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FAA presents Easterwood with 'Texas Airport of the Year' award

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS
The Battalion

Easterwood Airport was presented the most prestigious award given to a commercial passenger airport by the Federal Aviation Administration [FAA].

Easterwood Airport officially received the "Texas Airport of the Year" award at the FAA convention in January.

Jonathan Kraatz of University Relations said the award is based on operational and passenger safety, development and maintenance, a master plan of programs and future projects.

Easterwood is owned by Texas A&M and is operated by Director of Aviation Harry Raisor. Raisor said

the award is special because Easterwood's competition included Houston Intercontinental and Dallas/Fort Worth airports.

"This award reflects a lot of hard work over the past 20 years," Raisor said. "It confirms that we are continuing to improve our services and efforts to ensure the safety of passengers and the community."

Raisor said Easterwood made several safety enhancements during the past year. The most expensive and extensive was the construction of a \$1.3 million fire station, which they share with the College Station Fire Department, and the addition of a new \$350,000 aircraft-rescue and fire-fighting vehicle.

Kraatz said passenger traffic is increasing significantly. Last year,

more than 93,000 passengers departed from Easterwood and estimates for this year range between 96,000 and 98,000. The FAA has approved expansion projects for Easterwood, including expanding the terminal, adding and safety area and perimeter road around the airport and extending the runway.

Raisor said it is the first time an airport of Easterwood has won the award, and it shows the dedication of the airport staff.

"To be recognized by the federal government as the best major airport in the state is a reflection on the staff of Easterwood Airport, Texas A&M and the communities of Bryan-College Station because of how these people have come together," Raisor said.

DRS presents first lecture in series tonight

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

The basic exercise principles, flexibility, strength and cardiovascular exercise will be addressed tonight at the first of a series of lectures presented by the Department of Recreational Sports.

The lecture, given by Chris Blume, a physical therapist and athletic trainer at A.P. Beutel Health Center, will be at 5:30 p.m. in Student Recreation Center room 281. The series begins tonight and will extend through March 31.

Blume said she will talk about the benefits of weight and cardiovascular training and attempt to dispel myths associated with exercise.

She said the lecture will be

aimed at students, but the type of exercise students need depends on their overall goals.

"Some people want to lose weight, while others want strength training, so it depends on the individual's goals," Blume said. "Also, some people hate to exercise so it needs to be enjoyable and social so they don't see it as paying a penance."

She said the most important and most ignored component of exercise is stretching.

"Most people will exercise strenuously without stretching which can lead to injury," Blume said. "I would have a lot less patients if people would learn the proper stretching techniques, which we will talk about at the lecture."

Blume said after the lecture she

will respond to questions. Exercise members will have the opportunity to learn about the Agnivesh and routines.

The Rec Center will host lectures each Wednesday.

Topics will include the science of weight training, books, low-fat dining, Valley, relationships between men and women and facial remedies.

Speakers will include Cohen, assistant health coordinator at Beutel Health Center, and Dr. James Pusniak, author of the book of Low-Fat Dining in Valley, and Dr. James professor of social health and interim head of the School of

GRADUATE

Continued from Page 1

to graduate students will cost the state too much money. Proponents of the bill have argued that the state will benefit from increased tax revenues paid by students with graduate degrees and increased ability for the state to attract industries that depend on well-trained employees.

Reinemeyer said the system is further complicated by the 100-hour rule, which forces graduate

students to pay out-of-state tuition once they have exceeded 100 credit hours. Reinemeyer said students who enroll in classes to maintain their assistantships are more likely to exceed the 100-hour cap.

According to the National Research Council, it takes, on average, seven years to receive a Ph.D. "Once we've hit [research] hours, we shouldn't be required to be enrolled as much as we are," Reinemeyer said.

HOUSING

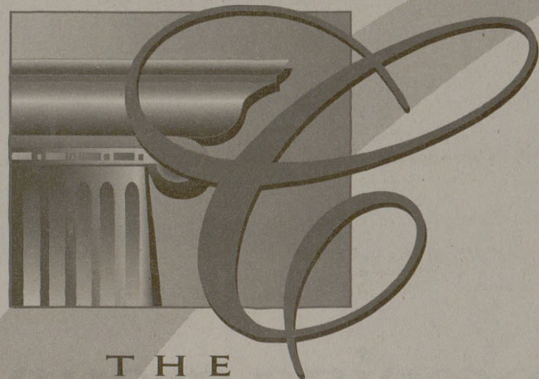
Continued from Page 1

She said an early survey allowed them to compare and find housing better than them.

"We book up really fast," she said. "If you wait until the last minute, you are going to be up living somewhere like and don't want to be there."

Students will be able to see a survey about off-campus housing at Bryan-College Station and for a free-rent drawing.

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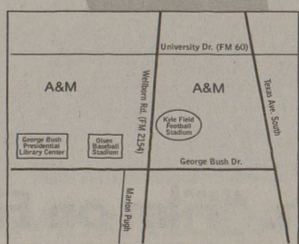
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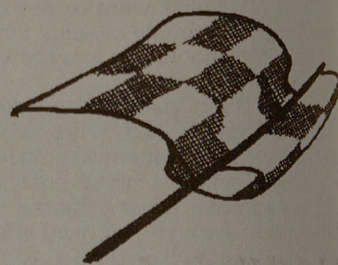
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Sheryl Lyssy, Northwestern Mutual
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