



The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY

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College Station, Texas



aggielife

• Common misconceptions still exist concerning body piercings, and tattoos seen as dark art.

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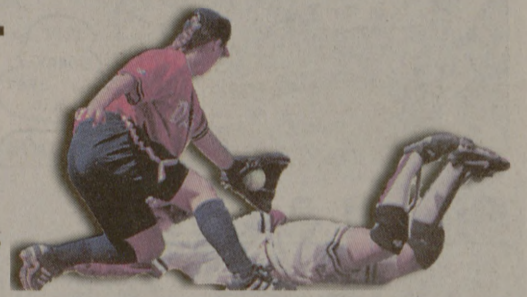
Battalion Radio

Listen how the City of Bryan obtains new motorcycle police officers at 1:57 p.m. on 90.9 KAMU-FM.

sports

• Aggie softball team jumps into national standings for the first time this season with a top-25 ranking.

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Cocaine death

Toxicology report shows overdose as cause of former student's fatality

BY MEREDITH HIGHT
The Battalion

College Station police confirmed that Mark Eisemann, a former Texas A&M student from Richardson, Texas, died of a cocaine overdose. Eisemann, 23, was discovered in his apartment Feb. 14 by a roommate after he noticed a foul odor coming from Eisemann's room. A toxicology report from the Texas County medical examiner said his death was an accidental cocaine overdose. Eisemann, who enrolled at

Texas A&M in Fall 1996, left the University after the Fall 1998 semester.

Eisemann was selected to be a Fish Camp counselor last year but did not attend camp in the summer because he did not make the required 2.0 grade point ratio in Spring 1998.

September Smith, a senior Spanish major, was a co-chair of Eisemann's camp.

"When I knew him, I never knew he was on drugs," she said. "I had no idea he was addicted to cocaine. He was a real nice guy with a lot of confidence. But look-

ing back, he was real high-strung and hyperactive and had bad nose bleeds."

Smith said Eisemann spent the night of Feb. 9 with their fish camp. He died the following Thursday and was found Feb. 14. His roommate had not seen Eisemann since Feb. 9 and assumed he had gone out of town.

Lt. Larry Johnson said there are no leads on the source of the cocaine.

Eisemann's father said it was a difficult time for the Eisemann family and declined to comment on his son's death.

UPD attributes thefts to opportunity crimes

BY AMANDA SMITH
The Battalion

Some Aggies do steal, according to a report from University Police Department (UPD) outlining more than \$200,000 in stolen property since Sept. 1. Sgt. Allan Baron of UPD said a student was the victim of an extreme case of theft when she left her driver's license and student identification card on the third floor of the Student Recreation Center. The information from the stolen I.D. was used to open an account at a Houston jewelry store, where the suspect charged \$1,267 for a diamond ring and a social bracelet.

The Houston Police Department is investigating the case. In the past year, students have reported their stolen I.D.s used to open credit-card or checking accounts, according to the UPD report.

Bob Wiatt, UPD director, said students are susceptible to theft on the Texas A&M campus.

"Students are being victim-

"Students are being victimized. [Thieves] are using the students personal identification number ... to open up credit accounts."

— Bob Wiatt
UPD director

ized," Wiatt said. "[Thieves] are using the student's personal identification number and have the documents to open up credit accounts."

Baron said students are occasionally careless, leaving their personal belongings out of their sight and unprotected. He said students have the notion that Aggies do not lie, steal or cheat, but it is not always true.

"We encourage students not to leave their property unattended," he said. "Students sometimes become careless and think nothing will happen to them. We do not worry about our property because it is Texas A&M. On any college campus, though, crimes of opportunity are the biggest problem."

Theft tops the list of crimes reported on the A&M campus, amounting \$250,000 to \$500,000 in property stolen annually, according to UPD.

Of the \$211,223 worth of property reported stolen since Sept. 1, \$88,189 has been recovered. Baron said bicycles have consti-

SEE REC CENTER ON PAGE 2.

Raising Tibetan awareness



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Heather Miller, vice president of Students for a Free Tibet and senior psychology major, sits inside a replica of a Tibetan refugee tent as part of the 40th anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising. Students at Texas A&M and across the nation held demonstrations and fasted yesterday to raise awareness.

Residents face rate increase

BY RACHEL HOLLAND
The Battalion

If President Dr. Ray M. Bowen approves a recent proposal by the Department of Residence Life, student will face a seven-percent increase in residence hall rental rates in the upcoming school year.

Also following approval, McInnis Hall resident will receive priority when requesting hall changes for Spring 2000.

The Residence Hall Associa-

tion (RHA) recommendation, which aids in assisting McInnis Hall residents during hall renovations, will be reviewed by the Department of Residence Life.

Jerry Smith, associate director of the Department of Residence Life, said the seven percent increase is necessary to pay for deferred maintenance and utility increases.

Smith said the increase would generate an additional \$27.2 million, and 80 percent would fund deferred maintenance and utili-

ties. "We want to have the funds to upgrade the facilities so that residents are getting more for their rent dollar," he said.

RHA's recommendation for McInnis Hall residents would grant the 150 residents priority while temperature controls are installed in each room during the spring and summer of 2000.

Collin Brogile, co-author of the

SEE RESIDENTS ON PAGE 2.

Bush library displays Fidelity

BY AMANDA STIRPE
The Battalion

A retired 28-foot Cigarette racing boat is on display at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

Former President George Bush purchased the Fidelity, which was equipped with a 85-horsepower Mercury engine, in 1973 with money acquired from the sale of stock in the Fidelity Printing Co. of Houston, Texas. Don Aronow designed the racing boat, which was manufactured by the Cigarette Racing Team Inc. of North Miami Beach, Fla.

A press release said the Fidelity, the largest Cigarette boat when it was built, was based on the Potomac River while Bush was chair of the Republican National Commit-

tee. He moved the boat in 1974 to Kennebunkport, Maine, where the Bush family summer home is located.

Steve Samford, facility manager of the Bush Presidential Library and Museum, said Bush retired the racing boat in May 1998 because he purchased another Cigarette Racing boat named the Fidelity 2. "He spent a lot of time fishing with his kids and grandkids," Samford said. "He likes to fish a lot. He was glad to see it put on display."

Samford said Bush used the Fidelity regularly throughout the 25 years he owned the boat.

"He is so darn attached to it," Samford said. "I guess because it had lots of good memories."

Brian Blake, public rela-



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

President George Bush purchased the Fidelity, the largest Cigarette racing boat of its time, in 1973 with money acquired from Fidelity Printing Co. and did not retire it until May.

century door donated by the Amir of Kuwait.

Blake said the opening of the Fidelity coincided with the Kennebunkport exhibit last weekend. One hundred and twenty-five residents of Kennebunkport traveled to College Station to witness the opening of the exhibit.

The Fidelity will be on display Mondays through Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 12 to 5 p.m. Admission to the museum is \$3 for adults and \$2.50 for seniors and students. Children younger than age 16 are admitted free of charge.

Speaker emphasizes 5 terms of passion

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

Dr. Ben Welch, director of Student Activities, emphasized passion, respect, involvement, determination and enthusiasm, at the monthly meeting of the Texas A&M University Association of Professional Support Staff (TAPSS) yesterday.

The issues addressed, which form the acronym PRIDE, show how belief in oneself can impact the lives of others, Welch said.

"We can be passionate about our jobs and impact others in phenomenal ways," Welch said. "One thing you can do to impact the attitudes of those around you is smile."

Welch said a smile and

the acknowledgment of the job others do can impact the satisfaction people have in themselves and their accomplishments.

Welch said respect is earned by respecting other people, and it is communicated in the form of body language.

"Body language experts say the interpretation of a message can be affected by the body language of the person relaying the message," he said.

Welch said becoming involved with others is important for developing self esteem.

"Find someone that needs encouragement," Welch said. "Invest in them like it's the last time you will be able to invest in them and you will leave

feeling better about yourself and they will also feel better about themselves."

Welch said people's attitudes about the future are often linked to goal achievement.

"We often think we'll be happier when we get married, have a baby, get a better job or get a new car," he said. "Happiness is not a destination; it is a journey."

Welch said determination and perseverance are needed to overcome obstacles, and enthusiasm in the workplace affirms the work people do.

"It doesn't take a lot to be enthusiastic," Welch said. "We can bring enthusiasm to a job, but it begins with us believing in ourselves."