



The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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aggielife

• *Father and son to receive A&M diplomas at the same graduation ceremony.*

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Reminder

Today's issue of The Battalion is the last for the Spring semester. Publication will resume May 31.

opinion

• *The Supreme Court created a double standard by allowing prayer at graduation ceremonies.*

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Bomb suspects surrender

UPD says A&M students not charged, had no intent to cause harm

BY BETH MILLER
The Battalion

Two Texas A&M students suspected of threatening the Northside residence hall area with an explosive device early Tuesday morning turned themselves into the University Police Department (UPD) Wednesday saying they had no intent to cause harm, UPD officials said.

Bob Wiatt, director of UPD, said the two individuals, a freshmen electrical engineering major and a freshman meteorology major, were found to have had no intent to cause damage, panic or a response from emergency personnel.

He said the men were not charged because of the lack of intent, their cooperation with the police and their contrition in the situation.

Wiatt said around midnight Tuesday, UPD officer Ryan Mooney was dressed in plain clothes patrolling Parking Area 30 near the Northside residence halls and the Dulie Bell Building when he noticed two male individuals by a barbecue grill flicking a cigarette lighter. Wiatt said Mooney's suspicion was that the individuals were smoking marijuana.

As Mooney questioned the two individuals, they said one of them was smoking a cigarette and was having trouble getting the lighter started because of the wind, Wiatt said.

Mooney left the two men and walked toward the barbecue grill where he found a cylinder 9 inches long by 2 3/4 inches in diameter. Upon lifting the cylinder, he smelled



MIKE FUENTES/THE BATTALION

Members of the College Station Police Department prepare bomb squad equipment for the detonation of a pipe bomb found in the Northgate residence hall area. The police detonated the device at 2:40 a.m. Tuesday.

gun powder. He looked for the men, but they had run into Moore Hall, Wiatt said.

Wiatt said Mooney called other officers and the College Station Bomb Squad. The cylinder was later determined to be filled halfway with brake-cleaning fluid and Black Cat fireworks.

Officers moved the device to the sand on Keathley Beach. They secured the area and detonated the device at 2:40 a.m.

Wiatt said a large crowd gathered between

midnight and 2:40 a.m. because of the police cars' lights and sirens.

He said the reason the effort took more than two hours is because the officers had to secure the area and warn students to stay away from windows before they could detonate the device.

Wiatt said the situation and students' names were referred to Student Conflict Resolution Service for possible disciplinary action.

Students prepare to leave halls

BY SALLIE TURNER
The Battalion

In the midst of the chaos of final exams, students living in residence halls should communicate with their resident advisers to avoid being fined while checking out of their halls Ron Sasse, director of Residence Life, said.

He said the most common mistake made by students is failing to communicate with their resident advisers.

"Communication with the advisers can solve a lot of the problems students have and can help students avoid being fined," he said.

"The resident advisers are students, too, who have finals and are busy. Students need to realize this and plan ahead."

All students must be out of the residence halls by May 16, or 24 hours after a student's last final exam.

When checking out, students should clean their rooms, take all trash out of their rooms and unstack furniture. Dormitory residents should also move all furniture six inches from the wall and open desk and dresser drawers one-third of the way.

"It's hard for students to remember all the check-out procedures because when finals are over, all they want to do is go home," he said.

"Planning ahead and realizing that everyone else has to check out, too, will help avoid delays and fines."

Possible fines for students include \$45 for failure to return room keys, \$10 for failure to comply with closing procedures and \$25 for failure to properly clean the room.

John Bracy, a resident adviser in the FHK Complex and a sophomore computer science major, said students should follow the checklists given to them at hall meetings.

"With 750 people, checkout can either be a smooth process or chaos," he said.

"We are hoping students will follow the list exactly and make the process as painless as possible."

Students may request an extended stay in the residence halls for extenuating circumstances. Sasse said common reasons for extended stay are friends graduating or work. Students who request extended stays must be out of the dorms by May 16.

Two bars to open in Northgate

BY LISA K. HILL
The Battalion

Hole in the Wall Saloon and Iguana Dan's, additions to the Northgate bar scene, will open within two weeks, Willie Bennett, special events coordinator for Dixie Chicken Inc., said.

Dan Ganter, owner of several Northgate bars including the Dixie Chicken, Dry Bean Saloon and Shadow Canyon, said the two new bars will have the qualities of a sports bar, daiquiri bar and restaurant.

"Hole in the Wall Saloon will have TV trivia and show satellite sporting events," he said. "There will



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHAD MALLAM

The mural at Iguana Dan's was painted by Chad Mallam. It also be pool tables and a dining area where everyone can enjoy a variety of appetizers and burritos."

The bars will open at lunchtime daily.

SEE NORTHGATE ON PAGE 2.

Aggieland, Battalion editors nominated, await approval

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS
The Battalion

Kasie Byers, Sallie Turner and Alicen Swift have been nominated to be the chief editors of the 1999 Summer and Fall *Battalion* and the 2000 *Aggieland*, respectively.

The three nominations now await approval by the provost before they can officially take their positions.

Byers, a senior agricultural engineering and agricultural journalism major will serve as the summer editor in chief of *The Battalion*.

Byers has had four years experience working on the student newspaper as a city reporter, office manager, assistant *Aggielife* editor, Night News editor, *Aggielife* editor and managing editor.

Byers said during the summer, *The Battalion* only runs four days a week, but the staff will have to dig for stories.

"It will be a bigger challenge to go out and find the news because it won't be falling into our laps like in the fall and spring," she said.

Byers said she is going to divide the city desk into campus and community in order to achieve more thorough coverage of the University and surrounding area. She said the change will continue into the fall, when it will be more beneficial.

Sallie Turner, a junior journalism major, will serve as the editor in chief in the fall and will lead *The Battalion* into the 21st century. Turner served as a photographer and city reporter for *The Battalion* this



GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

Kasie Byers (left), a senior agricultural engineering and Sallie Turner were nominated for Summer and Fall 1999 chief editors for *The Battalion*, respectively.

semester. Turner said that during the summer she will be photo editor and will work with Byers to gain knowledge and experience.

Turner said her leadership experience in a variety of campus organizations will serve as her best asset.

Turner said she wants to improve the quality of the paper, increase the diversity of the staff and represent all the views of the campus. She said her main concern is staff diversity.

"I really want everyone who complains about the coverage of *The Battalion* to come in and apply for a position," she said. "I have already personally delivered applications to Student Government Association, the Corps of Cadets and to the Memorial Student Center in hopes of encouraging students to apply."

In August, Turner will travel to Atlanta, Ga., to attend a conference designed specifically to train editors in management skills.

Ron George, faculty adviser for *The Battalion*, said the search for the fall editor was difficult because there were few applicants. He said during the first round of applications, all applicants were turned down.

"After the first round, I had to go out and actively contact and recruit about six or seven qualified students," he said.

George said Turner gave the most convincing pre-

New classes to be introduced in fall

BY RACHEL HOLLAND
The Battalion

More than 30 new undergraduate and graduate classes will be available to Texas A&M students for the fall semester.

Dr. Bruce Simpson, chairman of the University Curriculum Committee, said most new class ideas are suggested by professors who have interests in new subjects, have received requests for new classes or have taught the classes as special topic seminars.

Following approval by the appropriate departments and colleges, new undergraduate classes are approved by the University Curriculum Committee, Faculty Senate and University President Dr. Ray M. Bowen. New graduate classes are approved by the Graduate Council.

"As the class goes higher up the ladder to approval, it is considered on a broader scope," Simpson said. "Departments review the class syllabus and credit hours and determine if there is enough demand and faculty to teach it."

Simpson said the University Curriculum Committee ensures that there is no duplication of class material and that adequate resources are available.

"We also consider whether or not the class has been taught as a special topic," Simpson said, "and we ask if it is going to create undue strain on the faculty or cause a setback somewhere else in the department."

Dr. Danny Ballard, a professor of health and kinesiology, said delving into new areas is the most beneficial aspect of teaching a new class.

"It's exciting to research new materials and create new projects," Ballard said, but it is also very time consuming.

"You sift through all of the new information and wonder how you are going to fit it all into just one semester."

Classes Approved by Dr. Bowen for the fall semester include:

- AGRO 312 Introduction to Turf Management Lab
- ANTH 319 Indians of Mexico
- BICH 605 Methods of Biochemical Analysis*
- ENDS 370 Virtual Architecture
- GEOG 687 Geoarcheology*
- GEOG 413 Near Surface Geophysics
- HLTH 236 Minority Health
- HLTH 334 Women's Health
- MTKG 440 Services Marketing
- OCNG 674 Paleocyanography*
- SOCI 445 Sociology of Law
- SPED 426 Effective Instruction Diverse Abilities

* indicates Graduate level course



GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

Alicen Swift, a junior journalism major, was nominated for the position of editor for the *AggieLand*.

SEE EDITORS ON PAGE 2.