



The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY

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aggielife

• Skateboarders try to find their niche on campus while fighting negative views toward their sport.

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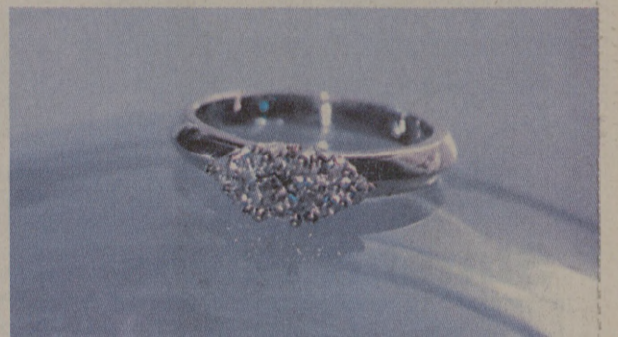
Friday's issue

The Harlem Globetrotters bring basketball sideshow to Reed Arena this weekend.

now & forever

• From proposal to honeymoon, a complete guide to tying the knot.

INSIDE



U.S. Armed Forces offer college students career opportunities

BY LISA K. HILL
The Battalion

Students looking for an alternative career path to what universities typically offer and a way to pay for college are offered opportunities by U.S. military branches.

The U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps offer programs which provide enrolled college students with career training, job placement and monetary incentives.

The U.S. Marine Corps provides Platoon Leaders' Class (PLC) and Officer Candidate Course (OCC) for students taking a minimum of 12 hours of coursework, maintaining a 2.0 grade-point average and meeting minimum SAT or ACT score requirements.

Cecilia A. Henderson, gunnery sergeant and officer selection assistant for the U.S. Marine Corps, said timing and year of graduation determines which program a student can qualify for.

"OCC is designed for college seniors or graduates," she said. "PLC is for freshmen, sophomores and juniors."

Henderson said monetary incentives are provided and qualified students can earn roughly \$1,350 per year. The OCC program does not provide financial assistance.

The requirements for PLC entail two six-week training sessions at Officer Candidate School in Quantico, VA, and one ten-week training session for OCC candidates. The sessions eventually allow participants to choose from ground, aviation or law as their areas of specialization.

The U.S. Navy offers the Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program (BDCP) and the Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate (NUPOC) program for students, leading to eventual specialization in aviation, intelligence, SEAL and other fields provided in basic training.

Stacey White, officer recruiter for the Navy, said the BDCP provides incentives for students with a minimum of 2.7 GPA and 30 semester hours. "The BDCP provides students with a financial boost of \$1,600 per month for up to 36 months as they continue their college education," White said.

Gary L. Cleaves, engineering officer recruiter for the Navy, said upon acceptance students receive several financial benefits.

"Up front, if selected, candidates receive \$8,000 and \$2,200 per month while in school, including summers," he said. "Upon finishing OCS and Nuclear Power School, students receive an additional \$2,000."

The Navy's NUPOC program is looking for students seeking degrees in math, chemistry, physics and engineering. Students must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA with two years left, or a 3.0 with one year remaining.

The U.S. Air Force offers Officer Training School to college seniors looking for job opportunities.

Kelvin Koch, technical sergeant and officer accessions flight chief for the Air Force, said the Air Force recruits throughout the year for students, regardless of which college degree they have.

"We're looking for students with good moral character who pass physical standards and the Air Force Officer Quality Test," Koch said.

There are no monetary incentives for full-time students wanting to join the Air Force. Koch said there are monetary advantages upon signing after graduation.

"Typically, field of specialization and status determines pay start; working full time pays approximately \$28,000," he said. "Pay raises depend on seniority and, on the average, your fourth year, you can earn approximately \$40,000."

The Air Force is looking for students pursuing careers in all engineering fields and aircraft navigation, but the program is not limited to these career areas.

The U.S. Army offers financial incentives to individuals interested in joining the U.S. Army Reserves and also offers a medical school scholarship.

Scott Whitney, U.S. Army recruiter, said joining the U.S. Army can provide many opportunities to students unsure of their future.

"Our program is a great opportunity for men and women to earn extra money, experience and continue their education," Whitney said. Students attending college and enlisted part time in the Army

SEE RECRUIT ON PAGE 10.

RHA postpones registration bill

Proposed item calls for early class selection for resident advisers

BY RACHEL HOLLAND
The Battalion

The Residence Hall Association postponed decision on a bill Wednesday that allowed resident advisers to register early as student workers.

Sara Lillehaugen, a sponsor of the bill and a junior English major, said resident advisers need the selection of classes available during early registration to select classes that do not conflict with times when they are needed at the residence hall.

"We are proposing it because resident advisers are finding it difficult to register around their duty hours," she said.

Student-worker early registration is currently available to students who work a minimum of 12 hours per week between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Resident advisers are on duty 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., Monday through Friday and do not qualify as student workers, Lillehaugen said.

Nicole Carlson, sponsor of the

bill and a sophomore history major, said many of the labs and classes remaining available during the regular registration period often conflict with the resident advisers' duty hours.

She said RHA wants to recognize the work resident advisers do, both as students and leaders in their halls, by recognizing them as student workers.

"Whenever we have talked about compensation for resident advisers, considering them as student workers for early registration has always

been important," she said.

Michael Haughey, RHA President, said resident advisers are expected to serve students 24 hours a day and deserve the early registration benefits of a student worker.

He said the 150 resident advisers serve more than 9,000 students.

"Anyone who impacts the students is a student worker," he said.

The bill will be open for debate at the next RHA General Assembly on Feb. 10.

City council to honor A&M football team

BY MELISSA JORDAN
The Battalion

The City of College Station will present Coach R. C. Slocum and the Texas A&M football team with a plaque and proclamation at tonight's city council meeting in honor of the team's dedication and success during the 1998 football season.

Mayor Lynn McIlhane said the presentation is an effort by the city to show its appreciation to the football team.

"It is the practice of the council to have an opportunity during the council meetings to honor groups, individuals, teams, staff and other agencies that have done an outstanding job for their community or company," McIlhane said.

Kelley Chapman, public relations and marketing manager for College Station, said the proclamation will address the Aggies' second straight year to play a perfect home schedule, their defeat of number one-seated Kansas State and number two-seated Nebraska and Coach Slocum as the winningest coach in A&M history.

After the team's performance in the Sugar Bowl, Slocum said the 1998 football team displayed its commitment this year through its hard work and leadership on and off the field.

"They really accomplished a lot, and they did it with class," Slocum said. "The team never gave up. They would fight to the very end, and that is something those players will take with them for the rest of their lives."

Chapman said the success of the football team has united the community and brought recognition to Texas A&M and Bryan-College Station.

"We are very proud of the hard work and dedication of the A&M football team and what they have accomplished as a team this year," McIlhane said.

"This proclamation and plaque is our way of saying thank you for a job well done. Our congratulations go out to this team and their coaches for a very successful season."

"They really accomplished a lot, and they did it with class."

— R.C. SLOCUM
A&M FOOTBALL COACH



One for the win column



A&M sophomore forward Aaron Jack (21) goes in for the layup against Texas Tech's Mario Layne (14) during A&M's 68-47 win over Tech last night.

For expanded coverage see Sports, page 7A.

Laurie Nickel works toward remaining goals

BY SALLIE TURNER
The Battalion

Student Body President Laurie Nickel and her executive council have been working to accomplish goals outlined in her platform, achieving some and continuing work to meet the remaining ones.

Goals attained include establishing a student advisory committee for Bus Operations, the adoption of a portion of the 60-60-60 Q-drop bill and the expansion of Aggie Bucks to more off-campus locations including Kyle Field, Reed Arena and Olsen Field.

Nickel said Student Govern-

ment Association (SGA) also worked with the Texas A&M Foundation to provide scholarships for academically qualified students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Nickel and other members of SGA went to the students' high schools to present them with a \$2,000 per year scholarship to Texas A&M.

Another part of Nickel's platform is recruiting and retaining minority students.

"This semester, current students will make phone calls to high-school seniors who have been accepted to the University to talk about the opportunities available," Nickel said.



Laurie Nickel, A&M student body president, has attained many of her original platform goals.

Brian Minyard, executive vice president of SGA and a senior biochemistry major, said the Nickel administration is

SEE NICKEL ON PAGE 10.

Lecture to focus on National Security Council

• Event features former Director of European and Soviet Affairs for NSC.

BY SALLIE TURNER
The Battalion

The Department of Programs and Professional Rhetoric will host a National Security Council lecture tonight at 7:30 at the Bush Presidential Conference Center.

The lecture is part of a series begun in 1994 by Dr.

Martin Medhurst, professor of speech communications.

Medhurst said the lecture is part of an ongoing series to prepare leaders for the 21st century.

"Anyone who is interested in American foreign policy will be interested in this lecture," Medhurst said.

John Lenczowski, founder and director of The Institute of World Politics, will speak concerning presidential rhetoric and the war of information and ideas against the Soviet Union.

Lenczowski has a Ph.D. from John Hopkins University's School of Ad-

vanced International Studies.

He served in the State Department as Special Adviser to the Under Secretary of Political Affairs and was Director of European and Soviet Affairs at the National Security Council.

He has written two books, *The Sources of Soviet Perestroika* and *Soviet Perceptions of U.S. Foreign Policy*.

He also has published articles in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Times* and *Los Angeles Times*.

Medhurst said Lenczowski was chosen to speak at the lecture be-

cause of his extensive knowledge of foreign policy and his experience in the field.

"He used to edit Ronald Reagan's speeches," Medhurst said.

Colleen Hoffman, administrative assistant for the Center of Presidential Studies, said the fall lecture series began with a speech by Martin Fitzwater, former White House spokesman for Presidents Reagan and Bush.

Past speakers for the fall lecture series include former President George Bush and Brian Mulroney, former Prime Minister of Canada.