

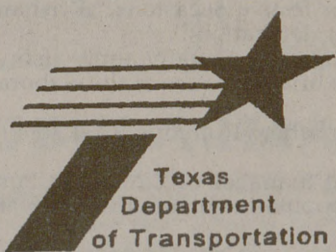
INTERESTED IN

RUNNING THE RACE?

It is time to approach the starting line.
"On Your Mark, Get set, Go"

File for Student Body President, Yell Leaders,
Class Officers, Senate, 1999 Class Agents,
and RHA Elections

MARCH 1-5, MSC Hallway,
10:00-3:00



TxDOT Three Year Federally Funded Project Plan NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

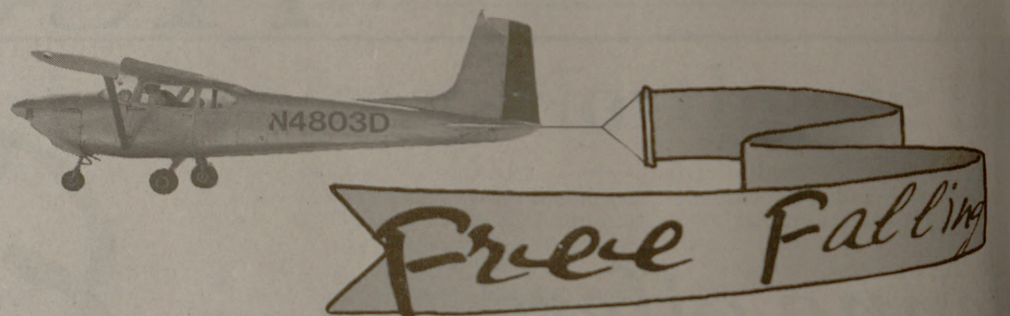
The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public meeting to present the proposed 2000-2002 Bryan District Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for review and comment. This process is a requirement of the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). The meeting is Tuesday, March 30, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brazos Center. The address is 3232 Briarcrest Drive in Bryan. Our 2000-2002 Bryan District TIP is part of the process for selecting anticipated federally funded construction projects for the next three fiscal years.

We will present the meeting in English. Any person who has special communication or accommodation needs and is interested in attending the meeting is encouraged to contact the District Advance Planning Engineer at 409/778-2165. Requests should be at least two working days before the public meeting.

We invite all interested citizens, affected public agencies, transportation agencies, private transportation providers and other interested parties to attend this public meeting and make comments. TxDOT requests spoken or written comments. These comments may be presented at the meeting or in writing to Mr. Bob Appleton, P.E., Bryan Director of Transportation Planning and Development at: TxDOT, 1300 N. Texas Ave., Bryan, TX 77803 by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 9, 1999. Those interested may send E-mail comments to: bapplet@mailgw.dot.state.tx.us

AGGIELIFE

Page 4 • Wednesday, March 3, 1999



Skydiving involves three techniques of jumping

BY SCOTT HARRIS
The Battalion

Hanging on to a strut of an airplane at 3,000 feet is not a position most people like to be in. To an aspiring skydiver, however, it is the perfect place to be.

Some get into skydiving for the adrenaline rush, some for the feeling of flight, some to tempt fate and laugh in the face of death and some to impress girls, but there is no single reason people first try the sport.

Skydiving is an activity that has accumulated a strong following and is a way of life for everybody who takes it seriously as a pastime.

Matt Zeve, a senior civil engineering major, said skydiving is an experience like none other.

"I wasn't that scared until I saw the door open and how high up we were, then I got scared," Zeve said. "But it was the biggest rush, I don't really know how to describe it."

For students who are serious about skydiving, they can join the Aggie Skydiving Club, a small group intended for student skydiving enthusiasts.

For anyone wanting to get into the sport, there are three separate ways to get their first jump under their belt: the tandem jump, the static line jump and the accelerated free fall.

Mark Woodings, jumpmaster and owner of Aags Over Texas, said the tandem jump is the option many people take because it requires the least amount of work and time.

"The student goes up with an experienced diver attached to the same harness," Woodings said. "They have nothing to worry about and don't have to deal with any of the emergency stuff. It's pretty much for people who want to go along for the ride."

For the tandem jump, an hour of training is required, and then the student is ready to jump out of the airplane.

They will get 35 to 45 seconds of freefall, plus the student is allowed to steer the parachute some of the way down.

Although the tandem jump is a good way to experience the first jump, it does not count toward being certified as a skydiver.

To become certified, the student will either start with the static line or the accelerated free-fall (AFF).

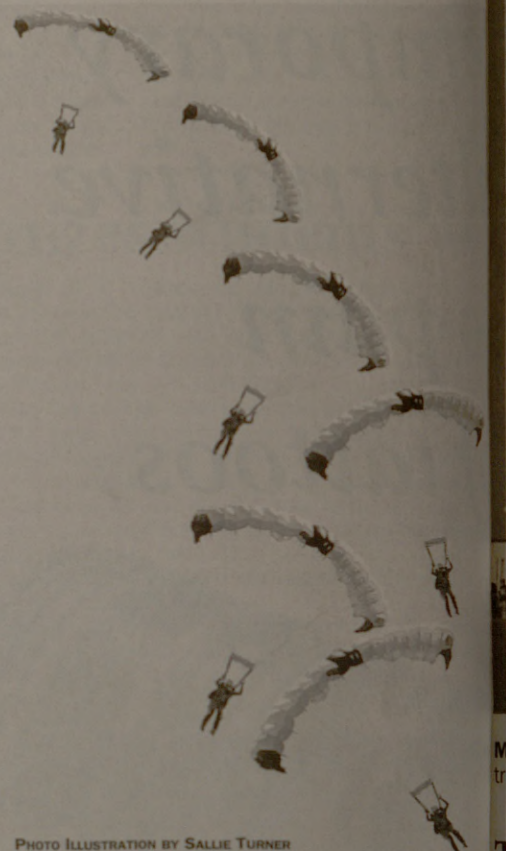


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SALLIE TURNER

Both methods of jumping require an all day school class, which generally lasts eight hours. The similarities between the two methods of learning are there.

The static line is a gradual process into skydiving while the AFF is a blast right into the jump.

Woodings said he recommends the static line for people who are interested in becoming certified skydivers.

"You go to class and learn everything and you are certified."

SEE SKYDIVING ON PAGE 10

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make good cash.

have some fun.

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