep. Jack Fields' congressional seat, said he welcomes the Aggies' presence.

"A&M and Aggies tend to dominate in this state," he said. "They are involved in every aspect, politically and socially. They are real leaders in this state and real leaders at this convention."

One Aggie GOP leader who played a key role at the convention was Dr. Richard Stadelmann, associate professor of philosophy. Stadelmann, parliamentarian of the Texas Republican Party, commended the Aggie students' behavior as delegates.

"I've seen many Aggies at the last two conventions in many positions of responsibility," Stadelmann said. "... I think [Aggie delegates] are far more knowledgeable than the average delegate."

Aggie delegates also experienced full media coverage for the first time. Many were

surprised by the media's focus on perceived division within the convention.

"I didn't think I was at the same convention they were covering," Livingston said. "It was obvious they were there to find some story. They were looking for controversy and that's all they were reporting."

Machemehl was also confused by the media coverage.

"The media tried to make the Republicans appear divided, but that's not what I saw," she said. "My overall impression was that the party left the convention unified."

Still, Machemehl said she would be back again in two years.

"It gets in your blood," she said. "Once you get involved, it makes you want to do even more next time."

Hutchison

Continued from Page 1

abortion platform with the removal of a mother's endangered life as the only exception. They also collected signatures from delegates on a "pro-life pledge."

Dole didn't attend the state convention, but officials on his behalf bargained to make sure Hutchison would be included in the national delegation and avert a potential black eye in Texas.

"It was always our goal that the Texas delegation be one of the most aggressively and overwhelmingly pro-life and pro-family delegations, and that has obviously happened this weekend," said

Ralph Reed, executive director of the national Christian Coalition.

"We view this weekend as a major victory for the pro-family movement."

If four other states follow Texas with ardent anti-abortion delegates, party delegates say they could use parliamentary procedure at the national convention to influence Dole's choice of a running mate.

Reed and Pauken, however, predicted that Dole will pick a running mate acceptable to delegates who oppose abortion.

"He (Dole) shares the same goal that we have, which is to make it clear that the Republican Party is an unequivocally, unapologetically and unambiguously pro-life party," Reed said.



Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison introduced Alan Keyes, former 1996 Republican presidential candidate, to the Texas delegates at their convention Friday.

Stacy Stanton, THE BATTALION

Loose Diamonds

Marquise Cut

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.31	I	SI1	\$475 ⁰⁰
.49	F	SI1	1,579 ⁰⁰
.49	J	SI2	1,050 ⁰⁰
.68	J	VS2	1,900 ⁰⁰
.69	K	VVS2	1,750 ⁰⁰
.71	H	VS2	3,100 ⁰⁰ UGA CERT.
.83	H	SI1	3,150 ⁰⁰
.94	K	SI1	2,650 ⁰⁰
1.21	K	SI3	3,750 ⁰⁰

Emerald Cut

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.71	H	SI2	\$1,675 ⁰⁰
.74	H	SI3	1,500 ⁰⁰
.83	H	SI3	1,575 ⁰⁰
.88	G	SI2	1,750 ⁰⁰
.93	G	SI3	1,950 ⁰⁰
1.28	I	VS2	4,650 ⁰⁰

Round Diamond

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.23	H	VVS1	\$400 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.27	H	VVS1	475 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.31	H	VVS2	745 ⁰⁰ IGL CERT.
.33	H	VVS2	790 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.34	G	VVS2	895 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.37	G	I1	350 ⁰⁰
.70	I	SI1	2100 ⁰⁰
.71	H	SI1	2,200 ⁰⁰
.71	H	VVS2	2985 ⁰⁰ IGL Cert.

Round Diamond

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.91	J	SI2	\$2960 ⁰⁰
.95	I	I1	2,275 ⁰⁰
1.00	G	I1	2,600 ⁰⁰
1.16	J	SI1	3,950 ⁰⁰

Pear Shape

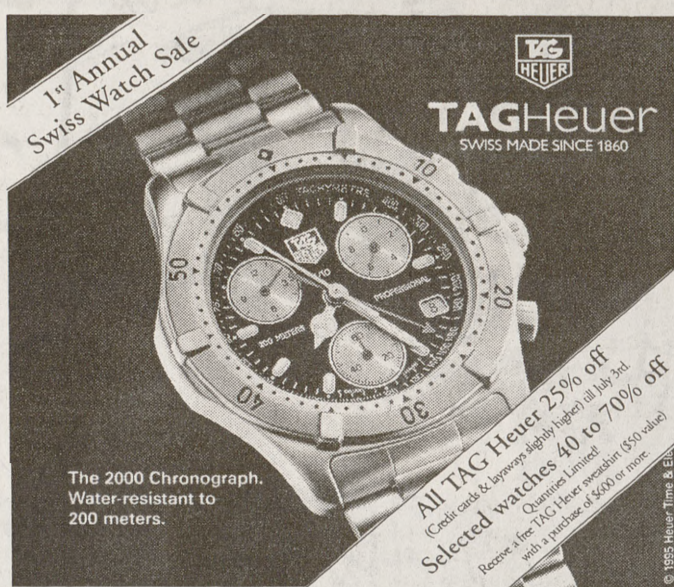
Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.49	H	SI1	\$1,253 ⁰⁰
.59	E	I1	995 ⁰⁰
.79	K	SI1	1,675 ⁰⁰
.92	K	VS2	2,300 ⁰⁰
1.02	J	SI1	3,250 ⁰⁰

Princess

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.49	K	SI1	\$ 875 ⁰⁰
.53	K	VS1	975 ⁰⁰
.92	H	VVS2	3,500 ⁰⁰
.93	H	VS2	3200 ⁰⁰

Oval

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.32	H	SI1	\$ 550 ⁰⁰
.40	J	VS1	675 ⁰⁰
.56	K	VVS2	1,075 ⁰⁰
.66	K	VVS2	1,252 ⁰⁰
.81	I	VS2	3,225 ⁰⁰ UGA CERT.
.93	I	SI2	2,860 ⁰⁰ UGA CERT.
1.00	G	I1	2,700 ⁰⁰
1.12	I	SI1	3,950 ⁰⁰



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Hikers airlifted from Grand Canyon

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — Ten hikers were airlifted out of the Grand Canyon on Sunday as firefighters battled a nearby 1,500-acre forest fire.

"If they had come out of the canyon, they would have come out right in the fire," said U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Teri Steilen.

Fire crews from across the country, including New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Florida, helped battle the forest fire at the Grand Canyon's North Rim, sparked by lightning on Thursday.

They also fought eight other fires across northern Arizona, including a second one at the North Rim. All together, the fires had burned nearly 17,000 acres by Sunday night.

In central Utah, lightning started more than a dozen fires, the largest burning about 8,000 acres by Sunday. A state road was closed for nearly two days because of the flames and smoke.

In Nevada, at least three homes were destroyed and more than 125 were threatened by a wildfire in an upscale neighborhood in Genoa, about 60 miles south of Reno. The fire, which officials suspect was caused by humans, broke out about 2:30 p.m. Sunday and had burned more than two square miles.

"I had to turn out all the horses and all the cattle," said Janice Sorenson, who made a quick exit as the blaze approached her family ranch. "I could feel the heat and the noise was horrendous. I was running all over the place and the smoke was so black I couldn't see."

Rangers at the Grand Canyon knew the hikers were on a trail at the North Rim because of permits that had been issued for the area. The rangers also found seven vehicles parked at the trailhead near the fire, Steilen said.

Five canyon trails have been closed. On Friday, winds reaching 40 mph whipped the fire into the Kaibab National Forest.

On Saturday, strong winds created flames up to 100 feet high and forced some crews to retreat, fire spokesman Ellis Richard said.



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