

# THE BATTALION

Vol. 102, No. 165 (6 pages)

Serving Texas A&M University Since 1893

THE BATT ON-LINE: <http://bat-web.tamu.edu>

Tuesday • July 16, 1996

## Yeltsin's health questioned after cancelled meeting

MOSCOW (AP) — Boris Yeltsin abruptly postponed a meeting with Vice President Al Gore on Monday, raising new concerns about his fragile health.

Aides described the Russian president as exhausted, not ill, but said he has been avoiding medical checkups.

Gore, in Moscow to orchestrate a series of Cabinet-level encounters between Russian and U.S. officials, would have been in a position to observe Yeltsin's appearance and apparent state of health. Yeltsin has been little seen in recent weeks.

The Kremlin insists that long days campaigning simply tired the 65-year-old president.

"He just needs a good, proper rest," said Yeltsin's chief spokesman, Sergei Medvedev.

Aides said Yeltsin started a two-week vacation Sunday at the government resort outside Moscow where he recuperated from heart ailments last year. They said he probably would

meet with Gore there Tuesday. Medvedev said Yeltsin has not had a real checkup since late last year and has refused in recent weeks even to allow his blood pressure to be measured.

"It's very difficult for the doctors," Medvedev said.

He said doctors might examine Yeltsin during his vacation at the resort in Barvikha, seven miles northwest of Moscow.

The abrupt postponement followed a string of no-shows that renewed worries in recent weeks about the president's fitness.

Yeltsin's energetic re-election campaign clearly took a toll on his health. Medvedev said the president worked 16- and 17-hour days, and now faces pressures to form a new government.

"I see no serious grounds for panicky assertions that something serious has occurred, that something is once again wrong with Yeltsin's health," Medvedev told reporters in the Kremlin.

## Shuttle program works to eliminate drunk driving

### DAB founders hope to start the bus service in the fall

By Brandon Hausenfluck  
THE BATTALION

Almost 42 percent of Texas A&M students admit to driving after drinking alcohol.

DAB (Designate A Bus) Transit, a non-profit venture, is working with The Brazos Valley Community Action Agency to alleviate the problem.

DAB will provide shuttle buses on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights in an effort to reduce the number of accidents involving drunk drivers.

In 1993, the Harvard University School of Public Health surveyed 140 colleges across the country regarding alcohol consumption on campus. Texas A&M students did not fare well in the study. Aggies exceeded the national average in almost every category.

Almost 42 percent of Aggies surveyed admitted to driving after consuming alcohol; the national average was 26.5 percent. When asked whether they drove after having five or more drinks, 20.9 percent answered yes; 9.2 percent was the national average.

L.T. Scott McCollum, College Station Po-

lice Department public information officer, said he is aware of the problem of drunk drivers in the B-CS area and thinks DAB Transit will be good for the community.

"When people drive drunk, they take huge chances. And a good thing about DAB is it will benefit even those who don't drink by keeping the drunk drivers off the road."

Matthew Kenyon, a senior biomedical science major, came up with the idea of DAB Transit and developed it with the help of several volunteers. He said Texas A&M and Bryan-College Station need some sort of public transportation to deal with drunk drivers.

"DAB Transit will be helpful to the community because it will help reduce the number of alcohol accidents; it will reduce the risk of alcohol-related deaths; streets will be safer to travel at night; it will provide mass transportation at night; and it could create jobs for B-CS residents," Kenyon said.

He also said the committee is developing an operating schedule for the B-CS area.

"The buses will run from 8:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m.," Kenyon said. "We are hoping to have an off-duty police officer there (on the buses) to prevent any fighting or mischief that might occur on the buses. Up north and

See DAB, Page 2



"There is a problem with drunk driving in College Station," he said. "The founding fathers of DAB have tried to pull together to solve a big problem. The program will definitely be beneficial, but the key element of it being a success is if the citizens it's targeting actually use it."

McCullum said he hopes the program will help people to change the way they go out.

"There will have to be a change of lifestyle for some people who are used to having their cars with them when they go out," he said.

## Getting Involved

### A&M student sets sights on city council seat

By Melissa Nunnery  
THE BATTALION



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Brad Martin, a senior horticulture major, is running for a College Station City Council seat.

The College Station City Council will hold a special election on Aug. 10 to fill Mayor Lynn MacIlhaney's seat — and a Texas A&M student has his eye on it.

Brad Martin, a senior horticulture major, is running for the seat against five other candidates.

Martin said he is running because he wants to make a difference and represent the community.

"People like to see young people get involved in government," Martin said. "I've had very positive reactions and a lot of support."

Only 26, Martin does not think his age or status as a part-time student will be problematic for him in the election.

"It's to my advantage to be young," he said. "I'll work very hard and be enthusiastic."

Martin said he has met a lot of people in the community through active participation in community organizations. He is on the Board of Directors of Brazos Beautiful and the administrative board of A&M Methodist Church. He is also involved with Elder Aid and owns a landscaping business in College Station.

Martin said his situation is unique because he is both a student and businessman.

"I mainly want citizens to know even though I'm a student, I'm more permanent," Martin said.

He said student representation on the College Station City Council is important to the city's relationship with A&M.

"It's important (for College Station) to get involved with the University," Martin said. "There is already a good relationship with the University; I'd like to see it get stronger."

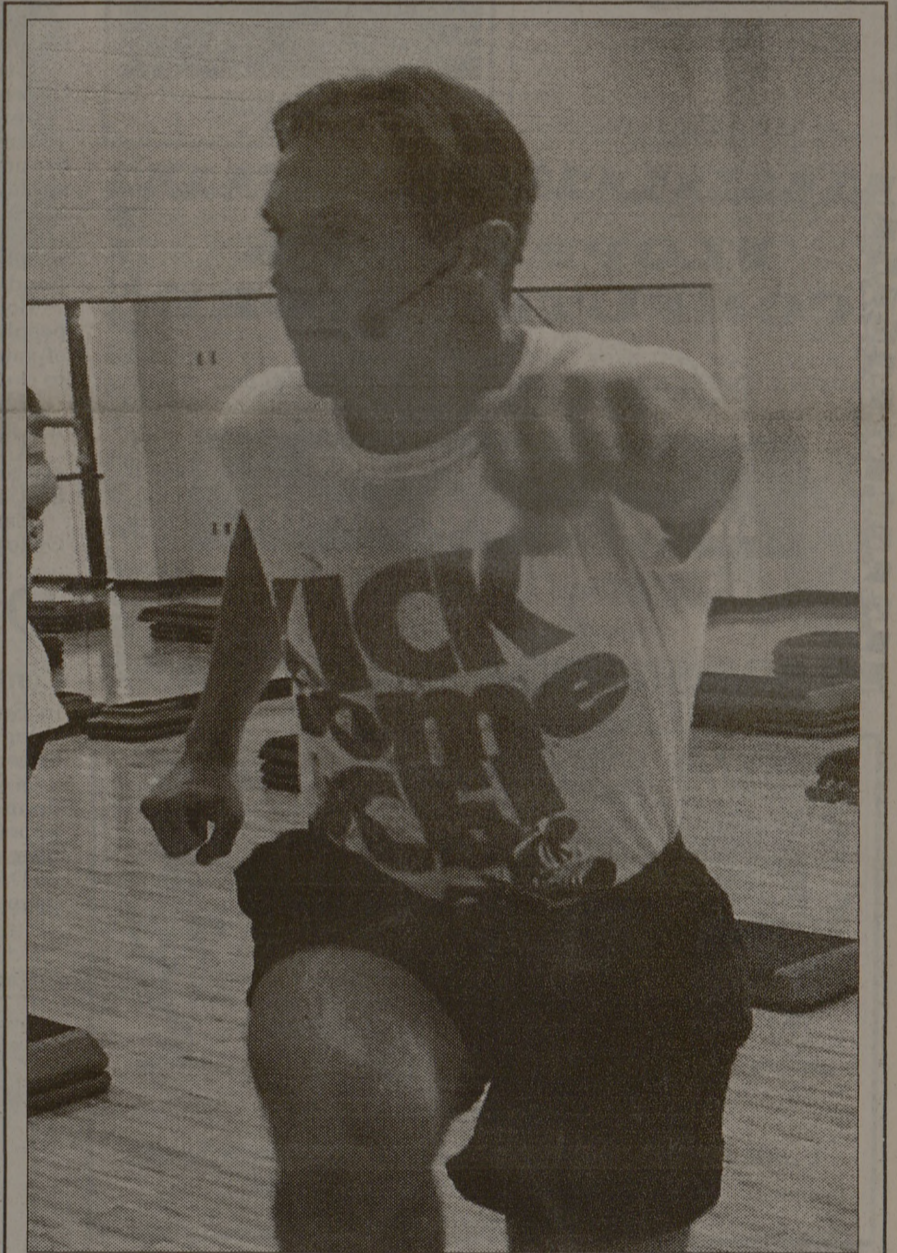
Martin said there is no student representation on City Council because many students are not registered to vote in Brazos County. He said he would like to see students and permanent residents of College Station treated equally.

Martin would like to see more students involved in community service organizations.

"I would like to set something up on a countywide basis that would be like the Big Event, only year-round," Martin said.

Michelle Olesen, who graduated

See Martin, Page 2



Pat James, THE BATTALION

### FITNESS FANATIC

Eric Moon, a senior environmental design major, instructs an aerobics class at the Student Recreation Center Monday.

## Groups work to improve campus recycling

By Amy Protas  
THE BATTALION

Although Texas A&M was ranked number one by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission for its recycling efforts, many students believe more can be done.

The Texas A&M Recycling Center recycles all paper products, aluminum cans and toner cartridges from over 200 buildings on campus. The sale of these materials helps fund the center.

Cassandra DeLarios, assistant recycling coordinator at the Recycling Center and a senior geography major, said improvements need to be made within the University.

"In 1991, we received a governor's award for having the best university-run recycling program," DeLarios said. "But now we are at a stalemate. We've increased our intake but haven't increased our efficiency."

DeLarios said recycling is often neglected at A&M because it is not a top priority.

"They (the University) have a budget, and it's based on whatever is good for the year," DeLarios said. "But they don't consider the long run. We're breaking even, but we also have to deal with a volatile paper market."

Each month, the center calls paper buyers and sells to the highest bidder.

Nicole Patschke, assistant recycling coordinator at the Recycling Center and a senior agribusiness major, said the University benefits from recycling.

"The University as a whole can save waste disposal costs by recycling," Patschke said. "They also save landfill space because we're running out of landfill space right now."

The landfill A&M currently uses is shared by 17 other counties and is almost full.

"Recycling should be a top priority because our landfill will close in two years and we'll have to get another one," DeLarios said. "Landfills are engineering feats; they're not just a hole in the ground. It will cost nearly \$1 billion."

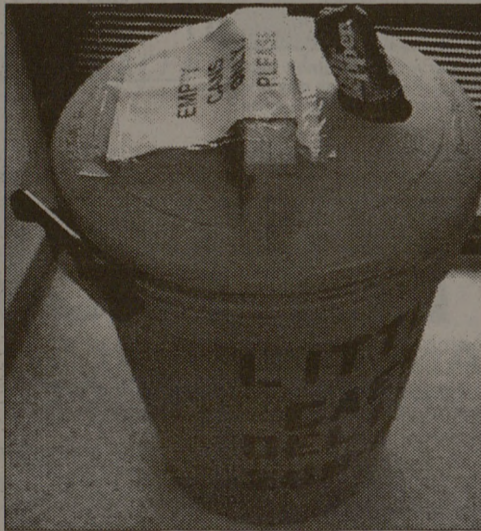
Patschke said the center has an agreement with the city of College Station.

"We accept all of the white paper from College Station city offices and they accept all of our newspapers we collect on campus," Patschke said. "They have a market for newspaper and we have a market for white paper. This agreement is the first of its kind in the state."

While the center collects recyclable materials from campus offices, the residence hall councils are responsible for their own recycling. Each hall is responsible for collecting and cleaning their bins and bringing them to a recycling center. The center they use does not have to be on campus.

Chuck Crews, former environmental chair for Crocker Hall and a senior electrical engineering major, said the residence halls need a more organized program for recycling.

"I also see the dorms as having the potential for recycling a lot of their waste if a good program is started," Crews said. "Very



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Aluminum can recycling bins are located in residence halls. Each hall is responsible for its own recycling.

few dorms have realized that potential."

Crews said the Physical Plant picks up the bins from University offices, and a similar arrangement should be organized for the residence halls.

"I think the University has a positive attitude toward recycling, but it's not their highest priority because of tight funding — especially in the custodial

See Recycling, Page 2

## Nuclear Science Center plays key role in cancer treatment

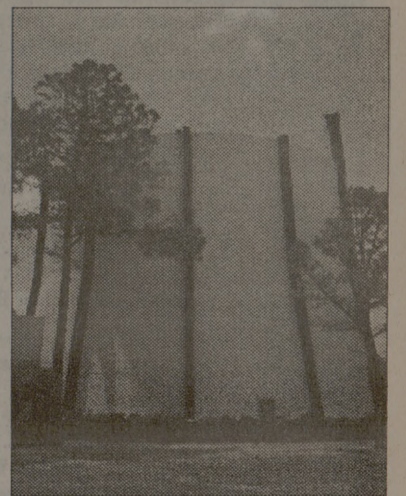
By James Fowler  
THE BATTALION

Everything King Midas touched turned to gold.

But for cancer patients at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, a little gold touched by Aggies goes a long way. In fact, this "Midas touch" could save their lives, thanks to a procedure using gold radioisotopes supplied by the Texas A&M Nuclear Science Center (NSC).

The gold isotopes produced by neutron bombardment at the NSC provide specific radiation levels to kill cancer tumors. For over twenty years, the NSC has been on call to supply the radioactive gold pellets to doctors in Houston in order to fight tumors from the inside out.

Jane Chapman, M.D. Anderson certified medical dosimetrist, said the NSC has always been responsive to their quick-reaction needs in supplying



Pat James, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M's Nuclear Science Center is located on West Campus by Easterwood Airport.

See NSC, Page 2