

# THE BATTALION DEBRIEFING

Friday • April 4

## Retreat focuses on Catholic faith

BY JACKIE VRATIL  
THE BATTALION

Aggie Awakening, a weekend structured to bring students closer to Christ, begins today as ninety students leave for Somerville, Texas. Father Dean Wilhelm, associate pastor with St. Mary's Catholic Church, said the retreat has been popular. He said students begin to line up hours before the retreat sign-up begins.

The 50th Aggie Awakening will be held this summer.

Erin Fernald, rector of the retreat and Class of '95, said there are many different kinds of people involved in the retreat.

"Not all of the retreaters are Catholic," she said. "There are even some retreaters farther along in their spirituality than us — the people putting together the retreat. We try to hit everybody."

Wilhelm said the retreat gives individuals an accurate view of Roman Catholicism because it is upbeat and student-orientated.

"We introduce people to the Catholic faith, and we do celebrate Mass," he said. "We do it all from a Catholic perspective."

He said that although the retreat is open to students of any denomination, it centers around the Catholic faith.

Fernald said she has seen changes in the structure and focus of the retreat.

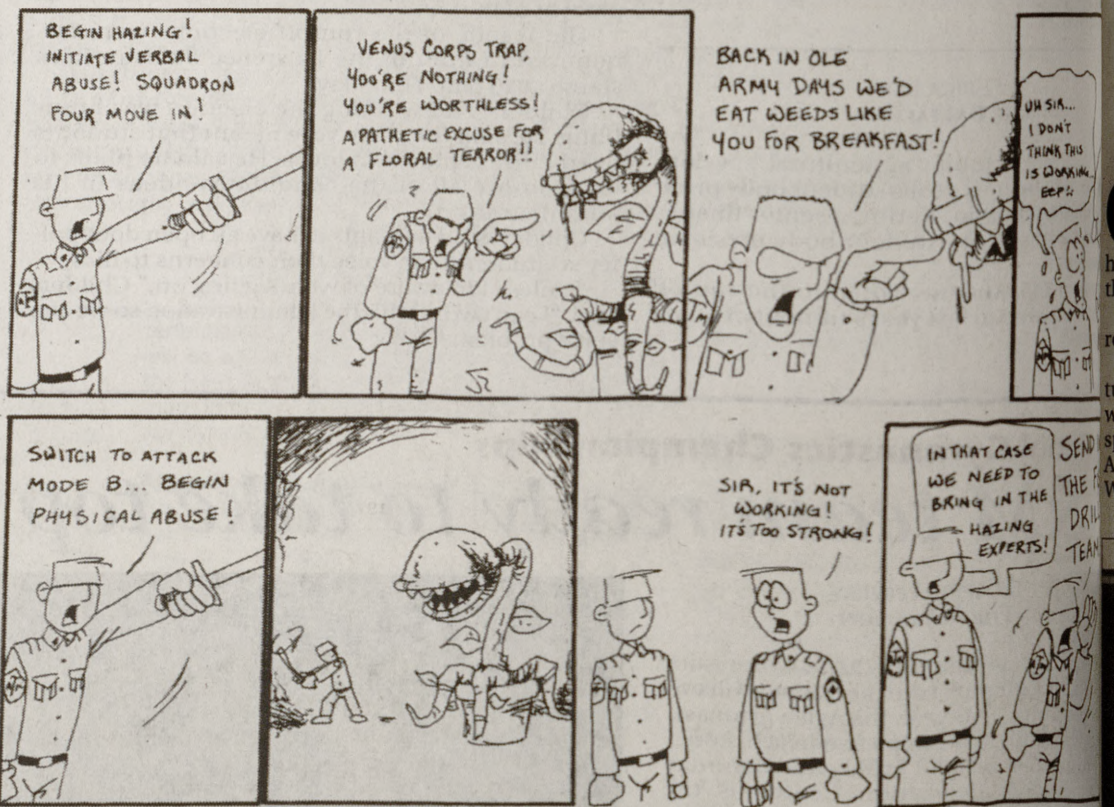
"The retreat used to be more non-denominational, but with the addition of a new priest five years ago, it now is put on with a Catholic perspective," she said.

Nathan Metzinger, Aggie Awakening coordinator and a senior biomedical science major, said the name is perfect for such an activity.

"We celebrate the love of Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church," he said. "It is great for the individuals who have not been real consistent with their faith and need an awakening."

## Ewe Hall

By JEROME



## Southside residents unite at bash

BY REBECCA TORRELLAS  
THE BATTALION

Southside residents are invited to enjoy live music, free food and games Sunday afternoon at the Southside Bash, an event designed to promote unity on campus residents.

Eric Williams, vice president of operations for the Resident Hall Association and a junior biomedical science major, initiated the idea last semester.

"Southside is considered the part of campus that never does anything," Williams said. "We wanted to do this to show that there is unity on Southside."

Rachel Ferguson, a senior elementary education major, said the bash will be a good way for freshmen and sophomores to meet people from other dorms.

"This is the first time anything like this has been

done on Southside," Ferguson said. "We usually keep to ourselves."

Free pizza, canned drinks, cotton candy, snow cones and 400 pounds of barbecue will be available for all who attend. Residents also can participate in volleyball, baseball and football.

Amy McCormick, Bash activities chair and a junior geography major, said the bands will be the main focus of the bash.

"The bands will be set up at the mod quad," McCormick said. "There will be two stages on each end — one for the band playing and one for the band setting up."

Fysher, Haywood, Highway 6, Dexter and By Friday will provide the live music.

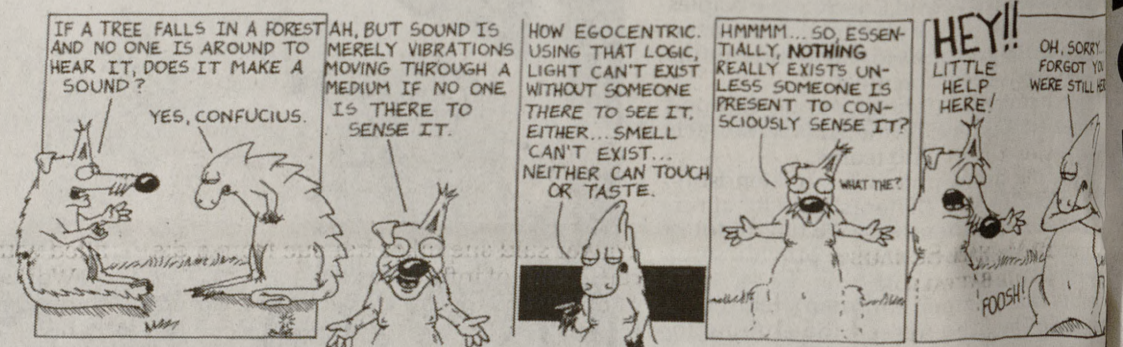
The event is open to all Southside residents and will be held from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. T-shirts will be sold for \$10 each to cover event expenses.

**"This is the first time anything like this has been done on Southside."**

Rachel Ferguson  
senior elementary  
education major

## Sketch

By Quatro



### ► This day in history

Today is Friday, April 4, the 94th day of 1997. There are 271 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1818, Congress decided the flag of the United States would consist of 13 red and white stripes and 20 stars, with a new star to be added for every new state of the Union.

In 1841, President William Henry Harrison succumbed to pneumonia one month after his inaugural, becoming the first U.S. chief executive to die in office.

In 1850, the city of Los Angeles was incorporated. In 1887, Susanna Medora Salter became the first woman elected mayor of an American community — Argonia, Kan.

In 1902, British financier Cecil Rhodes left \$10 million in his will to provide scholarships for Americans at Oxford University in England.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. forces liberated

the Nazi death camp Ohrdruf in Germany.

In 1945, U.S. troops on Okinawa encountered the first significant resistance from Japanese forces.

In 1949, 12 nations, including the United States, signed the North Atlantic Treaty.

In 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., 39, was shot to death in Memphis, Tenn.

In 1981, Henry Cisneros became the first Mexican-American elected mayor of a major U.S. city — San Antonio, Texas.

### ► Today's birthdays

Author-poet Maya Angelou is 69. Actress Catherine Spaak is 52. Country singer Gail Davies is 49. Country singer Steve Gatlin (The Gatlin Brothers) is 46. Rock musician Craig Adams (The Cult) is 35. Actor Robert Downey Jr. is 32. Actress Nancy McKeon is 31. Rhythm-and-blues singer Andre Delyrimple (Soul For Real) is 23.

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Wednesday, April 9th  
7:00pm  
Clayton Williams Alumni Center  
Seminar B

Guest Speakers include:

Filomeno Maldonado, Director of Admissions, Texas A&M Medical School  
Dr. Claire Aldridge, Medical Programs Coordinator, Kaplan Educational Centers



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## Aggieland Baseball League

Open Tryouts:  
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3:00 Old Tiger (Anderson St.)

18+ Hardball League

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