

# THE BATTALION

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## Karadzic turns over powers

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader indicted for war crimes, bowed to international pressure to step aside Sunday, handing his powers to an equally nationalist deputy. Karadzic's move eased the immediate threat of new international sanctions against the Bosnian Serbs and their former patrons in Serbia, but left up in the air the question of who speaks for Bosnian Serbs. International officials insisted Karadzic was out. But the hard-line deputy who assumed his powers, Biljana Plavsic, said Karadzic remained president — just without his powers. The prime minister of Bosnia's Muslim-led government, Karadzic's enemy in the

3 1/2-year war, called the move a trick. Karadzic is regarded as a major impediment to Sept. 14 elections that international officials see as a key step in their effort to stitch Bosnia back together. It was clear that the international community has hard work ahead to finally crack the flamboyant psychiatrist's power and force him to answer war crimes charges before a U.N. tribunal. "As of today, Mr. Karadzic cannot exercise any public functions or public powers as president of Republika Srpska," the Serbs' self-proclaimed state, said in a statement from Carl Bildt, the top international civilian

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## Limited class availability causes student setbacks

By Heather R. Rosenfeld  
THE BATTALION

While the Modern and Classical Languages Department maintains it is putting forth maximum effort to remedy the problem, Texas A&M liberal arts students remain frustrated with the unavailability of Spanish classes. Dr. Steven Oberhelman, head of the modern and classical languages department, said, "I have done everything I can think of ... [The department] has been as proactive as possible in trying to lessen the demand for language classes." Oberhelman said he credits the lack of courses to deficient departmental funding. "My budget has not changed in ten years," he said. "The budget we are receiving isn't adequate for the amount of students because the demand is far greater than the supply." Oberhelman receives his budget from the dean, who in turn obtains the allocations from the provost. He said students

should voice their frustrations to those able to institute a change. "The students should keep fire under the central administration to continue the commitment he (the provost) has shown," Oberhelman said.

"... [The department] has been as proactive as possible in trying to lessen the demand for language classes."

— DR. STEVE OBERHELMAN  
head of the modern and classical languages department

Ronald Douglas, Texas A&M executive vice president and provost, said the budget will not allow for accommodation of every student's needs. "We certainly do take student demand in account, but the problem might be Spanish this year and next year it might be something else," Douglas said. "The University can't respond directly because that (Spanish)

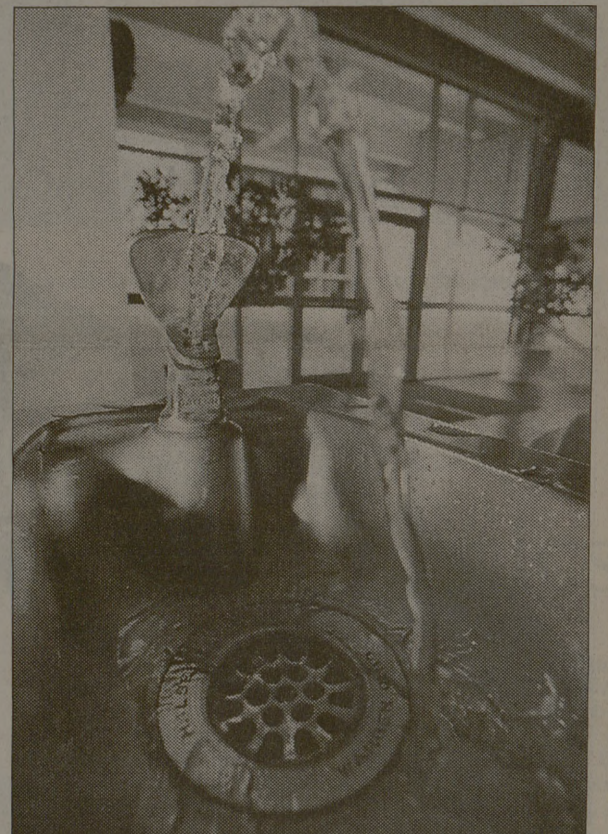
isn't the only consideration we have in regards to budget." Douglas said the issue will be further investigated in the fall. "We probably need to do more for the College of Liberal Arts," Douglas said. "The question is: How fast can we do that, and what will the budget be in the upcoming legislative session?" For some students a future budget change will come too late. Justin Mitchell, a senior speech communications major, faced the difficulty of finding the necessary class. "I couldn't register for a Spanish class that I needed, so it put me back a semester," Mitchell said. "I ended up at Blinn." Carolyn Hoyle, assistant division chair for humanities for Blinn, said Mitchell's case is all too familiar. "There is a sizable amount of students who come here to Blinn because they can't

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## University alerts students, faculty to high lead levels

By Amy Protas  
THE BATTALION

Last February, the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) informed Texas A&M of abnormally high amounts of lead in on-campus water. Today, the University will alert students and faculty to the problem by posting notices on all major bulletin boards and campus newspapers and newsletters. Margaret Canty, a member of the TNRCC lead and copper monitoring group in public drinking water, said the high amounts of lead in A&M's water required the TNRCC to notify the University. "A&M has had 10 percent or more of their water samples exceed more than 15 parts per billion," Canty said. "That is the value set by the federal government for this particular program." Although levels of lead are high enough for the University to notify students and faculty, officials emphasize that the levels are not high enough to be of any danger. Charles A. Sippial Sr., assistant vice president for the Physical Plant, said he does not want students to be alarmed. "With the levels we have today, there are no health risks," Sippial said. "The action level is simply an indication to look at the water and find sources of lead." Sippial said after the original water samples were retested for lead content, they came back below the 15 parts per billion action level. "After receiving the notification, Physical Plant contracted with an independent lab to retest the original 30 areas plus an additional 30 areas," Sippial said. "The retest showed that all areas were below the action level established by the TNRCC



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

The TNRCC informed A&M of abnormally high amounts of lead in on-campus water.

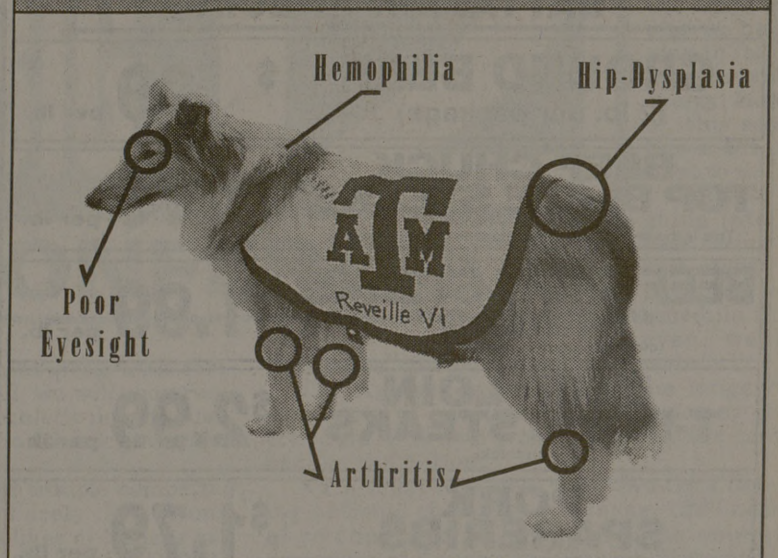
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## Reveille's health problems possibly result of inbreeding

By Tauma Wiggins  
THE BATTALION

Reveille serves as a symbol of Aggie tradition, honor and pride to many Texas A&M students, but to some she represents a form of animal cruelty — pure-breeding. Christine Trinidad, a senior biochemistry and genetics major, said she considers purebred animals such as Reveille a product of cruelty because genetic side effects often result. Trinidad said many purebred pets carry weakened genetic traits passed down from inbreeding, such as poor eyesight, blindness, deafness, and a propensity for hair loss. Collies such as Reveille are known for their fine quality coats and loyalty to humans, but they often experience trouble with arthritis, eye trouble, hemophilia — a disease that prevents an animal's blood from clotting properly — and hip-dysplasia, which causes bone deterioration and limping. Trinidad said she appreciates Reveille as a symbol of A&M but strongly disagrees with the inbreeding of animals. "I think she (Reveille) is a good mascot, but since I'm a genetics major I know what happens because of inbreeding," she said. "I wouldn't want a rough

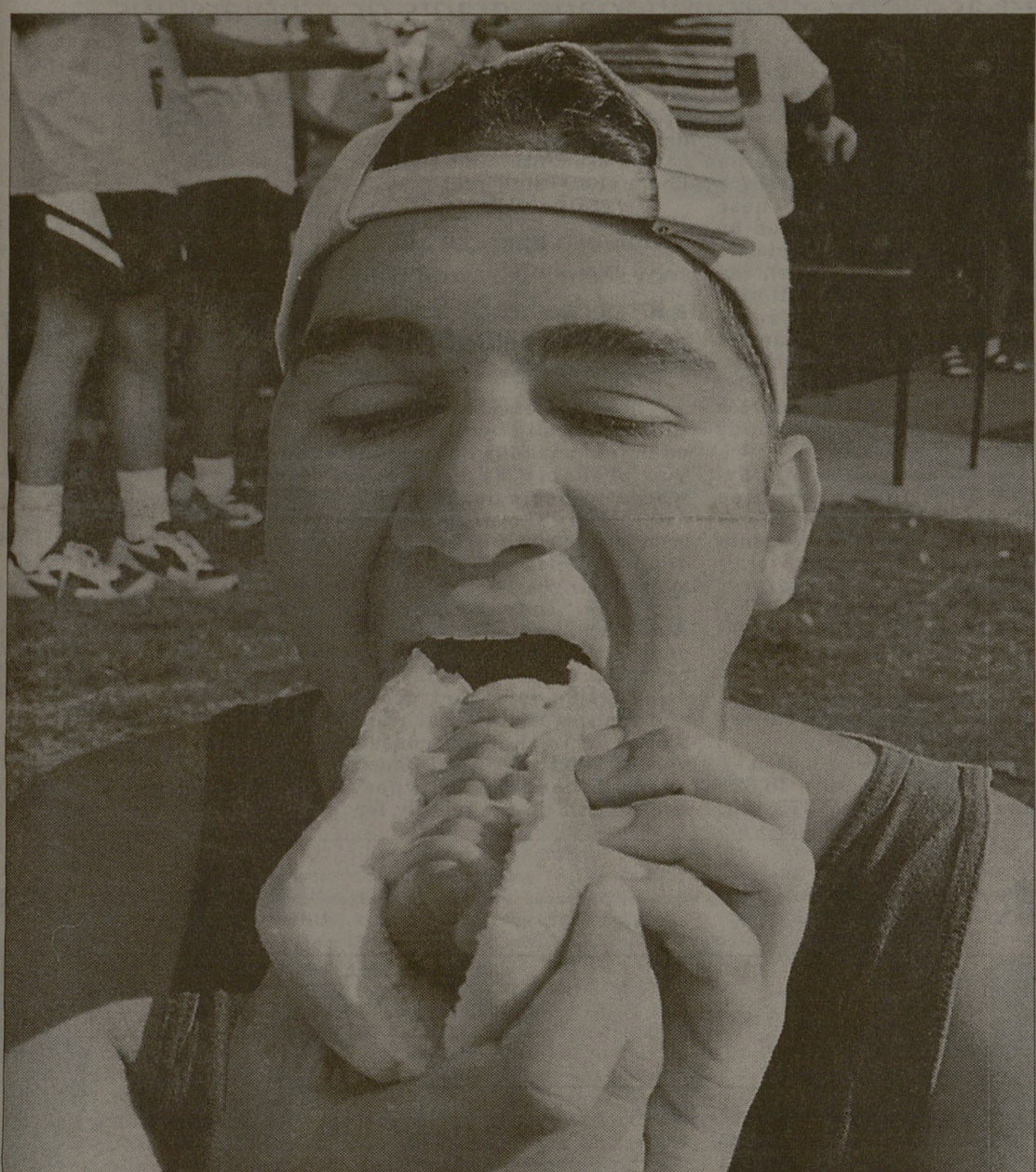
### THE PROBLEM WITH INBREDS



collie. It's like, why hurt?" Kellie Sins, a doctor of veterinary medicine in Bryan-College Station, said the rate of genetic problems is much higher in purebreds, but it has not deterred her from owning several of them herself. "I wouldn't hesitate to get a purebred," Sins said. "I've had several dogs and never had any problems. Definitely, I see more

complex problems in purebred dogs, but it's not necessarily a problem with inbreeding. Obviously, small dogs will have different problems than large dogs. You can have healthy purebreds, but unfortunately some do have problems." Sins said collies like Reveille have been bred for many years

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Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

## DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Brian Diaz, a junior history major, chows down on a hot dog at a Southside barbecue Sunday evening.

## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SunrayceR

### Team redesigns, rebuilds vehicle

By Brandon Hausenfluck  
THE BATTALION

In the summer of 1997, the Texas A&M University Sunrayce team will compete for the second time at the biannual Sunrayce Solar Vehicle Challenge. Students from all over the country will participate in the 1,200-mile cross-country race from Indianapolis to Colorado Springs. To compete with the best schools in the nation, members of the Aggie Sunrayce team are completely redesigning and rebuilding their vehicle, the Mach V. Jim Griffin, Sunrayce team member and a junior mechanical engineering major, said the team is taking a new approach toward the project. "The biggest change is an entire new approach," he said. "We're actually redesigning it (the car) instead of adapting the old one and this makes it even more expensive. "The car will run on batteries, which are

charged by the sun. While the car is running, the batteries will be regulated by the sun like a car alternator keeps a car battery charged." A big concern for the team is raising enough money to finance the venture. Dr. Dennis Waugaman, Sunrayce team adviser and associate professor of engineering technology, said although progress is being made, the team's main concern is fiscal. "We've progressed with the design and we have a better idea how it's going to be built," he said. "But the most important thing now is fund raising ... We need to raise more money." The team is trying to raise \$300,000 in the form of cash and equipment — a far cry from last year's budget of \$35,000. "We're targeting former students who are executives of companies," Waugaman said. "Texas Instruments has donated \$25,000 so far, and we

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