



aggielife

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Replant gives 300 tress back to Bryan/College Station area

BY SALLIE TURNER
 The Battalion

The Bryan-College Station community has 300 new trees due to the 2,000 students who participated in the 9th annual Replant.

Katie Dufour, associate director of Replant and a junior community health major, said the tradition of Replant started in 1991 as an effort to give back to the environment. In the past, Replant has been held at Lake Somerville, but this year the Replant committee chose to move it to the Bryan-College Station area in an effort to increase participation and satisfaction of the participants.

"Students this year have the satisfaction of going to the tree they planted and saying 'Hey, I planted that tree,'" she said.

Matthew Robbins, Moses Hall crew chief and a freshman business administration major, said the group from Moses Hall came to replant because they wanted to give back to the environment what is taken out during the building of Bonfire.

"We cut down a lot of trees, and [Replant] is a

way to replace what we cut down," he said. "It's the only Bonfire-related event this semester."

Dan Houchard, Replant Tree Team Committee member and a senior horticulture major, said the trees planted by Replant in the past have had a low survival rate. He said the low rate is due to their small size and lack of care after Replant is over.

"This year the cities of Bryan and College Station have committed to weekly watering of the trees," he said. "We are hoping for a survival rate of 80 to 90 percent."

The Replant committee is turning its eyes toward next year. Saturday's event potted 500 trees that will be planted at future Replant activities.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for student affairs, applauded the efforts of the 2,000 participants.

"At 8:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning, there are probably many college students doing something else," he said.

Dufour said another aspect of Replant is beautifying the neighborhoods, schools and parks in the Bryan-College Station community.



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Kyle Brown, a sophomore general studies major, plants a tree at Bonham park in Bryan. Brown and 20 other Moses hall residents participated in Replant on Saturday.

"In a few years, we will be able to come back and see that we not only went to school here, but that we improved the community," she said.

College Station resident found dead in apartment

BY SALLIE TURNER
 The Battalion

Brent Svehalik, a 22-year-old Austin resident visiting a friend at Fox Meadows Apartments in College Station, was found dead in the apartment Sunday morning.

Sergeant Bruce Sims of the College Station Police Department said the police department received a 911 call from the apartment residents at 11:04 a.m.

They said Svehalik was unconscious. His friends performed CPR on him until the paramedics arrived to take over life-saving efforts. He was pronounced dead by Justice of the Peace Ervin Cain.

"His friends said they were out partying the night before," Sims said. "He laid on the couch when they got home. When [his roommates] got up in the morning, they

found him unconscious."

The cause of death is still undetermined, but Sims said there is a possibility of alcohol relation. Svehalik's body is being sent to San Antonio for an autopsy. The police said there is no foul play suspected in the death.

Eugene Zdziarski, assistant director of the Department of Student Life and a member of the Department of Student Life Critical Response Team, said when an A&M student is involved in an accident, the University Police Department alerts the Critical Response Team, which goes to the scene of the accident and counsels anyone involved.

"Every person needs to mourn in their own way, and our job is to guide them in the mourning process," Zdziarski said. "No one thinks this sort of thing will happen to them or their friends."

Largest step show in Texas awards contestants at Olympiad



BY APRIL YOUNG

The Battalion

CARIÑO CASAS/THE BATTALION

Members of the A&M chapter of Omega Psi Phi perform their step routine Saturday night during the 10th annual Greek Olympiad held in Rudder Auditorium. Over 2,500 students watched Delta Sigma Theta and Phi Beta Sigma (both from Prairie View) win first place.

BY APRIL YOUNG
 The Battalion

More than 2,500 students and spectators attended the 10th annual Greek Olympiad, the largest step show in Texas, Saturday at Rudder Auditorium.

The step show consisted of 10 acts, each allotted 10 minutes to perform their routines.

First- and second-place fraternity honors went to Phi Beta Sigma and Kappa Alpha Psi, both from Prairie View A&M University, respectively.

Delta Sigma Theta from Prairie View A&M and Delta Sigma Theta from Texas A&M won first- and second-place sorority honors, respectively.

First-place winners received \$1,500, and the second-place prize was \$500.

Kim King, step-team chair of Delta Sigma Theta at Texas A&M and a sophomore biomedical science major, said although they would have liked to receive first place, they were pleased with second place.

"We were not really surprised to receive second place because basi-

Performance Winners

Fraternity:

- 1st - Phi Beta Sigma (Prairie View)
- 2nd - Kappa Alpha Psi (Prairie View)

Sorority:

- 1st - Delta Sigma Theta (Prairie View)
- 2nd - Delta Sigma Theta (TAMU)

cally everyone that performed had just [rushed] this semester," she said. "So we were pretty happy about second place."

King said since Delta Sigma Theta is a non-profit organization, the money won will be used to fund scholarships, programs and community-service projects.

Franklin Williams, coordinator of Greek Olympiad and president of Kappa Alpha Psi, said the theme of the step show, "Dawn of a New Era," signifies how far the show has come.

"When we first started Greek

Olympiad in 1989, we had quite a problem getting people to come out," he said. "For the past 3 years now, we have had a sold-out crowd."

Williams said the best part of the show was special guest, "The Gents," from Booker T. Washington High School in Houston, who performed during the score tabulation.

"We had a chance to give these high-school students a tour of A&M, and they had a chance to ask questions concerning financial aid and

SEE STEP SHOW ON PAGE 2.

Ceremony celebrates library opening

BY SALLIE TURNER
 The Battalion

Sterling C. Evans Library Annex formally opened Friday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the reading room of the annex.

More than 150 people from the Bryan-College Station community attended the ceremony. President Dr. Ray M. Bowen, Student Body President Laurie Nickel and Graduate Student Council President Anneliese Reinemeyer were among the University dignitaries in attendance.

Fred Heath, dean and director of Sterling C. Evans Library, said the annex was designed around the needs of the students.

"It was meant to be a facility where students would interact with one another, with the staff and with



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Dr. Malon Southerland (left), Student Body President Laurie Nickel, William Krumm, Fred Heath and Robert Walker participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the formal opening of the Sterling C. Evans Annex.

the technologies that would enable them to engage in research and project development," he said. "The student leaders worked closely with the library staff to articulate their constituency's priorities and concerns."

Reinemeyer said the library is a memorial to past writers and to the future generation of writers.

"Each title, each book, each golden leaf represents a piece of the world," she said.

Nickel recounted her experiences as a campus-tour guide during her speech at the ceremony.

"Students never ask me where the library is, but students soon

find they will spend more time at the library than at a football game or at the Rec Center," she said.

Heath said the annex is part of the library expansion goals for Texas A&M. Four library-system expansions have occurred in the 1990s. In 1994, the West Campus Library opened; in 1997, the Policy Sciences and Economics Library opened and in 1998, the Cushing Memorial Library reopened after being restored.

"The official opening of the annex to Sterling C. Evans Library is a milestone in library development," he said.

'Aggies Up All Night' raises \$5,000 for Children's Miracle Network

BY NONI SRIDHARA
 The Battalion

More than \$5,000 was raised for the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) of the Brazos Valley by participants of Aggies Up All Night.

Sarah Elliott, director of Aggies Up All Night and a senior accounting major, said 40 participants, known as all-nighters, stood for 24 hours, and 200 volunteers helped monitor rest periods and boost morale during the night.

The yell leaders, Aggie Wranglers and Freudian Slip were among the entertainers for the night.

She said the participants who stood during night could earn "sitting time" either by winning a game or having friends come in and buy "sitting seconds" for them.

Charla Dabney, morale director for Aggies Up All Night and a sophomore psychology major, said the main foci of the event were the children and their families.

"We are going through 24 hours of pain standing on our feet, but it is nothing compared to what the children go through," Dabney said.

Elliott said there were various organizations participating in the event, but Alpha Phi Omega was strongly represented with 20 all-nighters and 100 volunteers.

Some of the all-nighters won door prizes during the course of the event including a stay at the Hilton, a stereo and a \$1,000 scholarship donated by Kaplan, a program that aids students in preparation for the LSAT and other aptitude tests.



CARIÑO CASAS/THE BATTALION

Sahitya Gadiraju (left), '02 biology major, operates the table as Hugo Cordova (right), '01 business management major, anticipates the results of the spin.

Elliott said the participants were full of heart and spirit, which made getting through the night easier.

"When you are working so closely with a group of people, you learn not to give up and not to get discouraged," she said. "I have had the opportunity to meet with many of the families, and this is one of the main things that makes me want to help again and again."

The proceeds from the fund raiser will be presented to CMN during their telethon in May.