



# The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

**WEDNESDAY**  
 April 14, 1999  
 Volume 105 • Issue 128 • 12 Pages  
 College Station, Texas

## sports

• *Texas A&M Baseball Team uses late-inning heroics to get win over UT-San Antonio.*

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## today's issue

Toons ..... 2  
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## Reminder

Tomorrow is the last day for student workers to turn in forms for early registration.

## aggielife

• *Theatre Arts Program at Texas A&M brings "Twelfth Night" to stage with a Latin twist.*

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# City of Bryan to cover rail modification costs

BY AMANDA SMITH AND NONI SRIDHARA  
 The Battalion

The Bryan City Council authorized the city of Bryan to enter into an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Tuesday to provide an estimated \$110,000 for costs associated with the grade separation at the intersection of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and Villa Maria Road. Joey Dunn, planning administrator for the City of Bryan, said a grade separation involves the replacement of an intersection with an underpass or overpass and no traffic signal. He said an example is where University Drive crosses over Highway 6.

Kandy Rose, a Bryan City Council member, said the grade separation is approaching a resolution. "It doesn't mean that it is going to happen in the next two weeks," Rose said. "Within the next two years, we hope we will have a separation. Individuals will be able to cross the road when a train is coming." Dunn said the proposed grade separation will provide for a road under the railroad tracks. Dunn said the reason behind installing the grade separation is to increase the efficiency of traffic flow on Villa Maria Road. "Briarcrest, which turns into Villa Maria is our main east-west corridor besides Highway 21," Dunn said. "When the train comes through,

it slows down traffic, and it is difficult to get over to West Villa Maria where there are a lot of residences." The grade separation costs, acquired through bond funds, will provide for acquiring the demanded right-of-way and relocation of utilities. Dunn said the project is expected to begin next year and will probably take two years to complete. Rose said the decision will allow for ambulances to travel through the intersection during emergencies and provide convenience for everyday travelers. "It is safety, as well as convenience," Rose said. "This has been an issue that has been near and dear to my heart." Rose said the citizens voted to



JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

The Bryan City Council approved funds for a grade separation at Villa Maria Road.

allocate money for a grade separation in 1984, and Greg Rodriguez, a Bryan City Council member, said the two groups have been planning a grade separation for years.

SEE RAILROAD ON PAGE 2.

# Student leaders to address issues at luncheon

BY MEGAN E. WRIGHT  
 The Battalion

Texas A&M student leaders will discuss alcohol and drug use on campus today at the second Student Leader Luncheon of the 1998-99 academic year.

Other issues to be discussed are date rape, sexual assault and the proposed modification of the Student Rules.

Rakhi Roy, graduate assistant with the Alcohol and Drug Education Program, said the purpose of the event is for students and faculty to collaborate on recent problems with alcohol and drugs at A&M.

"We hope to gather opinions from the students and concerns from the faculty and try to work together to find solutions," Roy said.

Roy said the event is an attempt to gain an understanding of what A&M students are experiencing, and the student leaders are en-

couraged to take the information gathered back to their organizations.

"Ideally, we would like to have a constant communication between our office and the students," Roy said.

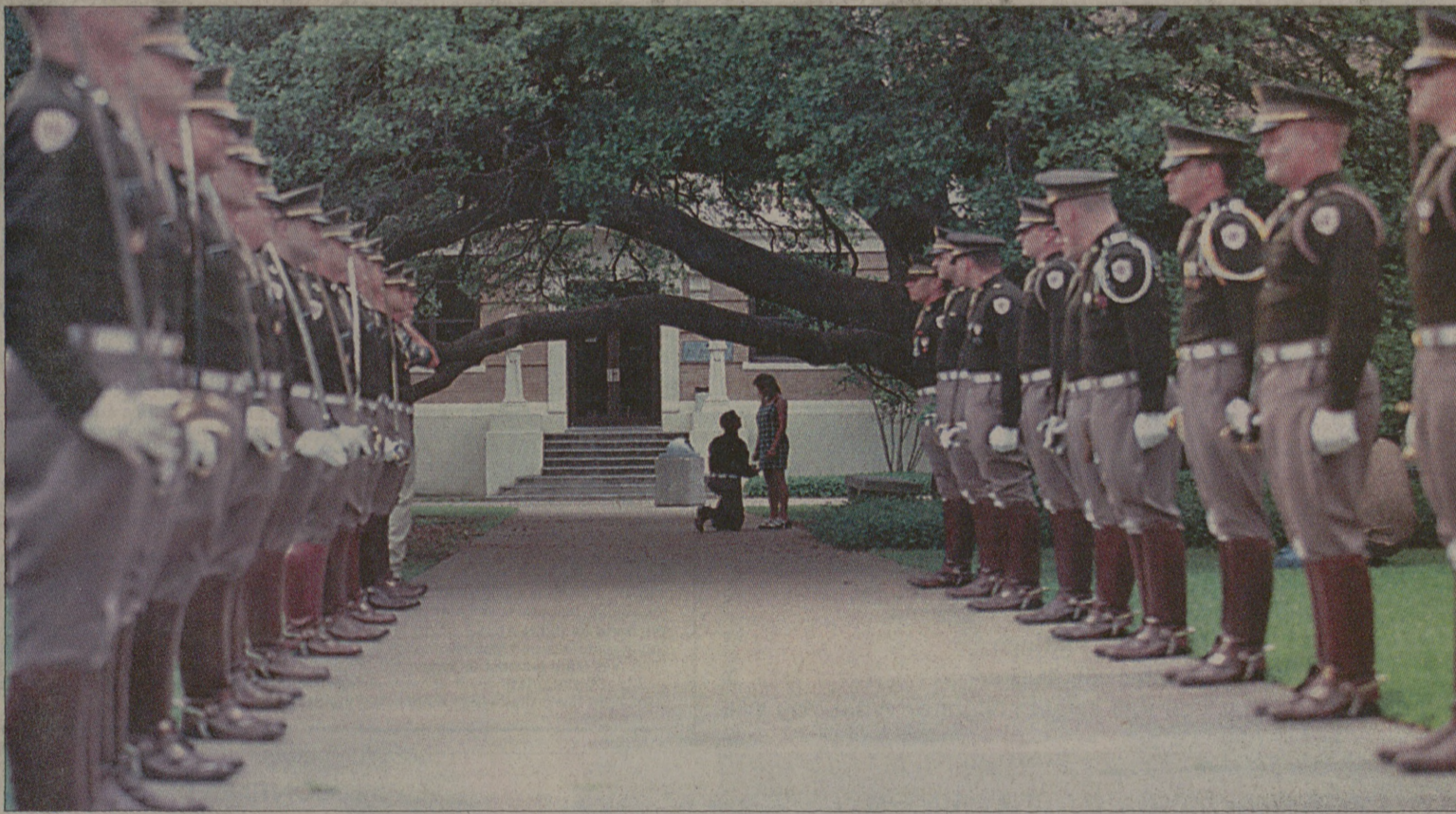
Roy said alcohol-related events have been featured in the media lately, but the luncheon is in response to a core survey about alcohol and drug use of students conducted by the Alcohol and Drug Education Program, not recent events.

Brent Paterson, director of student life, said dealing with important issues takes a cooperative effort.

"It is important to implement dialogue with student leaders about these pressing issues," Paterson said. "It takes all factions to address them, not just the Alcohol and Drug Education Program

SEE LEADERS ON PAGE 2.

## A century of tradition



MIKE FUENTES/THE BATTALION

John Webb, a senior history major, proposes to Jennifer Washer, a sophomore architecture major, under the Century Tree next to the Academic Building Tuesday evening. Webb's friends in the Corps of Cadets were present for the Saber March.

# Black Awareness to present awards for minority efforts

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS  
 The Battalion

The Texas A&M Black Awareness Committee (BAC) will present the Celebration of Achievement awards today to recognize Texas minority business leaders and exceptional students in academic and leadership skills. The reception will be at 3 p.m. in the J. Wayne Stark Gallery in the MSC.

Tammy Henry, chair of the BAC and a senior political science major, said BAC will award minority students, staff and statewide business leaders and entrepreneurs.

Henry said the Nubian award and the Texas Business Leaders award will be given this afternoon. The Nubian award is given an-

nually by the BAC to honor minority students who excel in leadership qualities, community service and academic and/or athletic efforts.

Henry said the Texas Business Leaders award recognizes minority business leaders and entrepreneurs throughout the state.

"The primary goal of the Texas Business Leaders program is to recognize members of the minority community who have significantly contributed to the economic diversity and growth of Texas," she said.

Henry said this year is the 30th anniversary of BAC, and, to celebrate, the organization has invited former recipients of the Texas Business Leaders award to the presentation.

# Victims of the Holocaust remembered at reading

BY BETH MILLER  
 The Battalion

Rabbi Peter Tarlow, of the Hillel Jewish Student Center, said last night's service at the All Faiths Chapel to honor Holocaust victims produced "a bouquet of emotions" from students of varying religions.

One hundred Aggies gathered last night to mingle with students from various religions and to remember Holocaust victims.

Tarlow said the emotions experienced in the chapel included care for each other, disregard of religious differences, fear of not knowing the world's destination in terms of accepting differences and confusion about why people do not know.

"It was like an Aggie family," he said. "Toward the end [of the service], no one knew who was what religion."

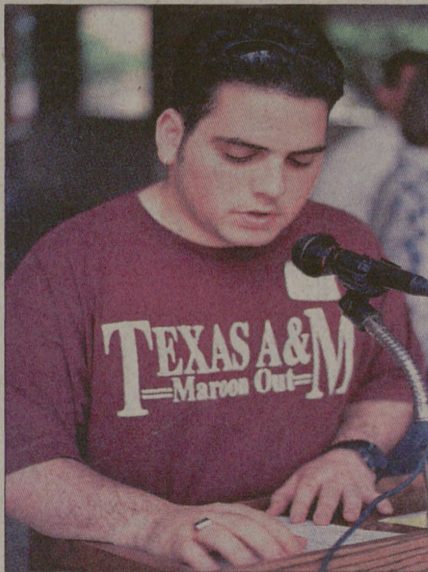
Tarlow said events of the service included the students forming a friendship circle.

"It symbolized that hope that someday people from religions around the world can hold hands and form a circle of friendship rather than a circle of terror," he said.

During the service, Tarlow related the Holocaust to the situation in Yugoslavia. He said he does not understand why the Kosovo situation exists with the historical facts to which the world has access. He said people do not realize that sometimes people have to fight each other, but when they start to enjoy hurting each other, something is wrong.

Earlier yesterday, students assembled at Rudder Fountain to hear Holocaust victims' names read aloud.

Lisa Foox, first vice president of Hillel Jewish Student Organization and a



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

Jason Kristall, a freshman biomedical engineering major, reads the names of victims of the Holocaust.

senior journalism major, said the name reading, which was from 9 a.m.

SEE HOLOCAUST ON PAGE 2.

# Pan-Hellenic, Panhellenic Councils to unite for first all Greek step show

BY MEGAN E. WRIGHT  
 The Battalion

Organizations from the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), the Panhellenic Council and various student leaders will come together tonight for the Aggieland Stompfest.

Sponsored by the NPHC, the Aggieland Stompfest will be at 7 p.m. in Rudder Theater for the first all Greek step show.

NPHC organization members, who will host the show, have taught members of National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), Texas A&M Multicultural Greek and A&M Interfraternity Council organizations step routines to perform tonight.

Groups performing include sororities Pi Beta Phi, Alpha Delta Pi, Kappa Delta Chi and

## Step Show Performers

- Pi Beta Phi
- Alpha Delta Pi
- Kappa Delta Chi
- Chi Omega
- D.J. Flores, Multicultural Svcs.
- Michael Haughey, RHA
- Jeff Hilliard, IFC
- Kendall Kelly, Class of '99
- Kristen Kirby, former NPC pres.
- Brandon Neff, head yell leader
- Laurie Nickel, SBP
- Suzanne Tate, NPC president
- Yvette Urteaga, HPC president

Chi Omega. Student leaders slated to perform include D.J. Flores, president of the Department of Multicultural Services Council; Michael Haughey,

president of the Residence Hall Association; Jeff Hilliard, president of Interfraternity Council; Kendall Kelly, Class of 1999 president; Kristen Kirby, former president of NPC; Brandon Neff, head yell leader for 1998-1999; Laurie Nickel, student body president; Suzanne Tate, president of NPC; and Yvette Urteaga, president of Hispanic President's Council.

Deidra Crawford, NPHC adviser, said it was initially difficult to recruit participants because the routines looked complicated. Crawford said she would like to see the Aggieland Stompfest to become a tradition.

"I would love this to be a new tradition, and we will do

SEE GREEK ON PAGE 2.