



The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY

April 20, 1999

Volume 105 • Issue 132 • 10 Pages
College Station, Texas

sports

• *Third-ranked Texas A&M Baseball Team picks up win against Tarleton State University.*

PAGE 5

today's issue

Toons 2
Music Reviews 4

Battalion Radio

Find out about Family Outreach's candlelight service on KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m.

opinion

• *Immigration should be considered a blessing, not a curse, to citizens of the United States.*

PAGE 9



Parking Website to solicit input

Campus Access Task Force places focus on students, visitors, staff

BY SAMEH FAHMY
The Battalion

The Campus Access Task Force created an online survey to assess the transit needs of students, faculty, staff and visitors on the Texas A&M campus. The task force, consisting of Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce members, was designed to recommend a plan to improve accessibility onto and within the A&M campus. The survey can be taken at <http://access.tamu.edu> and was designed for faculty, staff, students, visitors and vendors.

Mary Miller, associate vice president for administration and a committee chair, said the group wants to gather customer input to use in its recommendations and decisions.

Dr. Thomas Woodfin, associate professor of landscape architecture and urban planning, addressed the task force at Monday's meeting and discussed how the Vision 2020 applies to parking and campus access.

Woodfin suggested implementing a light rail system similar to a monorail or train system that would loop through campus, connecting main and West Campus with a pedestrian un-

"We need to make recommendations for substantially improving the system starting now."

— Mary Miller
Committee chair

derpass, and replacing surface parking with well-positioned parking garages.

Woodfin said the accessibility

goals of Vision 2020 involve restoring a sense of identity by preserving physical expressions of University traditions, such as Military Walk.

Miller said the recommendations of the task force will be consistent with the long-term goals defined in the Vision 2020 plan but will be designed for implementation sooner.

"We need to make recommendations for substantially improving the system starting now," she said.

The task force is drafting a vision statement, which will direct the recommendations of the group.

Council candidates discuss B-CS issues

BY JEFF WOLFSSOHL
The Battalion

The Munson Avenue controversy, Proposition One on the May 1 election ballot, was the major discussion topic last night by Bryan and College Station city council candidates concerning the attraction of businesses into the community.

The local candidates forum, sponsored by the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, was at the College Station Hilton and Conference Center.

Dennis Maloney, a College Station place five candidate, said the road should remain closed to preserve the safety of families and homes. He said exposing the road to the traffic increase would decrease the property values of the residential area surrounding Munson Avenue.

Bill Davis, another College Station place five candidate, and Winnie Garner, College Station place three candidate, spoke in favor of opening the street. They said Munson Avenue was originally closed with safety hazards in mind, and that if it is reopened, the city should conduct experiments to properly address the danger concerns. All of the candidates agreed that

the closure decision should be made by the voters May 1.

Other elements of business attraction discussed were tax breaks, annexation, ways to increase tourism through tax-revenue spending, and growth and its impact on the community.

James Massey, a College Station place one candidate, and Garner said the city should use the tax revenue to market the community, but Shannon Schunicht, the other College Station place one candidate, said the councils should reinvest the money to improve its existing attractions.

A question posed by an audience member addressed the projected population growth of Bryan and College Station collectively to 300,000 citizens within the next 25 years. The audience member questioned whether or not the cities are prepared to adequately assess the needs of the expanding community.

Dr. Russell Bradley, a Bryan district three candidate, said the city should help citizens adapt as they encounter changes, and people should begin planning for future housing needs and neighborhood expansions before the drastic population increase begins.

B-CS City Council Candidates

College Station Candidates

Dennis Maloney, place 5
Joe Dan Franklin, place 5
Bill Davis, place 5
Winnie Garner, place 3
Shannon Schunicht, place 1
James Massey, place 1

Bryan Candidates

Rudy Schultz, district 3
Dr. Russell Bradley, district 3

University to reward diversity promoters

Ceremony will recognize work of Texas A&M faculty and students in order to heighten campus awareness.

BY MELISSA JORDAN
The Battalion

Texas A&M faculty, students and departments who exceed the boundaries of their mission statement to promote diversity on campus will be honored today during the 1999 Diversity Awards Ceremony at 10:30 a.m. in 206 MSC.

Carolyn Sandoval, assistant coordinator of diversity education in the Department of Multicultural Services, said diversity does not always receive the recognition it needs.

"In light of recent legislation, such as Hopwood, hasn't been easy to promote diversity on college campuses, and it's even made the discussion about diversity sometimes difficult," she said.

Sandoval said the awards are presented to individuals and groups whose primary responsibility is not to promote diversity, but who take it upon themselves to do so.

Sandoval said the awards are significant because recognizing different types of people is of great value.

"These are people who, through their actions, model that," Sandoval said.

Felicia Scott, interim director of the Department of Multicultural Services, said most diversity award recipients do work that is rarely seen.

"Most of the individuals have what I would call quiet spirit, in that they do what they know needs to be done," Scott said.

The Department of Multicultural Services and the Office of the Dean of Faculties and Associate Provost will present awards for undergraduate and graduate students, support and professional staff, administrators, student organizations, departments, offices and faculty members.

Roganne Thueson, accommodations counselor in the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities, said the Excellence Awards presented by the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities were introduced into the Diversity Awards Ceremony last year because disabilities are a form of diversity.

"I think it's a great way to enhance awareness of students with disabilities and recognize the leaders in working with students with disabilities," Thueson said.

Scott said peer nominations of award recipients, which are open to anyone on campus, makes the diversity awards unique.

"I think it's important that the University, as a whole, recognizes what these individuals are doing," Scott said. "Diversity should not just be the responsibility of the Department of Multicultural Services."

Having a ball



Roger Allgood, a junior marketing major, unloads golf balls at the Penberthy Driving Range. Allgood has worked at the driving range for two years.

Aggie Earth Week to commence at MSC Flagroom

BY NONI SRIDHARA
The Battalion

The Environmental Issues Committee (EIC) of the Student Government Association will begin Aggie Earth Week today with an Environmental Career Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the MSC Flagroom.

Royce Rufila, co-chair of EIC and a junior industrial engineering major, said Aggie Earth Week started in 1990 with the purpose of promoting environmental awareness and educating A&M students and the community.

There will be tables with games, T-shirts, face painting and fliers at Rudder Fountain from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday



and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

Jennifer Weizer, co-chair of EIC and a sophomore aerospace engineering

major, said the games include "Patch the Ozone," an environmental version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey and "Stomp and Shoot," in which people crush aluminum cans and toss them into recycle bins.

Weizer said students who participate in the games can win T-shirts designed by a student at Rock Prairie Elementary School in College Station.

Thursday, Earth Day, A&M students may participate as honorary judges in selecting the design for next year's T-shirt, which will also be designed by a Rock Prairie Elementary student.

Weizer said she hopes Earth Week will help students become more knowl-

edgeable regarding environmental related issues.

"We just want people to become more Earth conscious," she said.

Rufila said Bryan and College Station will be hosting Earth Day Activities at the Polo Fields.

In celebration of Earth Day, the Texas A&M University Children's Center is hosting the "Week of the Young" and other Earth Day activities sponsored by Master Gardeners' Club, the A&M Department of Horticulture, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, A&M Food Service, A&M College of Veterinary

SEE EARTH WEEK ON PAGE 2.

Speaker to address NATO intervention

BY BETH MILLER
The Battalion

Any answer to the question "Should the United States and NATO be involved in the Kosovo situation?" is controversial, Dr. Joseph Dawson said.

Dawson said he will not try to persuade his audience, but rather he will offer points for consideration during his speech at 7 tonight in 301 Rudder on this topic.

Dawson, director of the Military Studies Institute, said he will discuss recent history of the situation and explain why he believes President Clinton and NATO delayed action against Yugoslavia as long as they did. He said

he believes that Clinton, having been at a young age during the 1960s, was acting in accordance with the popular slogan "Give peace a chance." He said he believes Clinton was reluctant to use military force in the hope that peace talks would eventually be successful.

Dawson said he perceives the situation in Kosovo as being a way to retain the province, and that ethnic cleansing is a method of ridding the area of citizens who wish to be independent from Yugoslavia.

Nicole Bourbois, a member of MSC Political Forum and a freshman

SEE NATO ON PAGE 2.