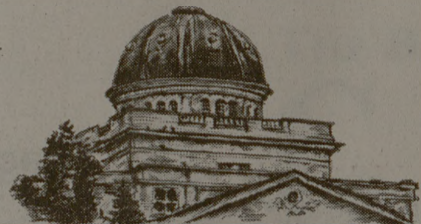


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THE BATTALION

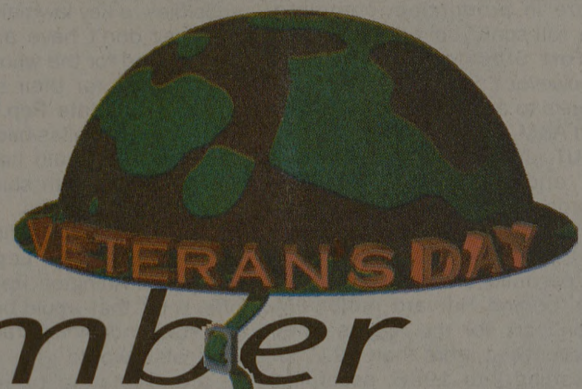
"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

Volume 103 • Issue 51 • 10 Pages

Monday, November 11, 1996

The Batt Online: <http://bat-web.tamu.edu>

A&M, B-CS remember



A ceremony will be held today by the Corps of Cadets at the Westgate Memorial to honor veterans.

By MELISSA NUNNERY
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M students have the chance to honor their fellow Aggies and other veterans who have worked to secure America's freedom in honor of Veterans Day today. The Corps of Cadets will have a ceremony at Westgate Memorial near Albritton Tower at 11 a.m. to recognize the contributions of veterans. The ceremony will commemorate the signing of the treaty that ended World War I. The treaty was signed on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour. The Westgate memorial was chosen as the site for the ceremony because it has a plaque inscribed with the names of Aggies who died in World War I. The ceremony will consist of a wreath laying at the memorial. Corps Commander Steve

Foster and Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. M.T. "Ted" Hoppgood Jr. will speak. A prayer will be followed by a bugler playing Silver Taps. Foster, a senior political science major, said everyone is welcome at the ceremony. The purpose, he said, is to show support for veterans. "A good tradition for A&M is the military and the veterans we produce," Foster said. "We want to support them in any way possible." The Brazos County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post will also have a program for Veterans Day. The VFW program will begin at 11 a.m. at the VFW lodge on FM 2818. The program will observe a moment of silence at 11:11 a.m. John Edward Velasquez, post commander of the Brazos County VFW Post 4692, said the timing of the program coincides with the signing of the treaty that ended World War I. Velasquez said veterans should be remembered every day, not just on holidays. "We honor veterans on certain days ... and we should always remember veterans," he said. "We should remind ourselves we live in a free country because of veterans. Freedom is not free. Freedom has a price."

Some A&M students served in the U.S. military before coming to A&M. Company V-1 is a Corps outfit composed primarily of active duty veterans. Steve Pryor, V-1 recruiting sergeant and a junior agricultural economics major, said Veterans Day has a special meaning to many members of his outfit. Gene Lutz, a V-1 squad leader and a junior business analysis major, served three years in the Air Force before coming to A&M. He said Veterans Day has always been special to him because he grew up in a military family, but it has become more personal since joined the Air Force. He said he hopes the ceremony on campus will raise students' awareness of Veterans Day. "It will put more meaning into the day and let people get a first hand feel for what it (Veterans Day) means," Lutz said. Kenneth Webb, V-1 first platoon sergeant and a junior computer engineering major, compared Veterans Day to Aggie Muster. "It's hard for others to understand why we take it so seriously and why we're so devout," he said. "Veterans Day is kind of like Muster for the U.S. military."

Forum unites students

Each school will research issues to present to Legislature

By WESLEY POSTON
THE BATTALION

College students from the University of Texas, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Tarleton State University concurred Friday on key issues facing the Texas Legislature in next year's session. Nickie Obenhaus, Student Government legislative relations chair and a senior chemical engineering major, said the committee represents students before state and federal governing bodies. "The Legislature is going to

be in session next year, and a student voice is always important," Obenhaus said. "We invited student leaders from all over the state to get together a kind of game plan." Obenhaus said if Texas colleges and universities unite they will have a greater voice before state legislators than each institution would separately. Four issues were chosen to be researched and presented at the forum. Each school will research the pros and cons of each of the forum's issues and then collaborate to write a position paper.

The paper would then be sent to every college and university in the state and to state legislators. Chris Reed, speaker of the Student Senate and a senior finance major, said the position paper will carry more weight since it will be agreed upon by several universities. "The main advantage is having everyone on the same page," he said. "Students unfortunately don't have an organized lobby. Now that we all know what we're working on, no one school is going to carry an overwhelming load."

See FORUM, Page 5



Rony Angkriwan, THE BATTALION

Piano Man | Bobby Delafield, a junior chemistry major, plays the piano in the MSC flagroom Saturday night.

Forum to be held today

Directors for PTTS, food services will answer questions

By LAURA OLIVEIRA
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M administrators are expected to get an earful this afternoon at an open forum designed to give A&M students an opportunity to voice their concerns. Food service and parking issues are expected to be discussed, so the directors of both departments will be present to answer students' questions. Ron Beard, Food Services director, said he welcomes the opportunity to address students' concerns. "I am looking forward to it," he said. "We will do our best to answer the questions to the best of our knowledge and we will be very straight-forward about it." The forum, which will be held in 308 Rudder Tower from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., is sponsored by the Student Government executive council. Matt Mayfield, student executive vice president of administration and a senior animal science major, said the goal is to bring improved communication

to the campus. "We want a healthy exchange of knowledge between students and administrators," he said. Mayfield said he encourages students to attend. "It is open to all students and we want to urge everyone to come," he

"I know students will raise questions about parking," she said. "Because that is a situation where you really cannot please everyone." Miller said the forum will be beneficial to both students and administrators. "I think it is a wonderful idea," she said. "The only way you can meet the needs of the students is if you know what those needs are." The administrators have made similar efforts to listen to the concerns of students. "Piping Hot Ideas," sponsored by Food Services, provides an opportunity for student feedback on how cafeterias are being run. Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for Student Affairs, sponsors Chat -n- Chew, which is a forum for students to express their needs. Miller said question and answer sessions help administrators do their jobs. "I am a very firm believer in listening to the concerns, ideas, and questions that students have," Miller said. "It is one way to find out if we are doing our job."

"It is open to all students and we want to urge everyone to come."

Matt Mayfield
Student executive vice president of administration

said. "The more students we have, the better the results will be." Mary Miller, associate vice president for finance and administration, will be present at the forum. She said parking will probably be a passionate topic on the minds of students.

THE BATTALION TODAY

Weeding Out

Students are growing gardens for grades in a class that allows them to eat their homework. Aggiefife, Page 3

Staying Alive

The A&M Football Team kept its bowl hopes intact with a 24-7 victory over Baylor Saturday. Sports, Page 7

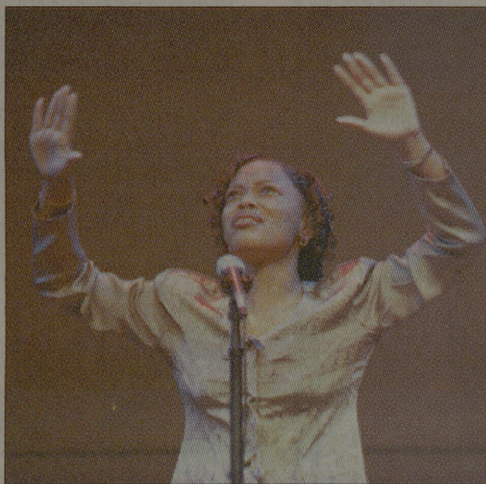
Cup 'O Pee

Appar: Companies should not require employees to be tested for drug use. Opinion, Page 9

Gospelfest celebrates religion

By JOANNE WHITTEMORE
THE BATTALION

Rudder Auditorium echoed with music Saturday night as Texas A&M's Voices of Praise Choir presented its annual Gospelfest. Kim Carter, president of Voices of Praise and a senior engineering technology major, said the theme of this year's Gospelfest, "Under the Influence of the Holy Spirit," reflected the way Christians should live. "Being under the influence means letting the Spirit guide you in everything you do and committing your ways to [God]," Carter said. Gospelfest began Saturday morning with seminars for students from A&M and other participating universities, including Baylor University, Sam Houston State University and Lamar University. Subjects ranged from "Relationships" to "Accepting the Challenge of Becoming a Christian." There were seminars exclusively for men and exclusively for women that focused on Gospelfest's theme from both perspectives. Jacqueline Cook, Gospelfest chair and a senior elementary education major, said the purpose of Gospelfest was to provide a day of worship and salvation.



Rony Angkriwan, THE BATTALION

Gina Jerkins leads a devotion Saturday during Gospelfest in Rudder.

"I want someone to realize that Jesus Christ is real and is our Lord and savior, and for those who are not saved to know the Lord," she said. "We would like for them to realize that He is a spiritual being that would like to be a part of their lives."

See GOSPELFEST, Page 4

Resident reaction file offers students' opinions

By ERICA ROY
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M students can obtain information on various rental properties in the Bryan-College Station area through the Resident Reaction File sponsored by Off-Campus Student Services. Jennifer Hodges, a graduate assistant with OCSS, said the program provides information to students other than the cost of the apartment or duplex. "It is an opportunity to let people know their resident manager and the condition of the apartment they live in," Hodges said. Any student may submit a compliment or complaint form concerning the rental property in which they live. The resident manager of the rental property is sent a copy of the complaint or

compliment and has seven working days to respond. The compliment or complaint and the response is kept in the Resi-

"It is an opportunity to let people know their resident manager and the condition of the apartment they live in."

Jennifer Hodges
Off-Campus Student Services

dent Reaction File for three semesters. Students may view the file in the Department of

Student Life in 112 Koldus. Hodges said the Resident Reaction File is useful when making requests to landlords, such as pest control or repairs. "It can really help with getting things done," Hodges said. Laura Decanini, a graduate student in plant breeding, used the Resident Reaction File when her landlord was hesitant to exterminate pests. She said the landlord usually responds quickly to complaints, but had recently been negligent. He agreed to exterminate after receiving a copy of the complaint filed with the Resident Reaction File. "Since then he's been pretty fast and reliable," Decanini said. See FILE, Page 4