

Fair aids children of Blinn, A&M faculty, staff

BY MELISSA JORDAN
The Battalion

The College Planning Fair today from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the second floor of the MSC will simplify the college process for Texas A&M and Blinn College staff and faculty interested in preparing their children for higher education or continuing their own education.

The fair, sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Administration, will include drawings for tuition and textbook scholarships.

Rosie Schoenfeld, administrative assistant in the Office of the Vice President of Administration, said A&M employees and their families who have not had opportunities to attend college may be intimidated by the college selection and preparation process.

Dr. Jerry Gaston, vice president for administration, said the fair will try to help employees not familiar with the process by offering them methods of preparing their children for college. He said employees and their children may not be knowledgeable of college requirements or financial aid available to them.

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— Dr. Jerry Gaston
Vice president for administration

"We are trying to help them," he said. "If [the students] have the desire and motivation to go to college, there is a place for them."

Mary Miller, associate vice president for administration, said the purpose of the fair is to take the mystery out of the process. She said the hope is to prevent finances from being a deterrent to people desiring to send their children to college.

The fair will begin with a presentation by Mary Walraven about the partnership that parents and children should have while preparing for college.

Three session times will be available for participants who can choose from five session topics including applications, financial aid, scholarships, preparing for college and the advantages of attending a community college. A question-and-answer time will follow each session, allowing participants to obtain answers to individual questions.

College Planning Fair registration and resource tables will be outside 201 MSC.

Welsh Road wreck



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Jim Swartz, an employee of Lee and Sons Wrecker Service, secures a Jeep Cherokee to a tow truck yesterday morning. The Cherokee rolled twice after being hit by an automobile on Welsh Road.

Lecture informs area on responsible eating in restaurants, fast food joints

BY LISA K. HILL
The Battalion

The Healthy Living Lecture Series, sponsored by the Student Recreational Services, focused on restaurant trends and eating guidelines yesterday.

Linda Kapusniak, author of Guide to Low-Fat Dining in the Brazos Valley, spoke to 50 students about ways to build healthy eating habits when dining out.

"The average person eats out about four times a week," she said. "The first step when eating out is to believe that you can eat low-fat fast food that tastes good."

Kapusniak is a dietitian at the Brazos Valley Women's Center. The third edition of Guide to Low-

Fat Dining in the Brazos Valley will be available in late March at the MSC and contains nutrition information for 125 restaurants.

Kapusniak continuously authors new editions because of changing menu options and nutrition trends.

Kapusniak said one way to reduce calories and fat when dining out is to order a soup or side salad instead of an appetizer.

"Some favorites are fried onions and ranch dipping sauce which totals 2,000 calories and 100 grams of fat," she said. "Cheese fries pack on a whopping 3,000 calories and 200 plus grams of fat."

Kapusniak advised students to order first so they will not be swayed by other people's orders.

She said asking for a carry-out box at the beginning of the meal, rather than at the end, will also cut down on calories because students do not snack on leftovers while waiting for their servers to return.

"Your stomach takes about 20 minutes to register you're full," she said. "Modify your eating; when you feel like you've had enough, stop and wrap it up and put it out of sight."

Kapusniak said restaurants have created a notion that portion size takes priority over quality.

"Value meal and super size have become a part of our language," she said. "The BK Big King Burger and the Mega Mac, coming soon, are examples of this."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Faculty Senate positions open

Faculty members planning to nominate themselves or their colleagues for Faculty Senate positions must do so by 5 p.m. tomorrow.

The Faculty Senate presents initiatives to the A&M administration concerning issues on campus including the core curriculum and faculty and staff salaries.

The senate also chooses committee members for committees dealing with issues both on campus and within the Texas A&M System.

Faculty can obtain information about open seats by calling 845-9528 or e-mailing to senate@tamuedu. A copy of the nomination form can be obtained on the World Wide Web at <http://www.tamuedu/Faculty-senate/>.

Pageant searches for contestants

Representatives of the Miss Brazos Valley USA pageant are seeking contestants who live in the Brazos Valley and are between the ages of 15 and 26.

Whitney Wolf, director of the pageant and a senior parks and recreation major, said applications are due May 6, and an informational meeting will be held May 8 at the Ramada Inn on Texas Avenue.

The pageant is preliminary to the Miss Texas USA pageant, and winners are awarded scholarships, cash and other prizes. For more information, call Wolf at 764-1891.

Gene associated with fat, calories

(AP) — Two research groups have identified the first gene known

to suppress obesity and regulate the burning of calories — a find that could lead the way toward a drug that keeps people trim.

But don't reach for that second jelly doughnut just yet.

The gene, known as Mahogany, or the MG gene, was discovered in mice. It is the sixth gene found to be implicated in obesity. But researchers said it is the first discovered to regulate metabolism and the expenditure of energy.

In one of two studies published in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature, scientists at Millennium Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, Mass., tested groups of mice with normal and mutated MG genes. They fed the mice diets with varying percentages of fat.

Mice with a mutated MG gene did not gain weight regardless of whether they ate a high-fat diet or a low-fat one. Mice with the normal gene gained weight on the high-fat diet.

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The Texas A&M University Student Publications Board is accepting applications for

Editor THE BATTALION

— Including radio and online editions —
Summer 1999

(The summer editor will serve from May 24 through Aug. 6, 1999.)

Editor THE BATTALION

— Including radio and online editions —
Fall 1999

(The fall editor will serve from Aug. 16 through Dec. 10, 1999.)

Editor AGGIELAND

1999

Qualifications for editor in chief of *The Battalion* are:

- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (unless fewer credits are required to graduate) during the term of office;
- Have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio and at least a 2.00 grade point ratio in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester(s) (all summer course work is considered summer semester) during the term of office. In order for summer school grades to qualify as previous semester grades, a minimum of six hours must be taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s);
- Have completed or be registered in JOUR 301 (Mass Comm Law), or equivalent;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on *The Battalion* or comparable daily college newspaper, — OR — Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper, — OR — Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II), and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Qualifications for editor in chief of the *Aggieland* yearbook are:

- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (unless fewer credits are required to graduate) during the term of office;
- Have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio and at least a 2.00 grade point ratio in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester(s) (all summer course work is considered summer semester) during the term of office. In order for summer school grades to qualify as previous semester grades, a minimum of six hours must be taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s);
- Have completed or be registered in JOUR 210 (Graphics) and JOUR 301 (Mass Comm Law), or equivalent;
- Have demonstrated ability in writing through university coursework or equivalent experience;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible position on the *Aggieland* or comparable college yearbook.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Francia Cagle in the Student Publications office, room 012 Reed McDonald Building. Deadline for submitting application: 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, 1999. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Publications Board Meeting beginning at 4 p.m. Monday, April 5, 1999, in room 221F Reed McDonald Building.