



The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY

April 19, 1999

Volume 105 • Issue 131 • 10 Pages
College Station, Texas

aggielife

• Bowling enthusiasts excel at this unique sport by ignoring physique and focusing on technique.

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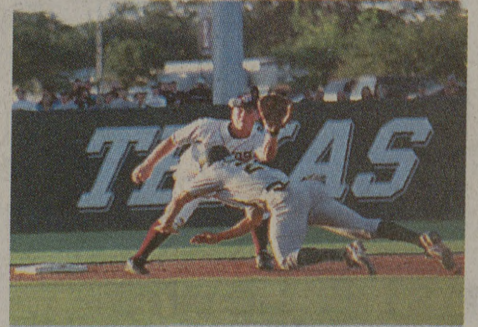
Battalion Radio

Tune in to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on the Treasures of the Coast Art Contest.

sports

• Texas A&M Baseball Team wins series against Baylor to move into first place in the Big 12.

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Aggies host 30th Parents' Weekend

Weekend activities demonstrate Aggie spirit, traditions

BY SALLIE TURNER
The Battalion

Parents flocked to the Texas A&M campus this past weekend to attend Midnight Yell, barbecues, sporting events and other events sponsored by individual organizations as part of the 30th annual Parents' Weekend.

Marcie Watson, chair of the Parents' Weekend committee and a senior accounting major, said Parents' Weekend is a time to show visitors why students choose to attend A&M. "As a first-generation Aggie, having my parents come up to A&M and spend the weekend with me helped them understand why I chose A&M," she said. "One of our most valued traditions is making visitors feel welcome, and Parents' Weekend helps us do just that."

This is the third Parents' Weekend Carl and Cheryl Fricke, parents of junior Aaron Fricke and senior Jared Fricke, have attended.

"In the past we have tried to go to all the activities, but we had to leave early in order to make it to all the things the school wanted us to attend," she said. "This year, we decided that what was really important is spending time with the boys, and we chose to make this weekend more leisurely."

Finding a place to house the thousands of parents was a major concern for weekend organizers.

Watson said the Parents' Weekend committee is uncertain of the exact number of parents in town for the weekend's festivities.

All the motels and hotels in the Bryan-College Station area and surrounding areas were full," she said.

Carl Fricke said he reserves two rooms each year so they will be able to give one away.

"This year we found out through a Christmas card that the best man from our wedding has a son who was a freshman at A&M," he said. "We called them up and offered them the extra room. It's strange that all roads from our past somehow lead us through Bryan-College Station."

Cheryl said the connection to A&M through their children is why they meet more people who are Aggie parents.

During the All University Awards Ceremony, Jon and Nettie Jarvis were named parents of the year.

Watson said they were selected because of their contribution to their family, the community and to A&M.

"Their contribution was that of spirit and involvement," she said.

Scott Jarvis, son of the parents of the year and a junior cultural development major, said his parents' involvement in a variety of A&M related activities and local community activities is why they were selected parents of the year. Their activities include participation in the High Plains M Club, the 12th Man Foundation the Corps of Cadets, a bible school and they also served on their local pool board.



CARINO CASAS/THE BATTALION

Above: On Friday the Aggie Wranglers won first place and \$350, at the 1999 Variety Show in Rudder Auditorium.



Left: An Austin County Aggie Mom's Club member shows a customer the items available for sale on Saturday afternoon. The assorted charms are used to make necklaces by stringing them on cords.

Below: The Ross Volunteer Honor Corps Organization performs Sunday at the Simpson Drill Field.



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

Parents of year accept award

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS
The Battalion

As part of the final day of Parent's Weekend, the All University Awards ceremony honored more than 175 students and the 1999-2000 parents of the year at Rudder Auditorium Sunday morning.

Gayle and Ken Cox stepped down as the 1998-1999 parents of the year at the awards ceremony as the final event of their reign. The 1999-2000 parents of the year are Jon and Johnette Jarvis, Class of '68 and '70 respectively, of Gruver, Texas. They are the parents of Scott Jarvis, junior Corps of Cadets member and agricultural development major, and Shanna Jarvis, an agricultural development major.

The annual Corps Awards recognized more than 100 current Corps members. There were 49 Corps award categories; and each category had more than one winner. Corps Parents' Weekend ceremonies and awards continued on O.R. Simpson Drill Field later Sunday afternoon with Cadet Review.

The Memorial Student Center Awards and the Student Activities Award were added to this year's ceremony.

The MSC Awards recognized MSC Hospitality as the committee of the year and named Scott Generes as the most outstanding committee chair.

Student Activities Award recognized the student activities advisor of the year Annie Morgan, the Student Government Association committee of the year was awarded to the Conference On Student Government Association (COSGA) and the most outstanding Student Government Association member was presented to junior Jeff Schiefelbein.

Melinda Briones, community service award chair recognized three students for the Margaret Rudder Community Service Award. The winner of

SEE PARENTS ON PAGE 2.

Charity game raises spirits, \$500

100 baseball fans attend ninth annual game Olsen Field Friday.

BY LISA K. HILL
The Battalion

A&M fraternities defeated the Corps of Cadets 15-10 in the ninth annual Corps-Fraternity Charity Baseball Game which raised \$500 for Stillcreek Boys Ranch.

The charity baseball game attracted 300 fans and baseball fans to Olsen Field Friday night.

Chris Wells, coach for the fraternity team member of Sigma Nu, said organizing the game was worth the effort.

"This was my first game to play in, and the game was great," he said. "We advertised the game and that brought in a lot of parents and fans."



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION
Corps members congratulate their pitcher for allowing only two runs in the second inning.

Wells said the game was a good chance for Corps and fraternity members to compete because it raises money for a good cause.

Jason Evans, pitcher for the fraternity team and member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, pitched six innings as the fraternities led 9-2.

During the seventh inning, the Corps team had an eight-run rally as they took a 10-9 lead.

Wade Countryman, university relations officer for the Corps for 1999-2000 and first baseman for the Corps team, said every inning was filled with competition.

"We started hitting their pitches, and they made a couple of errors which let us take the lead during the seventh," he said. "Win or lose we had a great time and we all can't wait till next year."

The fraternities dominated the eighth and ninth innings as they closed out the game with a win.

Memorial dedication honors Veterans of Vietnam War

BY MELISSA JORDAN
The Battalion

Friends, family and people who never had the chance to know them honored thousands of Vietnam veterans Friday at the dedication of the Vietnam Wall Experience, which will be on display in front of the George Bush Presidential Library Complex through April 22.

People from throughout Texas attended the dedication, which included a pass in review by the Ross Volunteers Honor Corps organization to recognize those who died in Vietnam and a proclamation by Lonnie Stabler, mayor of Bryan, and Lynn McIlhenny, mayor of College Station, declaring this week Vietnam Veterans Memorial Week.

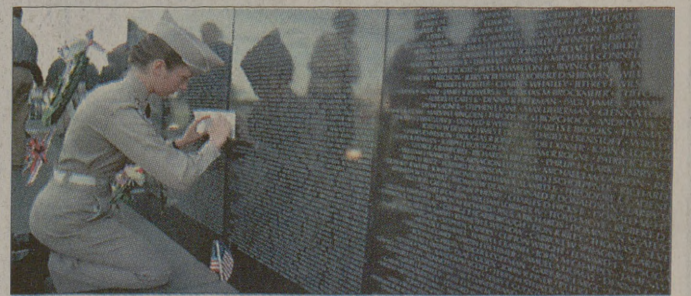
Stabler said there were no celebrations after the Vietnam War, as there have been at the conclusion of other wars the United States participated in.

"Sadly, after Vietnam, there were no parades," Stabler said. "This [pass in review] is to symbolize the parades that should have been held, but never were."

Kristen Dopkant, an Austin resident and daughter of a naval service man, said she remembers attending a church service on Easter morning of 1966 during which the chaplain announced that a young man her family knew had been declared missing in action. Dopkant said she would never forget that day or the people whose names she recognizes on the Vietnam Wall.

Floyd Wells, commander of the local chapter of Disabled Veterans, said the thousands of soldiers who returned from Vietnam seriously injured did not receive much recognition after the conclusion of the war.

Wells said the Vietnam Wall Experience makes peo-



CARINO CASAS/THE BATTALION

Jennifer Gendzwill, a junior psychology major, pencil rubs the name of Thomas V. Pakula, who went to high school with Gendzwill's mother. The memorial will be on display at the Bush Library through April 22.

ple aware of what U.S. service men have done for them. "[The wall] is part of the healing process for those who returned," Wells said.

Wells said the nation can honor those who gave their lives by showing care and appreciation for those who did return from the war. He said his philosophy is to honor the dead by taking care of the living.

Wells said the Vietnam Wall Experience will help people learn from the mistakes made in Vietnam.

A 21-gun salute was sounded after wreaths were placed in front of the wall in remembrance of deceased Vietnam veterans, and "Taps" was played in honor of the thousands of people who sacrificed their lives in the Vietnam War.