

Check-out time



Lary Whitely, a scientific-instrument machinist, and Sam Bielamowicz, a vacuum and cryogenics technician, check the measurements of N.I.M.R.O.D. (Neutron Ion Multi-Detector for Reaction Oriented Dynamics) at the Cyclotron Thursday.

CONFERENCE

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The effect on freshman admissions, strategies to promote diversity and implications and recommendations for practice on the decision were discussed by directors, professors, and students at A&M.

Eduardo Urbina, professor of Spanish at A&M, presented a model to minimize the Hopwood effect on Hispanic students.

Urbina said programs geared towards Hispanic studies would benefit the University. He also recommended that A&M implement a center for Hispanic studies and create major and minor degrees on these studies.

"The number of Hispanic students choosing schools other than A&M continues to increase

because we do not have an environment here for these students," Urbina said.

Parker C. Johnson, research assistant for the Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis at the University of Southern California, presented the movie "Shattering the Silences."

The movie represents the cultures of African-Americans, Latinos, Native-Americans and Asian-Americans and how these cultures contribute to a more inclusive campus environment. It also presented the pressures minority faculty face in white-majority institutions.

The film showed the benefits of having a diverse faculty and revealed the challenges predominantly white institutions face such as recruiting and retaining minority students, developing diverse programs and interracial communications.

CHANGES

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David Rickerson, a resident of Hart Hall and a sophomore computer engineering major, said Residence Life needs to give students a chance to provide feedback on changes that will impact their lives.

"Hart Hall is our home," Rickerson said. "We are a family and somebody knocked on our door the other day and said that we are going to shatter that family. We are not going to be given consideration simply because we are students. As students, we need to stand up and demand that we be given respect."

Ron Sass, the director of

Residence Life, said the most significant reason for the proposed changes is to accommodate a greater number of students who want to live on campus.

"We lose a lot of people because we can't accommodate more in an air-conditioned space," Sass said. "But we do not need more than one non-air conditioned residence hall. We could make the air-conditioned hall more attractive to residents."

Rudely said that both Hart and Walton, the only remaining non-air conditioned halls on campus, currently have vacancies. Less than 80 incoming resident applicants have requested non-air-conditioned halls, Rudely said.

"Meeting the consumer demand to provide air condi-

tioning could make a positive impact on the residence hall community," Rudely said. "We are trying to please returning and incoming students. We have more housing applicants than space at the beginning of the semester, but the demand for non-air conditioned residence halls is much less."

Jason Taylor, an RHA member and a junior civil engineering major, said the installation of window units needs to be given technical consideration by Residence Life.

"Window units are noisy," Taylor said. "That is inherent to their design. People are living in these dorms seven days a week. That would be an increased noise factor and a near doubling in rent for Walton residents."

Bush to be immunization reminder

HOUSTON (AP) — Parents of young children will be bringing home from the holidays their bundles of joy but a congressional bill from Gov. George W. Bush and his cabinet reminds the new moms and dads to get their children immunized against diseases.

Texas on Thursday became the 33rd and largest state to join a program sponsored by Kansas City-based Hallmark Cards Inc. encouraging immunizations.

A Hallmark greeting card signed by the governor and given to parents includes a check list for recording immunizations children need by the age of 2. It also reminds parents to read the card.

"This simple card sends a powerful message that in Texas our children's health is a top priority," Bush said.

About 74 percent of Texas children are immunized against diseases like hepatitis, polio and measles. That's up from 40 percent in Houston, it was 17 percent in 1990, Texas Health Commissioner Archer said.

"We have got to work diligently to improve the immunization rates," he said. "We've got a ways to go."

"Far too many children are not getting their vaccines on time," Bush said. "This card will serve as a reminder to get the needed shots so their children grow up to be healthy and happy." Immunization is education and a lot of parents are just not aware.

"The health of every single citizen is important. It's hard to have a bright future if you're not healthy."

The first of some 326,000 cards, written in English and Spanish, went to parents of children at St. Joseph Hospital, where Archer visited several new moms and dads.

"We're very honored," Alice Lee, who has a 2-day-old son, Eric, said. "Immunizations are very important. They give us a little incentive."

"Anything that reminds us helps," said Ramirez of Deer Park, who has a 4-year-old daughter, Sarah.

Almost 1,000 babies are born daily in Texas. The immunization cards are being distributed to hospitals, birthing centers, state health care providers.

"Our experience in other states is that a personal message from the parent's first lady, who are parents themselves, is more effective," said community development manager. "When new parents get that message, they respond emotionally and that's what we need to get those immunizations."

The 33 states now involved in the program cover 60 percent of all the births in the United States and its territories, or about 70 percent of all births, she said.

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AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)	1:00 4:00 7:00 9:55 12:45
DEEP RISING (R)	4:20 7:35 10:25 12:45
DESPERATE MEASURES (R)	11:15 1:45 4:15 7:10 9:35 12:00
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)	11:00 1:45 4:35 7:20 10:10 12:45
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (R)	12:15 2:45 5:15 7:45 10:15 12:45
HALF BAKED (R)	2:20 6:55 11:30
HARD RAIN (R)	11:50 4:35 9:10
L.A. CONFIDENTIAL (R)	12:30 3:30 6:30 9:30 12:30
★ SPHERE (R)	1:20 4:10 7:00 9:50 12:35
MOUSEHUNT (PG)	11:05 1:20
★ REPLACEMENT KILLERS (R)	11:00 1:15 3:30 5:45 8:00 10:15 12:30
SPICE WORLD (PG-13)	12:05 2:30 4:55 7:25
★ THE WEDDING SINGER (PG-13)	12:30 2:45 5:00 7:50 10:20 12:40
★ THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R)	11:40 2:10 4:40 7:10 9:40 12:10
TITANIC (PG-13)	1:00 5:00 9:00
	12:00 4:00 8:00 11:55
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG-13)	9:45 12:15
WAG THE DOG (R)	11:30 2:15 4:45 7:30 10:00 12:20

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