

THE BATTALION

Texas A & M University



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BRIEFS

Colonel promoted to brigadier general

Col. Donald J. Johnson, deputy commandant and chief of staff in the Office of the Commandant of Cadets, will be promoted to the rank of brigadier general in the Texas State Guard.

Johnson, Class of '55, will receive the promotion following the Corps of Cadets' march into Kyle Field before Saturday's football game against Sam Houston State University. The ceremony will be officiated by Brig. Gen. Leroy Cisco, commanding general of the Texas State Guard.

Association hosts tailgate party

The Association of Former Students will be hosting a tailgate party before each home football game this fall.

The party, which will be held in a tent outside the Clayton Williams, Jr. Alumni Center, will cost \$5 a person. It will begin three hours before game time and will end 30 minutes prior to kickoff. Reservations are not required.

General to review Corps for march-in

The reviewing officer for the Corps of Cadets' march-in before tomorrow's football game will be Brig. Gen. Jan C. Huly.

Huly, a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, is the deputy commanding general at the Marine Forces Reserve, headquartered in New Orleans, La. He has been a Marine officer for 27 years.

The cadets will march from the Quadrangle to Kyle Field at 2:25 p.m. Saturday. March-in will begin at 3 p.m.

Special parking rules go into effect

Special-event parking rules go into effect tomorrow morning because of the Texas A&M-Sam Houston State University football game at Kyle Field.

Special-event signs saying "no parking" will be put up in some College Station neighborhoods.

Vehicles parked in violation of the special-event parking rules will be towed and ticketed. Parking in yards also is prohibited.

Judge upholds Davidian sentence

WACO, Texas (AP) — A federal judge on Thursday upheld the sentences of five Branch Davidian followers of David Koresh after reconsidering their punishment on orders from an appellate court.

At issue was whether the defendants carried or had access to machine guns during a 1993 firefight with federal agents who were attempting to arrest Koresh and search his religious compound near Waco.

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Corps inaugurates football season with group seating

BY RACHEL DAWLEY
Staff writer

The Texas A&M Corps of Cadets will sit together next to the Aggie Band during the Sam Houston State University football game this weekend and at the University of Southwest Louisiana game Sept. 20.

Danny Feather, Corps commander and a senior economics major, said block seating allows the Corps to sit as one group to show their support of the University.

"We by no means intended to upset or upstage the student body," he said. "We just want

"I think it is great that the Corps is going to sit together. What better way can you show support for the team?"

CRAIG ROTTER
AGRICULTURE EDUCATION
GRADUATE STUDENT

to show Corps support for the Band and football team."

The Corps will sit beside the Band on the horseshoe side to keep more seats open for the other students. The shaded seats on the first deck also will be open for non-Corps students.

Jim Kotch, athletic ticket manager, met with Corps leaders last spring. Kotch said A&M has used the classification system of pulling tickets since 1975. No one had asked for group tickets before the Corps' request, so the issue was never addressed. Kotch said the block seating is being done on a trial basis and will be reevaluated following the two games.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president of student affairs, said the Corps made the request as a pilot program. He said he presumed any student group could make such a request.

"The tickets used for this purpose are generally not as good as second deck and even third deck," Southerland said.

Craig Rotter, a graduate student in agriculture education, said he did not have any problems pulling tickets for Saturday's game.

"I think it is great that the Corps is going to sit together," he said. "What better way to show support for the team than to have the entire Corps behind them? As a non-reg, it will help build my spirit."

However, some A&M students do not think the Corps should sit together.

Jason Fuchs, a junior agriculture economics major, said the block seating could present a false image of A&M.

"I like seeing the mixture of cadets and non-regs at football games because it shows the diversity and progression of A&M," Fuchs said. "People outside of A&M will see the Corps as an elite group who are better than other Aggies. Also, upperclassmen who have waited to pull tickets for four years will resent the Corps."

Feather said the idea was discussed last year with the Athletic Department, the Student Senate and other student leaders.

Madison Mauze, a public relations sergeant for the Corps and a junior chemistry major, said although a group of block seats was allocated for the Corps, commanding officers must turn in the number of cadets and dates early. Cadets still had to pull tickets at scheduled times.

"It is a great spirit booster and a chance to meet other Corps members," Mauze said. "Before, everyone drew tickets and only four or so of your buddies sat together. Now entire outfits can sit together."

Secret garden



Professor Jay Novak leads his Horticulture 302 class through the Holistic Garden, a project he has been refining for over ten years.

Students recognize Hispanic Heritage month

BY JOEY JEANETTE SCHLUETER
Staff writer

Texas A&M Hispanic students are beginning to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a Latin party 9 p.m. tonight at the Ramada Inn Ball Room in College Station.

Hispanic Heritage Month lasts from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.

During the month, appearances will be made by former Democratic senatorial candidate Victor Morales, comedian Paul Rodriguez and Texas A&M Board of Regents member Dr. Dionel Aviles.

The A&M Puerto Rican Student Association and five other groups representing Hispanic countries are sponsoring the party to celebrate Hispanic heritage and cultures.

Students from Panama, Colombia, Mexico, Brazil, and Venezuela will attend the party.

Dances from the countries will be taught and performed and different types of music will be played.

Dr. Emily Santiago, assistant director of Multicultural Services and advisor to the Puerto Rican Student Association, said the party will give students the opportunity to enjoy music and the festive occasion.

"I think it is important for students to celebrate their heritage," she said. "Hispanic Heritage Month is a recognition of our background and history."

Santiago said the celebration also gives His-

panic students an opportunity to educate others about their cultures.

"They should feel proud about their heritage and communicate that," she said. "The celebration shows the University community 'This is us,' and it shows a bit of our culture."

Santiago said all students are welcome to come to the celebration.

The official kickoff of Hispanic Heritage Month will be at Unity Rally Sept. 16 in front of Rudder Fountain. Morales will speak at the Rally.

In conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month, Omega Delta Phi fraternity will show the film "Selena," about the life of the late Tejano singer, Sept. 13 at Rudder Theater.

The celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month will close with comedian Rodriguez performing at Rudder Theater Oct. 16. MSC Town Hall and the Committee for Awareness of Mexican American Culture (CAMAC) will host the event.

The Hispanic President's Council, which has 12 organizations, will promote Heritage Month at the MSC Open House this Sunday at 2 p.m.

Jose Sanchez, secretary general of the Hispanic President's Council and a senior finance major, said he wants more organizations to join the council. Other international organizations have expressed interest in joining, he said.

A Hispanic Open House on Sept. 8 will give new students the opportunity to see the variety of Hispanic organizations on campus. Also, Aviles will speak at the event.



RHA supports new Sbsisa renovations

Changes create multi-purpose centers within dining hall

BY MATT WEBER
City editor

The Texas A&M Residence Hall Association was informed by Food Services of the progression of the construction work at Sbsisa Dining Hall Wednesday night.

Cindy Zawieja, assistant director for Food Services, said Sbsisa, which was built in 1912, has been in need of renovations for over 20 years.

Zawieja said the renovation process began in May 1997 as a class project of a senior environmental design class.

"The class made a presentation to remodel Sbsisa," she said. "We thought that their ideas were so good that we presented them to the architect."

This summer, the dishroom that stood behind the former main entrance was removed to make the dining area more open. Future improvements include a metal roof, a metal ceiling with fans and two outside terraces with wheelchair access.

The right side of Sbsisa may be converted to a multi-purpose room with computer access.

Zawieja said the construction work will make Sbsisa more attractive to students.

"We are working to accommodate the students' needs," she said. "We are committed to repair Sbsisa for the students so they will be proud of the building."

Inconveniences connected with the renovations, such as poor air conditioning circulation and the lack of non-disposable eating utensils, should be solved within a month and a half, Food Services representatives said.

Chris Lavery, director of external affairs for RHA and a sophomore history major, said the remodeling may cause some aggravation for students this semester.

"It will be difficult for the students for the first couple of months," Lavery said. "It will be a hassle, but hopefully it will be better in the end."

Peter Schulte, vice president of administration for RHA and a sophomore meteorology major, said students need to cooperate with Food Services during construction work. "They're working as efficiently as possible," Schulte said. "Be patient."

Organizations host concert on campus

BY AMANDA SMITH
Staff writer

MSC Town Hall and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity will present the first Alphapalooza at Texas A&M Sept. 6 at 8:36 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

Tela, a rap artist from Houston, will headline the show and four other musicians will perform.

Jennifer Schmidt, MSC Town Hall chair and a senior political science major, said she expects a big turnout Saturday night.

"My goal is to sell the show out," Schmidt said. "We are breaking into a whole new area of programming."

David Salmon, the adviser to Town Hall, said Alphapalooza is geared toward a diverse audience.

"The whole idea of Alphapalooza is to have a bunch of different artists perform," Salmon said. "We think that tickets will go really quickly."

Advance tickets are \$12.50 at the MSC box office, Lurl's Beauty Salon and Tip Top Records. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$15.

"It's going to be a rap/hip-hop concert," Salmon said. "We are trying to provide an entertainment opportunity for students at Texas A&M."

Other entertainers include U-Turn, a Bryan-College Station band; Hurricane G., a female artist; Lil' Keke, a male artist from Houston and Lady of Rage, who has worked with rap artist Snoop Doggy Dog and recently released a solo album.

Salmon said that Town Hall and Alpha Phi Alpha have worked together on comedy performances for the past few years.

"Last year, we wanted to change the focus from comedy to music," Salmon said.