



**opinion**

• *With repeated altercations in the U.N. and on battlefield over Iraq, question of whether or not to remove Hussein lingers.*

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**Tubes' Return**

"Tubularman," new strip join ranks of "Fish" and "Simel & Lewis" this semester.

**sports**

• *Men's basketball ends conference losing streak to beat Baylor; lady hoopsters comeback falls short over weekend.*

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## Leadership conference draws to close



MIKE FUENTES/THE BATTALION

Brazos County Sheriff Terry Smith (Hat) calms a crowd of an estimated 1,000 outside of the Rack Warehouse on Saturday night.

### Private-party crowd draws four law enforcement agencies

BY MIKE FUENTES AND AARON MEIER  
The Battalion

Officers from four law enforcement agencies responded Saturday night to help control a large crowd primarily composed of Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference (SBSLC) participants gathered for a private party held in College Station.

Officers from the College Station, Bryan and University police departments were dispatched to the Rack Warehouse on Southwest Parkway, which

hosted "The Crimson and Cream Weekend: Part II" party presented by Nu-OOP Productions.

Theresa Cooper, director of SBSLC programs and a sophomore agricultural development major, said the party was not sanctioned by SBSLC.

"We encourage people not to have those parties," Cooper said. "And we encourage people not to attend."

Lt. Irvin Todd of the College Station Police Department, said a College Station police officer used pepper spray to break up an incident outside the Rack.

Dennell Brown, a party attendee and a criminal justice major at Texas Southern University, said he witnessed three separate uses of pepper spray on the crowd.

Brown said the police officer held his arm in the air and sprayed the crowd with pepper spray.

"It was completely uncalled for and unjust," Brown said.

Clay Perry, an off-duty Brazos County Sheriff's Deputy, was providing security that evening for the party.

Todd said Perry made the call to CSPD for police assistance due to the crowd size.

Todd said the crowd at the Rack was pushing and shoving trying to gain access to the building.

CSPD estimated the crowd's size at 1,000.

Two other parties planned to attract SBSLC participants had been organized for that evening, but the parties were cancelled by BPD.

Sgt. Christopher Jadowski of BPD said the parties were cancelled because the party venues did not acquire a special events permit for that evening.

### Conference focuses on new millennium

BY BETH MILLER AND JASON SCHNEIDER  
The Battalion

Speeches, workshops and a career fair informed 1,050 college students from throughout the country of ways to prepare themselves for the new millennium at the 11th annual Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference this weekend.

Theresa Cooper, director of SBSLC programs and a sophomore agricultural development major, said all of the events at the conference were effective in conveying the theme, "Renewing the Mind, Body and Soul to Meet the Challenges of the New Millennium," to the students in attendance.

"[The participants] needed to realize that health is an important factor," she said. "That's why we made it part of our theme, 'Renewing the Mind, Body and Soul,' it's a trinity."

Cooper said the goals of conference leaders were to instill in the participants the importance of being prepared for the millennium.

She said the leaders compiled a resume book, for which participants were offered the opportunity to submit their resumes. The resume book was distributed to the various 25 corporations and 27 graduate schools present at the career fair. One of the events of the conference was a speech contest, and the winner of \$500 and a trophy was Shantell Lewis. Cooper said the contestants' speeches were related to the theme of the conference.

Cooper said she has directed the conference programs for two years, and the participants seemed to be more enthusiastic this year.

"They got into the flow, and they were very active this year," she said. "They were more open to the things that we were bringing to them this year."

## Perry appoints Ogden

BY RONDA COOK  
The Battalion

Sen. Steve Ogden was appointed vice chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Higher Education and a member of the Senate Committee on Finance, the Senate Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military Installations by Lieutenant Governor Rick Perry Thursday.



OGDEN

Ogden was elected as a Representative in 1990 and served three terms. In January 1997, he was elected to the 19-county Senate District Five seat in a special election and was re-elected in November 1998.

He said he had been hoping for appointments to the positions and Perry has confidence in him.

"These are similar to the jobs I had in the House, and I have a strong background in finance," Ogden said.

The Committee on Finance decides the budget for Texas, which exceeds \$90 billion, and the Committee on Education is responsible for issues on admission requirements, affirmative action and greater access to higher education.

Ogden said he has generated ideas for his new positions. He said he hopes to take advantage of the state budget surplus and use it for education.

"We need to make sure that people who are willing to work have an opportunity for higher education," he said.

In the past, the senator's legislation has impacted Texas A&M University.

He played a role in the adoption of the legislation allowing businesses in Bryan-College Station and the surrounding area to use Aggie Bucks and legislation allowing construction of the Student Recreation Center. He said he is interested in Texas A&M and is involved in issues affecting students.

William Henderson III, executive chair of the College Republicans and a senior political science major, is confident Ogden will play a positive role on the committees.

"Sen. Ogden has always had a commitment to education and to A&M, and he will continue to work for the students' interest in his new position," Henderson said.

## PTTS examines campus access

BY AMANDA PALM  
The Battalion

Dr. Bryan Cole, department head of educational administration, joined the Campus Access and Parking Task Force for its third meeting Friday and will serve as facilitator for the committee.

Mary Miller, co-chair of the task force and associate vice president for administration, said a facilitator was brought in because the task force is a diverse group and a large, complex task set before it. "We really needed

someone to keep us focused during the meetings, and to keep us on point," she said.

Cole said he wants the task force to try to build Texas A&M's capacity to better serve its constituents.

"The challenge is, how can we optimize the system so we can meet most of the needs most of the time," he said.

Cole wants the committee to first acknowledge that the members need to represent the system and second to represent the constituents.

"We want to build a fence around the system we are looking at, so we can all understand what the pieces are," he said.

The committee is looking at a variety of forms of campus access, from riding the bus system to driving a car to walking or riding a bicycle. Anneliese Reine-meyer, a graduate representative, agreed to serve on the task force because it was going to look at campus access in all forms.

"It wasn't just going to be dealing with PTTS," she said. "The scope is broader

and is taking everything into perspective to create a solution. My greatest hope is to come up with a system that gets students, faculty, staff, everyone to class and the things they need to do on campus in a timely fashion."

Miller said she hopes the task force will have most of the plan finished by the end of the spring semester.

"We are going to shoot for getting as much done as we can by the end of spring and then finish everything up over the summer so that it will be completed by next fall," she said.

## Replant sites selected

BY AMANDA SMITH  
The Battalion

Replant committee members publicizing the event this week expect more participation in the Feb. 27 event, after selecting locations in the Bryan-College Station community as growing sites, rather than the traditional Lake Somerville location.

Replant committee members will offer sign-up sheets for organizations and individuals, spring staff applications and history on Replant in the MSC this week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dana Arriens, Replant publicity and marketing chair and a civil engineering major, said she hopes planting trees in Bryan-College Station will encourage more students and community members to participate in the event.

"We want to enable more Aggies and members of the community to participate in Replant," Arriens said. "We want as [many] to take part in something that helps the environment."

**REPLANT**

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## Alpha week promotes leadership, awareness

BY AMANDA PALM  
The Battalion

The 14th annual Alpha Week, hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, will focus on the various aspects of leadership throughout the week and will conclude with the Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant Saturday.

Eric Curley, co-programming chair for Alpha Week, said the week will primarily concentrate on three areas of leadership.

"We want to prepare people for the millennium on a spiritual, financial and political level," Curley said.

Ray Carruthers, mayor of Prairie View, will speak Wednesday on the importance of politics.

"We wanted him because he has been involved in the political arena for a number of years," Curley said, "and we knew he would add a lot to our program."

Kyemba McMillan, president of Alpha Phi Alpha, said the fraternity wants people to know of the issues they may face after graduation.

"We are trying to get people to look toward the future," McMillan said. "We want them to focus on what they are going to do after they graduate."

McMillan said he wanted to have a variety of event to

Alpha Week Events	
<b>Monday:</b>	Open Mic 3 at Rumours Deli
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Finance 2000- Rudder 401
<b>Wednesday:</b>	How Important is Politics? Rudder 701 -Ray Carruthers, Mayor of Prairie View
<b>Thursday:</b>	A Tribute to Black Women- MSC 201
<b>Friday:</b>	Alpha Night Hullabaloo
<b>Saturday:</b>	Miss Black & Gold Scholarship Pageant at Rudder Theater followed by Black & Gold Ball at the Student Rec. Center

inform students about the range of people on campus.

"Through the poetry night and the pageant, we want students to be aware of other people's talents," he said.

McMillan said the biggest event of the week is the Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant and the social, which conclude the week's activities.

"The pageant and the social are a great opportunity for students to come out and have a good time," he said.

There are 10 participants in the Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant and three contestants win scholarships. The pageant winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and the first and second runners-up will receive \$500 and \$300, respectively.

## Fraternities kick off spring rush at MSC

BY RACHEL HOLLAND  
The Battalion

Spring interfraternity rush begins today as Aggie men meet with fraternity members and gather rush information in the MSC Flagroom.

Individual fraternities will have information booths set up in the Flagroom today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Men interested in joining a fraternity will be able to talk with members and get information about the week's events.

Jeff Hilliard, president of the Interfraternity Council and a senior management information systems major, said rush gives Aggie men the opportunity to learn about each of the fraternities.

"The fraternities are very diverse at Texas A&M and rush

helps you to find the one that's best for you," Hilliard said. "You are going to be spending a lot of time with your fraternity, so it's important to feel comfortable."

Aggie men also talked with fraternity members at MSC Open House yesterday. Today, in the Flagroom, men will be able to obtain rush cards with each fraternity's rush schedule.

Joe Theriot, vice president of the IFC and a senior speech communication major, said the individual fraternities try to reach out and gain the attention of prospective members during rush.

"The fraternity members try to get to know them on a personal basis and have them attend their fraternity's rush events during the week," Theriot said.

The fraternities will then give bids, invitations to pledge, to men selected during the week. The pledges, prospective fraternity members, will receive bid cards Saturday and sign up with the fraternities from whom they received invitations.

Jeremy White, a member of Phi Kappa Theta and a freshman mechanical engineering major, said men considering rushing should keep an open mind.

"I would tell anyone interested in rushing not to have any stereotypes about fraternities," he said.

White said men interested in joining a fraternity should get involved in rush so they have the opportunity to evaluate the fraternities and decide which one to join.