

NEWS & HEALTH

Fish Camp, T-Camp sessions kick off

The first of six Texas A&M Fish Camp sessions starts tomorrow, and the last session ends on Aug. 26. Each session lasts four days. The first of two T-Camp sessions starts Aug. 15, and the second session ends on Aug. 20. Each session lasts three days.

Inflamed airways cause asthma flares

Asthma affects about 10 million people in the United States. With asthma, the airways become inflamed. Airways that overreact to common things are related to a hereditary tendency that can be acquired.

Pollens, certain foods, changes in temperature, exercise, pet hair, smoke, perfumes or drugs can lead to a flare of asthma.

Wheezing is the most common symptom of asthma, but asthma may also present itself as a persistent cough. Pulmonary function tests during an asthma check may help to make the diagnosis. Various inhalers are the mainstay treatment of asthma. By inhaling medicine, the drug can get into the lungs, where it acts directly on the inflamed lung tissue.

An instrument called a peak flow meter can be used to help a person with asthma to gauge the severity of the disease and take appropriate measures to treat asthma.

If you have asthma and would like further information about how to take care of this disease, call 845-6111 to schedule an appointment with a doctor at Student Health Services or come to the A.P. Beutel Health Center at your convenience.

—Contributed by Dr. Jane W. Cohen of the A.P. Beutel Health Center

Caffeine should not be used as sleep substitute

One of the most widely used habit-forming drugs in the world, caffeine becomes a "food group" in itself for students as they try to balance classes, tests, jobs and social activities and remain alert.

Caffeine is found in coffee, tea and most colas as well as in medicines and chocolates. If you are sensitive to caffeine or have health concerns, limit caffeine consumption. Start by switching to decaffeinated products.

Caffeine can mask feelings of fatigue but is not a substitute for sleep. To squeeze in a quick nap, exercise and eat a good breakfast to feel more lively throughout the day.

If you have further questions, please stop by the Health Education Library in 016 of A.P. Beutel Health Center, Department of Student Health Services.

—Contributed by Erin Jahnke Tarter of the A.P. Beutel Health Center

TODAY IN BATTALION

LIFESTYLES

The Northgate unknown: No local stores offer retro items and vintage clothing.

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OPINION

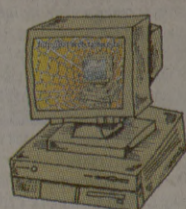
Francis: African-American actors tackle Dorothy Dandridge role with wrong intentions.

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ONLINE

http://bat-web.tamu.edu

Look for links to related stories.



UPD gives building plaque to Legion

By JOE JEANETTE SCHLUETER
THE BATTALION

A plaque marking the history of an American Legion building that has housed Texas A&M students and the University Police Department was presented to local Legion officers yesterday.

The plaque was presented to Cmdr. L.G. Crum of Bryan's American Legion Earl Graham Post #159 by UPD Director Bob Wiatt at the UPD Building.

The UPD Building, which also houses part of the Department of Environmental Health and Safety, will be torn down in September. The Texas A&M Foundation will build its headquarters on the site.

The plaque was placed at the UPD Building in 1939 by the National Commander of the American Legion at that time, Raymond J. Kelly.

The American Legion built the building as a dorm in 1939. It housed about 230 students during the Great Depression. Students were charged \$25 a month to live there, but they shared cooking and cleaning duties with other residents.

Mary Miller, associate vice president for administration, said the building will be remembered for its historical significance.

"Gone but not forgotten will be the legacy of this building," Miller said. "Little did the Legion know how important the building would be."

John Saxon, Class of '42, lived in the dorm in 1939. Saxon said the building was a blessing because money was tight, and he could not afford much.

"Everybody had to work together in the dorm," Saxon said. "I remember those times; they were hard, but they were good."

In 1940, A&M purchased the building from the American Legion. UPD moved into the building in 1972.

Wiatt said he will miss the building that he has worked in since he came to A&M in 1958 with the FBI.

"In several weeks this building will become a cloud of dust," Wiatt said, "and the plaque is the only thing left that reminds us of the history."

Crum thanked A&M for everything the University has done for veterans.

"Texas A&M has always provided leadership in the armed forces," Crum said. "When the American Legion and A&M joined together, they provided a place for the less fortunate to live and study."



PHOTOGRAPH: Brandon Bollom

Bob Wiatt, UPD director, presents a plaque marking the history of the UPD building to Cmdr. L.G. Crum of Bryan's American Legion. The American Legion built the building in 1939 as a dorm, and it is scheduled to be torn down in September.

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PHOTOGRAPH: Tim Moog

Keith Kovar unties cedar boards, held by Chris Haischer, that will be used to hold nets to keep pigeons out of the bells on Albritton Tower.

Towering Above It All

Survey: Drug use rising among young adults

Annual study shows increased use of marijuana, cocaine and heroin

WASHINGTON (AP) — Drug use among young adults in America is rising, the government said Wednesday, a sobering counterpoint to news that illegal drug use is dropping slightly among teen-agers.

And the news among teens is hardly all good: More tried heroin for the first time last year than ever before.

Separately, the Justice Department reported Wednesday that fewer people arrested were using cocaine, suggesting the crack epidemic that rocked large cities may be abating.

The annual National Household Survey on Drug Abuse showed drug use among 18- to 25-year-olds at its highest level since 1988, with 15.6 percent of young adults using drugs.

That included increased use of marijuana, cocaine and heroin by young adults.

Barry McCaffrey, President Clinton's drug policy adviser, suggested drug-using teen-agers were growing up and continuing their habits.

"If you smoke a lot of dope, smoke cigarettes and use alcohol to excess in your early adolescent years, it carries through," he said.

About today's teens, the report had some good news: After doubling over three years, teen drug use dropped slightly, from 10.9 percent to 9 percent. The drop was among the youngest teen-agers, those 12 to 15 years old.

"There is a glimmer of hope," said Donna Shalala, secretary of Health and Human Services. "The percentage of teen-agers using drugs may finally be inching down, and I em-

phasize 'inching' down."

After increasing for three years, teen marijuana use — which accounts for three-fourths of teen drug use — edged down, although the change was not statistically significant.

Also, alcohol use among teens dropped from 21.1 percent in 1995 to 18.8 percent last year.

Shalala and McCaffrey credited government and private efforts that focus on the dangers of drugs, in particular marijuana.

"Tell the 4,000 community coalitions of America — the Boys and Girls Clubs, the YMCAs, the Elks, the Kiwanis ... keep up the work," McCaffrey said.

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Apple, Microsoft end rivalry with pact to share technology

BOSTON (AP) — Ending years of impassioned rivalry, Apple Computer and Microsoft jolted the computer world Wednesday by agreeing to share technology in a deal that gives Microsoft a stake in Apple's survival.

Apple hopes that by linking up with Microsoft other developers will feel safer about pouring money into new programs for Macintosh computers.

The move stunned passionate Mac users, who consider Apple a crucial buffer against Microsoft chief executive Bill Gates' domination of the computer industry.

When Apple co-founder and newly named board member Steve Jobs announced the alliance at the MacWorld Expo, flashing a satellite image of Gates on a huge screen, many in the audience booed and gasped.

"You've got to be kidding!" exclaimed one audience member.

Apple's capitulation to what some

of its loyalists see as the enemy shows how far its fortunes have fallen since the late 1980s when it was widely regarded as the easiest computer to use.

"We think Apple makes a huge contribution to the computer industry," Gates told the MacWorld audience, adding that the combined expertise of the two companies should help bring technological innovations to market faster.

Gates' face looming over the audience was eerily reminiscent of the famous "1984" ad that year that launched the Macintosh with a rebel smashing a Big Brother-like figure on an overhead projection. At the time the ad, which ran only once during the Super Bowl, was meant to signify Apple's rejection of the IBM computers that used Microsoft's arcane DOS operating system, the predecessor to Windows.

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Apple's stock

Apple Computer Inc., once a high-flyer on the stock market, languished this summer even after chief executive Gil Amelio resigned Wednesday, news that it will form a broad alliance with rival Microsoft Corp. kicked it up 35 percent.



A&M system faculty fight law

Policy bars Texas employees from testifying against state

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal judge has ordered Texas Attorney General Dan Morales to testify in a court challenge to a law barring state employees from testifying against the state as expert witnesses.

The Texas Faculty Association and a Texas A&M University professor, contending freedom of speech is at stake, are fighting the new law and a similar A&M policy.

They named Morales, whose job includes defending state laws against legal challenges, and A&M Chancellor Barry Thompson as defendants in the lawsuit.

In court documents, they allege Morales "has targeted many academics in an effort to dislodge them from litigation against the state of Texas."

They said Robert Hoover, the professor at Texas A&M in Corpus Christi who is helping bring the lawsuit, wanted to serve as an ex-

pert witness on behalf of tobacco companies the state is suing.

According to Hoover's lawyer, R. James George Jr., Hoover's plans initially were approved by university officials. But approval was withdrawn, he said, after the attorney general contacted the university.

"All untrue," Morales spokesman Ron Dusek said Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge James Nowlin of Austin last week granted a temporary restraining order that put the policy and law on hold pending a Thursday hearing.

Morales and Thompson both were subpoenaed to testify at the hearing.

Nowlin said Thompson could send a representative, but that "exceptional circumstances exist justifying the compelled testimony of ... Morales."

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Food fair to feature low-fat selections

By JENARA KOCKS
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Bookstore in the MSC will host the Low-Fat Dining in the Brazos Valley Food Fair from 10 to 11 a.m. on Friday that will offer fat-free food from 14 Bryan-College Station restaurants and the A&M Department of Food Services.

Vicki Beck, administrative dietitian for A&M Food Services, said the Department of Food Services will be serving spinach lasagna at the fair. She said that Food Services is participating because low-fat food is such hot topic right now.

"Our customers often request information about low-fat food," Beck said. "We serve a lot of low-fat items on campus."

Beck said a couple of the Department of Food Services facilities, such as Rumours Deli and the Underground Food Court, were in registered dietitian Linda Kapusniak's "A Restaurant Guide to Low Fat Dining in the Brazos Valley."

Tina Parish, sales manager at the Olive Garden, said the restaurant will serve capellini pomodoro and penne fra diavolo at the fair.

Parish said Olive Garden is participating because students are a vital part of the restaurant's staff.

"We have so many students that work here, and we want to be supportive of the school (A&M) and what they are involved in," Parish said.

Mark Hollis, owner of Honey-B Ham & Deli, said his restaurant will provide samples of its fat-free quiche and sandwiches on low-fat sourdough buns.

Hollis said the ham or turkey sandwiches with hot pepper cheese and regular mustard have eight grams of fat.

Blake Clark, trade book manager at Texas A&M Bookstore, said people may sample the food, and anyone can attend.

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