



## Take Your Daughter To Work Day

# CIS sponsors program

By KATHLEEN STRICKLAND  
THE BATTALION

Young girls age 9 to 15 will come to work with their parents today to learn about the field of technical jobs with the help of Computing and Information Services. In conjunction with national Take Your Daughter To Work Day, Computing and Information Services is sponsoring the program within their department.

The computing service is the first and only department on campus to sponsor the event. Planning began two weeks ago, and 14 girls were expected to attend.

Kim Ives, accounting assistant III and a member of the Take Our Daughters To Work Day committee, is pleased with the expected

**"We feel that this is a very beneficial program and we'd like to see this become a campus-wide event."**

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Take Our Daughters To Work Day  
committee member

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David Lawrence, computer services user information representative, is one of the program's supporters.

"This is a great learning experience for the young girls," Lawrence said. "It is a day for them to be seen and heard, and also for them to experience jobs that were traditionally male-oriented."

The program will begin this morning with an orientation session, where the girls will meet with their work partners. The work partners are employees throughout computer services who have volunteered to work with the girls and show them what the jobs include.

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# Grand jury hears hazing testimony

By MELISSA NUNNERY  
THE BATTALION

The Brazos County Attorney's office sought a grand jury's advice yesterday regarding the investigation of assault and hazing charges brought against nine student advisers for the Texas A&M Fish Drill Team.

County Attorney Jim Kuboviak said the grand jury heard testimony from several witnesses. He also said the hearing was another step in the information-gathering process of the investigation.

Because grand jury proceedings are

closed to the public, Kuboviak could not comment further on the hearing.

Kuboviak declined to comment on whether he would seek an indictment and added he is not required to do so in misdemeanor cases such as this one.

The nine Fish Drill Team advisers were suspended temporarily from the Corps of Cadets March 24 following accusations of hazing and physical assault. Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. M.T. "Ted" Hopgood Jr. ordered the students to leave the Quadrangle following the accusations.

# Residents say false flood predictions led to losses

## Flood victims may not be able to return to their homes for weeks

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Town officials and flood victims complained Wednesday that Grand Forks could have been saved if forecasters had been right about how high the Red River would rise.

"I don't like to be critical, but we were told absolutely 49 feet by the weather service," Mayor Pat Owens said two days after the river crested at more than 54 feet.

"I'm not pointing fingers," she said, "but our engineers said it would have been preventable."

Others say there's little that could have been done to resist the power of a 500-year flood. Back in February, the National Weather Service was already predicting record flooding in the Grand Forks area. The previous record was 48.8 feet set in 1979. The February forecast of 49 feet remained the same through the early April blizzard. Not until April 14 was it raised to 50 feet.

Sandbagging already had been going on for weeks. As the river rose, schools and businesses closed to send their students and employees to the front lines, piling bags atop the 49-foot earthen dike.

On April 16th, as the first of the residents along the river began to flee, the Weather Service increased the crest forecast to 50 1/2 feet. Predictions increased three times over the next two days to 54 feet.

"We were dealing with an unprecedented flood and you're dealing with Mother Nature and you just have to roll with the punches," said Dean Braatz, hydrologist in charge of the NWS' North Central River Forecast Center in Minneapolis.

Grand Forks Assistant Engineer Al Grasser said the city could have done more to stem the floodwaters if they had accurate crest numbers, but he isn't sure how effective extra dike-building and sandbagging would have been.

"You could have added the sandbags and the dikes and kept it off for a day, but the problem would be to build a dike or sandbags that would hold up for several weeks," he said.

Downstream, with the crest moving north toward Canada, crews rushed to top off dikes protecting deserted towns and farms in the Red River Valley. At least 17,000 people have fled their homes in Canada alone.

Floodwaters began to ebb in Grand Forks on Wednesday, and residents were told they would soon be allowed to fish out a few belongings from their flooded homes. It could be weeks or months before they can return for good.

# free falling

# Skydivers jump for thrills, chills

By MELISSA PRICE  
THE BATTALION

It's a bird. It's a plane. It's ... a skydiver. Some Texas A&M students are viewing the world from a different perspective these days — from 10,000 feet above the ground.

Allison Roderick, president of the Texas A&M Skydiving Club and a junior marketing major, said she has craved the ability to fly since she was a toddler.

"When I was a year-and-a-half old, I tried jumping from my bookcase to the bed and broke my arm," Roderick said. "This was the first time I indicated to my parents my desire to skydive."

Roderick said she knew skydiving provided a realistic solution to her childhood dream and made her first jump when she was a senior in high school. She has since completed 66 skydives, most of which were made at the local drop zone at Coulter Field. Roderick said Aggies over Texas, the drop zone used by the A&M Skydiving Club, is one of the safest drop zones in Texas.

The club, which originated in 1984, aims to pique interest in skydiving and to promote safe skydiving techniques. Although some students skydive purely for entertainment, Roderick said some members of the club view skydiving as a competitive sport. At the National Collegiate Skydiving Championships, held in Florida this past December, the A&M team comprised the largest civilian skydiving team at the competition.

John Saitis, a senior history major, is training to be a jump master. Jump masters are trained in skydiving safety and are qualified to teach skydiving instruction classes. They also perform tandem jumps, in which inexperienced skydivers are paired with jump masters to ensure the safety of the novices. Tandem jumps are geared toward those interested in skydiving but know little about the sport. Static Line and Accelerated Free Fall programs are offered by those interested in pursuing skydiving as a competitive sport.

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Tim Moog, THE BATTALION

Left: Brian Epperson, Class of '86, falls from the sky Sunday afternoon at Coulter field. Above: Mary Epperson and John Saitis prepare for a jump.

# Volleyball Marathon raises money for Cancer Society

The marathon will feature live entertainment by local rock bands and Freudian Slip.

By REBECCA TORRELLAS  
THE BATTALION

Volleyball, music and live performances will be part of the Mary Collett American Cancer Society Volleyball Marathon, which starts Friday at 8 p.m. and ends Saturday at 11 a.m. in the third-floor gymnasiums of the Head Building.

The purpose of the marathon is to raise at least \$2,000 for the local chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Adam Collett, a graduate student in student affairs administration in the higher education program, started the event in 1994 and has since recruited other schools to hold fund raisers for their local chapters of American Cancer Society.

Collett said he became interested in raising money for the society during his sophomore year at Eastern Michigan University.

"My mother died of cancer the year before," Collett said. "I've also had a couple of close friends my age who have been diagnosed with cancer."

Collett said he hopes the Texas A&M Cancer Society will adopt the Mary Collett American Cancer Society Volleyball Marathon as an annual event.

"I think there's a perception out there

among college students that cancer doesn't really affect people their age," Collett said. "That's another reason why I'm so interested in getting college communities involved in this."

Jay Hayes, executive director for District 19 of the Brazos Valley American Cancer Society, said this is the first time the local chapter will be involved in a volleyball marathon.

"Hopefully it catches on and they (A&M) [will] make it an annual event," he said.

The money donated will support local education and a patient services programs well as national research programs, Hayes said.

Dustin Long, a junior journalism major, will be one of the students who will help Collett with the event.

He said it is not too late for students to get involved.

"We welcome anyone who hears about the event at the last minute to just show up on the night of the event with any personal donation," Long said. "Even if someone can't collect donations for the event or can't spare a personal donation, but still wants to show support by participating, we welcome that too."

Live performances at the marathon will include the improvisational comedy group Freudian Slip and local rock bands Satellite Dream and Fysher.

Hayes said students who cannot attend the event but are interested in making donations can send donations to the local American Cancer Society office at 3201 Briarcrest Drive in Bryan, TX 77802.

## THE BATTALION INSIDETODAY

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Three brothers will play with their funk-rock band Vallejo tonight at Dixie Theatre.  
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