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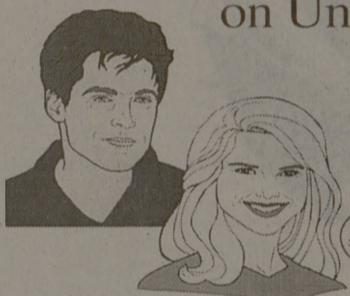
Due to circumstances beyond our control, *The Nutty Professor* will not be shown. A second screening of *Trainspotting* will be shown in its place.

Tickets are \$3.00. All films shown in Rudder Theatre Complex. Questions? Call the Aggie Cinema Hotline (847-8478).

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THE BATTALION CAMPUS

VOLUME 135, NO. 1

Thursday • November 7, 1997

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Volume 1

Centerpole, students ready for stack

BY ERICA ROY
THE BATTALION

Centerpole will be raised today at 4:03 p.m. after a week of activities have prepared it for stack.

Sophomores were at Bonfire site Monday and Tuesday night for Pisshead Wrap. Students representing Corp of Cadet outfits and residence halls lined up for their chance to wrap a cable around centerpole to stabilize it.

James LaMarr, a junior redpot and a construction science major, said the activity is vital in preparing centerpole for erection, but also makes for a good time with friends.

"It's just a good-bull thing," LaMarr said. "Everybody just has fun."

The process of wrapping centerpole begins with a cable being secured to it. Sophomores chosen from the crowd run one-by-one toward the pole with the cable, wrap it around the pole and then return, running, in the direction they came from. When the cable loses its slack, it snaps, pulling the student to the ground.

The cable is then hooked to a tractor and pulled tight around centerpole.

Scott Hall, a senior redpot and poultry science major, said the origin of Pisshead Wrap is

unknown but probably arose out of necessity.

Fish Wrap, held Wednesday night, involves wrapping old ropes around centerpole before it is raised. Fish Wrap is performed by the outfit that "gets" centerpole.

"It's (Fish Wrap) a privilege for the Corps outfit that gets centerpole," LaMarr said.

A different Corps outfit or residence hall is awarded centerpole each year. The redpots choose the outfit or dorm based on the work they do to prepare for Bonfire.

"The outfit or dorm that puts out the most gets centerpole ... at cut, everywhere, all aspects of Bonfire."

Outfit K-1 earned centerpole this year because they were the "ones who worked for Bonfire the most," LaMarr said.

In addition to being able to carry out Fish Wrap, K-1 will fly their outfit flag on top of centerpole until Bonfire burns.

Centerpole arrives in two 60-foot sections which are joined by a 10-foot notch on one end of each section. The two ends are inserted like a puzzle piece to form the pole that will support stack.

Dave Saiter, a junior centerpole pot and construction science major, said a 10-foot hole must be drilled into the ground before center-

pole can be raised. A crane provided by land Crane and Rigging will lift centerpole.

"A crane comes in ... and lifts the up," Saiter said. "The junior redpots place in the hole. Then, you have to make sure it's perfectly straight."

Surveying equipment will be used to mine if centerpole is straight. The tag ropes which will lift logs off the ground on stack, will then be tied.

Finally, the senior redpots will erect the logs of the first stack. Stack begins today when Bonfire is worked on 24 hours a day Nov. 14.

"Everybody works around the clock. Bonfire ready to burn," LaMarr said.

The four perimeter poles around the stack have two ropes attached to them to tie to centerpole to stabilize it.

The ropes attached to the perimeter are awarded to six residence halls and Corps outfits, which are chosen based on work toward the completion of Bonfire.

Outfits K-2 and D-1 and residence halls, Crocker, Dunn, Hart, Schumacher and ton were awarded perimeter pole ropes.

LaMarr said the building of this year's fire is on schedule.

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Pat James, THE BATT



Bonfire stack begins today after centerpole is raised at 4:03 p.m. Push will begin on Nov. 14.

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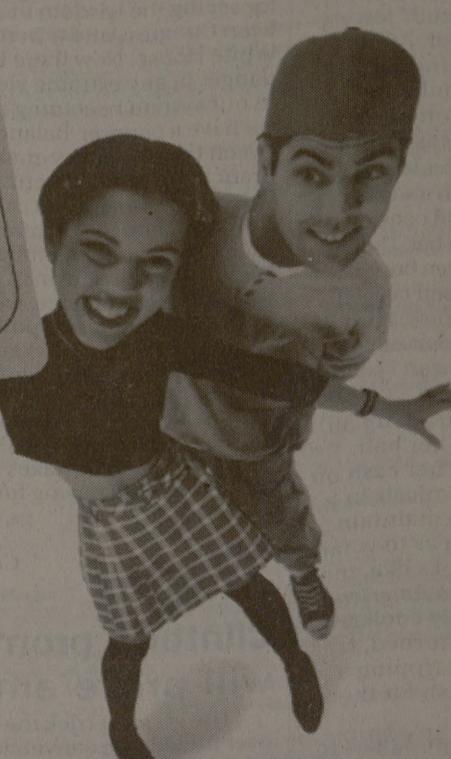
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