

**JOHN J. KOLDUS III
FACULTY/STAFF ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD**

Recognizes an outstanding faculty/staff member for his or her interest in student growth, education, and unity through student organization work. Any student, student organization, faculty, or staff member may nominate. For more information or an application, contact Mrs. Jane E. Bailey at 845-1914 or Mr. Patrick Q. Ramos at 845-4768.

Nominations due Friday, February 20, 1998
by 5 p.m. at MS 1237 or dropped off
at the Memorial Student Center Room 223

**Tobacco settlement would allow
advertising at some sport events**

FORT WORTH (AP) — Texas' settlement with the tobacco industry grants an exemption allowing tobacco companies to continue sponsoring NASCAR races and other special events.

The landmark \$15.3 billion settlement, however, bans most outdoor tobacco advertising in the state, including billboards at Texas Stadium and other venues, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported Sunday.

Exceptions written into the deal allow some sponsorships by tobacco companies to continue, the newspaper reported.

A proposed national tobacco settlement might nullify those exceptions if President Clinton is able to convince Congress to accept his proposal, which is meeting stiff resistance from some congressional leaders.

The Clinton's proposal outlaws all sponsorships and outdoor advertising. Barring a national settlement, states would individually be allowed to negotiate deals with the industry, the paper reports.

"This all points out why there should be a national policy and not a state-by-state policy," South Carolina attorney Joseph Rice said. Rice was involved in Texas' lawsuit and similar litigation in more than 30 states.

Ward Tisdale, a spokesperson for Attorney General Dan Morales, said Texas tried to eliminate all billboard

advertising and sponsorships.

"We don't want any tobacco advertisement in the state, but there are some exceptions that were haggled and this was the agreement that came out of that," Tisdale said.

The attorney general's office and local advertising executives told the paper that the Texas settlement allows tobacco billboards as long as they are promoting an event and not a product.

Other signs, such as a giant Marlboro Man billboard at Texas Stadium, must come down. Since its opening in 1994, The Ballpark in Arlington has a policy against accepting tobacco advertising.

Scott Williams, a tobacco industry spokesman, said it is unlikely the industry will keep up billboards promoting an event for a long time.

General manager of the Texas Motor Speedway, Eddie Gossage, said he is not sure what is prohibited and worries that the new guidelines might make it harder to attract events such as the Winston Cup.

"Most NASCAR venues have two races," Gossage said. He says the fact that the prohibitions does not exist in other states "makes it tough to plead our case."

Giving up ties to motor sports is something the tobacco industry was not willing to part with in its negotiations with Morales, Williams said.

"We don't want any tobacco advertising in the state, but there are some exceptions that were haggled and this was the agreement that came out of that."

**Ward Tisdale
Spokesperson for Dan Morales**

PROTEST

Continued from Page 1

"We're hoping to do two things," he said. "We want to be faithful to the Christian call to protect life and to create awareness in the community. The Brazos Valley is overwhelping pro-life. There are many people who are feeling anxious and disappointed that Planned Parenthood is using abortions."

GREEK

Continued from Page 1

In an awards ceremony at Tap on Feb. 21, the top three winners overall, the top three winners of the penny wars and the top winners of the intramurals were recognized.

Winners are determined by percentage of points earned by Greek chapter membership.

EL NIÑO

Continued from Page 1

Belcher said B-CS residents may see increased rain and Niño subsides in late spring.

"The outlook for the next months here in Southeast Texas for above-normal precipitation and below-normal temperatures in anticipation that the warmer in the Eastern Pacific Ocean will continue to affect the moisture content of the atmosphere during storm tracks," he said. "After we should experience more normal Texas weather once again."

Zamora trial set to jury for verdict

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Two weeks of testimony, jurors next week must decide between different portrayals of former mistress and accused killer Diane Zamora.

Prosecutors say she's an obese and vengeful woman with no remorse about ordering her boyfriend to be killed.

Her attorneys, however, paint Zamora as a helpless victim trying to take the fall for her manipulative, domineering ex-fiance.

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Austin rail project picking up steam

AUSTIN (AP) — A year after some 10,000 people lined up to glimpse the future of passenger rail service in Austin, there is little evidence that commuter trains will arrive anytime soon.

But the idea is slowly picking up steam as the city's transit agency, Capital Metro, prepares its big pitch for \$100 million in federal transportation aid.

Congress will decide this spring what projects get federal money, and it could be Austin's last chance for the next five years. Competition is fierce.

"Other areas are competing for every scrap of money," said Ross Milloy, president of the Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council, which is pushing another rail project — regional commuter line from Round Rock to San Antonio. "It's a war — a bloody war."

Last year, the agency brought a train called RegioSprinter to town to generate support for building a 29-mile starter line, the so-called red line, from Leander to downtown Austin.

Austinites seemed enthusiastic at the time, and the future looked bright.

But the *Austin American-Statesman* reported Sunday that Capital Metro is behind in preparations for its proposal to Congress. Although the board decided last year to order engineering and environmental studies on the starter line, the agency has not hired consultants to do the work.

Inner turmoil might be responsible for the delays, the newspaper said.

In the past year, the authority has been under fire because of questions about its spending and

management practices.

The state Legislature changed the structure of the agency's board, and the new board fired General Manager Justin Augustine III, who had championed light rail. The agency's longtime rail planner quit.

Current board members promise to speed things up. They say they still see rail in Austin's future; they just cannot say when, or what route it will take.

The first thing board members must do is choose a route to present to voters. A referendum will be held on that question as early as next year.

The fastest plan, using the existing rail line from Leander to downtown Austin, would have rail cars running by 2002. The regional line from Round Rock to San Antonio could have limited service by 2003.

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Tuesday: Baseball vs. Dal. Bapt (DH) 1pm

Wednesday: Basketball (W) vs. Texas 7pm

Friday: Softball GTE Invitational

Baseball vs. Ole Miss 3pm

Tennis (M) vs. SWT 2pm

Saturday: Softball GTE Invitational

Basketball (M) vs. Tex Tech 12:45

Baseball vs. Ole Miss 2pm

Sunday: Softball GTE Invitational

Baseball vs. Ole Miss 2pm

Tickets: Kroger/College Station Ticket Office: 845-2311


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INFORMATIONAL MEETING**



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A Public Awareness Theater, Inc. Production

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 Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.

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MSC LITERARY ARTS COMMITTEE PRESENTS

The **IMAGINATION** of **DISASTER:**
Filming Henry James

a lecture by **Dr. David McWhirter**

followed by a free showing of **Portrait of a Lady**

Feb. 16, 1998 7 p.m. MSC 229

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