

## Program exempts students from MCAT

New recruitment plan by A&M College of Medicine allows qualified applicants to bypass admissions exam

BY BETH MILLER  
The Battalion

The Texas A&M University College of Medicine has implemented a new recruitment plan enabling qualified prospective medical students to be exempt from the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT).

Thomas Bosquez, special assistant to the vice president for health affairs, said "Partnership for Primary Care" is a program in which the College of Medicine recruits accomplished high-school seniors who meet the requirements for the program. The seniors are required to remain in good standing throughout college and be a resident of an area designated by the Texas Department of Health Bureau State Health Data and Policy Analysis Health Professions Resource Center as rural and medically under-served or in shortage primary health care professional. He said primary health care in-

cludes family medicine, obstetrics/gynecology and pediatrics.

"The most likely individual to go into that area in primary care is the individual who comes from that area," Bosquez said.

Once the students who wish to participate in the program apply and are admitted, they must enroll in one of six Texas A&M University System campuses, agree to enter a primary care field and make a commitment to attend Texas A&M University Medical School after the completion of undergraduate work. Bosquez said if a student applies to another medical school, the contract with A&M is void, and the student must meet the requirements of the other school, including taking the MCAT.

"When a student comes into the program as a senior in high school, they have a place in our medical school," Bosquez said.

Bosquez said the six Texas A&M University System campus-

es participating are Texas A&M at College Station, Prairie View A&M University, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University at Kingsville, Texas A&M International University (at Laredo) and West Texas A&M University (at Canyon).

This is the first year for "Partnership for Primary Care," and nine Texas A&M University System freshmen are participating in the program.

Six of the nine are attending Texas A&M University at College Station, one is at Texas A&M's Kingsville campus, one is at Texas A&M's Corpus Christi campus and one is at Texas A&M International University.

Bosquez said whether or not students are required to take the MCAT to enter a particular medical school is a decision made by each school.

"Partnership for Primary Care" was initiated by Michael Friedland,

vice president for health affairs and dean of medicine. The idea was presented to the College of Medicine and the A&M Board of Regents and accepted by both.

Bosquez said the six A&M campuses are participating to reach out to a broader selection of students.

"What we want is for students to feel comfortable going to any university in the A&M system, and we want them to return to [their original] area," Bosquez said.

Elvin Smith, associate vice president for health affairs, said he believes more Texas medical schools will adopt programs like "Partnership for Primary Care."

"It is obvious to everyone we still have a problem with maldistribution of physicians in the state of Texas," Smith said.

"There is historically a difficulty in getting physicians located in rural areas of Texas. I think this is a program specifically designed to meet that need."

## Port Arthur plant begins burning of diluted napalm

PORT ARTHUR, Texas (AP) — Amid complaints that the Navy changed the way it plans to dispose of more than 3 million gallons of napalm, a Port Arthur incinerating plant on Thursday began burning a diluted batch of the jellied gasoline.

The plant, operated by Waste Management Inc., started burning 5,000 gallons of blended napalm Thursday morning as fuel to incinerate other hazardous materials. The process should continue for two to three days, Navy spokesperson Lee Saunders said.

In July, Deer Park-based GNI Group Inc. signed a \$10 million contract to recycle the napalm that has sat for more than two decades at a San Diego-area naval facility. When the deal was announced, officials with GNI and the Navy said the napalm would be converted into

fuel for use in cement kilns.

But with the substance now being used for incineration, some environmentalists accused both GNI and the Navy of going back on their word.

"They swore that they weren't going to do that," Jim Baldauf of the environmental group Texans United said. "We're outraged. It's just more broken faith between the government and the public."

Saunders, however, said incineration was an option. Because no cement kiln operators have agreed to use the blended napalm, GNI sold part of it for incineration.

"Our preferred alternative was ... to search for cement kiln to take the material and burn it as an alternative fuel to produce cement," Saunders said. "But the primary goal is to dispose of the liquid napalm. That's the ultimate goal."

**FREE PAGERS**  
\$3.95  
Free Activation  
Accessories  
Calling Cards  
PrimeCo phones sold here  
764-5900

**Woodstone Wash Haus**  
The Best Little Wash Haus in Texas!  
Laundry & Dry Cleaning  
Coin Operated Washers & Dryers  
Wash, Dry and Fold Service  
40 lb - Everyday Low Price  
Attendant on Duty  
TV, Snacks, Games  
Open 7 a.m. - past midnight  
7 Days a Week  
913 F Harvey Rd • College Station  
(behind Double Dave's)  
696-0909

**WANTED!**  
Singers for  
Andrew Lloyd Webber's  
**Jesus Christ Superstar**  
Please contact Cyndy (The Quantum Cow): 260-2697  
Next Rehearsal:  
Sunday 10/11 9:00pm

On sale this week at the  
**MSC Rudder Box Office**  
Official TAMU Personalized Graduation Announcements  
on sale through Friday, Oct. 9  
MSC Film Society — **A Perfect Murder** Fri, Oct. 9, 7 & 9:30 p.m.  
Magination Station — **The Unsinkable Molly Brown** Fri. - Sat., Oct. 9-10, 7 p.m.  
MSC OPAS Jr. — **Ramona Quimby** Sun, Oct. 11, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.  
BVSO — **Letters from the Old World** Sun, Oct. 11, 4 p.m.  
MSC OPAS — **St. Petersburg Symphony** Thurs., Oct. 15, 8 p.m.  
Call to arrange for special needs.  
AggieBucks accepted.  
845-1234 or on the net!  
<http://boxoffice.tamu.edu>

**Let's Talk**  
English as a Second Language  
Conversational English Classes  
For student, staff, family  
Beginning, intermediate, advanced  
Classes begin October 26  
707 Texas Ave. Suite 210 Bldg. D  
696-6583  
[www2.cy-net.net/~letstalk](http://www2.cy-net.net/~letstalk)  
210 D  
University Drive  
Campus

**The Battalion**  
The national award-winning student newspaper is accepting applications for the following positions:  
**CITY** reporters  
**COPY** editors  
**PAGE** designers  
The Battalion is an equal opportunity employer and encourages all students regardless of experience to apply. All positions are paid.

**JC Penney Styling Salon**  
"The best choice for the busy student"  
INTRODUCING:  
"THE NIGHT OWL" SPECIAL  
6:00 - 8:00 P.M.  
HAIRCUTS FOR ONLY  
**\$9.00**  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
WITH ANY DESIGNER STYLIST  
OFFER EXPIRES 11/14/98.  
Post Oak Mall • 764-1615

**Inspirations**  
**MAROON OUT**  
Real Parents Wear Maroon & White.  
The Texas Aggies  
CHECK OUT OUR MAROON T-SHIRTS  
CHECK OUR SELECTION OF LONG SLEEVED T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS  
Post Oak Mall 764-4444  
YOUR PLACE FOR UNIQUE A&M T-SHIRTS, CAPS, SHORTS, POSTERS, & MORE