

## Parents to flock to A&M for annual bash

By KATY LINEBERGER  
Staff writer

About 30,000 Aggie family members will descend upon College Station in the next two days to celebrate A&M's annual Parents' Weekend.

"It's a way for us to extend a hand out to families that have supported us," said Erin Dunnahoo, Parents' Weekend Committee chair and a senior accounting major. "For this weekend, we center everything at Texas A&M around them so they see how much we appreciate their support."

Carolyn Goodwin, a freshman accounting major, said she is looking forward to the weekend's events.

"It's a really cool way for parents to see what goes on here on campus," she said. The tradition began in 1919 as "Moms' Day" and has since evolved into a yearly rite to honor parents, Dunnahoo said. "It was started to show our parents that

A&M is what we love," she said. "Now, it's also a chance for students to say, 'Hey, this is what I really do while I'm at school.'"

The organizing committee and a number of other groups are hosting a full schedule of activities for the weekend.

The annual Aggie Moms' Boutique features the crafts of 75 mothers' clubs from Texas, Colorado and Kansas. It takes place today and tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Duncan Dining Hall.

Sue Anderson, the boutique coordinator for the Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Clubs, said the proceeds are used for scholarships and donations to student

organizations. Last year, the Federation contributed more than \$280,000 to the University, she said.

"We like to give something back for the education the University gives our students," she said.

The Residence Hall Association is

sponsoring Casino Night tonight from 7 p.m. to midnight at the MSC. In addition, student talent will be featured at the MSC Variety Show at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium. At midnight, Kyle Field will host an

"old army" yell practice.

"A lot of parents can't come down during the fall, so we have a yell practice so they see what goes on," Dunnahoo said. She added that it will be the first midnight yell conducted by the newly-elected yell leaders.

Saturday, the 10th annual Bevo Burn Barbecue will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in

the Puryear/Law Park next to All Faiths Chapel. A&M clubs from around the state will compete in a barbecue-cooking contest. Entertainers including Roger Creager and the Aggie Wranglers will also perform.

Tomorrow night, the Singing Cadets will host a concert, the Aggie baseball team will take on the University of Texas and the Parents' Weekend Committee is sponsoring "Family Night Out" at the Texas Hall of Fame. The Aggie Wranglers will perform again, and a jitterbug contest begins at 10 p.m.

The All University Awards ceremony will take place Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in Rudder Auditorium. A variety of honors will be announced, including the Gathright Award, given to sophomores, juniors and seniors with the highest GPR in their college; the Buck Weirus Spirit Award recognizing student involvement on campus;

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## Student Senate elects new officers

By RACHEL DAWLEY  
Staff writer

The Texas A&M Student Senate elected officers Wednesday at the first meeting of the 51st session.

Amy Magee, a senior psychology major, will be the 1998-99 speaker of the Senate. Diana Divine, a freshman international studies major, will be the speaker pro-tem. Bryan Atkinson, a senior computer science major, will be the rules and regulations chair.

Magee, who served this year as rules and regulations chair, said the newly-elected Senate will have many opportunities to help students at the University because of the current Senate.

"Time was spent this year in the restructuring of student government," Magee said. "Now we can focus more on helping students. The Senate is where research and policy begins and it is important to communicate the

ideas of constituents to the administration."

Because of a Senate year-restructuring bill passed in this session, the current Senate will continue with its legislative authority until May 6. The new Senate will meet to elect officers, but they cannot pass any legislation.

Atkinson said the restructuring will allow the Senate to better deal with campus issues.

"My position as rules and regulations chair may not directly affect all of the students at the University, but it is working to make the student government more effective," Atkinson said. "This affects students as we work to do a better job of getting the students' voice heard by administration."

Peter Schulte, a Northside senator and a sophomore business major, said the new Senate leadership will provide the student body more access to the administration.

"We couldn't have chosen better leadership," Schulte said. "The Senate is the voice of the students and the Speaker is the direct link between the students and the administration."

## A tiptoe through the tulips



Tish Shanley, a sophomore biomedical science major, shops for flowers at The Farm Patch on Thursday.

CORY WILLIS/THE BATTALION

## At attention

New Corps commanders will take over positions in May

By RACHEL DAWLEY  
Staff writer

The Corps of Cadets has chosen their brigade, regiment, wing and band staffs and the outfit commanding officers for 1998-99.

The command will informally change during the annual March to the Brazos on April 25. The new commanders will officially take their positions at Final Review on May 16.

Commanders have general responsibilities for everything in the outfit, ranging from academics, athletics and the morale of the unit.

Ricky Leal, the new commanding officer of company A-2 and a junior political science major, said the new leadership is currently going through a transition period to learn about these responsibilities.

"Right now, we are going through a grooming process where you get training and follow the current commanding officer around," Leal said. "We have worked together the entire year and I have a good idea about the job he does. It's just realizing that I'll be doing those things next year."

Cadets can apply for positions in mid-March. A board of current senior commanders and military officers from the Trigon select two to three applicants to interview.

During the interview process, the board asks applicants various questions about situational decisions and their goals for their outfit and for the Corps.

Beau Voelkel, the new Aggie Band commander and a junior biomedical science major, said the selection process for outfit commanders ensures quality leadership.

"The interview panel addresses the applicant's scholastic achievement, past performance history, involvement within and outside the Corps and their dedication to the University," Voelkel said. "This is to ensure that every person is going to gain the most valuable investment of leadership and camaraderie during their tenure."

Voelkel said the drum majors are selected based on their leadership goals, musical abilities, grades and involvement.

Tase Bailey, the incoming Corps Commander and a junior aerospace engineering major, said the new commanders will have a positive impact on the Corps and the University.

"I am very excited about the new Corps leadership," Bailey said. "They all demonstrate a deep love for the Corps and for A&M and have demonstrated an uncompromising willingness to lead with authority and character."

## Coming soon: Reed Arena parking

By AMANDA SMITH  
Staff writer

The scheduled opening of Reed Arena brings anticipation of additional parking on West Campus, one of several changes organized by Parking, Traffic and Transportation Services (PTTS).

Reed Arena parking is scheduled to open Tuesday, April 21, for Muster ceremonies. The 1,500-space lot will remain open for students with commuter passes.

Brian Minyard, chair of the Student Senate subcommittee on parking issues and a junior biochemistry major, said the success of Reed Arena parking will depend largely on bus transportation.

"The parking there will be a positive thing as long as there is adequate bus transportation," Minyard said. "But just having a parking lot close does not mean improvement because the back end of Reed Arena is nearly as far as walking from the back of Olsen."

Gary Jackson, the manager of PTTS Bus Operations, said the Rudder and Traditions stops will move closer to Reed Arena by the end of next week.

In another area of on-campus parking, the subcommittee will consider a commuter student parking availability bill at their April 22 meeting. The bill addresses the available space in PA-61 or "fish lot," and the problems faced by on-campus students who park there.

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## Library creates memorial

Sterling C. Evans Library dedicates books in memory of students honored at Silver Taps

By KELLY HACKWORTH  
Staff writer

The Silver Taps Memorial Program honors students who have died while attending Texas A&M.

Dr. Fred Heath, Sterling C. Evans Library dean, initiated the program in September 1996.

"We wanted to create a lasting memorial which would be available to their parents any time they visited the library either electronically through the online catalog or when they came into the building," he said. "We took extra care to select books that were in the students' major field of study because these Aggies and their families are very special to us."

As part of the program, a special Silver Taps bookplate with the student's name and date of death is placed in a book selected to correspond with the student's course of study. The books are electronically book plated in NOTIS, the library's online catalog.

"...These Aggies and their families are very special to us."

Dr. Fred Heath  
Sterling C. Evans  
Library dean

Parents or spouses receive a letter of condolence from the dean notifying them of the book selected in memory of their student. They also receive a copy of the bookplate, the dust jacket from the selected book and basic instructions on how to do a keyword search on NOTIS.

Dr. Charlene Clark, development and promotion coordinator for Evans Library, said the program is funded entirely by the library.

"This is not a contribution or fund raising program, it's just a way for the library to honor those no longer with us at Texas A&M," she said.

Adelle Hedleston, public relations staff assistant and class of '88, said the program is a great addition to the Silver Taps ceremony.

"As a former student and Texas A&M employee, I think that the Silver Taps Memorial Program is an appropriate way to tie the library to Texas A&M's hallowed tradition of Silver Taps," she said.

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aggielife



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## 1998-99 Corps of Cadets Leadership

Corps Commander  
Tase Bailey

Deputy Commander  
Kelly Garrity

First Brigade  
Jeff Lowaring-Clark

Second Brigade  
Ronnie Podraza

Regiment Staff  
Ken Jones

Wing Staff  
Adrienne Bender

Combined Band Staff  
Beau Voelkel

Head Drum Major  
Sam Udovich

Side Drum Majors  
Jonathan Scott  
Brian Marks