

## Now Taking Orders

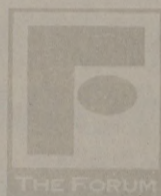
Scholastic Recognition  
Announcements,  
Caps & Gowns

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BOOKSTORES

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# APPLY YOURSELF!

Bryan/College Station's private dormitories are looking for motivated individuals to be a part of the 1999-2000 Resident Advisor Staff. All applicants must have at least one year of college. Applications can be picked-up at the front desk of University Tower in the lobby and are due Friday, April 2 by 5:00 p.m.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 846-4242

## 12<sup>th</sup> MAN STUDENT FOUNDATION

### We want you for Director!

We're looking for people interested in keeping the fun & spirit alive in Aggieland athletics.

Pick up your application today in Koldus 109 and be sure to sign up for an interview time.

Applications are due Thurs., April 1<sup>st</sup> by 5 p.m. in Koldus 109

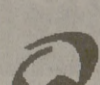
## Full-time Job Opportunity

Billion-Dollar  
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email resumes to tamad@acmewidget.com



## Senator encourages possible decrease in auto insurance

BY AMANDA SMITH  
The Battalion

Texans could pay less for their auto insurance, Texas Sen. Jeff Wentworth said, who authored a bill (SB-600) to introduce open competition to the insurance market.

"Few expenditures affect as many consumers as auto insurance," Wentworth said, in a press release. "Yet in an age of deregulation, Texans today do not enjoy the benefits of free-market-price competition on this important cost, despite the fact it is mandated by the state. This measure will bring some long-needed reform to this area and could result in savings up to one-half billion dollars annually for Texas consumers."

The Senate Economic Development Committee is discussing the bill, which would dissolve Texas' current auto insurance regulatory system.

The House Insurance Committee is also considering an identical bill (HB 1637) filed by Rep. Harold Dutton.

Lee Jones, a spokesperson for The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), said TDI's concern is necessary oversight to protect consumers if the auto insurance industry undergoes deregulation.

"Our only concern is that there be some provision to review the companies' rates to make sure they are adequate," Jones said. "For fear there might be price wars, we do not want customers to suffer if companies price them out of business."

TDI applies the Texas Auto Manual, which divides drivers

into categories according to their age, their marital status, the population density within their county and whether the vehicle is used for private or for commercial purposes.

Wentworth said the divisions stipulated by TDI are too broad.

"Under current law, our Texas Department of Insurance uses the Texas Auto Manual, which lumps drivers into a few broad categories," Wentworth said. "This means that good drivers tend to pay too much and drivers with poorer records tend to pay too little."

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records pay too  
little."**

— Jeff Wentworth  
Texas Senator

Progressive County Mutual Insurance Company of Austin, one of the 24 county mutuals in the state, is exempt from rating regulations applying to most auto insurance companies, which must prescribe rates according to the Texas Auto Manual.

William Graves, president of Progressive County Mutual, said

in a press release that Progressive's policy holders save more than \$500 annually compared to policy holders with rating-regulated companies.

The average driver pays \$740, according to a report from the National Association of Insurance Companies based on the 1997 rates.

"There is no question that most Texas motorists can enjoy big savings on their present auto insurance premiums if we get rid of the current archaic system," Graves said.

Graves said drivers with good records pay the same as drivers with bad records, according to existing regulations, but the new law would compensate drivers for their performances.

"What we and other advocates of reform legislation support is the right of consumers to enjoy the benefits of open competition on classification, rates and services for auto insurance," Graves said. "For example, with limited exceptions, a 25-year-old male college student is rated identically to a 55-year-old family man, and liability rates are the same for all types of cars, big or little, fast or slow. Although there are some surcharges for accidents and major violations, clean drivers pay the same as those with speeding tickets."

Jones said TDI realizes there is a need to reevaluate portions of the Texas Auto Manual. "We do need to go back and take a good, hard look at the manual," Jones said. "Based on who is using the car and for what, a person might be classified in a different way."

## Lecture emphasizes importance of developing healthy relationships

**•Couples must  
share common  
interests,  
practice ethics.**

BY ANDREA BROCKMAN  
The Battalion

Men and women may not come from different planets, but they do come from different chemistry.

In his "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus" lecture last night, Dr. James Robinson III said communication skills and encouragement help couples overcome differences and develop healthy relationships.

Robinson, interim head of the

Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Rural Public Health, said his best advice is to practice ethics in and out of relationships.

"The couple must share common values," he said. "An unethical relationship is a sick relationship, and it won't work. Couples need to communicate about problems, and it takes courage."

Robinson said when relationships are formed, it is human nature to have different opinions and sources of conflict. He said a relationship without conflicts is boring.

Robinson said when a couple fights, the members should present their points of view, discuss the merits of the two sides and come to a compromise.

He said relationships progress on levels, the first being eye contact.

Everyone carries a template of their ideal mate, he said, and when

a person sees someone who fits it, physical attraction occurs.

Robinson gave the secret for men to know if a woman is interested or not.

"After you make initial eye contact with a woman, keep looking," he said. "If she looks back, she's interested."

After the initial encounter, he said the next relationship level is infatuation.

"You find each other attractive, but you also have things in common and begin to like each other," he said. "The infatuation stage is exploratory and exciting, but it is not love yet."

He said love is when you feel good about a person, but you can be separated from them and still feel good about the relationship.

Other advice he gave included giving partners freedom to be individuals, keeping a sense of humor and loving unconditionally.

## INCREASE

Continued from Page 1

Bill was also passed, calling for an increase in wattage of lights in the Northgate area.

Sen. Trent Collier, author of the bill and a freshman political science major, said the bill was in response to a student's harassment incident in the Northgate area.

"This bill is the direct response to the international student-harassment incident," Collier said. "We have been working closely with the Station Department of Utilities and the office of the manager."

They have been very supportive of the idea."

According to the bill, the wattage of the lights will be implemented at the following locations:

- Along Nagle Street
- University Drive to Inland
- Along Boyett Street
- University Drive to Spruill
- Along Church Avenue
- Wellborn Road to Boyett
- University Drive

• The intersection of Street and Second Avenue

Also passed was a bill for each college to maintain an e-mail listserve of interested students on evening announcements and a quiring installation of screen television monitors to those found in the and Rudder in the following locations:

- Ag Cafe
- Blocker Building
- Common Denominations
- Kleberg Animal and Sciences Building
- Pavilion
- Pie R Squared
- Student Recreation Center

Among the bills sent to the committee are two parking bills.

Both call for the reclassification of parking areas and further researched before being voted on.

AggieCon

Continued from Page 1

original Pac-Man on Atari game system."

Gantt said representatives from the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund (CBLDF) were available to give advice to attendees.

"[CBLDF] provides support for artists and works to ensure freedom of the press and free speech," Gantt said.

Other activities included a masquerade ball Saturday and a live performance of the No. 4 record-holder, AggieCon XXX is open to everyone and passes for a four-day event are \$18 for students, \$22 for non-students and \$8 for children. One-day passes are available for \$15 for students and \$6 for children.

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AggieCon

## Hispanic Presidents' Council presents:

# Political Forum

Sunday - March 28, 1999  
Rm. 111 Koldus 5:30 p.m.

EVERYONE is invited! Come and hear the platforms and ideas of TAMU future elected leaders. Student Body President and Yell Leader candidates will speak as well as answer questions. Do you know who you want to represent you? Capture the excitement and explore what they are all about.



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