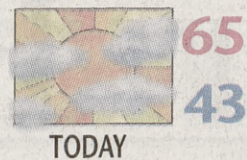


# BATTALION



See extended forecast, Page 2.

44TH YEAR • ISSUE 42 • 12 PAGES

COLLEGE STATION • TX

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 28 • 1997

## Analysts: B-CS unaffected by market crash

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

The Dow Jones industrial average tumbled 550 points Monday, forcing the stock market to shut down for the first time since 1981 assassination attempt on President Reagan.

Some Bryan-College Station financial analysts say the community will not be affected by the fall.

The market's best-known barometer fell 4.26 points to 7,161.15, surpassing the 8-point Black Monday crash of 1987 as its biggest point drop ever.

But on a percentage basis, Monday's 7.18

percent drop by the Dow ranked as the 12th biggest ever and did not come close to the 22-percent loss on Oct. 19, 1987.

Although the Dow is still up 11 percent since the beginning of the year, the sell-off put the Dow's losses at about 900 points over the past four sessions and 1,100 points since it set a record high at 8,259.31 on Aug. 6.

"It's a bloodbath," Arnold Kaufman, a market analyst at Standard & Poor's, said. "It scares you because when you get a decline this fast, there's a risk it will keep snowballing."

Dr. Morgan Reynolds, a professor of economics at Texas A&M, said he is optimistic

about corporate earnings and said nothing has happened to warrant nervousness.

"The prospects of capitalism are very good and I'm not concerned," Reynolds said. "Local investors may have mixed views because some people feel poorer when this happens. But, those who keep long-run investments in mind will benefit."

The Dow's drop triggered two circuit breakers on the New York Stock Exchange that had never been set off since they were put in place following the 1987 sell-off. The first circuit breaker, at 350 points, closed the market for 30 minutes. The second, at 550, halted trading for the day.

It remains to be seen how much of Monday's selling was fueled by mutual fund investors. Publicly, however, many individual investors portrayed an unflappable facade.

"From an investor's standpoint, this is an excellent opportunity to make money," Chris Davenport, a senior finance major at A&M, said. "Inflation and interest rates are low and our economy is healthy. There is no reason it should drop much more."

For many analysts, the drop was notable because the Dow has fallen 13.3 percent from its Aug. 6 record high of 8,259.31, its first downturn of at least 10 percent in seven

years, the longest such streak since the 1960s.

Declining issues also outnumbered advances by an astounding 16-to-1 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 685.50 million shares, the busiest day ever in the exchange's history.

Stocks started the day lower as another sharp sell-off in Hong Kong triggered another wave of selling in financial markets around the globe, but the selling did not pick up steam in the United States until Monday afternoon. The Dow, for example, was down just 115 points at midday.

PLEASE SEE MARKET ON PAGE 10.

## University will not intervene in Bonfire profanity situation

By ROBERT SMITH  
Senior staff writer

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president of student affairs, said Monday Texas A&M will take no action to

See related editorial, Page 11.

op Bonfire participants from wearing sexually suggestive phrases on their hard hats, or "pots."

"I don't think there's anything to step into," Southerland said. "It sounds like the students have responded student leadership."

Bonfire workers were photographed earlier this month at stack site wearing pots with lewd phrases.

At the Bonfire Advisory Council meeting in the ISC Monday, student leaders discussed lewd phrases worn on the pots at Bonfire.

Kevin Jackson, Bonfire adviser, said Bonfire workers have taken steps this week to clean up their pots.

"I think it was the right decision," Jackson said. "The way we've made good progress and we're going to continue to make good progress."

Southerland told Jackson and Head Stack John Gallemore before yesterday's Bonfire Advisory Council meeting he is pleased with the progress and the University will not take any further action.

Bonfire leaders and advisers first discussed the issue

at last week's council meeting.

Southerland said last week Bonfire workers had one week to voluntarily remove sexually profane phrases from their pots without the University taking action.

"We mutually agreed that one week was the appropriate time for students to assist in no longer putting profanities on the pots," Southerland said.

Students must wear pots for protection when they are working at Bonfire cut or stack site.

Jackson said last week no written rules will be made about profanities, but Bonfire leaders will advise participants to remove profane statements from their pots.

"What we're trying to do is appeal to people's common sense, that with the right of expression comes the right of decency and respect," Jackson said.

MSC Great Issues will host a panel Wednesday to discuss the issue of profane phrases on Bonfire pots.

Student Body President Curtis Childers will moderate the discussion, and Gallemore and Battalion editor in chief Helen Clancy will be on the panel.

The discussion will focus on whether Bonfire needs to uphold certain standards, who would define the standards and what role the student body should play in these decisions.

The discussion will have an open microphone and will be in the MSC Flagroom.

## Changes made to Commons

Housing office hopes new additions will curb littering

By AMANDA SMITH  
Staff writer

The South Area Housing office has made changes to the front entrance of the Commons Lobby in response to student complaints about overcrowding and litter from cigarette smoke and trash.

Rick Turnbough, area coordinator for the South Area office, said complaints from students prompted the changes.

"We are hoping that the problems of smoking and overcrowding can be taken care of," he said. "In the past two weeks, we have seen improvements. It's a behavioral situation. We are hoping that students

can curtail their behavior."

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) purchased two large trash containers with ashtrays to encourage disposal of trash and cigarettes.

The housing office also moved benches away from the doors to reduce congestion at the entrance of the lobby.

Craig Patterson, an RHA delegate for Dunn Hall and a sophomore molecular and cell biology major, said the front entrance provides a hangout for students living in and near the Commons.

"It (the Commons) is a central meeting place for people," Patterson said. "I do not smoke, but the smoke has never affected me. As

long as people are responsible, I think that the changes will be good. Although the benches are in the same local area, (the movement) uncongests the door areas."

Sean Myers, a resident of the Commons and a sophomore archaeology major, said he likes to smoke and visit at the Commons entrance.

"It's convenient," Myers said. "You can study and you can talk. It's too quiet on the balconies (to smoke). The Commons is a good place to meet friends. I do not think that moving the benches has changed things a whole lot."

PLEASE SEE COMMONS ON PAGE 6.

### Orange you cute



RONY ANGKRIWAN/THE BATTALION

Johanna Becerra, 2, picks out her pumpkin for the Halloween season at the Farm Patch Monday afternoon.

### PROFILE:

#### Kevin Carreathers

By COLLEEN KAVANAGH  
Staff writer



Carreathers

Kevin Carreathers, director of Multicultural Services, assists Texas A&M in diversifying the campus and helps minority students find success at the University.

"I help keep ethnic minority students in school," he said. "Students are the best part of A&M, and I enjoy helping students feel at home here."

Tamara Raven, an accounting graduate student, has known Carreathers since her freshman year, when she was in one of his classes.

Raven said Carreathers stressed school and grades as the primary reasons for being at Texas A&M and encouraged her to become involved on campus to develop additional skills.

"He has helped me fine-tune my leadership skills in student organizations such as the Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference (SBLC) while encouraging me not to be afraid of a challenge," she said.

Raven said Carreathers' leadership as the director of Multicultural Services has promoted diversity on campus.

"Mr. Carreathers has stressed the need for us to be open-minded about different races and cultures," she said. "Under his leadership, the Department of Multicultural Services has been filled with a staff and organizations that promote diversity for all."

Carreathers graduated from the University of North Texas with a psychology degree and did his graduate work at Prairie View A&M.

Carreathers said he came to Texas A&M because he wanted to work at a large, research-oriented university and be closer to his family. He previously worked as an assistant to the dean of students and hall adviser at DePauw University and hall director at Texas A&M-Commerce.

PLEASE SEE CARREATHERS ON PAGE 6.

#### Campus Leaders

#### Eric Williams

By AMANDA SMITH  
Staff writer



Williams

Eric Williams attributes his rise to Residence Hall Association (RHA) president in part to an experience in the fifth grade in which a teacher provided him

with the courage to take on challenges.

"The turning point for me was in the fifth grade," he said. "I was in lower classes and my math teacher was getting promoted, and she placed us into tougher classes. I was placed into an advanced math class. She told me that I could overcome problems."

Williams, a senior biomedical science major, said he began to enjoy challenges after that experience.

During his high-school years at Jersey Village High School outside of Houston, he began taking more challenging courses, Williams said.

"If it hadn't been for that class, then I wouldn't be in position that I am today," he said. "I thrive on challenges now."

The academic challenge and a strong science background prompted Williams to attend Texas A&M. He became the first Aggie in his family. Williams' sister followed in his footsteps as a freshman this year.

Dr. Beverly Clement, an associate professor of Veterinary Anatomy and Public Health, said Williams has showed initiative in doing research outside of class and helping students.

"Eric initially started out doing some research," Clement said. "He has become interested in helping the students. He brings in research on food toxicology to update our Web page. He wants things to work perfectly, and he has been crucial to the behind-the-scenes items that keep class running smoothly."

Although Williams has applied to medical school, he said he is considering his alternatives.

PLEASE SEE WILLIAMS ON PAGE 10.

### INSIDE lifestyles

Volunteerism: A&M students serve as tutors, mentors to local elementary school students  
See Page 3

### sports

A&M kicks off the 1997-98 basketball season with 'Basketball Mania' tonight.  
See Page 7

### opinion

Hoster: Greek organizations must show cultural diversity in their memberships.  
See Page 11

### online

http://bat-web.tamu.edu  
Access past stories and editorials on the Bonfire profanity issue through the Battalion archives.