

BRIEFS

A&M student recognized by ASAE

Russell Alan Persyn, a senior agricultural engineering major, was elected president of the National Community of Pre-professionals, a part of ASAE, the professional society of engineering in agricultural, food and biological systems.

He received the President's Citation Award at the ASAE national meeting in August for his leadership.

Persyn helped consolidate the National Council of Student Mechanical Branches and the National Council of Student Engineering Branches into the pre-professionals organization.

He also is president of the Texas A&M branch of ASAE.

Aggie engineers receive award

A team of mechanical engineers from Texas A&M received second place in the Best Paper competition at the 1997 American Society of Engineering Education/Gulf-Southwest Section (ASEE/GSW) Conference in Houston earlier this year.

Team members professor Jerry Stinson, associate professor Mike Dermott, assistant professor Michael Chona and graduate students Michael Billetdeaux, Matt Antenot and George Rabroker wrote the paper about the Texas A&M team that won first place at the 1996 Propane Vehicle Challenge in Canada.

Two profs named Senior Fellows

A&M faculty members Dimitris C. Lagoudas, associate professor of aerospace engineering, and Dennis O'Neal, a professor of mechanical engineering, were named as TEES Senior Fellows Sept. 22. A faculty member must be named as a TEES Fellow three consecutive years to be named as a TEES Senior Fellow. Faculty are recognized as TEES Fellows for their research achievements.

TEES Senior Fellows and Fellows receive awards of \$5,000 to support their research activities.

Four engineering faculty honored

Four Dwight Look College of Engineering faculty members received Texas A&M University Association of Former Students Distinguished Teaching Awards Sept. 22.

The recipients were Reza Langari, associate professor of mechanical engineering; Lee L. Lowery Jr., a civil engineering professor; Dennis O'Neal, mechanical engineering professor and W. Dan Reece, associate professor of nuclear engineering.

Regents OK health facility integration

By JENARA KOCKS
 Staff writer

The Texas A&M System Board of Regents authorized Chancellor Dr. Barry Thompson to create a Health Science Center consolidating the health education facilities in the System.

The consolidation must be approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in January 1998 before it can be implemented.

Thompson said consolidating the facilities will improve health and health education for people in Texas.

He said A&M's school of rural health is working on improving vaccination and immunization in Texas.

"This is a very exciting thing to me, responding to people's needs in most rural areas, where people have very little health care services," Thompson said.

Kathy Harris, senior communications

specialist for the System, said the consolidation of A&M health programs will bring medical entities affiliated with the System together under one administrator. She said it will encourage collaboration and better use of resources.

Dr. Walter D. Wilkerson, chair of the Texas State Board of Health, said the board is excited about the consolidation.

"There is a great need in the state of Texas for this type of activity," he said, "and I'm proud to endorse it on behalf of the Texas State Board of Health."

Dr. J. Charles Lee, head coordinator of the System-wide health science center and vice chancellor for research, planning and continuing education, said consolidation will take 12 to 18 months. He said the center should be completed by September 1999.

In other business:
 • The regents awarded nine System faculty members with the Regents Professor Service Award, which was created last year.

Thompson said the award recognizes excellence within the System. He said 13 of the 4,700 System faculty members can receive the award.

Dr. Charles D. Johnson, a psychology professor, and Dr. Steven H. Murdock, a sociology professor, both of A&M, received the award. Dr. Calvin B. Parnell Jr., an agricultural engineering professor at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, and Dr. John A. Weese, professor and head of engineering technology at the Texas Engineering Experiment Station also received the award.

Board chair Don Powell and Thompson presented recipients with plaques, certificates and medallions. Recipients also will be awarded \$3,000 each year for the next three years.

• The Board approved plans and construction bids for three future structures on the A&M campus.

PLEASE SEE REGENTS ON PAGE 2.

APPROVED

- Health Science Center
- Child care center
- Easterwood Airport Rescue
- Firefighting Facility
- Two grass football fields

HELEN CLANCY/THE BATTALION

Free ride



Collins Johnson, a sophomore international business major, enjoys a game of golf Sunday afternoon at the Texas A&M golf course.

Corps marches in Fort Worth parade

By AMANDA SMITH
 Staff writer

The Texas A&M Corps of Cadets marched through the streets of downtown Fort Worth before the A&M-University of North Texas football game this weekend.

More than 2,000 cadets participated in the Corps trip Saturday morning.

Danny Feather, Corps commander and a senior economics major, said the audience that came to watch the parade exceeded his expectations.

"There was a huge crowd," he said. "Everything went well. We had such an enthusiastic crowd."

Feather said cadets had to find transportation and lodging for the weekend.

"It is an exercise in readiness," he said. "This is where the Aggie family starts. A lot of times you stay with your buddy's family."

Eric Tanner, an Aggie Band member and a senior speech communications major, said Corps trips provide cadets with an opportunity to spend a weekend with their buddies.

"It is a general trip to spend time together," he said. "It is a great chance for the Corps to be present."

Feather said the presence of the Corps

in other Texas cities also aids in recruitment of future Corps members.

He said the Corps usually takes two trips each fall semester, but the A&M's conference football schedule does not allow them to take two trips this year. Fort Worth and Houston are two traditional sites for Corps trips.

Dillard Stone, Class of '80, a former deputy Corps commander and a Fort Worth resident, was not able to attend Saturday's parade but said he remembers the Corps trips he took 20 years ago.

"I remember my freshman year going to Dallas," Stone said. "There were probably 16 to 18 of us between two hotel rooms. From the vantage point of 20 years ago, the cadets from rural areas had an exposure to urban life."

Feather said the trips are a chance to escape to a different setting for the weekend. He said the Corps may take a trip in the spring semester to make up for the second trip traditionally taken in the fall.

Paul Jackman, a cadet and a freshman civil engineering major, said he looks forward to the next Corps trip. He said the trip built camaraderie among his freshman buddies.

"I thought it was a whole lot of fun because I got to meet with my fish buddies," he said.

The Battalion named among nation's ten best

By MATT WEBER
 News editor

The Battalion has been named one of the top 10 newspapers of its publication frequency and school size in the nation by the Associated Collegiate Press and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation.

The newspaper was named a 1996-97 Newspaper Pacemaker finalist, an award given annually. This is the second consecutive year The Battalion was named a finalist, and the third time it has gained this recognition in the past five years.

Dr. Charles C. Self, head of the Texas A&M Department of Journalism, said he was excited about the nomination.

"It is not a surprise to me, but a confirmation of my own judgment of the quality of our paper," he said. "It is a clear indication The Battalion has established a system of excellence in newspaper journalism."

Robert Wegener, general manager of Student Publications, said the award reflects the amount of work put into the newspaper.

"The fact that we have won three [Pacemaker finalist awards] in the past five years is an indication of the dedication and high caliber of the students we have on staff."

The finalists will receive recognition at the ACP/CMA College Media Convention Oct. 30-Nov. 2 in Chicago. At the meeting, national Pacemaker winners will be selected from the finalists.

Michael Landauer, editor in chief of The Battalion for Fall '96 and Class of '97, said the award is proof of the newspaper's continuing improvement.

"It goes to show that The Battalion keeps getting better every semester," he said. "The people there have better equipment and resources than the people who were there five years ago or 10 years ago. Getting this award should make us work harder."

The award recognizes the efforts of the

"Getting this award should make us work harder."
MICHAEL LANDAUER
 FORMER EDITOR IN CHIEF OF THE BATTALION

Fall '96, Spring '97 and Summer '97 Battalion staffs.

Helen Clancy, editor in chief of The Battalion for Fall '97 and a senior English major, said the honor serves as an example for Battalion staff members.

"This achievement reflects the countless hours of dedication on behalf of Battalion section editors and staffers," Clancy said. "Although we have a relatively young staff this semester, I'm optimistic that The Battalion will continue to improve. If we can consistently perform at this level, there's no reason why we can't win the Pacemaker every year."

PLEASE SEE TRADE ON PAGE 10.

University encourages safety during Bonfire cut

By KARIE FEHLER
 Staff writer

Bonfire cut site is in Hearne again this year, and Bonfire leaders say the safety of those traveling to and working at the site will be the priority of Texas A&M.

Bonfire leaders and A&M faculty met last week to discuss safety practices at Bonfire activities after a junior redpot suffered from a heat stroke September 20 while working at cut site.

Blaine Lewis, a junior redpot and a man-

agement major, said the redpot has been released from the hospital and is recuperating with his family in San Antonio. He said the student will return to A&M soon.

This year's cut site is the same as the 1996 cut site, northwest of Hearne in Milam County, about 42 miles from the A&M campus.

John Gallemore, Head Stack and a senior agricultural business major, said precautions are being taken to ensure safe travel conditions for those going to cut.

PLEASE SEE BONFIRE ON PAGE 2.

British business executive encourages international trade

By BRANDYE BROWN
 Staff writer

A CEO from London said U.S. businesses need to expand into the international market to remain competitive with the rest of the world.

Margie Scardino, a CEO of Pierce and Publishing Co. in London, spoke to more than 100 Texas

A&M students Friday morning as part of the Executive Lecture Series in the MBA program.

Scardino, one of the top female executives in the United Kingdom, said \$800 billion will move from U.S. to international investment.

"The U.S. needs to have a wider world perspective, because soon small- and medium-sized businesses will be moving into places

most people have never heard of because soon the national market will not be big enough to satisfy them," she said.

The Baylor graduate said England's small market forced Pierce and Publishing Co. to expand into other markets.

She said for U.S. businesses to look into other markets, U.S. government policy needs to move

away from isolationism and protectionism of its domestic market.

Scardino said the U.S. government is looking inward, becoming less tolerant of other cultures and less interested in the rest of the world as U.S. businesses are expanding into the international market.

"The government of America can survive for a while with domes-

tic interests, but businesses cannot survive without the international market for their products," she said. "Don't think that U. S. businesses will be content to be locked up in the U.S."

Scardino said knowledge of other cultures is important when conducting international business.

INSIDE lifestyles

Hail Elvis, Full of Grace: A&M professor researches the legacy of the King.
 See Page 4

sports

Texas A&M Football Team tops UNT, 38-10, after second-half rally.
 See Page 7

opinion

Comments: Students should take initiative in preventing alcohol abuse among peers.
 See Page 9

online

http://bat-web.tamu.edu
 Look up with state and national news through The Fire, AP's 24-hour online news service.