

Bush School hosts Cold War conference

BY SARAH GOLDSTON AND JENNIFER WILSON
Staff writers

The fourth annual Texas A&M conference on Presidential Rhetoric last weekend explored various issues on the topic "Public Discourse in Cold War America." W. Brands, co-coordinator of the conference on presidential rhetoric and professor at Texas A&M, said the conference was a success. "It was a good conference," he said. "It showed three things: perspectives presented by various scholars have different views, introduction of new literature from other fields and an opportunity to meet new colleagues."

Amy Tilton, research assistant for the Program in Presidential Rhetoric, said the conference offered an in-depth study of the Cold War. "The conference is an analysis of issues from the Cold War," she said. "By studying these events we can see what we did wrong and if faced with the same problems again, we can know what to do better the next time if something like this were to arise." The conference was held at the George Bush Presidential Library and Conference Center. A keynote speech Thursday addressed "Myth and Reality: America's Rhetorical Cold War." Dr. Martin Medhurst, co-coordinator for the program in Presidential Rhetoric and a professor of



Dr. Norman Graebner, keynote speaker for the 4th annual Conference on Presidential Rhetoric, lectures at the Bush School.

speech communication at Texas A&M, said the Cold War lasted approximately 45 years. "The Cold War is considered the period from the end of World War II in 1945, up to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, then to the demise of the Soviet Union in 1990," he said. "That's what we've been studying at this conference." Dr. Norman Graebner, a professor at the University of Virginia, presented his views regarding rhetoric and doctrine of the Cold War era. Graebner said there is a lot of high tension involved with the Cold War due to the power and influences surrounding it. He said one goal of the United States should be to drain the reaction of the war so that it does not

spread to other countries in Europe and Asia. He said the Cold War was huge because it was a war of ideological power, which is limitless, and not of military power, which has limits. Sessions were held Friday to discuss issues regarding emotion, propaganda and opinion of the Cold War. Friday evening the rhetoric of film in Cold War America was presented at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Center amphitheater. A screening of documentary films about the Cold War was presented and discussed. Rita Whillock, associate director for the Center of Communications at Southern Methodist University, moderated Friday night's events. "Most of the attendants of this

conference grew up in the Cold War era," she said. "We saw these types of films in elementary school, and no one ever questioned or challenged what was being said in these films." The rhetoric of American foreign policy and dissent, Cold War propaganda, advancing military technology and Cold War liberalism were discussed Saturday. Dr. Walt W. Rostow, former national security advisor to President Lyndon B. Johnson; Ambassador Abbott Washburn, deputy to the special assistant to President Dwight D. Eisenhower for Psychological Operations; and James Olson, former C.I.A. chief of station in Vienna and Mexico City and a professor at Texas A&M, were featured panelists.

Breaking new ground



JAKE SHRICKLING/THE BATTALION

Dagan Lask, a junior accounting major, **Zane Huber**, a sophomore biomedical science major, and **Rad Brannan**, a freshman general studies major, finish planting a tree at Replant Saturday.

Down Home Ranch

Architecture students inspired to design model community for mentally disabled

BY SUSAN E. ATCHISON
Staff writer

Students in Texas A&M's College of Architecture presented research and design projects Friday for Down Home Ranch, Inc., a community for mentally disabled adults. Seventeen undergraduate students from the Department of Architecture and seven graduate students from the Department of Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning each developed a model for the ranch based on the ideas of founders Jerry and Judy Horton. "I think they've done a magnificent job," said Mr. Horton, executive director of the ranch. "They not only built physical models, but they also captured the idea ... to build a community where people can have their own independence, their own place to live." The Hortons began coordinating ideas for the ranch after their fourth child, Kelly, was born with Down syndrome. They based their concept on their concern for the quality of life that Kelly, 13, will have as she reaches adulthood.

Faculty advisors for the project are George J. Mann, the Ronald L. Skaggs endowed professor of the College of Architecture, and Donald B. Austin, professor of landscape architecture and urban planning. "It's exciting as a professor to take a group of students through a project and bring it to a conclusion," Mann said. "I try to find an interesting client, get them together with the class, and then I get out of the way." Students visited the 205-acre ranch in Elgin, Texas, earlier this semester to meet the Hortons. "The students were inspired by parents, who instead of sitting around worrying about how terrible it is that there's a child like this, wanted to do something positive," Mann said. Collaboration among undergraduate and graduate students has been beneficial, said Joe Rivers, a senior environmental design major. "It was a great experience, not only working with the grad students and interacting with landscape architecture," Rivers said, "but also with a real client in a project that really means a lot."

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Students explore Asian culture

BY SUZANNE RIGGS
Staff writer

A new MSC committee is giving Texas A&M students the chance to gain valuable insights into Asian cultures, and at the same time make history. The MSC Asian Cultures Education Committee sets precedent as the first in MSC committee. The committee is accepting applications from any student interested in Asian culture. Applications available at the information desk in the International Programs Office in 216 MSC.

Frank Kao, ACE chair and a junior accounting major, said the committee's goals are to foster mutual understanding between Asian students and those of other nationalities and to serve as a support group for Asians. "We hope to increase a commitment to our community, our nation and our state," he said. "We will produce programs which will increase understanding to minimize any cultural misunderstandings." He explained that these programs would bring speakers to explain topics like the participation of Asians in politics and

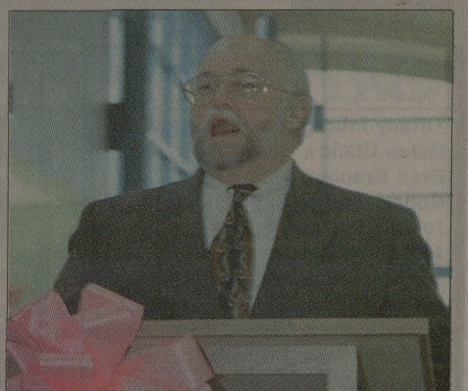
the use of Asian medicine. Kao said although the committee will focus on Asian issues, it is open to any student. "We are an open committee that welcomes everyone," he said. "We can learn from others, and they can learn from us." The idea to form the committee came from the desire to dissolve divisions within the Asian community on issues including nationality, generation and religion, Kao said.

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Ribbons cut to celebrate College Station Library

BY AMANDA SMITH
Staff writer

Ribbons cut by community members yesterday at the new College Station Library foreshadow its official opening this coming Friday. Local leaders, library staff and community members participated in the ceremonies by cutting a piece of the ribbon at the library at 800 FM 2818 in College Station. Bob Martin, the Texas State librarian and the keynote speaker, said libraries provide a center for educating people. "It's an important day to contemplate the role of libraries in a democracy," Martin said. "Our founding fathers often spoke of the importance of libraries. Libraries provide rich and stimulating opportunities for development in a community."



ROBERT MCKAY/THE BATTALION

Bob Martin, state librarian, spoke at the official opening of the new College Station Library Sunday afternoon.

Clara Mounce, the Bryan-College Station libraries administrator, said the new facility welcomes all members of the community. "We do business with every walk of life in the community," Mounce said. "We welcome Texas A&M students and hope they come check us out. We are increasing the availability and visibility of libraries in the community. For the past 11 years the College Station Library has been in a small space and we are ready to expand." The new facility will occupy 16,500 square feet, more than three times the size of the old College Station Library. Texas Congressman Kevin Brady presented a United States flag to the library at the dedication ceremony. "The new library is going to make lives richer and fuller here in College Station," Brady said. "Readers are (future) leaders in the community, the state and the nation." A Citizens Task Force was organized and began planning for the library in 1996. Larry Ringer, chairman of the Citizens Task Force and a Texas A&M statistics professor, said the library is a tremendous improvement in the community. "It's been a long time in coming, and it's an exciting time for College Station," Ringer said. "We have been able to increase the collection size and add computer programming."

The new library will have 10 computers with Internet access that can be reserved and used by library members. There will be two small group study rooms, a meeting room for non-profit organizations and a snack bar in the entry area of the library. Individuals living or attending a university in the Brazos Valley may receive a library card by presenting photo identification and proof of current address. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and must be able to write their complete name to receive a library card. The library card may be used at the College Station and Bryan libraries. The Bryan Public Library, which has 165,000 volumes, is larger than the new College Station Library, which has 44,000 volumes. Mounce said the College Station Library has time and room on the shelves to increase its circulation. Ringer said A&M students may find that the library will provide an additional off-campus resource, although it cannot provide the reference materials as housed in the University library on campus. "In terms of reference for general classes and for recreational reading, the College Station library will be beneficial to students," Ringer said.

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EMS saves baby's life

BY LYNSAY NANTZ
Staff writer

Volunteers from A&M's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) were awarded a certificate of recognition Friday for saving the life of a four-week-old boy. The medical director and the director of the health center honored the five volunteers for service and dedication. The premature baby had recently been brought to his new home, in married student housing on University Drive, when he went into pediatric respiratory arrest. His father called the Brazos County 911, where the call was routed to A&M EMS.



The dispatcher, Jennifer Carr, a sophomore psychology major, gave the father CPR instructions while the ambulance made its way to married student housing. Paramedics Seth Decamp and Michael Harris revived the baby with the help of Dustin Roberts and Aki Ohinata. Ohinata, a sophomore nutritional science major, said it was one of the most serious calls she has worked on. "I was nervous because I had been through all the training but had never been in a situation where someone's life was at stake," she said.

"Then it was a little baby and so tiny he looked like he may break." Ohinata said when the baby started crying it was a huge relief to all of them because it meant he was breathing again. The team kept the baby stable as the ambulance drove to St. Joseph Regional Health Center. A&M EMS handles 70 to 80 calls a month and is a division of student health services. The majority of EMS workers are students and all are volunteers. All A&M EMS volunteers have the same certifications and capabilities as the College Station EMS. Jim Schaferling, EMS unit manager, said the training is intense. "It takes about six months, 100 classroom hours and 100 clinical hours to be an EMT," Schaferling said. "It is a three year process to be certified as a paramedic." Harris, one of the volunteer paramedics on the call, graduated from A&M and is a full-time paramedic in Houston. "I come here and help out whenever I can," he said. "I enjoy it because it is a good service and it is good for the school. It helps people and is experience for students who want to go into the medical field." Schaferling said the volunteers handled the situation very professionally and he is proud of them.