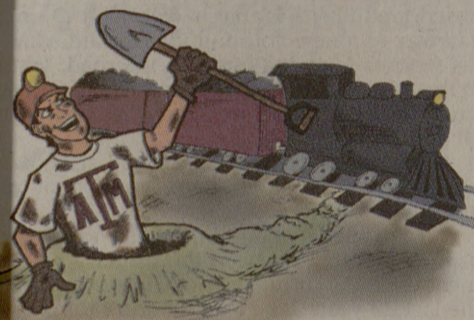


The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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opinion

• *The Wellborn tunnel idea offers solution to travel on other parts of campus.*

Page 5

today's issue

Nation 6

Battalion Radio

Tune in to 90.9 KAMU-FM at 1:57 p.m. to hear about Noah's Ark, an endangered-species cloning project started at A&M.

PAGE 3

sports

• *Sports camps offer school-age athletes the services of A&M coaches and campus.*

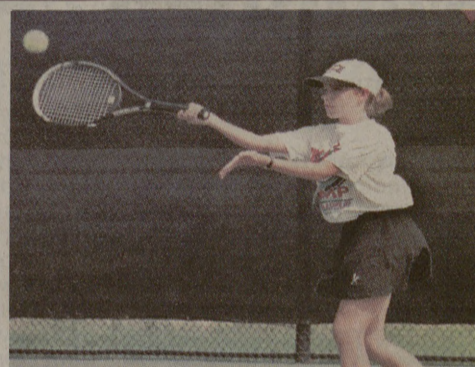


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AGGIELAND

Former Texas A&M mascot Reveille V was put to sleep Friday afternoon at the age of 14.

Former mascot put to sleep

BY NONI SRIDHARA
The Battalion

She beat out 1,999 others to gain the famed title she carried for nine years. During her 1985-1993 reign, she paraded around Kyle Field, accompanied the Aggie football team to all its games home and away, including six Southwest Conference Football Championship and two Cotton bowl titles.

She also went to all home basketball games. She managed to fit into her busy schedule guest appearances at many baseball and volleyball games.

As she attempted to gain a higher education, one of her favorite shenanigans was stealing erasers off chalkboards in classrooms.

But during the dog days of summer, 14-year old Reveille V was put to sleep Friday afternoon due to

rapidly deteriorating health conditions and old age.

Dr. Claudia Barton, a veterinarian and professor of small animal medicine who was in charge of Reveille V's medical treatment, said in a press release the decision to euthanize her was based on medical and humane concerns.

"Reveille V suffered from severe arthritis and degenerative myelopathy," she said. "The arthritis was causing severe pain and the degenerative myelopathy was impairing the neurological function of her rear legs. We were at the point where medication could no longer maintain her quality of life."

Reveille V came to A&M in December 1984 when she was four months old and made her first appearance as A&M's mascot Jan. 11, 1985 at a basketball game. She was selected for her marking and lin-

age and because she was a direct descendant of a championship, purebred American Collie.

Jon Andresen, a senior political science major in Mascot Company E-2, said the Reveilles are generally retired around 9 1/2 or 10 years of age.

"We want to give them a couple of years without such busy schedules so they can just run around in the backyard and relax," he said.

Even after her retirement, she maintained close contact with cadets in Mascot Company E-2, Reveille VI, current and former mascot corporals and former yell leaders, thanks to the family of Dr. Joe West who took care of her during her retirement.

Andresen said Reveille V will be the first Reveille to be interred in Cain Park because of the construction currently taking place at Kyle

Field. He said after the construction is complete she will be moved back to Kyle Field.

Carleton Johnson, commanding officer for Company E-2 and a senior finance major, said because the death occurred during the summer break, a military-type memorial service for Reveille V will be held Sept. 11 so the entire student body can participate.

Andresen said he expects the burial ceremony for Reveille V to be similar to that of Reveille IV who died in 1989, which turned out to be a very large production.

"There were about 40 to 50,000 people at the ceremony for Reveille IV," he said.

He said there will probably be a march-in by the Corps of Cadets and then a reading of the poem

SEE REVELLE ON PAGE 2.

Changes made to loan program

BY STUART HUTSON
The Battalion

The U.S. Department of Education is reducing fees on the Direct Loan program to make the fees similar to those charged by the Federal Family Education Loan program (FFEL).

The FFEL program, which is currently in use at Texas A&M, allows students to borrow money from banks and other third-party lenders. Schools may also use the Direct Loan program, in which students can borrow money from the federal government through their schools.

The Department of Education will reduce the up-front loan fee on direct loans from 4 percent to 3 percent, and reduce the interest rate by 0.25 percent. It will also offer an additional 0.6 percent interest-rate reduction for direct loan borrowers

who consolidate their loans before they enter loan repayment.

"The reason A&M is staying with the FFEL program is that it offers students the benefit of saving more money."

—Robert Lawson
Student Financial Aid Department

Jane Glickman, a spokesperson for the Department of Education, said the direct loan fee drops will result in an average total savings of \$631 for a graduate with a debt of \$10,000 and a standard 10-year repayment plan.

"We feel this is an appropriate rate to change to at this time to make the Direct Loan program discount similar to the ones offered by the FFEL program," she said.

Robert Lawson, assistant director of the Student Financial Aid Department, said that the reductions come from benefit packages offered for things such as making payments on time.

"The reason A&M is staying with the FFEL program is that it offers our students the benefit of saving more money," he said.

Lawson said he doubts the direct loan reductions, which must be approved by Congress, will actually be enacted due to resistance by the Republican party.

Glickman said she thinks there will be little resistance in Congress because section 455 of the Higher Education Act, which created the Direct Loan program.

Bryan falls short of All-America City

Former yell leader, Aggie Wranglers accompany delegates to Philadelphia

BY VERONICA SERRANO
The Battalion

Bryan's best was not enough to bring the title of All-America City home to Bryan when the 10 unranked winners of the title were announced Saturday night in Philadelphia, Pa.

Former head yell leader Brandon Neff and four Aggie Wrangler couples accompanied the more than 100 representatives for the city of Bryan to the three-day competition which began June 24. The city vied against 29 other cities competing for the title of All-America City. Representatives were judged on a 10-minute presentation and a 10-minute question-and-answer session about the city.

Joe Brown, public information officer for the city of Bryan, said he was disappointed by the loss. He said while this year's loss was harder to swallow than last year's, he and the other delegates learned a great deal from other cities. He said the portion of the competition during which the cities had to discuss three projects in which local business, government and nonprofit organizations worked together to improve the lives of the community's residents was a good source of information.

"I'm sure in the near future, we'll (Bryan representatives) sit down and discuss how to implement new programs or improve the ones we already have," Brown said.

Brown said Neff and the Aggie Wranglers brought a unique flair to the city of Bryan's presentations.

While other cities hollered pep-rally style as they were introduced at orientation last Thursday, the delegates turned heads when they presented modified Aggie yells to the crowd of delegates from other cities, Brown said.

"The yells we've been doing are just like the Aggie yells, except we say 'Bryan' instead of 'Aggies,'" Brown said.

He said the yells drew smiles and cheers from other delegates and a comment from one of the judges, who said the other delegates would have to start working on their yells.

All-America City winners (Unranked)

Shreveport, Louisiana

Wichita, Kansas

Union City, California

Tri-Cities, Tennessee and Virginia

Lowell, Massachusetts

Stockton, California

Rocky Mountain, North Carolina

Greater Green Bay, Wisconsin

Tupelo, Mississippi

Tallahassee, Florida

Laura Adams, secretary for the Aggie Wranglers and a senior kinesiology major, said she would love to come back if the city decided to compete again.

The Wranglers were not part of the official competition but were part of an optional entertainment portion of the All-America event. Adams said the Aggie Wranglers were approached by other dancers after their performance, during which the Aggie Wranglers performed a high-speed polka and a jitterbug.

"They told us they had never seen that kind of dancing," she said. "People from California and Shreveport [La.] asked for business cards."

Brown said this year's results were disappointing, and unlike last year he is unsure of what the city's representatives could have done to improve their performance.

"We're very proud of everyone who represented our community," he said. "It just wasn't what the judges were looking for."



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

Christopher Scoggins, a senior mechanical engineering technology major, plays Plinko, a nutrition-themed game, Friday in the Memorial Student Center.

'Food Fling' presents tips for healthy living

BY NONI SRIDHARA
The Battalion

The Food Fling, coordinated by students in the Nutrition 430 course, Community Nutrition, in conjunction with Student Health Services, dispensed advice to students on how to maintain healthy lifestyles.

Students got a chance to visit different interactive nutrition booths at which they could win free food and prizes.

The booths covered topics including snacking, sports nutrition, fad diets,

herbal remedies, weight control, exercise and fluids.

Heather Foster, a senior nutrition major, provided information on how to prevent dehydration at the fluids booth. Foster said many times people do not realize they are dehydrated.

"People think once they hear you should drink 8 to 12 glasses of water per day that all you can drink is water," she said. "But it can be anything, like juice or milk, as long as there's no caffeine or alcohol."

SEE FOOD ON PAGE 2.