



# The Battalion

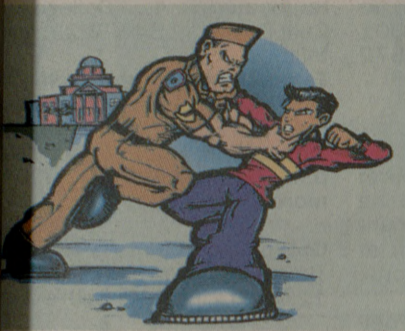
105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY

April 12, 1999

Volume 105 • Issue 126 • 8 Pages

College Station, Texas



## opinion

• Political unfairness between non-reg Aggies, cadets is not a tradition that should continue.

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## today's issue

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## Battalion Radio

Tune into KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on drastic increases in cellular phone use.

## sports

• Aggie track teams come up big in A&M invitational meet on Saturday.

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## Soldiers remain captives

BY MEREDITH HIGHT  
The Battalion

U.S. Army Spc. Steven Gonzales, a former A&M student being held captive by Serbian forces, spent his 22nd birthday with no immediate hope of being released after an attempt by riot envoy Spryos Kyprianou to free Gonzales and two other U.S. soldiers failed. Kyprianou met with Serb president Slobodan Milosevic Friday.

Kyprianou told CNN that the NATO airstrikes to blame for the failure to reach an agreement on the soldiers' release.

Under the circumstances created and the fact the message received by the Yugoslav leadership and people is that the relentless bombings will continue, [they] can't proceed with a new peace gesture," he said on CNN.

After peace-talk failure, White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said there was no basis for negotiating the soldiers or holding them and the United States will hold President Milosevic personally responsible for their care.

Yugoslav officials said the soldiers' release is unlikely.

Gonzales and the two other soldiers, Staff Sgt. Drew A. Ramirez, of Los Angeles, and Staff Sgt. Christopher J. Stone, of Michigan, were sent to Macedonia on a peacekeeping mission and captured March 31 near the Yugoslavia-Macedonia border.

Steven Gonzales' parents, Rosie and Gilbert Gonzales, live in Huntsville and spent his birthday with relatives.

Greater Zion Baptist Church parishioners lit 22 candles in honor of his birthday Saturday.

Port Hood spokesperson James Wittmeyer told Associated Press that the family members are optimistic about Gonzales' return despite the stalled negotiations.

## Air ball



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

Misti Stewart, a sophomore accounting major, and Missy Crow, a sophomore elementary education major, are demonstrating the human sphere race at Fish Olympics on Saturday at O.R. Simpson Drill Field. Fish Olympics expects close to 100 freshmen to participate in the several field day events.

## Ministry honors victims

• Students plan ceremony in remembrance of holocaust tragedy

BY LISA K. HILL  
The Battalion

Campus Student Ministries will sponsor Yom HaShoah, which translates into Remembering the Holocaust, this week to honor Holocaust victims and educate students on its impact.

A church ceremony will remember the victims Tuesday evening in the All Faiths Chapel on campus where several church organizations will read selections of their choice to remember the Holocaust.

Lisa Fook, the first vice president of the Hillel Jewish Student Organization, said the ceremony is open to all students.

"Several church organizations will read two selections of their choice to remember the holocaust," she said. "The selections will be linked by music and the ceremony lasts about an hour."

Today through Wednesday a display with pictures and videos of the Holocaust will be in the MSC.

Rabbi Peter Tarlow, sponsor of the Hillel Jewish Student Organization, said this week's events will teach a valuable lesson.

"The real value of life is something the world still hasn't learned," he said. "When we remember the Holocaust, we not only honor those who have given their lives in the past but teach everyone to value life in the future."

Tarlow said 14 to 18 million people are estimated to have died during the Holocaust.

Rudder Fountain will be shut down Tuesday, and a number of people will stand outside the fountain and read holocaust victims' names. The event is a continuous reading which began 15 years ago.

"We read about 5,000 names every year, and we've almost completed calling the names of victims from France," he said. "Next we will read victims' names from Poland and our great-grandchildren will still be reading those names."

All students are encouraged to attend this week's Holocaust events. Information may be obtained through the Hillel Jewish Student Organization.

## RHA Week promotes campus involvement

BY NONI SRIDHARA  
The Battalion

"We really wanted to promote ourselves," she said. "Many people get us confused with the Resident Advisors and the Office of Residence Life."

RHA will distribute items every day this week in front of the MSC, at Sbis Dining Hall and at the Commons Dining Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. including ramen noodles, snow cones and candy.

RHA will host a barbecue from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Law-Puryear Park next to All Faiths Chapel.

Trevino said Thursday night will be designated as RHA Night at the Texas Hall

of Fame.

Trevino said the annual RHA Casino Night in conjunction with Parents' Weekend will conclude RHA Week.

Tara Gray, president of the National Residence Hall Honorary, which RHA is a parent organization to, said Casino Night has been in existence for 50 years and was originally run by Law and Puryear Halls before RHA took over in the '70s.

Gray said it is the largest student-run casino in the world and has earned itself a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records.

This year's casinos features will include roulette, craps, blackjack and poker, and prizes will be donated by various businesses. Gray said Casino Night usually attracts 1,000 parents, and that they are hoping for 1,500 this year.

Gray said RHA serves all on-campus residents, and many do not realize they are represented by the organization.

"Our main goal of RHA Week is to make people aware," Gray said. "Just like the student senators have their constituents, we are kind of like the student government for on-campus residents."

## Annual Chilifest attracts 13,000

Charlie Daniels Band entertains audience

BY SALLIE TURNER  
The Battalion

porate teams entered the chili cook-off. The Nacogdoches Mafia and the Good Ole Bastards were the winners of the contest.

"The purpose of Chilifest is to raise money for a good cause and for people to come out and have a good time," he said. "Both goals were accomplished with this year's event."

He said the live music, which included the Charlie Daniels Band, Gary P. Nunn,



MIKE FUENTES/THE BATTALION

The 9th annual Chilifest was held Saturday at the Starlight Rodeo Arena in Snook. Over 13,000 people attended the event that raised money for the Burleson County Go Texan Foundation.

Tommy Alverson and John Conlee, is what attracted the large crowd to the event.

"The entertainment brought a wide variety of people," he said. "I remember looking out into the crowd and seeing people from [age] 4 to 40 in the audience. Never before have we had such a variety at Chilifest."

Proceeds from Chilifest benefit the Burleson County Go Texan Foundation which provides scholarships for students. Representatives from Go Texan and the local VFW helped at Chilifest by taking tickets and checking identification.

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## Festival enables students to educate peers on India

BY MELISSA JORDAN  
The Battalion

Indian students from six universities throughout Texas gathered this weekend at Texas A&M to celebrate their heritage during the Indian Student Association's (ISA) annual Festival of India.

Students from Baylor University, Houston Baptist University, Southern Methodist University, the University of Houston, the University of Texas and

Texas A&M participated in the festival. The festival included a basketball tournament, talent show, bone marrow drive, exhibition of Indian foods, a banquet and cultural workshops.

Lindsey Alexander, secretary of ISA and a junior biomedical science major, said this is the second year A&M has had an official ISA chapter, and it has doubled in size since last year.

Alexander said it is an honor for the A&M chapter to host the Festival of India

since the group is so young.

Hetal Patel, vice president of ISA and a junior biomedical science major, said 1,000 people attended the weekend's events.

A&M produced talent-show winners in the song and instrumental category. The first-place winner was Saira Philip, a sophomore animal science major, and the third-place winners were instrumental team

SEE INDIA ON PAGE 2.