



# The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY

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## aggielife

• Discovering myths concerning credit-card debts may lead to financial freedom.

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## today's issue

Toons. . . . . 2  
Opinion. . . . . 9

## Battalion Radio

At 1:57 p.m. on KAMU-FM 90.9 learn why a world-wide e-mail is encouraging VCR owners to set their timer date to 1972.

## sports

• Aggies Track and Field Teams excel at weekend's Texas Relays in Austin.

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## SPRING '99 RESULTS

Student Body President:

**Will Hurd**

**Brandon Neff**

Senior Yell Leaders:

**Dusty Batsell**

**John Bloss**

**Jeff Bailey**

Junior Yell Leaders:

**Bubba Moser**

**James Leiskau**

**Ricky Wood**

Class of 2000 President:

**Patie Henselka**

2000 Vice-President:

**Melissa Dablo**

2000 Secretary:

**Ania Fongemie**

2000 Treasurer:

**Deather Johnson**

2000 Social Secretary:

**Dance Richards**

2000 Historian:

**Summer Harbert**

(An (\*) indicates a runoff)

FOR FURTHER ELECTION RESULTS SEE PAGE 5.

# Candidates face runoff elections

## 20% of turnout attributed to senior ballots

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS  
The Battalion

Approximately 9,500 students voted in the 1999 student government elections last week, and runoff elections for several positions will be Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors Will Hurd and Brandon Neff came out on top in the student body president race, and one will be chosen in the runoff.

Election commissioner Dawn McGill said Neff had a

slightly higher percentage of votes than Hurd, but if no one holds a majority in the student body president positions, a runoff is required.

Senior Kendall Kelly was not far behind in the number-three spot, and junior Brandon Clarke took fourth.

Jeff Bailey, Dusty Batsell and John Bloss won the three senior yell-leader positions.

Bubba Moser won one of the two junior yell-leader positions.

James Leiskau and Ricky Wood will compete for the re-

maining junior yell leader spot in the runoffs. Some class council positions will also be included in the runoff elections.

McGill said there was a higher senior voter turnout than in other years; seniors made up 20 percent of the voting pool.

McGill said the student-election runoffs usually draw fewer voters than the primary elections, but that may not be the case this year.

"In previous years, the runoff elections have had a



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Will Hurd (L) and Brandon Neff are the runoff candidates for student body president. The results were announced Thursday night at the Lawrence Sullivan Ross Statue.

smaller turnout because they were right before the Good Friday holiday," she said.

The election results and percentages are posted outside the Student Activities Office in the Koldus building.

McGill said the voting locations for the primary elections will be open for the runoff elections.

Results will be announced Thursday at 10 p.m. at the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue.

## Easter excitement



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

A student at Rock Prairie Elementary School rattles then listens to the egg for a hint of what is inside. Over 50 first-grade students participated in the Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Lambda Chi Alpha and area grocery stores last Thursday.

# Law degree plans denied

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

State District Court Judge Suzanne Covington ruled that the affiliation agreement between Texas A&M and the South Texas College of Law is a violation of authority.

The ruling Wednesday, which the South Texas College of Law plans to appeal, agreed with a ruling by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and said the Texas A&M Board of Regents exceeded its authority.

The affiliation was de-

signed to allow A&M a law curriculum and degree and to give South Texas greater recognition. A dispute over the affiliation was sparked because some believe such an affiliation would create a third public law school in Houston and that South Texas, a private institution, could acquire state funds.

A lawsuit arose among the coordinating board, South Texas and A&M over whether or not permission was needed for A&M and South Texas to enter into the agreement.

# Psychologist encourages life, death awareness

BY APRIL YOUNG  
The Battalion

Common college stress and tragic occurrences this semester have put a strain on students, forcing many to examine mortality and the frailty of life.

Dr. Mary Ann Moore, psychologist for Student Counseling Services, said students should be aware of the realities of life and death.

Moore said students often feel invincible and take risks, including drinking and driving and unprotected sex. Thus, when a tragedy occurs, they are shocked, she said.

Moore said students have experienced more tragic incidents this semester than usual. She said it is unusual for students to have to deal with excessive grief.

Moore said students should not feel compelled to follow a specific grieving process.

"Students see something

that lists stages, and they feel pressured that they should be doing it in those stages," Moore said. "There is an incredible amount of flexibility within the grieving process, and people go through these stages at different times for different lengths of time."

Moore said one sign of grief is excessive drinking.

"If you see someone over drinking in their grief, help them realize that drinking won't make it go away; it's just going to prolong it," she said.

Moore said students often place too much responsibility on themselves when a tragedy occurs.

"Anyone can take a tragedy and figure out a way we could have prevented it, but the bottom line is that we don't have that much control," she said.

Moore said there are many different ways to grieve, so students should be supportive of each other and not critical of how people grieve.

# Campus sees increase in drug offenses

BY RICHARD PADDACK  
The Battalion

The number of drug violations for 1998 are higher than they have been in the last four years.

Bob Wiatt, director of University Police Department (UPD), said 43 drug violations by students on campus are reported for 1998, compared to 30 violations for 1997.

"These numbers show a significant increase in the number of drug violations on campus in the past few years," Wiatt said.

UPD also works with local law enforcement agencies to monitor crime at off-campus sites of recognized Texas A&M organizations. UPD then reports incidents to the A&M administration.

UPD publishes daily and monthly reports of on-campus crimes for the media, the public and various offices on campus. Anyone may request the monthly report.

"It is unfortunate that we cannot compile a list of violations by students off campus as well," Wiatt said. "The process would be difficult to do, but the public would see just how significant the numbers really are." All major crime statistics are submitted to the FBI and the Texas Department of Public Safety, as required

SEE DRUGS ON PAGE 5.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY AND UNIVERSITY POLICE ANNUAL CRIME STATISTICS				
	1995	1996	1997	1998
<b>CRIMES</b>				
MURDER	0	0	0	N/A
<b>SEX OFFENSES</b>				
Arbitrary	2	2	3	N/A
Sexual assault (rape and attempts)	1	0	0	N/A
Stalking	3	4	0	N/A
OBSCENITY	1	2	0	N/A
DISGRAVATED ASSAULT	65	80	67	N/A
UNLAWFUL	6	10	13	N/A
VEHICLE THEFT	78	98	83	N/A
<b>TOTAL (part 1 CRIMES)</b>				
<b>ARRESTS</b>				
UNLAWFUL	294	246	219	225
DRUG VIOLATIONS	35	23	30	43
WEAPONS POSSESSIONS	13	8	7	6
<b>TOTAL (part 2 ARRESTS)</b>	342	277	256	274

The annual reporting period is from January 1 through December 31. Statistics are for offenses occurring on the Texas A&M University campus that are reported to public