#### Media lecture centers on science ditor stresses importance of research in journalism

The relationship between the scientific munity and the media was the topic of eech delivered to graduate students in sentation Thursday in Rudder Theatre. epresentation, titled "Science and the : What Graduate Students Should y" was brought to Texas A&M Universipart of the Science and Technology llism Lecture Series, and was held in inction with the Graduate Student ncil's 3rd Annual Research Competition. The speech was delivered by Dr. Julie Miller, editor of Science News magae. Miller spoke to graduate students in ence and Technology Journalism about importance of open communication een researchers and the press.

Dr. Barbara Gastel, an associate professor of journalism and humanities in medicine, said Miller's strong background in science writing made her an especially good choice as a speaker.

"Dr. Miller, I think, is one of the leading science journalists in the nation ... considering her background," Gastel said.

Miller defined science journalism as the "presentation of science literature to the general public by someone other than the scientist.

She said the purpose of science journalism is to inform the public and promote rational thought, and at times protect readers from "bad science" — incomplete or incompetent research or findings

However, Miller said, mistakes are not limited to scientists.

Sometimes being wrong is as much a

part of science writing as it is writing,"

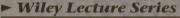
She discussed the steps required to produce a science-related article. Along with writing the story, authors also must do research of their own.

She said most articles begin with finding and choosing relevant topics from science journals, conferences, interviews with researchers and even other media sources.

Once chosen, a science writer must do their own background work on the subject before the article is written.

Although science journalism often focuses on topics considered "dry" and complicated by the general public, Miller said, writers must be able to make their stories interesting and relevant to readers.

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# Discussion focuses on risk of NATO expansion

"I urge our leaders

to think long and

hard about the

proposed risk of

NATO expansion."

Dr. Chester Dunning

Associate professor of

history

By JOEY JEANETTE SCHLUETER THE BATTALION

The threat of World War III has caused concern in the eyes of countries who wish to gain membership with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

A lecture titled "Russia Versus NATO: the New Cold War?" addressed the topic Wednesday as part of the Wi-

Eastern European countries such as Hungary and Poland are eager to gain membership in NATO because of potential Russian aggression and lessons learned from their difficult pasts. Membership would mean these countries would have defense against Russia in the event of an attack.

ley Lecture Series.

Dr. Lawrence Kaplan, director of the Lyman Lem-

nitzer Center for NATO at Kent State, led the discussion of the problem with the expansion of NATO. Kaplan previously worked in the Department of Defense, where he gained insight into the problem

"For these countries to join NATO, it would mean an increased cost for the organization, mainly the United States," Kaplan said. Kaplan said NATO wants an expansion,

calling it "enlargement" instead. "They (NATO) can continue to strive to-

ward membership," he said, "but Russia can make life difficult if they do."

Kaplan explained that Russia would be

Event will include pulls

between non-regs, cadets

threatened if NATO expanded to its borders Dr. Chester Dunning, an associate professor of history at A&M, joined Kaplan in the discussion. He received his Ph.D. in Russian history in 1976.

Dunning gave a perspective of how Russians see NATO expansion as a way to humiliate their country.

"As an American citizen concerned about

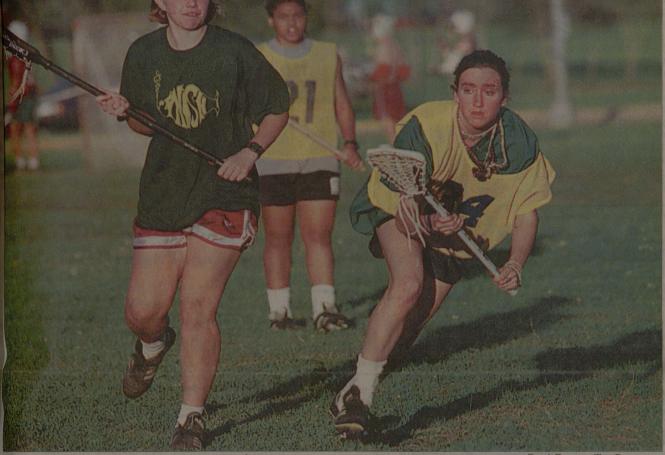
reducing the risk of nuclear war with Russia, which still, even in its decline, is capable of destroying all of us and our children," Dunning said, "I urge our leaders to think long and hard about the proposed risk of NATO expansion. We

should not provoke Russia." The United States is a superpower ordered by countries without large military forces, Dunning said. He warned the audience of Russia and its evil ambition of

becoming a superpower once again. Retired Gen. Edmond Solmosy spoke from the viewpoint of Hungary. Solmosy was born in Budapest, Hungary, and became a naturalized U.S. citizen. He helped coordinate military policy toward NATO.

Solmosy clarified the steps in becoming a member of NATO. Countries must be democratic; have economic stability reform and civil control over the local military; have good relations with neighbors; value human rights and work well with NATO.

See Discussion, Page 10



Making the Play

**Anne Harry** (left), a junior botany major, and **Kristen Anton**, a freshman animal science major, practice with other members of the women's lacrosse team for their games against UT and Trinity this weekend.

### Students to compete in Fish Olympics

Freshmen at Texas A&M will have the ince to dunk the yell leaders in a water kand compete in a clothing relay in the shOlympics tomorrow, from 9:30 a.m. to Op.m. at Simpson Drill Field.

Freshmen can compete in teams of ends, residence halls, Corps outfits or her organizations. The winning team will ceive a trophy. There is no cost to particte and a free lunch will be provided. Joseph Piotrowski, Fish Olympics direcand a senior finance major, said the

ent provides freshmen the opportunity eet other freshmen. "They compete against each other, but

in good fun," Piotrowski said. Events include Aggie Trivia, sumo

By Benjamin Cheng wrestling, flag football and spirit games administration major, said he plans to participate in tomorrow's games. lay. Piotrowski said some of the events have a twist to them.

"It's kick ball, but it's three-legged kick

MarkWhitt, a junior biomedical science, said freshmen from residence halls and Corps outfits came together during last year's Olympics.

"I think that's very neat," Whitt said. "You don't see that very often.'

Whitt said over 100 freshmen competed last year, and he expects around

Piotrowski said letting freshmen know about the Fish Olympics is hard because the event is in only its second year.

Nobody has heard about it," he said. Matt Montgomery, a freshman business

"I heard from people that it was fun last year and you get to meet people," Mont-

cation major, got the idea for the Olympics when he saw the Aggie Fish Club hold a similar event.

"I thought it would be good to develop it for the freshman class and have fun," he said. Koehler said at first he wanted a Univer-

sity-wide Olympics, but the idea was impractical at the time. "My dream is to have a clash of the classes where all the classes get together to compete," he said.

For more information about the Fish Olympics, freshmen can drop by the sign-up desks in the MSC. Sbisa and the Commons.

Nicole Rippole, director of programs for RHA and a sophomore chemical engineering major, said the event began with only the best two Carl Koehler, a senior elementary eduout of three non-reg vs. Corps pulls, but has grown to attract more participants.

"In the fall, Bonfire brings the campus together and there are separate programs in the spring that do so," she said, 'but there is not one single event in the spring that brings everyone together.

By Laura Oliveira THE BATTALION

Tugs, food and music will

bring Texas A&M students

from around campus to Dun-

an effort to unify the campus.

ed by the Resident Hall Association, includes six co-ed

pulls, including Northside

vs. Southside, non-regs vs.

Corps and upperclassmen

vs. underclassmen.

The Tug-of-Honor, host-

Last year the "traveling trophy" went home with the Corps.

Tase Bailey, Corps representative for the Tug-of-Honor committee and a sophomore aerospace engineering major, said the trophy will remain with the Corps. 'I have the trophy sitting

Tug-of-Honor aims for unity

in my room right now," he can Field Sunday afternoon in said. "We will work as a team, as the Corps always does, and win it again." Michael Hoy, a sopho-

more mechanical engineering major and a resident of Lechner Hall, said the Corps vs. non-reg pull will be the most exciting of the tugs because of the trophy involved.
"It is Northside and

Southside against the Corps, so it will be a common challenge that unites Northside and Southside

Each tug will allow for 150 participants on each side, and any interested student may volunteer.

Jesse Czelusta, RHA president and a senior agriculture economics major, said the event breaks down the separatism on campus.

"When it comes right down to it, we are all Aggies," he said. 'This (Tug-of-Honor) shows we can have fun together and still have that friendly rivalry."



Elizabeth Schmidt, a member of Corps company A-1 and a sophomore math major, will participate in the competition. She said the friendly rivalry allows for healthy competition.

"It (friendly rivalry) makes you do the best you can, but it doesn't hurt anybody," she said.

Competition will begin at 1 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. Barbecue plates can be purchased for \$5.50 between 12:30 and 2:30, and students may use their meal plans.

Rippole said she encourages all students to follow the trail of maroon and white balloons leading to the event.

'We want to continue to add to the Aggie traditions and hope this will become a strong one," she said.

## Regents to vote on raising Student Services Fee for revenue

By Marissa Alanis THE BATTALION

Arecommendation to increase the Stuat Services Fee from the current \$99 per ester to \$108.90 will be voted on at the ard of Regents meeting next week.

After last semester's deliberations, the member Student Services Fee Allocation PART FOUR IN A SERIES OF FOUR.

oard decided on the new fee figure for fisyear 1998. The fee is projected to gener-\$8.8 million in revenue. The recommended fee would affect stu-

ents taking 12 or more credit hours. Stuents taking fewer hours would pay less. Faye Little, Student Services Fee Alloca-

on board chair and a junior agricultural siness and finance major, said students ay see the recommendation strictly as an crease in the fee and not see the reasongbehind the decision.

"They see fee increase and that's it," ittle said. "It's very easy to see a \$9 inease and say, 'Nothing's going to change. don't see why they're making me pay ore money because I don't see any of

ese changes Little said if students saw the process nd the specific descriptions of where their

money will go, they would gain an educated perspective.

"I don't think they see it (the money) cut

Last semester, 20 departments funded by the fee submitted their budget requests to the board. Members reviewed the requests and decided which request to support.

State legislation authorizes the University to raise the fee by no more than 10 percent each year. Greater increases must be approved by student referendum. Little said A&M is fortunate to have stu-

dent input decided on, because the fee can be raised yearly by administrators without "We're the only school in the Big 12 that has an all-student run and staffed board for

their fees," Little said. Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for Student Affairs, said the administration was pleased with the board's

"I think there will be less complaint," Southerland said. "I think the students have a good feeling in what all this money is

Little said Southerland analyzes each specific request of the board's final recommendation before approval.

"He's never changed the bottom-line fig-

switched some monies around," Little said. A new addition to the Student Service Fee recommendation is the Child Care Center, which would provide part-time child care for children of students and full-time service for children of faculty and staff. A recommendation of \$10,000 was made for

This money from Student Service Fees is strictly for scholarships for that part-time center so those children of students that go will receive some subsidy," Little said.

About 80 percent of the Student Services Fee goes toward funding the salaries of A&M administrators and staff.

Laurent Therivel, vice president of finance for Student Government and a senior marketing major, said the fee increase will help cover the increase in salaries of A&M staff and administrators it affects, but the benefits will not be seen for several years.

'You're basically investing in the quality of your diploma down the road," Therivel

Little said when determining the amount of money allocated to each department, the board considers such factors as student participation, the amount of students affected, past endeavors and how they are planning for the future.

#### Student Services Fee Allocation

Department / Program	\$ Final Rec.	\$ Difference	% Difference
Memorial Student Center	1,790,000	117,673	7%
Student Counseling Service	1,680,000	178,901	12%
Recreational Sports	1,370,000	75, 716	6%
Student Activities	838,882	70,000	9%
Bus Operations	800,000	95,300	14%
Student Life	628,000	59,732	11%
Multicultural Service	340,000	. 29,220	9%
Aggie Band	50,000	15,000	43%
Student Handbook	30,000 *	30,000	n/a

\$ generated at a fee of \$108.90

Source: Student Service Fee Allocation Board suring a world-class education for students.

Revenue Generated = \$8,812,368

Memorial Student Center and Student Counseling Services based on these factors. "Historically they've provided that

Large allocations of money were recom-

mended for departments such as the

amount of service," Little said. Little said increasing the fee is a way of en-

"it's just a fact of life — prices increase," Little said. "And to continue the level of education and the wonderful precedent we have set here at A&M, eventually we can't slop it off in the next ten years of classes. We need to start preparing for that now."