

THE BATTALION

Vol. 102, No. 177 (6 pages)

Serving Texas A&M University Since 1893

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

Tuesday • August 6, 1996

Groups organize summer escort program

By Erica Roy
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Corps of Cadets provides escorts for women to walk across campus at night during the fall and spring semesters, but not enough cadets stay on campus during the summer to staff a full Guard Room. Therefore, women must walk by themselves at night, which can be dangerous.

The Corps has organized an escort pilot program from August 5 to 13 during the hours of 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Male volunteers from various A&M organizations will take shifts in the Guard Room. The Memorial Student Center (MSC), OL' AGS, Interfraternity Council, Alpha Phi Omega, class councils, and Student

Government organizations will participate in the service.

The Guard Room will be open four hours, divided into two two-hour shifts. Two members from one of the organizations will work two hours while a cadet is also present in the Guard Room.

Kyle Sparkman, a junior biomedical science major, organized the program. He said the program has the potential to continue during the summer of 1997.

"There's no way of knowing if it will be successful, but I'm really optimistic about it working out," Sparkman said. "This is a problem that we've got to do something about. We've at least got to try and see if it works."

Murray Van Eman, a senior animal science major and vice president of the

MSC, was approached by Sparkman to participate in the pilot program. He said the MSC decided to participate in the program because they have a responsibility to operate and manage programs for students.

"This is one way we can help out where we typically haven't before," Van Eman said. "If it (the escort service) can't run during the summer, that doesn't mean criminal activities stop."

Van Eman volunteered to work in the Guard Room for a two-hour shift because he thinks it is a positive program on campus.

"I think it's a good program," Van Eman said. "I have a lot of respect for Corps guys who work the Guard Room during the year. Some of those guys work for twelve hours at a time. It's a good campus service."

Many female students are pleased an escort service is being provided.

Joyce Brown, a freshman civil engineering major, said the program makes her feel safer.

"I get paranoid walking by myself at night," Brown said. "A&M is one of the safest campuses in Texas, but it is a good precautionary measure to have an escort. I would call for an escort."

Jennifer Patterson, a sophomore elementary education major, said the program is a good idea because the campus is sparsely populated during the summer months.

"It's a good idea, especially during the summer," Patterson said. "The campus is empty. There's not as many people on campus. It's more likely something would happen during the summer when no one is around."



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION
Cadet Kyle Sparkman escorts Susannah Cockburn to her dorm Tuesday night.

Dole vows to 'finish the job Ronald Reagan started'

The GOP candidate unveiled his economic package Monday

CHICAGO (AP) — Making a bold bid to capture a skeptical public's attention, Bob Dole proposed a \$548 billion tax cut and asserted Monday he could balance the budget at the same time and "finish the job Ronald Reagan started."

Laying out the details of his campaign centerpiece, Dole proposed cutting the income tax rate 15 percent across-the-board, halving the capital-gains tax rate and giving lower and middle-income families a \$500-per-child tax credit. He also vowed to "end

the IRS as we know it" as part of his long range plan for a "simpler, flatter and fairer" tax system.

"As of this moment, Bill Clinton and his party are the defenders of the status quo," declared the Republican presidential candidate. "We are the party of change."

President Clinton countered that Dole's proposal would "balloon the deficit, raise interest rates and weaken the economy."

"It will hurt the American people ...

I am unalterably opposed to going back to the mistake we made before and having big tax cuts that are not paid for," Clinton said, referring to the deficit deepening 1980s.

The Clinton campaign immediately launched TV ads throughout much of the nation attacking Dole's plan: "America's economy is coming back. Now Bob Dole is endangering it all with a risky last-minute scheme..."

See Dole, Page 6

Clinton to fight terrorism with sanctions against Iran, Libya

WASHINGTON (AP) — Aggravating tensions with allies, President Clinton ordered sanctions Monday against foreign companies that invest in Iran and Libya. "You simply can't do business with people by day who are killing your people by night," the president declared.

Germany and France denounced the move as a barrier to international trade. The 15-nation European Union also protested. And Iran predicted the new law was "doomed to failure" because of the allies' objections.

The United States already was under fire from Canada, Mexico and other allies for a measure Clinton signed that penalizes foreign businesses that invest in property the Cuban government confiscated from current American citizens.

Clinton said he expected the allies would eventually come around to his way of thinking. But he also said, "Where we don't agree, the United States cannot and will not refuse to do what we believe is right."

With Americans still awaiting answers to the TWA disaster and the Olympics bombing, Clinton spoke out against terror-

ism in an Oval Office bill-signing ceremony and in a speech at George Washington University.

"Terrorism is the enemy of our generation and we must prevail," the president said. He singled out Iran and Libya as "two of the most dangerous supporters of terrorism in the world."

Clinton was joined at the White House by relatives of victims of the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. Also present were two of the Americans who had been held hostage at the American Embassy in Iran at the end of the Carter administration.

Clinton said the sanctions bill would heighten pressure on Libya to extradite two suspects in the Pan Am explosion.

And Victoria Cummock, president of Families of Pan Am 103, responded, "Today marks an important day in America's war against countries that use terrorism as an instrument of national policy against American citizens and the free world."

The new law, which cleared Congress on July 23, requires the president to penalize foreign firms that invest \$40 million or more annually in the energy sectors of Iran and Libya.



Pat James, THE BATTALION

WILDLIFE WATCHER

Cindy Digesualdo, a wildlife center technician, pets "Emma," a female white-tailed deer who is one of the many exotic animals at the center on West Campus.

Corps members spend summer at training camps

By Ann Marie Hauser
THE BATTALION

For many, summertime brings happy thoughts of relaxing at the beach and sleeping late. But members of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets with military contracts have other plans.

Whether sailing the seven seas or flying F-15 fighters, select cadets are pushing to their limit in preparing for a future in the military.

Various summer training camps take place throughout the United States for the Army, Air Force and Marines. The Navy sends future sailors on summer cruises around the world.

Cadets have the option (not guaranteed) of serving on vessels such as aircraft carriers or submarines. Ensign Ian Wolfe, a Class of '96 graduate, said cadets on the cruises can experience a sampling of everything the Navy has to offer.

"Cadets get to actually experience what it's like to be in the Navy," Wolfe said. "They get a taste of aviation, surface warfare and submarine propulsion."

Navy foreign exchange programs give the cadets the opportunity to serve abroad in foreign ports such as Japan, Guam and Singapore.

The summer programs differ for each military branch, but most last about four to six weeks. Army cadets from A&M spend six weeks at Ft. Lewis, Wash. At the camp, cadets practice leadership, physical fitness and marksmanship along with other skills.

Maj. Robert King, an assistant professor of military science and detachment executive officer, said the training camp is a significant part of a cadet's future.

"It is the one most important thing Army ROTC cadets do before their commission," King said. "It is one major indicator of how well they will do (once commissioned)."

See Corps, Page 6

Will You Marry Me?

Students find true love at A&M

By Tauma Wiggins
THE BATTALION

Students attend Texas A&M to gain a quality education. But while attaining future job skills, some students are getting a little more out of their college experience — a future marriage partner.

All over campus, students are asking "The Question", making wedding plans and tying the knot.

Students are using all kinds of techniques to "ask the question."

Melissa Gay Melton, a senior bioengineering major, said her fiancé Scott Boedeker, whom she met at A&M, proposed to her in a romantic setting.

"We were sitting in my fiancé's boat in San Diego and there was music outside from a concert," she said. "He asked me if I wanted anything to drink, and then when he came back up he had a bucket with a bottle of champagne and then he kneeled and asked me to marry him. I was about to die!"

Many A&M students were surprised to find love in the college grind.

Mary Taboado, a senior nutrition major, said meeting her future husband at A&M was unexpected.

"I didn't come to A&M thinking I was going to find my husband," Taboado said. She said her fiancé proposed to her in a traditional manner, and said she was surprised.

"It's all kind of a blur," she said. "He got down on one knee and all of the sudden there was this box in his hand. I think he said, 'Will you marry me?'"

Asking "the question" can make even the strongest people scared.

Casey Schaeffer, a senior finance major, said he was nervous the night he proposed to his girlfriend.

"My face was beet red, and I was really nervous all through dinner," Schaeffer said. "We had gone out to dinner with my roommate and his girlfriend, and I had already given them a dozen roses and a card that they put on the bench (under



Pat James, THE BATTALION

Engagement begins the long process of wedding planning for many students.

See Love, Page 6