

# THE BATTALION

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## Student wins \$50,000

### Contest prize money will go to scholarship fund

By BRANDON HAUSENLUCK  
THE BATTALION

A Texas A&M student won \$50,000 to donate to her favorite charity in a national cooking contest with over 100 entrants. Cindy Kovar, a senior sociology major, said she entered the contest on a whim. "I just tried it," Kovar said. "I've never entered a contest before." Kovar's entrée was a black bean, corn and rice casserole accented with tomatoes, onion and cilantro. She calls it Mex-Mex Salad. The contest was sponsored by Good Housekeeping magazine and hosted by Paul Newman, who has his own line of food products. Newman has donated more than \$10 million worth of profits to charity from the sales of his products.

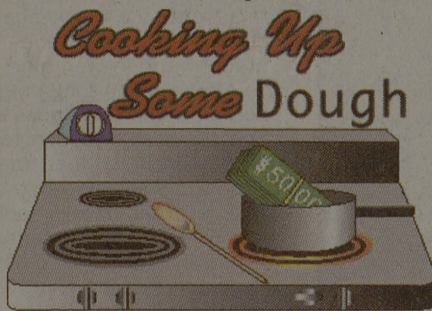
The College Station Kroger grocery store was awarded an additional \$10,000 to the charity of its choice for selling the cooking ingredients to Kovar. Still Creek Boys Ranch will receive the donation.

Kovar said she plans to give the money to the Slovanic Benevolent Order of Texas scholarship fund.

"[The Order] is a fraternal organization that gives scholarships to students based on merit," Kovar said. "I had benefited from it (the Order) and I know they give 100 percent of the donations to students and a lot of people can't boast that."

The Order was organized in 1897 by Czechoslovakian immigrants. Along with giving scholarships, the organization raises funds for volunteer fire departments, the Cancer Society and the American Heart Association.

Howard Leshikar, president of the



Order, said the donation will allow the organization to support more students.

"We always have more applications than money," Leshikar said. "It's outstanding that Cindy would think of us. A lot of scholarship winners will be looking forward to this."

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## Forum to explore values of Internet

By LAURA OLIVEIRA  
THE BATTALION

Representatives from universities around the world will gather today at Texas A&M to explore the Internet as an agent for global change and its value for education.

Dr. Alex Mintz, director of the Foreign Policy Decision Making Program and co-organizer of the conference, said the forum will show how the Internet is becoming a tool for research and education.

"It is kind of futuristic in a sense," he said. "The forum is exploring the new areas and new measures the Internet can provide."

The conference is co-sponsored by the James Baker Institute at Rice University and the Program in Foreign Policy Deci-

sion Making at A&M.

Chris Hanson, an international relations graduate student, said the Internet will serve upcoming generations with teaching advantages he did not have as a student.

"I am a graduate student about 10 years too soon," he said. "There will come a time when you can literally pull anything off the Internet."

Video conferencing is a new advancement allowing professors from around the world to be "guest lecturers" at different universities.

Students will be able to interact with professors during classes by using a picture screen through the Internet.

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## A&M political clubs urge students to vote

By CHRISTIE HUMPHRIES  
THE BATTALION

With elections less than two weeks away, campus political organizations have been busy motivating students to participate in the election process.

Members of Aggie Democrats, College Republicans and Aggies for

Ryan Runkle, president of Aggies for Clinton and a senior philosophy major, said the election has kept the members of his organization busy distributing literature throughout the community and on campus.

Perez said that after a voter registration drive, the Aggie Democrats shifted their focus to early voting and persuading students to vote.

The College Republicans will devote the last two weeks of October to encouraging voters to choose Republican candidates on election day.

"We'll start next week targeting people who haven't made up their mind," Livingston said.

The College Republicans are motivated by a desire to see Republicans gain strength in government. This is Livingston's fifth year at A&M, and he said that over time, he has become bothered by the liberal bias of campus organizations. He said his club upholds conservative views and supports the Republican Party.

Runkle said members of Aggies for Clinton are excited about this year's election.

"They have to be to be putting in so much time," Runkle said.

Some students devote more than 20 hours each week to the club.

The group has been at Post Oak Mall handing out fliers to educate citizens about Presidents Clinton's platform for the past month.

Perez said Aggie Democrats go door-to-door in neighborhoods distributing packets of literature on Democratic candidates.

"We've had more people block walking than ever before," Perez said. She said members have been motivated by the community's response.

Perez said she would like more students to vote and become involved in the election process this year. To motivate students to get involved, the Aggie Democrats are planning a debate with the College Republicans.

The Presidential election is Tuesday, Nov. 5. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



### Sul Sighting

Tim Evan, a senior management major, leads a campus tour on Wednesday afternoon.

Ryan Rogers, THE BATTALION

## Shockley continues recovery process

By MELISSA NUNNERY  
THE BATTALION

Almost two years after an accident put him in a coma for two-and-a-half months, the prediction that Trevor Shockley would never walk again seems absurd.

Shockley, a former Texas A&M student, was riding his bicycle when a campus shuttle bus turned in front of him. He lost his balance and slid under the vehicle. The back wheels of the 18-ton bus ran over him.

When Shockley awoke from a coma following the February 1995 accident, his outlook was not promising. But he now holds a

job and hopes to one day return to A&M to finish his degree.

Shockley completed his rehabilitation at the Transitional Learning Community (TLC) in Galveston on July 17. He has since returned home to Montgomery where he works at his father's feed store.

Shockley's father, Joe, said his progress is outstanding.

"People with the severity of his injuries didn't live five years ago," Joe Shockley said. "Now, in physical therapy, they're working on his posture and helping him do things in a more natural way."

He spent nine months in rehabilitation

learning to walk again, and now travels to Conroe twice a week for outpatient physical therapy.

Gary Seale, director of clinical services at TLC, said Trevor's prognosis following the accident was grim.

"The doctors didn't give him much chance to survive, much less walk again," Seale said.

His father said Trevor wants to return to A&M to finish his degree in animal science. A senior at the time of the accident, he had 25 hours remaining before receiving his diploma.

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## RHA adopts program to clean up church parking lots

By WESLEY POSTON  
THE BATTALION



RHA and Off-Campus Aggies pick up bottles behind Northgate.

Northgate churches and A&M students benefit from an early-morning community service that will continue long after its originators graduate.

The "Bottoms Up Clean-Up" program, started by the Class of '97 as freshmen, has been adopted by the Residence Housing Association.

Participants pick up beer bottles and trash every Sunday at 1:30 a.m. in Northgate church parking lots behind the Northgate bars.

Ashley Howard, a clean-up participant and freshman elementary education major, said the project keeps college students from imposing on area churches.

"We clean up early in the morning so that churches are able to go out on Sunday morning and not have beer bottles everywhere," she said.

Jesse Czelusta, RHA president and a senior agricultural economics major, said the service

has been given new life.

"Last year, it kind of died down," he said, "so we decided it was time to open it up to a larger spectrum."

Czelusta said the project was picked up by RHA to ensure its longevity. When the Class of '97 leaves, it wants the program to remain.

"We hope it will continue long after we're gone," he said.

This year, 10 to 15 students have participated each weekend in the clean up, Czelusta said, so it has taken only 20 minutes to clear the litter.

"We pick up any sort of trash we encounter," he said, "be it a \$20 bill or a bottle."

The project was necessary, he said, because the pastor of the A&M United Methodist

Church had to get up every Sunday at 6 a.m. to clean the parking lot before his congregation arrived.

"The idea came from him, probably indirectly," Czelusta said.

The early-morning meeting time was chosen to encourage participation, he said.

"We either had to do it right after the bars closed or get up early Sunday morning," he said.

Howard said cleaning early Sunday morning works best for participants.

"We're out and up anyway," she said.

Czelusta said participants gain leadership skills and service experience.

"Why the heck do we go out there at 1:30 in the morn-

ing?" he said. "It's what 'the other education' is all about."

Participants meet in the parking lot of the A&M United Methodist Church, are paired up, and given a trash bag. Czelusta said everyone is welcome to participate.

"I think I'm going to drag my folks out there this weekend," he said.

Howard said RHA has an ongoing competition with Off-Campus Aggies to see who can bring out the most residents.

"So far RHA has won," she said.

Czelusta said the clean-up concludes with a brief yell practice that includes the yell, "Clean the hell outta Northgate."

College Station is pretty clean for a college town, he said, and the clean-up just helps the image.

Everyone in the Northgate area benefits from the clean-up, he said, "but the people who benefit the most are the ones who pick up the trash."

### THE BATTALION TODAY

#### Evil in the Air

Fraternities fight danger with fear in their haunted houses this Halloween.

Aggielife, Page 3

#### Big Plans

Iron Hanspard and Texas Tech hope to win wild over Aggies Saturday at Kyle Field.

Sports, Page 9

#### The Life Line

A Corpus Christi jury wrongfully convicted a drunk driver of manslaughter.

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