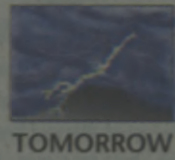


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COLLEGE STATION • TX

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## African-Americans in business honored

By RACHEL DAWLEY  
Staff writer

From the arrival of the first blacks in America at Jamestown in August of 1619 to the March on Washington and the political triumphs of today, African-Americans have been a major part of American history. Remembering the past, celebrating the present and looking towards the future of African-Americans is the purpose of Black History Month, celebrated throughout February. The 1998 Black History Month Theme is African Americans In Business: The Path To Empowerment.

Dr. Marilyn Kern-Foxworth, an associate professor of journalism, said Black History Month is a time to reflect on the past achievements and concentrate on the current status of African-Americans.

"Black History Month is an opportunity to spotlight the contributions African-Americans have made in society and in the world," Kern-

Foxworth said. "Eventually, it will spread to a year-long event because it will be something that is included in our thoughts everyday."

Kern-Foxworth said the month gives black students pride in their heritage. "Sometimes I think to myself what the world would be like without African-American influence," Kern-Foxworth said. "We would not have many of the inventions we enjoy today."

For some Texas A&M students, it is a time to reflect on the progress the black community has made in fighting for civil rights.

Dessiree Ewing, vice chair of the Black Awareness Committee (BAC) and a junior food science and technology major, said Black History Month exposes the rich culture and heritage of African-Americans.

"Black History Month serves as a time of learning, recognition and remembrance toward the African-American race," Ewing said. "It is a time of reverence for all African-Americans that have gone before me and done the things that made it possible for me to accomplish whatever I choose in the future."

Black History Month is a time for me to look at myself and those around me and see what we are doing to spread what we know about Black History Month and learn what we don't know."

Ewing said the heroes of Black History Month are the teachers, the parents and all the people who make an effort to pass on the meaning of black history and why it is important.



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## Week devoted to raising awareness of eating disorders

By SUSAN E. ATCHISON  
Staff writer

Eating disorder awareness will be promoted today in the MSC. Information tables, panel discussions and free, confidential screenings will be available to students as part of National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, Feb. 23-28.

The events are sponsored by Student Counseling Service, Aggie R.E.A.C.H. and Student Health Services.

Participants in the panel discussion include Dr. Ann Reed, physician and associate director for clinical services with Student Health Services; Dr. Jane Cohen, registered dietician with Student Health Services; Dr. Ron Lutz, psychologist with Student Counseling Services and a student who is recovering from anorexia.

"I feel [eating disorders] are fairly common on campus," Reed said. The National Eating Disorders Screening Program (NEDSP) describes eating disorders as illnesses that are associated with severe body image distortion and an obsession with weight. Sufferers are terrified of gaining weight and continue to diet, binge, or binge and purge even as their mental and physical health deteriorate.

"Many individuals who are vulnerable to developing an eating disorder may start with a diet simply to improve self-esteem, become more 'healthy' or change their weight or body shape," said Dr. Pat Santucci, medical director of Linden Oaks Hospital and a member of the NEDSP Scientific Advisory Board.

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## A&M junior named to nation-wide magazine's College Academic Team

By AMANDA SMITH  
Staff writer

A junior agricultural development major, is reaping the bounty of what he has sown in his time spent involved in academics and extra-curricular activities at Texas A&M University.

Stephen Sywulka was selected to the 1998 U.S. News and World Report All-USA College Academic First Team. Over 1,100 students were

"I was surprised to find out that I had been named to the team," Sywulka said. "I met a lot of neat people there."

Originally from Guatemala, Sywulka said he decided to come to A&M because of its reputation in agriculture.

"I had a friend from Guatemala who gave me a Texas A&M catalog," Sywulka said. "I had heard that Texas A&M had a good agricultural development program. It's all been fantastic here."

Sywulka serves in a number of leadership roles on campus, including founding the Overseas Development Network and Aggie Global Nomads. He said he hopes to get certification to start the first Association for International Agriculture and World Development this week.

Sywulka is a resident adviser for McInnis Hall and a lab instructor for German and Spanish classes.

After Sywulka graduates, he wants to help farmers overseas.

"I want to work for a non-profit agency overseas," Sywulka said. "One of my main interests is agro-forestry."

Townsend said Sywulka has taken advantage of internships and leadership opportunities to better prepare him for his future.

"At Texas A&M, he is learning to translate information," Townsend said. "He can take technical material and translate it to audiences. He is a great communicator."

"Sywulka is the best student I have met that has a true global vision. He has heart, and that is what makes him special."

Dr. Christine Townsend  
Agricultural development coordinator

## If I had a hammer



Walter Cisneros, restores the brick sidewalk on West Campus near the Heep Center for Soil and Crop Sciences and Entomology Monday afternoon.

## Board of Regents awards contract to San Antonio firm for The Zone

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents contracted yesterday Bartlett Cocke Inc. of San Antonio, Texas, for the \$32.9 million expansion of the north end of Kyle Field.

The project, called The Zone, will increase the number of seats in Kyle Field by 10,000 and is scheduled for completion Sept. 1, 1999.

It will create seats with better views at the north end of the stadium and add a suite and club level.

The 12th Man Foundation, a private, non-profit athletic fund-raising organization independent from the university, has committed funding to make the expansion possible.

## Thompson elects to step down after contract expires after serving 4 years

Texas A&M University System Chancellor Barry B. Thompson has announced that he will step down when his contract ends Aug. 31, 1999.

Thompson, 61, said he plans to teach leadership theory at some of the 10 A&M System schools.

Thompson became chancellor in

1994, a time when A&M officials were accused of unlawfully benefiting from state business.

During his tenure as chancellor, Thompson established the Texas Higher Education Coalition, a group that focuses on increasing graduation rates and retention of university students.

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Daniel: Interest in education, learning dissipates as students increase in age

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### online

http://battalion.tamu.edu  
Look up with state and national news through The Wire, AP's 24-hour online news service.

## Supreme Court refuses to hear sex offender law case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court rejected a double jeopardy challenge Monday to Megan's Law, the New Jersey measure that requires authorities to tell communities the whereabouts of convicted sex offenders.

Although the action did not directly affect similar laws adopted in 36 other states, it was welcomed as a major victory for proponents of such measures.

The court, without comment, turned away arguments by sex offenders that the law's notification provisions violate their Fifth Amendment's protection against being punished twice for the same crime. They argued that the notification and the public reaction it generates amount to punishment.

"The lawsuit we fought so hard to win is over," exulted New Jersey Attorney General Peter Verniero. "The main challenge to Megan's Law is now concluded."

Community notifications began in New Jersey last month.

Gov. Christie Whitman, in Washington for a governors' conference, pumped her right arm in triumph when told that the law had survived the constitutional challenge.

"This is really a verification of the time we took to get Megan's Law through and put it together, she said.

"I'm delighted."

The issue is not finally decided. Michael Buncher, a state public defender, said the next federal challenge to Megan's Law will contend that community notification violates personal privacy rights.

"We are claiming that the kind of information that is disseminated ... is ... constitutionally protected, and it should not be disseminated," he said.

The New Jersey law, enacted in 1995, was named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old girl who was raped and murdered in 1994 by a twice-convicted sex offender who lived across the street from her home. Jesse Timmendegus has been sentenced to death for the crime.

Megan's mother, Maureen Kanka, became a successful crusader for similar laws across the nation.

"I've had faith in this law from day one," said Kanka said after hearing of the highest court's action.

"It is the right thing to do and it is such a prevalent problem in this country."

The law calls for notice to schools, day-care centers and youth groups about moderate-risk offenders. For high-risk offenders, the law requires police to go door-to-door notifying neighborhood residents.

## Details of U.N. deal with Iraq made public; Clinton reacts to latest announcements

BAGHDAD, Iraq: (AP) — Shortly before noon Sunday, Annan and three aides were driven in government limousines to meet Saddam.

They wound up at the Republican Palace, the sprawling presidential compound along the Tigris. Saddam — dressed in a blue business suit, instead of the usual military uniform — shook hands with the negotiators and posed for pictures.

After formalities, the aides left the room, leaving Annan and Saddam alone with an interpreter. After two hours, aides said, Annan knew he had a deal. He returned to the guesthouse, where dozens of reporters, photographers and television crews were crowded around the front gate, jostling with Iraqi security guards trying to keep the entrance clear.

When the guards opened the gate for an impromptu news conference, the crowds rushed forward, trampling over rose bushes to get a good spot.

U.N. spokesperson Fred Eckhard said the secretary-general was "on the verge of a breakthrough."

However, Clinton advisers making the rounds on Sunday television talk shows had not been informed how close An-

nan was to a deal.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said on ABC as Saddam was reviewing the proposal that the United States would not accept anything less than full inspections: "It is possible that he will come with something that we don't like, in which case we will pursue our national interests."

At 8 p.m. Sunday, the two delegations assembled again at the Foreign Ministry.

With the "go ahead" from Saddam, Aziz said Iraq was willing to open the palaces.

All that was left was to work out the final details of the text. By 9:15 p.m., the deal was done. Annan returned to the villa to telephone leaders of the permanent Security Council members, including Albright, which must approve the deal.

Clinton got a chance to talk to Annan on Sunday night, just before addressing a national governors meeting at the White House. Stepping into a side room, the president sat at a desk near a window to make the call around 8:15 p.m. Washington time — 4:15 a.m. in Baghdad.

At 10:25 a.m. Monday, Annan and Aziz signed the agreement at the Foreign Ministry.

## President Clinton's statement on Iraq

- Iraq government has committed to:
- Provide "immediate, unrestricted, unconditional" access for U.N. inspectors to all sites as called for by U.N. Security Council resolutions
  - If done, this commitment will allow UNSCOM to fulfill its mission:
    - Find and destroy all chemical, biological and nuclear weapons
    - Find and destroy missiles to deliver those weapons
    - Institute a system for long-term monitoring to make sure more are not built
  - Commitment applies to all sites anywhere in country including eight previously denied presidential sites
  - Senior diplomats appointed by Secretary-General will accompany UNSCOM with repeat visits and no deadlines on completion
  - All areas, facilities, equipment, records and means of transportation shall be open to UNSCOM, including those previously denied