



THE BATTALION

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Pro-choice advocates rally on campus

By JOE JEANETTE SCHLUETER
THE BATTALION

Feminism seems to be the new fad," Patricia Ireland said at a pro-choice rally at Texas A&M Saturday. Ireland is the president of the National Organization for Women, which sponsored the rally along with Planned Parenthood of Houston.

The afternoon rally at Rudder Fountain met with opposition from pro-life activists, who prayed and chanted behind the crowd surrounding Ireland.

The pro-choice advocates marched through campus chanting, "Against abortion? Don't have one" and "Women have a choice." They were followed by pro-life supporters who prayed aloud calling them "murderers."

Ireland said the purpose of NOW is to educate people about issues facing women today including rape, sexual assault and discrimination.

"Coming up on this year's 24th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, we were met with escalated attacks on women's rights," Ireland said. "There were cases of bombing abortion clinics, and domestic violence is on the rise."

Ireland talked about having an illegal abortion when she was in college. Having the child would have impacted her life in a negative way, she said. Ireland also touched on the po-

litical arena and recent abortion-related legislation introduced in Congress.

"Coming up on this year's 24th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, we were met with escalated attacks on women's rights."

Patricia Ireland
NOW president

Sarah Suniga, secretary of the A&M chapter of NOW and a junior psychology major, said the rally was a big step because College Station is so conservative.

"The rally is actually happening regardless of the opposition we faced," Suniga said.

"Someone has been tearing down our fliers and erasing our sidewalk chalk ads and putting 'murderer' over them."

Suniga said the pro-life presence at the rally was not in opposition to other NOW

issues presented at the rally.

"They have a right to be here as long as they don't make any aggressions against us," she said.

Derek Veazy, a wildlife and fisheries science graduate student, said he came out with people from St. Mary's Catholic Church to protest the rally.

"I believe in the sanctity of all life," Veazy said, "and I don't believe that pro-choice is about a choice, because it is not a choice for that child."

Amanda McKnight, a freshman microbiology major, said she visited the event to be more educated about the issues.

"I am going to join the TAMU NOW chapter," McKnight said, "because I feel it is a good cause and [it] shows women have a right to do what they want with their bodies."



Amy Dunlap, THE BATTALION
Karen Dorris, vice president of the Texas chapter of NOW, rallies in front of the MSC Saturday afternoon.



Amy Dunlap, THE BATTALION

Short Stack | Matt Montgomery, John Hardcastle, Scott Wellman and Greg Escobar, all freshmen in the Corps, take part in a bonfire building contest at the Fish Olympics Saturday afternoon.

► Resurrection Week

Activities focus on outreach

By JACKIE VRATIL
THE BATTALION

Easter weekend is approaching and Resurrection Week, a week that commemorates the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is here.

Resurrection Week kicked off yesterday with a free barbecue at the Grove and will come to a close Thursday with a production of the "Crucifixion Scene."

During the week there will be guest speakers and a concert put on by Big Tent Revival.

Patrick Williams, a media communications specialist with University Relations for Resurrection Week, said the celebration began about seven years ago because of an idea from Bobby Dean who was the Corps chaplain at the time.

"He (Dean) wanted to bring together all Christian organizations on campus," he said.

Williams said the goal of Resurrec-

tion Week is to reach people on the A&M campus.

"We want to have as many opportunities as possible to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ," he said. "It also serves as a pre-Easter celebration."

Lexi Wilbur, chair of the Discipleship committee and a sophomore business major, said God put all the Christians on this campus to bring unity from within.

"This year I feel God really did bring unity," she said, "because we are really trying to focus on outreach this year."

Wilbur said trying to reach out to students of all beliefs, instead of focusing on the Christian groups, has been a focus for this year's Resurrection Week.

"We are not having worship before each event because we want everybody to attend," she said. "Even the concert, Big Tent Revival, is appealing to all college students. We want everybody to [know] that it is OK to talk about Jesus, and that there will be people that stand behind you if you do."

The "Crucifixion Scene" will be performed at Rudder Fountain Thursday at 12:30 p.m. by the Resurrection Week committee.

Kim Kruger, a sophomore business major, said the production is something all students should see.

"I'm sure everybody has seen the guy walking around campus carrying the crucifix," she said. "But everybody has to come out and watch the 'Crucifixion Scene,' it is absolutely amazing."

Williams said Resurrection Week T-shirts were originally meant to be worn on one specific day of the week.

"It (wearing the shirts) would show the strength of God's Army on campus," he said.

People of all kinds come out and participate in Resurrection Week. At least 12 Christian organizations and churches throughout the community are involved in the week's activities.

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Workshop encourages girls to pursue math, science careers

By KATHLEEN STRICKLAND
THE BATTALION

Sixth-grade girls in the Brazos Valley had an opportunity to learn more about careers in science and mathematics Saturday, as they attended workshops with topics ranging from robots to reptiles. The experiences were all part of the fifth annual "Expanding Your Horizons" career exploration conference.

The conference is part of a nationwide program designed to encourage girls to consider professional careers in mathematical, scientific or technical areas. The girls met women in engineering and science-related careers and attended interactive workshops where they could experience activities related to certain job fields.

Jan Rinehart is the director of Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology program, which is one of the organizations sponsoring the event.

"Women comprise only 15 percent of the people in engineering, chemistry, physics and math careers," Rinehart said. "At this age, we are just encouraging the girls to take the high school classes that will enable them to succeed in the college courses, which are necessary to earn a degree in math and science fields."

Dr. Karen Butler, assistant professor of electrical engineering, told the students about her job and what she learned from



Tim Moog, THE BATTALION

Jennifer Haney and Jacque Jeter, 6th graders at Willow Branch, examine a red-eared slider at the "Expanding Your Horizons" career exploration conference.

her high school and college experiences.

"You don't have to love all of the math and all of the science that you take to become an engineer," Butler said. "Engineering is so broad, hopefully you will find the part that you enjoy the most during college."

"Also, you don't have to be the very best student in the class to become a capable engineer."

Invitations were extended to all sixth-grade girls attending schools within a 30 mile radius of Texas A&M. From those schools, which included Navasota, Hearne, Snook, Rockdale, Bryan and College Station, 126 students attended the conference.

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Armstrong looks forward to serving as A&M regent

By JACKIE VRATIL
THE BATTALION

An Aggie by marriage, a former U.S. ambassador to Great Britain, a former counselor to Pres-

PART ONE IN A SERIES OF FOUR.

idents Nixon and Ford, and a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom can all be included on the résumé of one of the Texas A&M University System's new regents, Anne Armstrong.

Armstrong said she will enjoy working with young people again.

"I used to give lectures at different universities," she said. "I am really looking forward to immersing myself in the educational process."

T. Michael O'Connor, vice chairman of the



Armstrong

Board, has known Armstrong all his life and said she is a great role model for young people.

"She is a very dynamic woman," he said.

"She will bring to the Board a wide array of resources and her experiences have been so diverse."

Regent John H. Lindsey said Armstrong's track record can only enhance her work as a regent.

"All her new ideas can help bring a lot of intelligence and prestige to the Board," he said.

O'Connor said Armstrong's qualifications make her an excellent choice for the position.

"She possesses leadership qualities, independent thinking and objectivity in her approaches," he said. "She is low key, very worthy of detail and patient to maintain objectivity, which are all important because of the wide responsibility of the job."

Armstrong said she wants to build on the University's outstanding academic excellence.

"I want this University to grow for the good of the state," she said. "We need to come together instead of engrossing ourselves in petty battles."

Armstrong said her mission statement would be to combine excellence with accessibility.

"I want to see it (A&M) in the top 10 of schools without losing the strong morale, the loyalty or the feeling of family," she said.

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► College of Veterinary Medicine

Open house features exhibits, tours

By GRAHAM HARVEY
THE BATTALION

Thousands of visitors attended the College of Veterinary Medicine's day-long open house Saturday.

Several attractions headlined the seven-hour event, from visitor-participation mock surgery at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital to the display of Owen's Country Sausage Company's miniature horses.

Gene Charleton, senior media communications specialist for the Office of University Relations, said the open house was organized by the College of Veterinary Medicine's third-year students.

"Exhibits and lectures [included] information on anatomy, nutrition,

pathology and microbiology," Charleton said. "Also featured [were] continuing demonstrations of spaying and neutering, displays of current College of Veterinary Medicine research and a question-and-answer session on admission into veterinary school."

Janet Huey, founder of Racers Recycled Inc., manned one of the booths at the open house. She said her organization, a non-profit group based in Houston, has participated in the vet school's open house for the past four years.

"Racers Recycled finds homes for retired greyhounds when they are [finished] racing," Huey said. "We are strong supporters of the veterinary school."

Huey said she values the open house as effective publicity for her group. In the

past 10 years, she has overseen the adoption of nearly 700 dogs.

The vet school event also included such attractions as exotic animal exhibits, tours of the veterinary intensive care unit and demonstrations of medical procedures in the Small and Large Animal Clinics.

Open house visitors also could see exhibitions of dog obedience and agility, hunting dogs and drug-sniffing dogs, and Peruvian Paso riding horses.

Amy Mendel, a freshman biomedical science major, worked as an open house greeter at the large animal surgery-recovery facility.

"The attendance has been great today," Mendel said.

"[We were] expecting about 10,000 visitors to come out."

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FIRST DOWN!: Former NFL referee Red Cashion discusses life after football.

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