



THE BATTALION

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Corps donates to MDA Yeltsin fires security chief

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

The Corps of Cadets is joining the battle against muscular dystrophy today



Angela Wrigglesworth was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy at 16 months of age.

by asking for donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

The aim of the fund-raiser is to increase people's awareness and raise money to fight the disease.

Matt Chitek, Corps university relations officer and a senior computer science major, said they want the fund-raiser to be an all-around success.

"It is the middle of the semester, so we know students are low on cash," he said. "But if we don't raise a lot of money, at least we can raise awareness."

Every major unit of the Corps is participating in the fund raiser. All donors will be "tagged" with a sticker to show their support.

Angela Wrigglesworth, a sophomore management major, was diagnosed with the disease at 16 months of age and has been in a wheelchair for the majority

of her life.

Wrigglesworth said past contributions to MDA have been helpful and said she believes the Corps' fund-raising effort will make even more advancements possible.

"There have been so many progressions and we are so close," she said. "I hope people go out there and donate what they can."

Wrigglesworth said her disability is not what makes her unique.

"It is so important to have self-confidence," she said. "I want people to know I have self-confidence and that is what makes me who I am."

Wrigglesworth became active in Student Government as a Fish Aide her freshman year and said her experiences are ones she will cherish.

"Being a Fish Aide was a great experience," she said. "Now I have 40 awesome

friends who were Fish Aides with me."

Wrigglesworth has stayed active in Student Government. She said she does it for self-satisfaction and to prove that disabilities can be overcome.

"It is such a waste not to get involved," she said. "I do it because I feel a responsibility to show people that regardless of disabilities you can accomplish anything."

Wrigglesworth said her positive attitude about her disability stems from the support of family and friends.

"I feel so blessed to have my roommate, Stephanie Hall," she said. "People say they would do anything for someone. She does do anything for me."

"I have overcome my disability but, without the help of other people, I would have never made it."

MOSCOW (AP) — Sacked by a livid Boris Yeltsin amid charges he was plotting a coup, national security chief Alexander Lebed wasted no time Thursday serving his own gruff notice: He will be out to campaign for the ailing president's job.

The Kremlin, rent by power struggles as Yeltsin prepares for heart surgery, turned out to be too small for the aspirations of both these high-powered leaders, who feuded openly during Lebed's four-month stint in the Cabinet.

Although Yeltsin gained office with help from the widely popular, 46-year-old Lebed, the relationship paid off for Lebed, too. Pursuing his own designs on the presidency, Lebed increased his popularity by reaching a peace agreement with Chechen rebels; he raised his profile by incessantly criticizing — and infuriating — his Kremlin peers.

The dismissal came just a day after Lebed's bitter rival for authority in security decisions — Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov — accused him of plotting to form his own 50,000-man army with sights on seizing power in a "mutiny."

No evidence surfaced to back this sensational charge, and Yeltsin ignored talk of coups when he announced Lebed's ouster on national television.

Scowling, moving stiffly but speaking clearly and more resolutely than he has in recent appearances, Yeltsin declared that Lebed's unilateral actions, excessive ambition and outspokenness were damaging to the country.

"I can't tolerate the situation any more," Yeltsin said, slowly and deliberately signing a decree dismissing Lebed. He spoke at the health spa where he has been resting up for heart bypass surgery next month.

Pegged by many as Yeltsin's likely successor, Lebed was characteristically unbowed. He announced plans to start campaigning soon to replace Yeltsin, who many suspect is too ill to serve out the rest of a term that lasts until 2000. Lebed denied the coup allegations, and has insisted he wants to gain office only through the ballot box.

He said he would not launch his campaign while the president is alive. "Today he's an elderly and ill person," Lebed said. "It's not for me to kick the one who is down."

Lebed's departure could end, for now, the noisy Kremlin infighting that has created a widespread impression of chaos. But with Yeltsin sidelined from full-time duty until at least early 1997, the government is likely to remain weak, beset by internal bickering and external criticism bound to increase now that Lebed is on the outside.

Task force for Greeks formed

COURTNEY WALKER AND MEREDITH STEWART
THE BATTALION

In an effort to evaluate the Greek system at Texas A&M and its relationship with the university, a Greek Life task force has been formed for the 300 students in sororities and fraternities.

The task force is composed of faculty, staff and student representatives. Student task force members include members of the Order Omega, the Corps of Cadets, the Panhellenic Council, the Pan-Hellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, and Student Body President Carl Baggett.

Scott Lovejoy, former IPC president and a senior business major, said the task force will help unite the three governing councils of Greek life. "We'll be having all three

groups work together toward common goals," Lovejoy said. "It will also coordinate all other (sorority and fraternity) groups together."

The task force was formed Oct. 15, and will function until May 1, 1997. The task force will address four main areas: standard excellence, leadership development, new member education and development of the Greek community.

Goals and guidelines created by the task force will be used to unite all sororities and fraternities on campus. The task force will also aim to increase relations between Greek organizations and the University.

Lanita Hanson, assistant director of student activities, said there was a need for formal structure because the Greek life involves so many students.

"The Greek system at A&M has been in existence for a while, and we need the task force so there are mutual expectations on issues instead of letting things happen by chance," Hanson said.

There are eight predominantly black fraternities and sororities, 11 national sororities, 23 fraternities and three unaffiliated sororities at A&M.

Jan Winniford, associate vice president for Student Affairs, said the task force is important because the University needs to recognize and acknowledge Greek life as a part of campus.

"Sometimes Greek organizations have problems with hazing, alcohol and risk management, so we want to be pro-active and evaluate the Greek life and study the issues involved," Winniford said.

Taking disciplinary action against Greek organizations

is not a responsibility of the task force.

"We don't take action as much as we look at the process of things," Winniford said. "If a fraternity or sorority had a problem, we might evaluate if the best way to handle it was going before the Interfraternity Council or if there's a better way to handle the situation."

The Greek Life task force is one of three new task forces to be implemented by the Department of Student Affairs. An MSC Basement task force and Alcohol Abuse task force are also being formed. The MSC Basement task force will evaluate how basement space is being used in the MSC.

Winniford said all the task forces are being established to evaluate and examine issues, then make recommendations for improvements.

Ross Volunteers inducts 72 new members

By WESLEY POSTON
THE BATTALION

The Ross Volunteers inducted 72 members Thursday evening at the Clay-Williams Alumni Center.

The Ross Volunteers is named after the first president of Texas A&M, Lawrence Sullivan Ross. The RV was formed in 1887, making it the oldest student organization in Texas. Connor Graham, RV executive officer and a senior biomedical science major, said each member of the company strives to be "soldier, statesman and knightly gentlemen."

"You're a representative not only of the state of Texas, but of Texas A&M University," he said. Maj. Greg Johnson, military adviser of the RVs and an assistant professor of military science, said the company is

the honor guard for the governor of Texas. RVs also act as the firing squad and buglers at Silver Taps and campus Muster.

The identities of the cadets participating in Silver Taps and Muster are kept secret, Johnson said.

"You're a representative not only of the state of Texas, but of Texas A&M University."

Connor Graham
RV executive officer

"They don't want any accolades for what they do," he said. "They aren't looking for a pat on the back."

Graham said the details of the two ceremonies are also secretive.

"That's something that's not discussed, even within the company," he said.

Johnson said applications to become an RV are designed by juniors in the Corps of Cadets each fall. Senior members of the company read every application and vote on who will become the new members.

Jim Harrison, RV commanding officer and a senior business analysis major, said his induction last year was a huge honor.

"It's probably one of the biggest honors I've ever had," he said.

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Dave House, THE BATTALION

Ticket Time Lauren Shofner, a sophomore history major, buys a football ticket from David Boerm, a senior finance major Thursday afternoon.

THE BATTALION TODAY

Mental Mettle

As A&M engineers, students mentor others in robotic competition. Aggelielle, Page 3

Book Out

Students look to send message to rest of the world with a victory over Kansas State. Sports, Page 7

Rowdy, babe

Brook: The tradition has changed — cadets may only say rowdy to pretty girls. Opinion, Page 9

Corps Commandant raises PMC grade requirements

By CARLA RENE MARSH AND MARIKA COOK
THE BATTALION

The minimum grade requirement for participation in Parson's Mounted Cavalry has been raised, and stricter requirements for the Fish Drill Team are under consideration.

Maj. Gen. M.T. "Ted" Hoppood, commandant of the Corps of Cadets, enforced higher grade requirements for PMC this fall.

Chris Clinkscales, Corps scholastics officer and a senior biochemistry major, said the change is a move in the right direction.

"The primary directive of the Corps is to make grades," Clinkscales said. "It shouldn't be hard to maintain." Sophomores are now required to have a 2.15 grade-point ratio for admittance

to PMC. Upperclassmen must maintain a semesterly GPR of 2.0 and a cumulative GPR of 2.2.

The purpose for raising the requirements is to upgrade the Corps' image.

Hoppood said grades are the number-one priority at Texas A&M.

"I think the current grade requirements are too low," said Hoppood. "I want to emphasize academics."

The current grade requirement for the Fish Drill Team is a 2.0, but Hoppood said he is still considering raising the prerequisite.

Col. Lee McCleskey, chief of operations and training, said the Ross Volunteers, Fish Drill Team and Parsons' Mounted Cavalry are the primary Corps specialty units.

McCleskey said he believes the Cavalry is the only unit with a new grade

requirement because sophomores, juniors, and seniors have a better handle on academics and should have better GPRs.

"When considering different grade requirements, you have to consider which unit you're talking about," McCleskey said. "It seems logical not to have an unusually high grade requirement for Fish Drill Team."

Jason Hansen, Fish Drill Team senior adviser and a senior marketing major, said what the team has to offer is just as important as grades.

"This experience makes the fish year complete," Hansen said. "We don't need to babysit these cadets."

Specialty units emphasize academics and provide different opportunities for the members.

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It's Atlanta, NY in Fall Classic Braves to face Yankees after historic blowout

ATLANTA (AP) — This wasn't a comeback, this was a wipeout.

The Atlanta Braves unleashed all their fury in the biggest blowout in postseason history, trouncing the St. Louis Cardinals 15-0 in Game 7 of the NL championship series Thursday night to complete a startling rally from a 3-1 deficit.

Pitcher Tom Glavine hit a bases-loaded triple that capped a six-run first inning, and 52,067 crazed fans spent the rest of the evening partying as the Braves earned a chance to defend their World Series title.

Game 1 will be Saturday night in New York against the Yankees. The Braves have reached four of the last five World Series, making it this time by outscoring St. Louis 32-1 in three straight games.

After Atlanta good-luck charm Francisco Cabrera threw out a first ball — and before the fans started singing "New York, New York" — Glavine shut out St. Louis on three hits for seven innings. He got support from two-homers by Javy Lopez, Fred McGriff and Andruw Jones — at 19, Jones surpassed Mickey Mantle as the youngest player to

connect in a postseason game. The painful loss, making the Cardinals the only club to blow a 3-1 edge three times in the postseason, meant the end of Ozzie Smith's career.

The future Hall of Famer, who has announced his retirement, fouled out as a pinch-hitter in the sixth inning. The 41-year-old shortstop waved his helmet to a standing ovation, and drew hugs from his teammates in the dugout.

Though Marquis Grissom began the rout by singling on Donovan Osborne's first pitch, the Braves' playoff comeback clearly started before then.

It may have begun back at Busch Stadium when Dennis Eckersley pumped his fist forcefully in the air after a Game 4 win that gave St. Louis a 3-1 lead. The prompted the Cardinals to put 20 cases of champagne on ice in anticipation of a clincher that never came, and seemed to anger Atlanta.

The Braves came out the next night and scored five runs in the first inning on their way to a 14-0 rout behind John Smoltz, sending the best-of-7 series back to Atlanta.

