## 1999 ATMentor of the Year Award

### Dear Student:

The ATMentors program will be giving a Mentor of the Year Award at the Division of Student Affairs meeting on May 5th.

The purpose of the award is to provide support for mentoring activities and recognition for excellence in mentoring. The winner of the award must be a member of ATMentors who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and commitment to making a difference in students' lives.

If you would like nominate a member of ATMentors, send a letter to the ATMentors program office at Mail Stop 1263. In your letter please indicate how the mentor you are nominating has "made a difference" in your life. Letters must be no longer than one page and in 12 point font. Only currently enrolled students may nominate a Mentor for this award. If you have any questions, call 845-6900 or email atmentors@tamu.edu.

A complete list of Mentors is available on the ATMentors webpage at http://mentors.tamu.edu. All letters are due by April 9th at 5:00p.m.

Help recognize that special Mentor in your life!

**ATMentors** Texas A&M faculty, staff and administrators helping students.

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# Across the universe Aggiecon brings sci-fi stars to A&M, provides gaming for

Aggielife

## **BY KYLE WHITACRE**

The Battalion

ephid Variable is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the largest student-run science fiction, fantasy, and horror convention in the United States by putting on the biggest Aggiecon

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The main attractions of the weekend convention are the many guests, including Nigel Bennet, LaCroix from "Forever Knight," Ted Raimi, Joxer from "Xena: Warrior Princess" and "Hercules: The Legendary Journies" and Larry Elmore, one of the fantasy artists of Dungeons and Dragons books. Many other authors and artists attend, including P.N. Elrod, Brian Stelfreeze and Bruce Sterling.

Daniel Robb, a convention director and a mathematics graduate student, said he is pleased about how everything has turned out.

"We ended up with a very phenomenal line, which is really appropriate for our 30th anniver-Robb said. "It's great to think a convention like this can last 30 years on what's traditionally a conservative campus.

The main dealer's room is the heart of the convention, where 120 tables of role playing games, videos, books, collector's items, memorabilia and other items are displayed and sold.

Aggiecon is co-programmed with four student organizations, all of which are helping with events during the four-day festi-val. The MSC Film Society is holding a showing of Blade Runner on DVD with a special guest lecture by Dr. Michael Hand, professor of philosophy and humanities, and Dr. Christopher Menzel, associate professor of philosophy and hu-

David Lieberman, a junior civ-

il engineering major, said the different events will help to bring diverse attendance

'It is a good opportunity to introduce a different crowd to our educational programs and it is also great to be interacting with the other MSC committees," Lieberman said. "Other than that, it should be enter-taining and interesting to see what I can learn about Blade *Runner*. It is a pretty deep film that is often underappreciated."

The largest co-programming venture at Aggiecon this year is the Art Gallery showing with the MSC Visual Arts Committee. The subject is the Portrayal of Women in fantasy art and is being held in the second floor display room in the MSC

Randy Paterno, a former convention director, said he is excited about the co-programming.

"It's great we're finally able to get a gallery showing," Pa-terno said. "We've been attempting to co-venture with the Visual Arts Committee and it's nice to see it's finally culminated.

Another feature of this year's Aggiecon is the always-enter-taining midnight showing of The Rocky Horror Picture Show at the Grove, which includes a live action cast. Aggiecon guests will be making special appearances in the production, possibly even Nigel Bennet, who performed in a professional production of *The Rocky Horror* Picture Show in London.

Christy Cooper, a senior chemical engineering major, said she enjoys watching the classic sci-fi

"It's always a blast," Cooper said. "A live-action burlesque with a movie in the backdrop. It's a fun,



fast, loose, interactive program.' Robb, also a former cast member, said he fondly remembers the production.

"It's a real 'Mystery Science Theater 3000' experience, timing is everything," Robb said. "Doing it as a play is hard enough, it has to be in sync with the film when we're up there. It's as much fun, if not more, to be in the cast.

Saturday night at 8 p.m. is the annual Masquerade ball.

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AT THE SHOWS

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grammed in part with a Vampirica gaming ne ing co-programmed wit er Access, a 24-hour Jaj



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