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September 9

Participants talked to students, but not selected every student.

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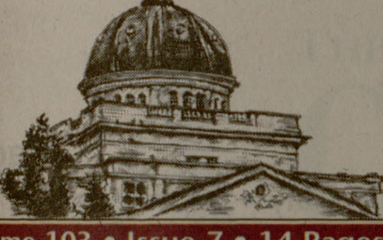
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# THE BATTALION

"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

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## A&M makes top 50 University changes health care policy

By MATTHEW FLUME  
THE BATTALION

**U.S. News and World Report's "Top National Universities"**

1. Yale University
2. Princeton University
3. Harvard University
4. Duke University
5. MIT
6. Rice University
7. Stanford University
8. (tie) Texas A&M University - College Station; Georgia Institute of Technology

issue, surveyed 229 schools concerning several different factors to determine which school ranks the best overall. Rankings were based on factors such as SAT/ACT scores for incoming freshmen, financial resources, selectivity of admissions and graduation rate. Texas A&M tied with the Georgia Institute of Technology for 48th place, making this the first time A&M has been ranked in the top 50 of the annual U.S. News survey. A&M was the only public institution in the Southwest to rank in the top tier of the Best National University category. Rice University, ranked 16th, was the only other uni-

versity in Texas to receive honors as a top 50 school. Dr. Ray Bowen, A&M president, said A&M's rankings pleased him. "I'm thrilled to death with the survey," Bowen said, "I'm not sure about the methodology [of the survey], but I like the results." Two of Texas A&M's individual colleges also ranked well. The College of Business Administration ranked in the top 25 in the nation. Dr. A. Benton Cavanaugh, dean of the A&M College of Business Administration, said the ranking reflects the hard work the faculty has put into the college. "We think that [the sur-

vey] is certainly a recognition of a great deal of time and effort and resources that have gone into making our undergraduate program, what we think, is one of the best in the country," he said. The College of Engineering also took high honors, tying with four other schools — including Rice University — for 16th place. The U.S. News article said studies were done on different undergraduate programs because more students are choosing a school based on its undergraduate reputation. The magazine ranks the business and engineering programs because they tend to be the most popular among students.

## Foreign students will be required to have coverage

By BRANDON HAUSENFLUCK  
THE BATTALION

Comprehensive health insurance will soon be required of all international students enrolled at Texas A&M. By Spring of 1997, it will be mandatory for all international students to hold an insurance policy that meets certain minimum requirements. At a cost of \$476 annually, the policy must include at least \$50,000 in medical benefits per accident or illness, \$10,000 in medical evacuation coverage, and \$7,500 to cover the cost of transporting the body if the patient dies.

Dennis Corrington, chairman of the implementation task force on mandatory health insurance for international students, said the mandate will benefit international students. "Our primary concern was that indigent health care is not available to international students," Corrington said. "If they (international students) have a catastrophic situation and they do regain their health, it will put them in a bad financial situation. They need to understand how the system works so they don't assume they are taken care of." Corrington, who also serves as director of the Student Recreation Center, said some international students come from countries where socialized medicine is the standard.

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Gotcha Freshman Elmır Alchmedov takes a break by playing Area 51 video game in the MSC Monday afternoon.

## Faculty Senate reviews tenure

By WESLEY POSTON  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Faculty Senate introduced a proposal for post-tenure review Monday, following a Board of Regents mandate to create such a policy. The Board of Regents mandated that each institution in the Texas A&M System craft its own policy for post-tenure review. The Board will consider the individual policies once each school has submitted a recommendation. Currently, all faculty members are subject to annual performance review both in and out of the classroom by individual department heads. However, Faculty Senate Speaker Steve Oberhelman said in a previous interview that the Board of Regents has been looking to implement a more rigorous evaluation for tenured faculty.

"[The regents] have the misconception that there are incompetent professors at A&M," he said. "The proposed policy makes a good case for the importance of tenure." Oberhelman said the Senate needs to make it clear to parents, students, legislators and regents how well the faculty of A&M has been doing. "People hear that professors only teach six hours in the classroom per week," he said, "and they ask, 'What else do they do?'" The speaker compared the time professors spend in the classroom to a minister spending three hours in a pulpit per week and a lawyer spending five hours in a courtroom. "Each professor spends five hours a week in committee work and 12 to 15 hours preparing for class on top of the time spent

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## Student Senate to slate fall agenda

By MELANIE D. SMITH  
THE BATTALION

Senators propose a bill to involve students with faculty hiring.

The Texas A&M Student Senate will outline the issues it plans to address when it approves its legislative agenda during the group's first fall meeting Wednesday. The Senate will also discuss the impact of student evaluations on faculty members. Items on the proposed agenda include campus child care, increasing the visibility of Student Senate

meetings, and the possibility of adding an art department to the University. Chris Reed, Student Senate speaker, said the agenda will not prohibit the Senate from addressing issues not already included. "This resolution does not limit us to addressing only those things on the legislative agenda," Reed said. "But it is our promise that we will address those things, in addition to any others that may arise." A bill will be submitted

Wednesday to increase the impact of student evaluations on professors. The Professor Quality Assurance Bill calls for the use of student evaluations to determine tenure and salary increases. The proposal also solicits student involvement in the faculty hiring process. Jill Jackson, a co-sponsor of the bill and a senior international studies major, said she would like students to be involved in the hiring and evaluation process. "When you choose a new

administrator, there is always a student on the panel," she said. "As far as I know, students are not involved with faculty. I thought, since they affect us most directly, it would be beneficial to have student involvement." Jackson said the proposed bill is not a criticism of the professors. "We want them to know that we would support a high priority to be placed on salaries, and the distribution of tuition to reflect that priority," she said.

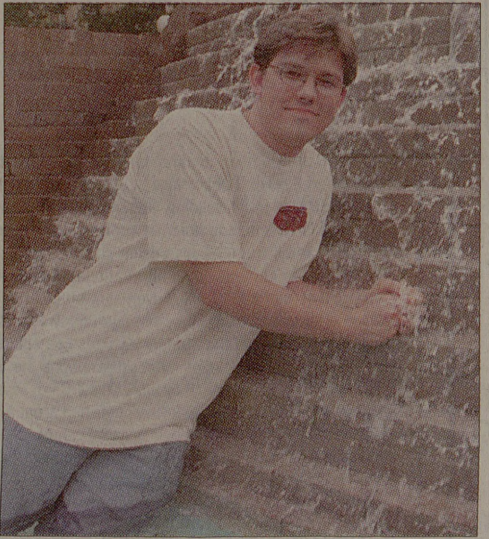
## THE BATTALION TODAY

- Relative Art** MSC Visual Arts gallery hosts mother-daughter art exhibit through Oct. 5. AggieLife, Page 3
- Assists Duo** Sarah Mensik and Sandra Robertson identify setter position in A&M Volleyball. Sports, Page 9
- Bedtime** Edgar: The University could quit regulating residence hall situation hours. Opinion, Page 13

## Cartoonist draws his way out of life's mazes

By MATTHEW FLUME  
THE BATTALION

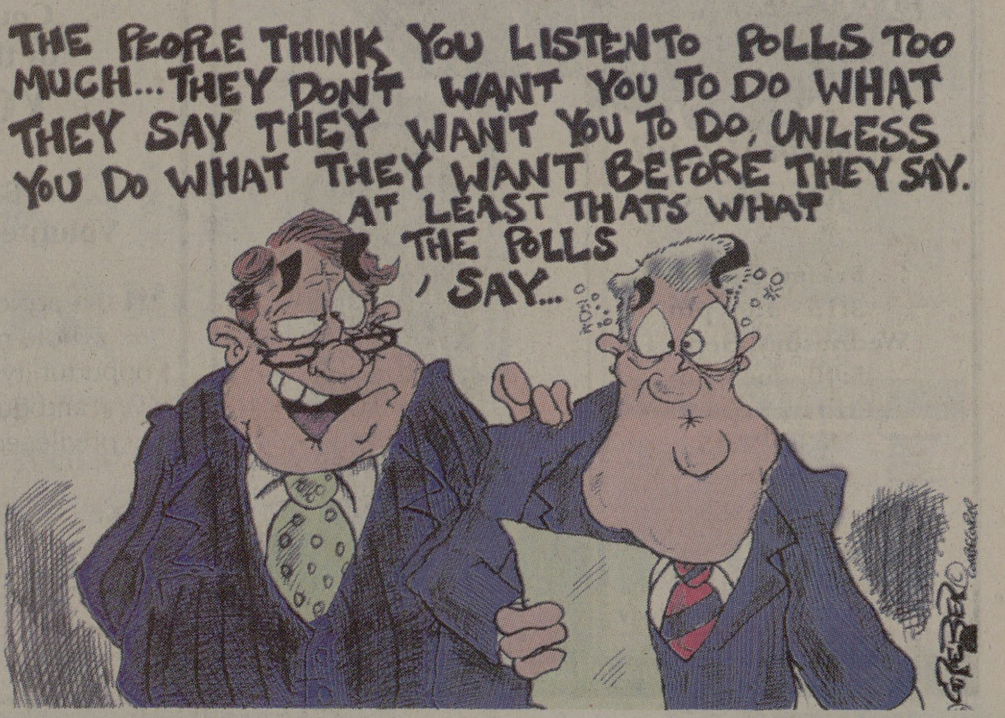
Brad Graeber's love of drawing has taken him from selling animal drawings on the elementary school playground to drawing editorial cartoons for the Conroe Courier and The Battalion.



Brad Graeber has been drawing for years.

junior English major, drew his first cartoons in third grade. To him, it was an easy way to get out of assignments. "All I had to do was draw pictures on my homework," Graeber said, "and the teacher wouldn't realize how bad my work was." Graeber said he even used this trick to get out of math tests. He would draw on his answer sheet, and the teacher thought it was creative. Graeber's road to success has not always been so easy. He drew cartoons for his high school paper in Tomball, but the position only lasted about two weeks. The principal edited his cartoons — which criticized school policies — because they were deemed offensive. During Graeber's tenure with the Conroe Courier, he managed to offend people to the point of dropping their subscriptions. Such incidents did not affect Graeber, he said. He keeps all of his "hate mail" in a file with his cartoons and uses them for motivation. Graeber does not restrict his artistic talent to cartoons. During his spare time, he enjoys drawing portraits. He said he also enjoys oil painting from time to time. Brad joined the American Association of Editorial Cartoonist, but soon found that a career in drawing could become tiresome, "especially on the days when nothing happens." "If I am going to draw editorial cartoons for a living, I want to do it in a small town where I can make a difference in the community," he said.

This is part of a four-part series profiling the cartoonists of The Battalion.



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