



THE BATTALION

"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

Volume 103 • Issue 6 • 12 Pages

Monday, September 9, 1996

The Batt Online: <http://bat-web.tamu.edu>

MSC Open House welcomes crowds

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Zoological Society showed off its millennial celebration with a record-breaking turnout. Cepheid Variable gave the tin foil for protection against orbiting mind-control devices and Dr. J. Malon of credit for what the student affairs, screamed they all had a common lunch, free lunch!

This was the scene Sunday at the MSC Open House, sponsored by MSC

public relations.

Almost 300 organizations participated, and Southern land said the turnout was record-breaking.

"I've never seen this many (students)," he said. "It's been awesome."

Nearly 7,000 students had wandered through the maze of tables by 5 p.m. and people were still pouring in.

The crowds created a bit of a chaos and annoyed some students.

Lily Zhang, a freshman

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Dave House, THE BATTALION

Lisa Kelley, an agricultural development major, tries to find volunteers for the Aggie Recruitment Committee.

Class of '69 dedicates memorial

By WESLEY POSTON
THE BATTALION

Dedicating a living memorial of trees and a special plaque on Saturday, the Texas A&M Class of '69 honored 11 of its members who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

The triangular memorial lies west of the Quadrangle near the corner of Joe Rott Boulevard and Coke Street.

The names, ranks and hometowns of the fallen Aggie soldiers are etched in the plaque with the following inscription:

"This Memorial Site is dedicated to honor those 11 fellow classmates who made the supreme sacrifice while defending American ideals

of freedom and democracy during the Vietnam Era."

Families and classmates of the soldiers gathered at the Sam Houston Sanders Corps Center for a reception preceding the dedication. The guests reminisced and viewed the many exhibits.

Youngsters studied pictures of cadet life and gazed into cases of medals and sabers, while other guests talked in small groups about old times and shared memories of the absent.

Marvin Fletcher, class agent for the Class of '69, said since the project to build the memorial began two years ago, \$14,000 in donations has been raised.

Half of the money was needed for the construction

and the other half will be used for maintenance.

Col. Jim Ray, the guest speaker and a former prisoner of war, discussed the lesson to be learned from "the 11 who paid the ultimate sacrifice."

"These men were willing to follow the prescriptions laid down in the Bible, in the Gospels," he said, quoting the verse inscribed at the entrance to the Quad, John 15:13.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

Ray also alluded to President Abraham Lincoln's dedication of the battlefield at Gettysburg.

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Pat James, THE BATTALION

Cindi Ericson, a senior political science and international studies major, cuts the ribbon at the Memorial Site.



Dave House, THE BATTALION

Senior accounting majors Wendy Harker, Reagan Harrison and Melissa Love kick back and watch football to pass time while waiting in line for tickets to the UT game.

Use of 'date rape drug' reaches Brazos County

By MARISSA ALANIS
THE BATTALION

The illicit use of Rohypnol, a sedative ten times more powerful than Valium, has entered the college scene and touched the Bryan-College Station area.

Three reported sexual assault cases occurred in Brazos County last June, in which Rohypnol may have been used.

Also known as "roofies," "rophies" and the "forget pill," Rohypnol creates an enhanced intoxicated feeling when combined with alcohol. This combination causes memory loss and impairs judgment once in the body for at least an hour.

However, the euphoric feeling lasts several hours. It is during this period that females are most vulnerable to

rape, giving the drug its nickname: the "date rape drug."

Because of the drug's tiny size, it can easily be slipped into any type of drink in a discreet manner. Rohypnol is odorless, tasteless and colorless.

Dr. Dennis J. Reardon, coordinator of Alcohol and Drug Prevention Programs for the Texas A&M Department of Student Life Programs, said when combined with alcohol, Rohypnol produces a multiplicative effect that can be fatal.

"For instance, if you were to mix one beer with one Valium, you wouldn't get the combined effects of just one beer and one Valium," Reardon said. "Instead, you get a multiplication effect of the two drugs that is unpredictable."

Reardon said the human body systems that respond are expected to ad-

just to the Rohypnol and alcohol at the same time.

"This is why it is so dangerous," Reardon said. "They may have a life-threatening crisis occur as a result of the alcohol and Rohypnol."

Because victims are often unable to identify their attackers due to memory loss induced by the drug, potential offenders can use Rohypnol to their advantage.

Linda Castoria, executive director at the Brazos County Rape Crisis Center, said each of the sexual assault victims described similar conditions about feeling "out of it." They left their drinks unattended and could not remember if they drove or where they went.

"They don't know what hit them," Castoria said. "It literally puts them out." Castoria said since the three victims

had similar responses relating to the effects of Rohypnol, there is a strong possibility the drug was used.

Castoria said it is difficult to determine if Rohypnol is used in rape cases since it does not stay in the body for a long period of time. A drug test has to be done within 48 hours, but even then, medical examiners may not know what drug to look for.

Bert Kretzschmar, supervisor of the University Crime Prevention Unit, said in sexual assault cases where Rohypnol is used, victims may not want to report it to authorities.

"In the case of Rohypnol, they may not remember and they want to forget about it," Kretzschmar said. "They don't want to report it. They're in denial."

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Alvis encourages graduate students to get involved

By ANN MARIE HAUSER
THE BATTALION

Former jobs with General Electric, Houston Lighting and Power Company and Pacific Northwest Laboratories

Graduate Student Council. Alvis, who is entering his third year of the nuclear engineering doctoral program, said he left his job because he was discouraged by the progression of his career.

"I always wanted to teach," he said. A native of College Station, Alvis received both his undergraduate and master's degrees in nuclear engineering from Texas A&M. As GSC president, he sees an opportunity to give something back to A&M. With two research projects and his position with the GSC, Alvis faces a challenging semester.

"It's going to be busy," Alvis said. "But I have a good group of officers that I can delegate a lot of responsibility to." Alvis was elected president last spring after serving the GSC as department of nuclear engineering rep-

resentative. Alvis said there is more to a university than academics and he wants graduate students to become more involved. Alvis said a lack of commitment is a problem among graduate students because of the many pressures they face. "Grad students have a tendency to be isolated from

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Douglas aims to maintain diverse student population

By MELISSA NUNNERY
THE BATTALION

The staff, students and faculty of Texas A&M wasted no time in making an impression on Dr. Ronald G.

pressed by the school.

"What I learned in visiting was [A&M] has a wonderfully talented, motivated student body and a strong faculty doing wonderful research and scholarship and that is dedicated to teaching," he said. "I've been able to appreciate how true it all is."

Douglas, who assumed his new title only six months ago, came to A&M from State University of New York — Stony Brook. There he served as dean of science and vice provost for undergraduate studies.

Douglas grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio. He attended Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. He holds a doctorate in mathematics from Louisiana State University.

As a mathematician, Douglas likes to keep up with his research and stays involved in scientific policy issues.

Douglas said he has not

seen many changes in his six months at A&M. However, he is interested in the impact of some current issues.

He is concerned about the cost of education, faculty salaries and the Hop-

wood decision, a federal court decision which struck down using race as a basis for admission to Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana

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Worth the Wait

Senior accounting majors Wendy Harker, Reagan Harrison and Melissa Love kick back and watch football to pass time while waiting in line for tickets to the UT game.

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John Alvis, president of the Graduate Student Council, wants to work together with Student Government to achieve shared goals.

could not keep John Alvis away from College Station.

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Flood threat continues on devastated N.C. coast

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Their neighborhoods in tatters but their resolve largely intact, residents of hurricane-battered areas turned Sunday to cleaning up formidable messes, watching swollen waterways and adjusting to life without electricity.

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