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The Texas A&M University Directory includes listings of departments, administrators, faculty, staff, students, other information about A&M, plus yellow pages.

### MAIL CALL

Continued from Page 9

Additionally, most of the phrases seen on the pots are from movies or books, for instance the pictured "whip his ass, sea bass" is from *Dumb and Dumber*. In fact, many of the phrases the writers are so offended by are common on commercially available stickers and T-shirts.

College is a time of experimentation and tastelessness if glorified in many different organizations, not just Bonfire. Haven't they ever seen *Animal House*? Or maybe they've never seen a movie rated higher than PG-13 as their actions and words imply. We suggest they need to grow up and get over it.

Katherine McCauley  
Class of '96

Christina Weston  
Class of '97

There have been numerous times in the past that I have been tempted to write *The Battalion* to right a wrong developed due to someone's ignorance, but I have yielded. Today however I feel compelled to write.

I have to say that I am very happy that Mandy Cater decided to pull her head out of her ass and check out that "vulgar Bonfire crowd." I am surprised you found your way out to the polo field to see these pots. After all these are the same pots they have had all year, the same ones they have worn to cut.

If you are really worried about the A&M image at Bonfire, why don't you get your ass out there and participate with a pot that has flowers and butterflies or maybe even "Hello Kitty." It seems that the only people that have problems with the whole thing are those who do not participate.

If the University regulated what was to be written on these pots, then they would violate every student's right to free speech, the pots after all are not University property. The Red Pots have only voiced that they do not wish to encourage that type of display. Well they are public figures so of course they are going to pan out.

I, on the other hand, will fully

endorse vulgarity and swearing. Both I find are very cathartic while working on Bonfire, a tough and rugged tradition of hard work and fortitude. The people who go out there do so knowing full well that they are to get dirty, and that they will have bloodied or raw hands.

Aggie Bonfire is not a politically correct activity, so stop trying to make it one. The more you piss and moan, the suggestions will grow ever stronger and ever louder.

Remember, even after all this, Cater and countless other Aggies will still go out to watch it burn. There is a saying we Bonfire people have for those who choose not to participate: See ya when it burns.

Dan Grimm  
Class of '98

In response to Michelle Voss' Oct. 15 feature "Building Their Own Tradition."

Voss said that women do not hold the same position as men at Bonfire. Well, crew chiefs and yellow pots are positions held within male dorms. Female dorms also have Bonfire "chairs" who lead the girls out at Bonfire. Just because the position does not have the word "pot" attached to it, that doesn't mean she is not a leader.

True, there has not been a female Red Pot, but that is not because there is a rule against it. I don't think I know a single girl who is capable of the complete dedication, sacrifice of free time, and pure physical strength it takes to be a coordinator. If there is a girl out there who can compete with any of the Bonfire Coordinators in those areas, I know I would not like to run into her in a dark alley.

I would also like to add that there are organizations that exist solely for the purpose of getting girls involved in Bonfire. Bonfire Reload Crew and Women's Bonfire Committee are two organizations that work hand in hand with the Bonfire Coordinators to help build Aggie Bonfire. Both organizations are represented at Bonfire site and help to take care of the men and women who build Bonfire.

There is more to Bonfire than just being "water wenchers" and cutting down trees. There are many other aspects of Bonfire that Voss did not cover in her article. Bonfire girls are not ax-wielding neo-Nazi

feminists or "pot chasers." Most of the girls help with Bonfire because they love it. I am sure the Pink Pots and the officers of the Bonfire Reload Crew spend their time helping with Aggie Bonfire, than any of the girls who only out to cut.

In response to Michelle Voss' "Tradition brings students to nature" column:

About eleven years ago on my first backpacking trip, three day, two night adventure, and I was hooked. My first trip was with my friends and I slept under a bed of earth under a blanket of stars. We gasped in awe as the stars lit up by the sun streaming across the night sky.

Since then I have been on countless excursions ranging from three day, fifteen mile trips to a day seventy mile treks. I've stood at elevations where the air is too thin for trees to survive.

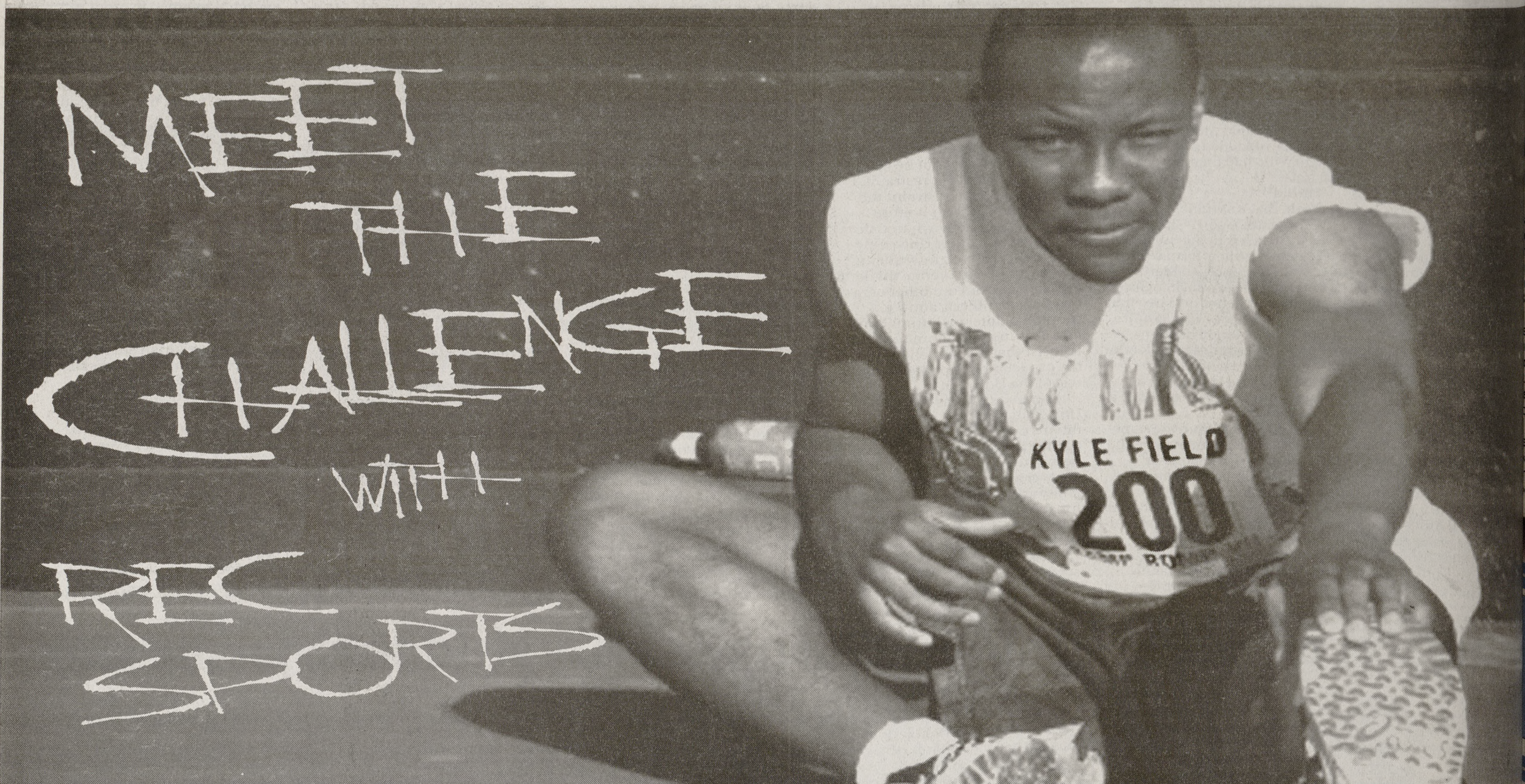
I've seen a herd of elk graze up from a forest of ferns and charge across the trail. I've jumped from cliff walls into river pools and relaxed in natural hot springs. I've spent a week canoeing down the Guadalupe river battling rapids and flash floods.

Getting back to nature is being a guest. It is about accepting you. It does, as Voss said, put life into perspective. One knows just how small they are in the grand scheme of things.

"Testing yourself against the rugged wilderness" is not overpowering it. It is about coming one with it and asking only for what is necessary to survive. Getting back to nature leaves only footprints and memories.

I find it hard to believe that Thoreau's "back to nature" perspective would support the cutting and burning of close to 10,000 trees. Bonfire may be a dent out to nature, but how much nature will be left to enjoy after more years of destruction begins.

Adam G...



Aquatics Fitness Feature Programs Sport Clubs Intramurals Golf Course Ultimate Adventures Student Rec Center

INTRAMURALS	REGISTRATION
Table Tennis	Oct. 13-21
Wrestling	Oct. 13-21
Halloween Fun Run	Oct. 20-28
Darts	Oct. 20-28

The Last Ramp Romp of this Millennium!  
**Kyle Field Ramp Romp VIII**  
**November 22**  
Registration October 20 - November 18

Check out our fliers for details on our exciting programs or  
**TEXAS A&M REC SPORTS**  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 845-7826  
OR VISIT OUR HOMEPAGE AT [HTTP://RECSPORTS.TAMU.EDU](http://recsports.tamu.edu)

CLINICS & DAY/WEEKEND TRIPS	DATE	REGISTRATION
Kayak Open Practice Session	Oct. 21	Ends Today!
Backpacking Trip	Oct. 25-26	Ends Today!
Kayak Roll Clinic	Oct. 28	Oct. 13-27
Horseback Day Trip	Nov. 1	Oct. 13-27
Backpacking Trip	Nov. 1	Oct. 13-27

EXTENDED TRIPS	DATE	REGISTRATION
Thanksgiving Break:		
Canoe the Rio Grande, Big Bend	Nov. 26-30	Sept. 8-Nov. 10
Backpacking New Mexico	Nov. 26-30	Sept. 8-Nov. 10
Caribbean Trip to Cozumel, Mexico	Jan. 11-15	Sept. 8-Oct. 31

For more information about these programs please call 845-4511.  
**AGGIE PUMP FEST - Indoor Climbing Competition**  
Sunday, November 2 at the Rec Center Rock Wall. Register for competition beginning at 1pm on competition day. \$10 entry fee includes T-shirt! There will be prizes and giveaways!

AQUATICS	REGISTRATION
• Rescue SCUBA Diver Course	Sept. 15-Oct. 22
• CPR for the Professional Rescuer	Oct. 1-27
• Introduction to Spring Board Diving	Oct. 1-27
• Advanced SCUBA Diver Course	Oct. 1-Nov. 4
• Adult Learn to Swim	Oct. 15-Nov. 4
• Stroke Improvement Clinic	Oct. 15-Nov. 17
• CPR for the Professional Rescuer	Oct. 15-Nov. 17

For more information on these programs please call Dean Ekeren 862-3224.

**FREE HEALTHY LIVING LECTURE SERIES**  
October 15 - *The Role of Physical Activity in the Control of Body Weight*. Renowned speaker and author Dr. Jack Wilmore lectures. Do formal exercise programs contribute to major losses of fat in obese or overweight individuals? Lecture is from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in Rm 281 Rec Center. Members of the Bryan/College Station are welcome. For more information please call DeAun 862-3995.

FEATURE PROGRAMS
American Taekwondo: Every Mon. & Wed. beginning Oct. 27, 6:30-7:30 in room 303. 5 week session for \$20!

Jitterbug & Two-Step for Intermediate dancers  
Every Tues. & Thurs. beginning Oct. 28, 8:15-9:15 in room 303. 8 Classes for only \$20 per couple!

Yoga Levels 1& 2:  
Every Tues. & Thurs. beginning Oct. 28, in room 303. Level 1: 6-7pm Level 2: 7-8pm. 5 week session for \$20!

Golf Lessons:  
November 3, 5, 10, & 12, 6-7pm, Penberthy Golf Range. Rec Members: \$25. Non-Rec Members: \$40.  
\*Rec Members only please. For more information on these programs please call DeAun 862-3995.