



THE BATTALION

"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

Volume 103 • Issue 31 • 10 Pages

Monday, October 14, 1996

The Batt Online: Bat-web@tamu.edu

Money goes unclaimed

National Guard scholarships must be awarded by Tuesday

By WESLEY POSTON
THE BATTALION

The Texas Army National Guard will pay four years of tuition and fees and two years of room and board in exchange for military service to achieve a weekend a month and weekend within weeks in the summer. The offer ends Tuesday. Maj. Greg Johnson, assistant professor of military science and a National Guard officer working with the scholarship program, said that tune-up before Friday, 10 of the 55 scholarships allocated to Texas remained unclaimed. If awarded, the money will be not limited to any par-

particular class," Johnson said. "Freshmen through seniors and even students already in the reserves [are eligible]. I

not, on campus or off." The scholarship began as state legislation that would exempt guardsmen from paying tuition. The result was 150 four-year scholarships offered statewide. Johnson said this is the first semester that this type of scholarship has been implemented. "The intent of the scholarship is to get qualified officers for the Texas Army National Guard and to help people with financial needs to go to school," he said. The scholarships were distributed according to the size of R.O.T.C. and reserve programs at Texas schools in the fall of 1995, Johnson said.

"I encourage anyone who's interested to apply, Corps or not, on campus or off." Maj. Greg Johnson National Guard officer encourage anyone who's interested to apply, Corps or

not, on campus or off." The scholarship began as state legislation that would exempt guardsmen from paying tuition. The result was 150 four-year scholarships offered statewide.

Johnson said this is the first semester that this type of scholarship has been implemented. "The intent of the scholarship is to get qualified officers for the Texas Army National Guard and to help people with financial needs to go to school," he said.

The scholarships were distributed according to the size of R.O.T.C. and reserve programs at Texas schools in the fall of 1995, Johnson said.

A&M was awarded 55 scholarships because of the size of the Corps of Cadets, which was larger than any other state school.

Applicants must be Texas residents who have been accepted to a state college or university and qualified to enlist in the National Guard. The Guard requires potential members to undergo a physical, a background check and an armed forces aptitude test, Johnson said.

The scholarship requirements include a written application, an interview and National Guard entrance criterion.

See MONEY, Page 5

Students survive weekend marathon

By WESLEY POSTON
THE BATTALION

Twenty-five Texas A&M students danced 40 hours of the weekend away, fighting off sleep deprivation and leg soreness, to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

The Dance Marathon, now in its second year at A&M, was sponsored by Panhellenic, PanHellenic and Interfraternity Council and raised \$7,128.90 over the weekend before expenses.

Amy Lee, marathon director and a senior journalism major, said the marathon's purpose was to raise public awareness and funds for the work done by the Children's Miracle Network.

"That's what this is all about — the kids," Lee said.

If not dancing, participants were expected to remain standing and awake to show their continuing support for the marathon and the network, Lee said.

"They're pretty pumped up now, but they've only been standing for two-and-a-half hours," she said.

Jesse Czelusta, Residence Housing Association president and a senior agricultural economics major, said Scott Hancock, Off Campus Aggies president and a sophomore political science



Twins Campbell and Forrest Herman benefitted from the Miracle Network when they were born.

major, challenged him to dance in the marathon.

"Scott had the audacity to say, 'If you'll do it, I'll do it,'" Czelusta said.

Grant Rabon, a senior chemical engineering major and the only returning dancer from last year's marathon, said he returned because it was worth his time.

"I was really proud of what I had done," Rabon said.

With 15 hours to go, Rabon said participants were starting to become "drunk" on a lack of sleep.

"Hence the 'Worst Dancer' competition is having a lot of participation," he said.

Jeff Dykes, a freshman microbiology major, participated along with four other members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Dykes said having his fraternity brothers along helped to pass the hours.

"We keep each other going," Dykes said Saturday. "This morning, we felt like we weren't going to make it. It's as close as we can come to understanding what the kids go through."

Several families from Brazos Valley, aided by the network, visited the dancers during the marathon.

See DANCE, Page 5



Thomas Tangen, a senior finance major from Norway, proudly holds his country's flag in the opening ceremonies of the mini-olympics on Friday afternoon at Rudder Plaza. The mini-olympics will continue through Oct. 27.

A&M System schools attend convention

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

A symposium for Texas A&M University System schools brought over 30 students, faculty and staff members to Corpus Christi Wednesday. The purpose of the convention was to foster a sense of family and community within the system and to enhance communication across the 10 universities.

Dr. Ray Bowen, A&M president, said the convention accomplished its purpose. "This was a great success," Bowen said. "We got to know the faculty, students and administrators from the entire system. It created a sense of family."

The symposium, held at the Omni Bayfront Plaza Hotel, was sponsored by Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. It gave faculty and students an opportunity to share their concerns with one another. Participants also heard speeches and panel discussions on improving the System. The post-tenure review issue and student fee increases were priorities. Barry B. Thompson, Sys-

tem chancellor, spoke on both issues and said he favored post-tenure review.

Although students were in attendance, they said they were under-represented.

Chris Butler, a senior criminal justice major at Texas A&M-Commerce, said a separate symposium should be held strictly for students.

See CONVENTION, Page 5

Midnight Madness kicks off

By ERICA ROY
THE BATTALION

The men's and women's basketball teams will officially begin basketball practice at midnight with the help of the yell leaders, the Aggie Band, the Corps of Cadets, Reveille and Texas A&M students.

Midnight Mania, A&M's first basketball yell practice, is tonight in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Amy Hargett, senior secretary for marketing and promotions, said the yell practice is being held to show A&M's support for the basketball teams. "We want everyone to come out and support the team and the coaches," Hargett said.

Chris Torn, head yell leader and a senior agricultural development major, said the yell leaders, the band and the Corps will march around campus before yell begins to motivate students to participate. "We're hoping this becomes a huge deal," Torn said. "Hopefully, this will kick off the season so we can do well in the Big 12."

Frank Haith, associate head coach of the men's basketball team, said the players are excited about the yell practice. "It gives the student body and the fans the opportunity to meet our guys and see their enthusiasm for the upcoming season," Haith said. He said other schools hold similar events for the beginning of basketball season. "We're hoping to come out of it with some enthusiasm from the student body," he said. Door prizes like T-shirts and a cellular phone will be given away, and one student will win their books for the spring semester,

Hargett said. A free-throw contest will be held between the residence halls and the winners will be awarded a pizza party. Each hall will elect a representative to participate in the contest.

Tony Barone, head coach of the men's basketball team, and Laurie Harvey, head coach of the women's basketball team, will speak at the yell practice. Hargett said A&M wants to continue the event in the future. "We hope to make it one of A&M's traditions," Hargett said.

At football yell practices, students kiss their dates after the stadium lights have been turned off.

Torn said he is not sure if this will be possible at the basketball yell practice. "If we can get the lights to go off and come back on like we do at Kyle Field, then we'll do it," Torn said.

Go for the Gold

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

World Class self-taught professor carries his global perspective with Texas A&M students. Aggiefife, Page 3

Winning Ugly

Wasn't pretty, but the A&M Football Team handled Troy Davis and Iowa State, 24-21. Sports, Page 7

Remembrance

Forward: Religious memorials should not raise questions of constitutionality. Opinion, Page 9

El Caliente Festival ends cultural month

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

Food, games and music filled the El Caliente Festival on Saturday, bringing Hispanic Heritage Month to an end.

The festival at the Grove was sponsored by the Hispanic Business Student Association and attracted more than 300 people.

Theresa Vargas, HBSA president and a junior marketing major, said the 12 Hispanic organizations that participated in the festival worked together to make the day a success.

"This is the most successful festival we have had in four years," Vargas said. "All the organizations worked as a group and things went very smoothly."

The eighth annual festival included a speech by Dr. Marco Portales, executive assistant to President Bowen and an English professor.

Portales spoke about the importance of informing the community about Hispanic cultures.

Vargas said the festival increased public awareness of Hispanic organizations.

"It was a great opportunity to educate the community about the Hispanic cultures," she said.

Jose Villabos, an Omega Delta Phi fraternity member and a senior aerospace engineering major, said the festival met its goal.

"The festival created a sense of family environment," Villabos said. "There was a lot of positive traditional events and educational speakers."

The festivities were designed to entertain and educate. A jalapeño eating contest added a little spice to the day.

Marcia Custodia, a junior international marketing major, won the contest after eating six jalapeños in 30 seconds.

Custodia said the grand prize was the driving force behind entering the contest. "I like jalapeños," she said. "And the prize was a \$20 gift certificate at Chili's, so that was a good enough reason for me."

The day concluded with the first Mr. Hispanic Heritage Month pageant. Five participants underwent a question and answer session and the winner was chosen by a group of panelists.

Alex Quiros, a senior psychology major, was crowned. Quiros, a representative for the Puerto Rican Student Association, said he was thrilled to gain the title and wants to use his role in a positive way.

"Winning filled me with a lot of pride," Quiros said. "I feel I'm being called upon to be a role model and a servant to the Hispanic community."

Hispanic Heritage Month sponsored events including a forum on affirmative action and a Chicano Film Festival.

Adele Duran, president of the Hispanic Presidents Committee and a junior electrical engineering major, said the festival was a fitting way to end the month-long activities.

"It was a great way to end Hispanic Heritage Month," Duran said. "It was a great success."



Dancers perform for the conclusion of Hispanic Heritage Month Saturday.