

TODAY

HIGH 98°
LOW 75°

TOMORROW

HIGH 102°
LOW 75°

104TH YEAR • ISSUE 181 • 6 PAGES

Sports:

All-time A&M kicking leader, Kyle Bryant, heads to the playoffs with the Houston Thunderbears of the Arena Football League.

TUESDAY • AUGUST 4 • 1998

THE BATTALION

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY • COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

Oath of Commitment

As I embark upon the study of medicine at The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine, I will:

1. enter into a relationship of mutual respect with my teachers and my colleagues to enhance the learning environment and gain knowledge, skills, and attitudes of a good physician;
2. accept responsibility only for those matters for which I am competent, maintain the trust expected of a physician and never take advantage of the patient-doctor relationship;
3. respect the patient's right to privacy;
4. value the knowledge and wisdom of the physicians who have preceded me and endeavor to contribute to this tradition;
5. recognize my weaknesses and strengths and strive to develop those qualities that will earn the respect of my patients, my colleagues, my family and myself;
6. continue this learning throughout all the days of my life.

College of Medicine honors medical school inductees with 'White Coat Ceremony'

BY ROD MACHEN
City Editor

Incoming medical students took part in a new tradition being established by the College of Medicine.

The students received their white coats in a ceremony that marked the beginning of their medical education yesterday.

Janine Edwards, associate dean for student affairs and admissions, said the ceremony has been around for five years and 90 medical schools have adopted it.

"The concept of the white coat ceremony has been fostered by the Arthur P. Gold Foundation," Edwards said. The foundation is a public, not-for-profit organization who's mission is to foster humanism in medicine.

Dr. Michael Friedland, dean of the College of Medicine, said the white coat is an important symbol in the medical profession.

"The physician's white coat has been a

part of the medical profession since the 1700s," Friedland said. A shorter coat is worn by students while a longer version is used by residents and physicians.

"The white coat is the healer's mantle," Edwards said.

The ceremony's keynote speaker was Dr. H. Tristram Engelhardt, Jr., professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and professor of philosophy at Rice University.

Engelhardt impressed upon the students how much change the medical profession is going through currently.

"Medicine is becoming unclear about what it is to be a physician," Engelhardt said.

He compared the modern era to Greece during the time of Hippocrates and the end of the Middle Ages when many new sciences were being developed.

"Genetics will change how physicians heal," Engelhardt said. "Hippocrates was

also writing at a time of significant change in Greek society."

Engelhardt addressed five areas that will help medicine to be a profession that serves with concern and care.

He said medicine must have a firm commitment to patient welfare. Engelhardt also stressed the importance of confidentiality, or "medical secrets," during a time when genetics can tell a doctor more about a patient than the patient knows.

"Keeping confidentiality will be much more complicated," he said.

Both privacy and patient consent are important because newer health care considerations such as insurance and health maintenance organizations, Engelhardt said. With the newer health care systems, he said more people can come between a doctor and a patient.

SEE INDUCTEES ON PAGE 2.

NEWS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

A&M health affairs VP given honorary board seat

Elvin E. Smith, associative vice president for the health affairs in Texas A&M University's Health Science Center College of Medicine, was elected July 24 as an Honorary Life Member of the American Heart Association Texas Affiliate Board of Directors in recognition of 22 years of exceptional service.

Honorary life membership is limited to AHA volunteers who have given outstanding service at the division and affiliate levels for at least 10 years.

Smith, who holds a doctoral degree in physiology, has a long history with the affiliate's board of directors. He served as president of the AHA Texas Affiliate in 1989-90, the first non-physician to be elected to that position.

He also has served as the secretary, first vice president, president-elect and vice president of the affiliate's East Texas Council 7.

Smith, a cardiovascular physiologist, came to Texas A&M in 1975 as head of the Medical Physiology Department after serving on the faculty of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. He is a frequent speaker on the topic of heart and vascular disease.

He currently serves as senior associate dean and professor of medical physiology in Texas A&M's College of Medicine. He also has served as interim dean, executive associate dean, associate dean for research and graduate studies for the college.

Director of A&M Office of Graduate Studies named

John Richard Giardino is the new director of the Office of Graduate Studies at Texas A&M University effective August 1. Robert A. Kennedy, vice president for research and associative provost for graduate studies announced on Friday, July 31.

Giardino succeeds Dan H. Robertson, who has returned to his full-time faculty position in the Lowry Mays College and Graduate School of Business.

Kennedy noted that Giardino earned his undergraduate at the University of Southern Colorado, a masters degree at Arizona State University, and a doctorate at the University of Nebraska.

He has been on the faculty of the Departments of Geography and Geology and Geophysics at Texas A&M since 1984 and served as head of geography and director of the Cartographics Center from 1989 until 1996.

He recently founded and organized the Texas Geomorphology Symposium, serves on the board of directors of the Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium and is past chair of the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America. Giardino's numerous awards include The Geological Society of America's 1995 Meritorious Service Award. He has written more than 100 scientific papers and six books.

Shania Twain tour makes stop at Reed Arena

On her first major tour in the United States, country singer Shania Twain will stop in College Station at Reed Arena on September 9 at 8 p.m. for one night only.

Tickets for Shania Twain go on sale Saturday at all Ticketmaster ticket centers or may be charged by phone at 409-268-0414.

Reserved tickets range from \$18.50 to \$25. Twain is one of only three women who have sold over 10 million records in North America recently.

She is a Grammy winner for Best Country Album, as well as the recipient of Billboard honors, American Country Music Awards and the Canadian JUNO award.

Twain's hits include, "Any Man of Mine," "If You're Not in It for the Love — I'm Outta Here" and "You Win My Love," all of which hit No. 1 on the Billboard charts.

Fighting the flames



JAKE SCHRICKLING/THE BATTALION

The cause of a car fire, which blocked traffic on Asbury Street Monday afternoon, could not be determined, the College Station Fire Dept. reported.

Susan Bondurant, the driver of the '93 Ford Mustang that caught fire, said the fire hap-

pened before she knew it.

"I was driving, and my battery light came on," Bondurant, a senior agricultural economics major, said. "I smelled smoke, so I stopped."

The College Station Fire Department ar-

rived at the scene of the fire across from the A&M water tower at 3:55 p.m.

Lt. Bobby Rogers of the College Station Fire Department said too much of the motor was destroyed to determine its cause.

No one was hurt.

Director wanted

■ Kevin Jackson, the third of six candidates for the position of Director of Student Activities, was interviewed by A&M students and faculty in Rudder Tower Monday.

BY ANDREA BROCKMAN
Staff Writer

The final week of interviews for the director of student activities has begun.

Kevin P. Jackson, the first of four candidates already holding positions at A&M, addressed students and staff in an open forum Monday.

Jackson has 16 years of continuous service in the field of student affairs and currently holds a joint appointment as the senior associate director of the MSC and special assistant to the vice president of student affairs working with distance education programs and services.

Jackson received a bachelor of arts in journalism at North Texas State University, a master of arts in higher education administration at the University of Denver and is currently pursuing a

doctorate in educational human resource development at Texas A&M.

He said he wants to instill a sense of organization, purpose and vision in student activities.

"I aspire for Texas A&M to become the premier department of student activities in the country," Jackson said.

"I believe this is possible with the resources we have."

Jackson said we need to provide students with the best educational experience possible.

"One way is to improve technology for information accessibility," he said.

"Students should be able to easily search a database for organizations and activities that correspond to their interests and talents."

Jackson said his familiarity with A&M and the student affairs division is an asset.

"I also have a lot of ideas and enthusiasm," he said.

Jackson also said he will build support for establishment of a student leadership retreat center.

"We need to educate people on what it is about and find donors for the funding," he said.

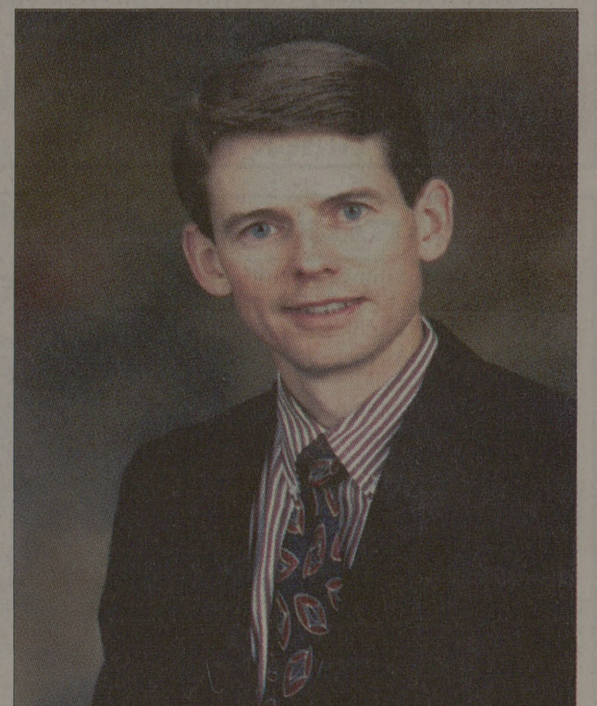
Jackson said he is student-centered as well as community-oriented.

"I want the individuals on this campus to feel safe, respected and valued," he said.

He would like to create community partnerships by creating a community service advisory board.

"We need to utilize information technology to connect the needy to those who can help," he said.

Jackson, the advisor for Bonfire for three years, said he is collaborative and often uses the old adage "we are stronger than me."



KEVIN JACKSON

"In a team, sometimes the most bonding experiences comes from shared ordeals," he said.

Jackson said he is a person of character and can be counted on to honor his commitments.

"I would represent the department with the utmost professionalism," he said.

If chosen, Jackson said he is ready for the roller coaster ride of the first few months of school.

"We will do the best we can, have fun, try new things and talk about what's in the future," he said.