

WEEKEND  
PREVIEWThursday  
August 7

**Fireants**, a classic rock and rhythm and blues band from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Fitzwilly's at 9 p.m.

**David Trout**, a rock 'n' roll comedian, is performing at Chelsea Street Pub and Grill at 9 p.m.

Friday  
August 8

**Breedlove**, a bluesrock band from Austin, is playing with **Cadillac Voodoo Choir**, a rock band, at Dixie Theatre at 9 p.m.

**Grubworm**, a rock band from Bryan-College Station, is playing with **Middle Finger**, a punk/ska band from Houston and **Cult Ceavers**, a rock band from Houston, at Cow Hop at 9:30 p.m.

**Scotty Melton**, a folk artist from Tennessee, is playing at Crooked Path Ale House at 9 p.m.

**Don Overby**, a classic rock band from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Fitzwilly's at 9 p.m.

**Sin City**, an AC/DC tribute band, is playing at 3rd Floor Cantina at 9 p.m.

**Michelle Solberg**, a rock musician from Austin, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java at 9:30 p.m.

**David Trout**, a rock 'n' roll comedian, is performing at Chelsea Street Pub and Grill at 9 p.m.

Saturday  
August 9

**David's Gate**, an alternative band, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java at 9:30 p.m.

**Freudian Slip**, an improvisational comedy troupe from Bryan-College Station, is performing at Dixie Theatre at 9 p.m.

**Latin Cheese Quartet**, a classic rock and rhythm and blues band from Bryan-College Station, is playing at Fitzwilly's at 9 p.m.

**The Mollys**, an Irish Tex-Mex band from Tucson, Ariz., is playing at Crooked Path Ale House at 9 p.m.

**David Trout**, a rock 'n' roll comedian, is performing at Chelsea Street Pub and Grill at 9 p.m.

## FACTORY

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The Factory opened its doors almost four years ago, on October 16, 1993. It is divided into two sections inside the store. One side sells skateboards, clothes, stickers and accessories, and the other side is devoted to resale items.

Jake Wilganowski, who works at The Factory, said the resale side brings in a lot of customers.

"The other side is called American Trash," Wilganowski said. "It has a lot of retro clothes and couches and toys and resale stuff."

Dave Alexander, a senior marketing major, said he enjoys shopping at The Factory.

"It has a nice variety of things that you can't normally find in most Bryan-College Station stores," Alexander said.

Henry said that almost everyone will find something entertaining in both sections of the shop.

"We definitely have a lot of unusual stuff, like the orange vinyl couch on the resale side," Henry said. "But I think anyone can find something that entertains, at least."

Joe Murphy, a senior political science major, agreed with Henry.

"Definitely," Murphy said. "It's a nice alternative to the usual retail stores in this area."

The Factory is also involved with designing and selling its own brands of skating wear. Henry said that the whole scheme is to sell to other shops and bands.

"We make T-shirts for clubs and bands out of Austin," Henry said. "We've also made stickers for Breedlove and Ian Moore."

The store has placed ads in nationwide skating magazines such as Thrasher and Slap, promoting their own line of skating equipment.

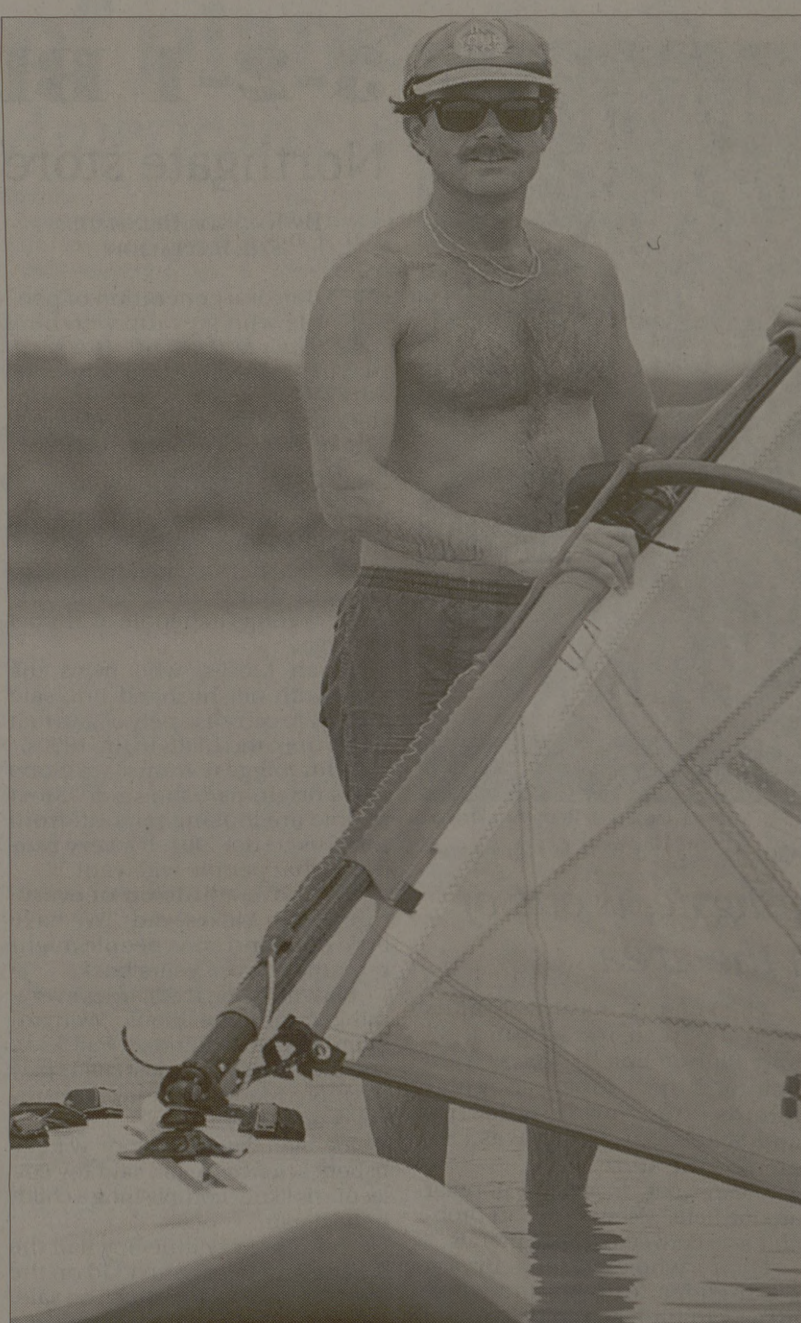
Growing up in Bryan-College Station, Henry has seen the town changing its views over the years. He said while the city has become more liberal, it is still very conservative.

"A lot of people wouldn't come into the store before because they thought it was just for skateboards," Henry said. "Now more people are into different music and different things, and they're more liberal."

Henry said he hopes the store will remain the same, even as the town and people around it change.

"I think that we'll be pretty much the same store in five years," Henry said. "Even though everything else will change — the people, the brands — I think the store will be the same."

## Catching the wave: University employee educates students outside the classroom

By KEITH MCPHAIL  
THE BATTALION

PHOTOGRAPH: Rony Angkriwan

Ed Cook, an employee in the Department of Food Services, sets sail at Lake Bryan.

Ed Cook may be best described as Texas A&M's windsurfing guru. The A&M graduate and University employee has been educating other Aggies about the sport for more than a decade. Cook's presence has provided many Aggies an education they did not expect to receive when they came to College Station.

Cook was attending the University of Massachusetts in January 1981 when a cold spell hit the eastern seaboard. With daily highs of 4 degrees, Cook, then 23 years old, decided to pack his bags and visit a friend attending A&M.

He never went home. Impressed by the 75-degree winter days, Cook took a job with the Department of Food Services as a meat cutter.

Later that year, he had his first windsurfing experience. Sixteen years and several degrees later, Cook is still living in College Station, working for the Department of Food Services and sailing the waves.

He earned a master's degree in food science and technology in 1986 and followed that with an MBA in 1991.

Today, Cook is a food engineer, the owner of Brazos Valley Windsurfing and teaches a windsurfing fundamentals course for Rec Sports.

Cook's passion for windsurfing has taken him around the globe and given him a spiritual and physical outlet that has pushed him to the point of self-actualization.

Windsurfing was invented in 1967 and patented in 1968 by Windsurfing International, a California company.

Windsurfing grew in popularity over the next 15 years. In 1984, it became an Olympic sport, and Cook raced with the United States Olympic team in 1983 in Cape Cod.

The United States team, a dominant force in windsurfing, has won medals in each Olympic competition, winning the gold medal in 1992. Today, Olympic windsurfers compete in both men's and women's brackets.

In 1985, Windsurfing International's patent expired, and windsurfing took off. A number of companies entered board and production. The competition resulted in equipment becoming more high-tech, lighter, faster, and easier to use and less expensive.

While windsurfing's rise in popularity is in part because of quality, inexpensive equipment, the sport is loved because of the spiritual physical effects.

Cook said the spiritual effects of windsurfing cannot be described to those who have never surfed.

"It is spiritual and a physical rush," Cook said. "Windsurfing will push you to points you never thought you could reach and furthers your quest for self-actualization."

"The wind, the waves, the sun, someone who has not windsurfed cannot relate," Cook said. "It is truly unique."

Cook said there is an adrenaline rush associated with the sport that most surfers find appealing.

"When you're surfing, it doesn't matter who you are or your occupation because you are all windsurfers," Cook said. "I've sailed with Mike Puleo on the Mir space station, lawnmowers make \$300 an hour and beach chairs are \$100."

Cook travels to Corpus Christi at least once a month to enjoy the sport. The sailing in Corpus is so enjoyable he maintains an apartment there.

Cook introduces as many as 10 Aggies a year to windsurfing. One student who took Cook's class in 1996 now operates his own windsurfing shop in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Darlene Dao, a newcomer to the sport and a junior psychology major, took the Rec Sports Windsurfing fundamentals course this past week. "It's an awesome class," Dao said. "I had a lot of fun. I definitely want to continue."

Cook will be teaching a class beginning Sept. 27 and will head a two-week weekend trip to Corpus Christi. For more information, contact Rec Sports or Brazos Valley Windsurfing at 779-2516.

## TRUCKS

Continued from Page 3

One does not have to go very far in Texas to notice all the different brands and styles of trucks. Some are working trucks — scratched, dulled and covered with evidence of how hard they are used.

There are also many personal pick-ups, used only to get the owner to where he or she wants to go.

Either way, whether it is a work or personal truck, it doesn't diminish the love most owners have for their vehicles. Maxwell said taking pride in one's truck may have something to do with the location of the driver.

"Texans just seem to have to have trucks," Maxwell said. "Trucks are the Texas version of a Cadillac."

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