

BRIEFS

Vice chancellor receives award

G. Kemble Bennett, director of the Texas Engineering Extension Service and associate vice chancellor for engineering at A&M, received the Ecos Medal from the Society of Logistics Engineering (SOLE) Aug. 7 in London.

SOLE the award in recognition of achievements in the development or administration of logistics education.

Bennett, a professor of industrial engineering, was cited for his work producing the field of logistics engineering into traditional academic settings throughout the country.

UPD sponsoring bike ID program

The University Police Department and the Department of Parking, Traffic and Transportation will sponsor a bicycle identification and registration program today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Rudder fountain. Students and faculty can register and engrave their bicycles for free.

PTTS officers will complete the paperwork for registration. UPD officers will engrave bicycles with the owner's drivers license number.

Midnight Yell at Colorado capitol

Midnight yell practice will be on the steps of the capitol building in Denver Friday night.

The football game between Texas A&M and the University of Colorado will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday in Boulder.

Employees honored at University

Six faculty and staff members and six graduate students were recognized at the Texas A&M University College of Education and Development Council fall awards ceremony Sept. 19 in the Memorial Student Center.

John Morris of the Department of Educational Curriculum and Instruction and David Erickson of the Department of Educational Administration received the Association of Former Students' College-level Teaching Awards.

Michael Delp of the Department of Health and Kinesiology was given the College of Education Development Council's Outstanding New Faculty Award.

Patricia Larke, associate professor of educational curriculum and instruction, received the DOE Development Council's Extraordinary Service Award.

Becky Carr, graduate programs director in the Dean's Office, was awarded the Outstanding Support Staff Award.

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Senior Rich Coody has risen from a former walk-on to a team leader for the Aggies. See Page 7

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Francis: Students should adhere to good study habits to make the grade. See Page 9

online

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

Freshmen elect class governing body

By BRANDYE BROWN
Staff writer

Freshman class elections will be today and tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at polling locations around the Texas A&M campus.

Elections for the Class of '99 vice president also are today.

There are 22 candidates for Class of '01 president and 11 candidates for Class of '01 vice president.

Pat Troy, election commission chair and a senior political science major, said the number of freshmen running for class positions is higher this year than in last year's election.

Troy said students should vote

so they can decide who will represent them at A&M.

"It can be hard, because of the number of (candidates), to make an informed choice," he said. "Responsibility falls to the candidate to get out there and advertise and be available to students. But responsibility also falls to the voter to be educated and know who the candidates are to make an educated decision when you get to the polls."

Jeremy Poland, Class of '00 president and a sophomore business major, said he encourages freshman students to get involved in class decisions by voting in elections.

PLEASE SEE ELECT ON PAGE 6.

Election Voting Locations

- MSC
- Evans Library
- Blocker
- Zachry
- The Underground
- The Commons
- Duncan
- Kleberg
- Wehner
- Rec Center

Student government tests new 'ranking' method in current freshman elections

By ERICA ROY
City editor

The Texas A&M Student Government is testing an election "ranking system" during today's and tomorrow's elections.

If successful, the process will be included in election revisions submitted to the Student Senate this fall.

The ranking system eliminates run-off elections by having voters choose their second-choice candidate in the general election.

In general elections, students

choose a first-choice candidate, then rank the remaining candidates by preference. Students are not required to rank all candidates.

After votes have been tallied, the candidate with the least number of first-choice votes will be dropped from the election.

The students who voted for the dropped candidate will have their votes given to their second-choice candidates.

Votes will be redistributed according to rank until one candidate wins the election by a majority.

Cadets raise money to aid fellow Aggie

By COLLEEN KAVANAGH
Staff writer

Donations are being collected for an Aggie Band cadet who is in a coma at St. Joseph Regional Health Center.

Zack Washburn, a sophomore business major from Converse, Texas, was hit by a car Sept. 13 while walking on Harvey Road.

Megan Dibbley, a junior genetics major in B-Battery, is advertising and managing donations for a fund to help pay for Washburn's medical expenses.

"Donations have been made by family members of students in the Corps (of Cadets)," she said. "We have collected almost \$3,000."

David Morefield, a sophomore business administration major in B-Battery, said Washburn's insurance covers 80 percent of his bills.

"Insurance will only cover his bills if he is enrolled as a full-time student," he said. "As soon as he loses this status, his insurance won't cover anything."

Morefield said people who know about the accident are trying to help the Washburn

family.

"(Corps commandant Maj.) Gen. (M.T. "Ted") Hoppgood and his family are going out of their way to help Zack's family," he said. "The way people are supporting him is a great display of Aggie spirit."

Dibbley said Washburn is in stable condition and has tried to open his eyes and squeeze people's hands. She said the doctors' main concern is Washburn's head injury.

Clay Kennedy, commander of the Aggie Band and a senior international studies and political science major, said the band is more cohesive as a unit this year, and the strength of that unity has helped members through the accident.

"After practice every day the Band gathers together and says a prayer for Zack," he said. "We feel that praying is the most important thing everyone can do."

Kennedy said Washburn also needs blood donations.

"Zack has lost a lot of blood, so students can go to St. Joseph Hospital and donate blood in his name," he said.

Monetary donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 8163, College Station, Texas 77844.

Department establishes anti-violence campaign

By AMANDA SMITH
Staff writer

Gender Issues Education Services, a division of the Department of Student Life, will begin a campaign today for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month to promote safety and security in romantic relationships.

Becki Elkins-Nesheim, coordinator of Gender Issues and Education Services, said some students on the Texas A&M campus are in abusive relationships.

She said Gender Issues Education Services will hold its second "Singed-Out Aggie Style" program Oct. 21 in the MSC Flagroom. The program focuses on building positive dating relationships.

"It's a fun event," Elkins-Nesheim said. "We will bring in some folks and play the dating game like on MTV. Following, we will talk about healthy dating and some of the signs of negative relationships."

Elkins-Nesheim said constant criticism, jealousy, persistent arguing and physical violence are among the indicators of abuse in relationships.

"Healthy relationships are based on equality," she said. "People really need to look at their dating relationships. Students have rights, and their partners must have rights as well."

The Brazos County Domestic Violence Task Force and Phoebe's Home will sponsor a candlelight vigil at the City of Bryan Municipal building Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in memory of victims of rape and date-related violence.

Ashley Peterson, the law enforcement specialist for Phoebe's Home, said speakers at the vigil will include members of Bryan-College Station shelters and students.

Peterson said people sometimes dismiss dating violence as a problem.

"I see a lot of dating violence," she said. "When people live together and violent behavior occurs, that is domestic violence."

Phoebe's Home provides services to victims of abuse, primarily to women and children, in the Brazos Valley area.

"We are the only shelter (of this kind) that cares for women in the 100-mile radius," Peterson said. "We offer a shelter for victims of domestic violence. We offer counseling, food, parenting classes and medical and legal referrals. We are trying

to help the victims build a new life."

Sherry Hostetter, assistant director of the Rape Crisis Center of Texas A&M, said a large percent of victims know their attackers.

"We have a whole lot more of these cases reported to us on campus," she said. "About 94 percent of our cases each year are cases where the offender knows the victim."

Hostetter said date rape and acquaintance rape, where the victim knows but is not involved in a dating relationship with the attacker, are the two most prevalent forms of rape.

"Acquaintance rape might be a friend of your roommate," she said. "It might be somebody that you have met in classes."

"When people live together and violent behavior occurs, that is domestic violence."

ASHLEY PETERSON
LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIST
PHOEBE'S HOME

The Rape Crisis Center provides a 24-hour hot line, a 24-hour escort service to two emergency rooms of Bryan-College Station hospitals and on-campus classes.

The center also provides a confidential web page on the Internet. Hostetter said the system allows abuse victims to seek help without revealing personal information.

Denise Goertz, a volunteer at the Rape Crisis Center and a senior genetics major, said victims can receive on-line counseling.

"As far as we know, we are the only rape crisis center in the United States that offers this service," Goertz said.

Goertz said during her year at the center, she has answered telephone calls on the hot line, taken victims to the hospital and counseled victims.

"There are two things that always come to my mind, to promote awareness and to provide reassurance and support," Goertz said.

Students can contact the Rape Crisis Center at 268-RAPE or at <http://rape.crisis.txcyber.com>.

Gender Issues Education Services (845-1741) or Phoebe's Home (775-5355) also

Land of cotton



ROBERT MCKAY/THE BATTALION

Kevin Ripple, a junior agricultural development major, collects cotton for seed Tuesday afternoon off Highway 60.

Society encourages awareness of breast cancer, urges testing

By ROBERT SMITH
Senior staff writer

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, the American Cancer Society (ACS) is reminding women breast cancer can be detected by monthly self-examinations.

The ACS reports one out of every eight women will develop breast cancer, and more than 44,000 women die each year from the disease.

Margaret Griffith, health education coordinator at the A.P. Beutel Health Center, said monthly self-examinations in the shower can help detect breast cancer in its early stages.

"The shower is a good place to check because you can feel more on the skin," she said.

Three to seven days after

menstruation is the best time to check for breast cancer, Griffith said.

ACS recommends different breast cancer check-up routines for different age groups. All women should perform monthly self-examinations as well as with doctor examinations.

For women 20 to 40 years old, a doctor examination every three years is recommended.

Women 40 to 49 years old should have a doctor examination every year, with a mammogram every one to two years.

Women over the age of 50 should have a doctor examination and a mammogram every year.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) lists several risk factors for developing breast cancer, including family his-

tory, diet (low fiber/high fat) and age.

Griffith said breast cancer affects mainly women, but men also can be affected.

"Men can develop breast cancer on the pectoral, under the arm and on the lymph node," she said.

Griffith said breast cancer usually can be cured if it is detected within the first three months.

Griffith said breast-care treatment is improving.

"There are more surgical options now than there ever have been before," she said.

The American Cancer Society has more information on breast cancer on its Web site at <http://www.cancer.org>.

More information about breast cancer and breast self-exams also is available at the health center.