



The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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College Station, Texas



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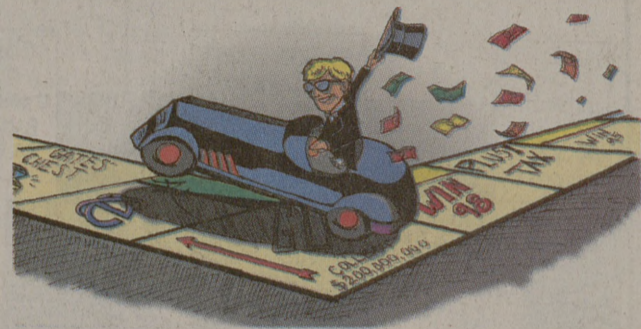
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International awareness week sparks discussion concerning America's cultural melting pot.

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Replant gives back on Saturday

BY SALLIE TURNER
The Battalion

More than 2,000 students and individuals from around Bryan-College Station will grab their shovels Saturday morning to participate in the ninth annual Replant.

Replant is an effort to give back to the environment what is taken during the building of Bonfire. "I feel Replant will officially begin with a kickoff celebration at 8 a.m. at the softball fields.

Nicki Smith, director of Replant and a senior biomedical science major, said 300 twenty-five-gallon trees will be planted on Saturday.

"We [Replant participants] will also be potting 500 seedlings and will be moving 2,000 trees from five-gallon pots to 25-gallon pots," Smith said.

Dana Arriens, publicity and advertising chair and a junior civil engineering major, said Replant's goals are to contribute, unite and educate the Bryan-College Station community.

Replant was founded on the principle of bringing the community together to give back to the environment," she said. "To educate the community, we have gone out to various groups and taught them how to plant trees and take care of the environment."

This year the Replant committee has chosen to plant the trees at locations in the community rather than the traditional Lake Somerville and football fields. The planted trees will range in age from three to five years.

"We wanted to start planting in the parks and the parks wanted trees to be planted with a higher survival rate," she said. "The trees being planted this weekend have been growing in our compound and are now ready to be planted."

Arriens said participating groups will be planting at different times throughout the day.

The time shifts have been added this year because older trees are more difficult to plant.

"We didn't want to have more than 15 people planting a tree with a lot of people," she said. "The group of 15 people will get to plant four trees."

Tune up



CARINO CASAS/THE BATTALION

Darren Morrison, a freshman civil engineering major, cleans the carburetor on his '72 Chevy. Morrison said the truck is a "project car" he bought for \$500 when he was 15 and has since converted to a four-wheel drive.

Evans formally opens

BY SALLIE TURNER
The Battalion

The Texas A&M Sterling C. Evans Library Annex will formally open today with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 3 p.m. in the Reserve Reading Room of the annex.

The six-story library annex includes a reading room, group study areas, a multimedia center and reference collection. President Dr. Ray Bowen will present the building.

Laurie Nickel, student body president, and Anneliese Reine-meyer, Graduate Student Council president, will be the keynote speakers at the ceremony.

"They were chosen [to speak] because they are student leaders," she said, "and this building is heavily used by students."

Fred Heath, dean and director of Sterling C. Evans Library said the formal opening was delayed in order to tie in with Sterling Evans' 100th birthday. Evans will not attend the ceremony for personal reasons.

"We regret that Sterling Evans will not be able to join us as we extend the library that bears his name," he said. "We look forward to celebrating his 100th birthday at a later time."

Charlene Clark, public relations officer for Sterling C. Evans Library, said another reason for the delay of the ceremony was that the original library building was dedicated 20 years ago.

"We felt the historical symmetry of the library opening dates were significant as we planned a date for the annex opening," she said.

The library is expecting more than 100 guests including University faculty, friends of the library, mother's clubs and friends of the University.

Representatives from Cintex Construction and the architectural firm which designed the building will also attend.

After the ceremony, walking and digital tours will be available.

Clark said the digital tours allow people to look floor by floor all the way across the building.

Question and answer session addresses concerns over 1996 Hopwood decision

BY BETH MILLER
The Battalion

Panelists at a discussion of the 1996 Hopwood ruling said the decision identified recruitment and retention problems at Texas A&M, and the University should take steps to alleviate the difficulties.

The past, present and future of A&M minority recruitment and retention as a result of the Hopwood decision was the focus of the third in a series of annual conferences yesterday.

Administrators and faculty members updated students, faculty, staff, community members and visitors about recruitment successes and future goals of A&M departments.

President Dr. Ray M. Bowen, Mitchell Rice, director of the Race and Ethnic Studies Institute, and Steven Murdock, professor of sociology, opened the conference with explanations of what the Hopwood ruling is and how it affects A&M.

Two panels, one discussing past recruitment successes among A&M departments, and the other addressing the University's present state and future goals, supplied administrators' reports and offered the audience question-and-answer sessions.

Karen Watson, associate dean of the Dwight Look College of Engineering, said minority enrollment rates may have increased within the colleges, but A&M's total enrollment has also increased, which should not be overlooked. She said the Hopwood decision helped people recognize a recruitment problem, but the problem existed prior to the ruling.

"Nothing has changed in what we have done and should do better because of Hopwood," she said.

Watson said the University should examine and improve the recruitment system.

William Perry, executive associate provost, said the University has made progress in minority recruitment, but it needs to continue pursuing the issue.

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TERRY ROBERSON/The Battalion

Mitchell F. Rice, Director of Race and Ethnic Studies Institute, gives a speech on "Continuity: What is Hopwood?" yesterday in Rudder Theater.



MIKE FUENTES/The Battalion

Alzo Slate (left), a senior radio/television and history double major, and Tony Browne (right), a junior electrical engineering major, drum on Djembe drums during the Seventh Harambee Unity Festival last night.

Praise (VOP) Choir and unity steps by the Gamma Phi Delta Christian Men's Fraternity, Alpha Lambda Omega Christian Women's Sorority and the Panhellenic Council.

Between performances, festival hosts discussed the background and achievements of several important African Americans who attended A&M. BAC also celebrated its 30th year as a University-recognized organization.

BAC invited organizations from

other universities to participate in an open forum designed to provide further information on the purpose of their organization and to discuss issues plaguing the black communities on and off campus. The forum included representatives from traditional black organizations from A&M, Texas Southern, Prairie View A&M and the University of Texas.

BAC collected boxes of canned goods at the door for Brazos Valley Charity.

Greek Olympiad features step-show

BY APRIL YOUNG
The Battalion

In an attempt to raise money for minority scholarships, Kappa Alpha Psi will host the 10th annual Greek Olympiad tomorrow at 7 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

The show will feature performances by groups from Texas A&M, Baylor University, University of Houston and Prairie View A&M.

Franklin Williams, coordinator of Greek Olympiad and president of Kappa Alpha Psi, said Greek Olympiad is an exhibition of different levels of creativity and different styles of stepping.

"Greek Olympiad is an event where historically black fraternities and sororities exhibit forms of entertainment through stepping, which includes different rhythms of hand clapping, feet-stomping and twirling of canes," Williams said.

Deidra Crawford, NPHC Adviser, said Greek Olympiad is held for several reasons.

"The purpose of Greek Olympiad is to showcase different styles of stepping and gives us a chance to raise money for various community projects," she said.

Step-show participants will be judged by alumni representatives from each of the Pan-Hellenic organizations. The first and second place sororities and fraternities will be awarded \$1,500 and \$500 respectively. Judging will be based on appearance, precision, stepping ability, crowd participation, originality and overall performance.

Williams said the Hopwood decision makes the step-show especially important.

"Since the Hopwood decision has put an end to mi-

nority-based scholarships, we have set up a scholarship fund where we will use the money we raise from Greek Olympiad to help increase minority enrollment," Williams said.

Proceeds from Greek Olympiad will be used for the Kappa Alpha Psi Minority Retention Award, a \$500 scholarship for freshman minorities at A&M and the Kappa Alpha Psi Achievement Award, given to a male high-school senior.

The winner of the Kappa Alpha Psi Minority Retention Award will be announced during the show.

Greek Performers

- Omega Psi Phi
- Alpha Phi Alpha
- Phi Beta Sigma
- Kappa Alpha Psi
- Alpha Kappa Alpha
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Theta Phi Beta
- Sigma Gamma Rho

Harambee Unity Festival celebrates with BAC

RICHARD PADDACK
The Battalion

The MSC Black Awareness Committee (BAC) and other African-American organizations celebrated unity through God and the African-American culture at the seventh annual Harambee Unity Festival last night at Rudder Theater.

"We were really pleased with the attendance, they were a very diverse crowd," Joel Garbutt, BAC president and a senior management major, said.

The festival began with a traditional tribal drum duo that encouraged the audience to participate by clapping and dancing. The duo was followed by the invocation and National Negro Anthem. The festival entertainment began with a dance. Other entertainment included the Texas A&M Voice of