

Regents approve Wellborn crossing

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

The Texas A&M Board of Regents approved the preliminary design for an underground pedestrian passageway which would make travel from West Campus to main Campus easier and safer for students at the last Board of Regents meeting in May.

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Doug Williams, associate director for Parking Services, said the designs show the passageway, which would provide access from West to main campus via Joe Routh Boulevard, to be wide and well lit.

Alice MacFarlane, project manager for Facilities Planning and Construction and a Texas A&M University Systems architect, said the project has been discussed for a couple of years. She said the passageway is a project in conjunction with the West Campus Parking Garage project and construction on both

will probably begin by the middle of the year 2000.

MacFarlane said the increase in traffic on Wellborn Road is one of the reasons for the passageway and the possibility of moving the railroad tracks in the future.

"People tend to dodge the aerial walkway unless a train is crossing," MacFarlane said. "The new passageway will be nice for pedestrian crossing."

She said the project includes the removal of the aerial walkway, which currently enables students to cross Wellborn Road.

MacFarlane said Wellborn Road is a national defense emergency evacuation route, which would be used if the United States went to war and needed to carry equipment along the road.

She said the aerial walkway is not high enough to allow large military vehicles underneath it but the underground passageway would not pose the same problem.

CS council approves landfill agreement

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

The College Station City Council voted unanimously Thursday to make changes to the process by which residents have a chance to voice their opinions. It also took action on the proposed landfill.

The City Council moved the time allotted for community feedback, known as Hear Visitors, from near the end of the Council meeting to 5 p.m. The City Council meeting starts at 6 p.m. Speakers will be limited to 15 minutes, which will allow five citizens who have signed up to speak for three minutes each. If a sixth citizen signs up to speak, the time could be extended.

Citizens expressed their disapproval for the change, and said that it may be difficult for people to reach City Hall in time to speak on an issue because many cannot leave work until 5 p.m.

The Council also conditionally approved the good neighbor agreement between the city of

College Station and the Peach Creek Development Company for the proposed landfill site, which will be drawn up and brought back to the Council.

Mike Carleton, a representative for HDR Engineering Inc., said the company wants to work with the owners of the site and land owners around the proposed site to come up with ways to achieve their goals, of which their main goal is to "protect the environmental qualities of the region."

Other goals of the good neighbor agreement include providing a vital service to the community, maintaining a long-term commitment to care for the site and establishing trust and a long-term cooperative relationship between citizens and the development company.

Of the total 626 acres of the proposed site, located at Highway 6 and FM 159, more than half will be used to screen the landfill.

"The area is large enough to allow for visual screening and buffer contouring, so we will be adding trees into the design," Carleton said.

Jeff Milburn, a resident of the Nantoni division, said one objection he had to the proposed landfill site is that it will be at the gateway to a new community. He said his worries included trash on the road, in the area and a significant amount of truck traffic in the community because of the landfill.

Milburn said he was concerned about the effect the landfill would have on the growth of the city to the south.

"We're talking about putting this into the town, which has been the primary direction for the city of College Station the last 22 years," he said. "I don't think it's a good idea to put a landfill upwind of the city."

Council member Dennis Maloney said city will go to great lengths to ensure that half the site will be green space, beautify the area.

"The fact is you have to get rid of your trash," Maloney said. "It behooves us to be a leader, show leadership and do it."

Diversity conference focuses on training

BY SUZANNE BRABECK
The Battalion

The fifth annual Diversity Institute Conference held at Texas A&M concluded its five-day awareness training conference Sunday. The conference is part of an effort to spread ideas on diversity education to administrators and professors at universities and colleges nationwide.

Becky Pettit, coordinator for the Diversity Institute, said the conference is an incredible learning opportunity for the participants, but the conference staff also learns a great deal from the participants as well.

The conference this year addressed issues such as sexism, racism, heterosexism and class discrimination.

Dr. Linda Moradle, a business professor at Richland College in Dallas, said she gained valuable information from the conference.

"The staff and facilitators did an excellent job of presenting experimental and theoretical information, which created a very positive experience," she said. "I collected a lot of tangible ideas and information to take back to my college," she said.

Moradle said her daughter graduated in 1992 from A&M.

"Any efforts to make the [A&M]

campus more diverse and to reflect the global community will make it more cutting edge," she said. "It is very critical for every institution to set as a priority a focus on development and training in regards to diversity."

Dianne Hannah-Hill, assistant director of the Office of Student Development at Richard Stockton College in New Jersey, said this is the first conference she has attended on diversity that has been well organized and provided complete information.

"I am going to take back the information that I have obtained and discuss with my community and administrators what the best course of action is for our college," she said.

She said talking with students is very important because if people do not listen to how the students want to promote and learn about other cultures, students will not get involved.

"In our global workplace, students have to learn how to communicate with other cultures," she said. "I see the fact that A&M is hosting this conference as a beginning for the University to building a diverse community."

Pettit said at next year's Diversity Institute she would like the workshops to be smaller to allow more interaction.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tokyo prof to host lecture on design

Dr. Yasushi Nagasawa, head of the Department of Architecture at the University of Tokyo, will give a lecture tomorrow at 2 p.m.

in the Architecture Auditorium, Room 105 of Building C in the Langford Architecture Center.

Nagasawa will lecture on the architecture of Japan from the past, present and future.

George J. Mann, a professor of health facilities design in the College of Architecture and Nagasawa's host, said Japan has different designs for its health-care centers.

"I think students at A&M need to be exposed to different cultures," Mann said.

He said Nagasawa is a world leader in health care facilities design. Nagasawa will be undertaking research here until Aug. 5, during which time he will be visiting hospitals and architectural firms in Texas, Ohio and Illinois.

Nagasawa has worked with the World Health Organization doing consultations in Korea, China, Malaysia, the Philippines and Iran. He is also the first recipient of the STERIS Corporation's Advanced International Research Fellowship in Health Facilities design. There will be a reception following his lecture.

A&M Physical seeks apprentice

The Texas A&M Physical Education Department is accepting applications for its pre-employment program until the end of the summer.

The 25-year-old program provides training and air conditioning for refrigeration technicians, to coach plumbers, sheet metal workers and power plant technicians.

Participants spend the summer years attending classes and working independently and training on the job to learn the skills of the trade.

Professors to study shipwreck

Two Texas A&M professors will be part of the examination of the oldest known deep-sea shipwreck found off the coast of Israel.

Shelley Wachsmann, of the Meadows Foundation, is the assistant professor of geology at Texas A&M and Robert Ballard's Institute for Oceanographic Studies.

Wachsmann is working on the identification of sites off the coast of Israel.

Ballard said his team is examining a pair of wine-laden cargo ships that sank more than 2,500 years ago in the Mediterranean Sea.

REVEILLE

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"Reveille" and some remarks from the mascot corporals. Johnson also said the ceremony should resemble that held for Reveille IV, but the date the ceremony is being held. Plans are still tentative because the cadets would like to get advice from the cadets who were here while Reveille V was at A&M.

"This ceremony is of course for Reveille V, but it is also for the older guys because they knew her on a more personal basis, so we want to get their input about the ceremony as well," Johnson said.

Johnson said the Class of '02 is working on Reveille V's casket. Kevin Graham, mascot corporal for the '99-'00 school year and a sophomore business major said Reveille V's casket will be made out of cherrywood and padded on the inside where it will be lined with white satin. He said it also will have brass handles.

Johnson said in the past the senior classes have been Reveille's "pallbearers," but it is not yet known whether that will be the case this time or if the former mascot corporals will carry Reveille V onto Kyle Field.

FOOD

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The sports nutrition booth featured an obstacle course and taught visitors how to prevent loss of performance by drinking an adequate amount of water before, during and after working out.

Alice Hejl, a senior nutrition major, said another purpose of the sports nutrition booth was to teach students the proper methods for eating before and after exercise, as well as what to eat. She said it is generally recommended that one wait three to four hours to exercise after a large meal, two to three hours after a small meal and one to two hours after snack.

The fad diets booth offered alternatives to current popular diets.

Roxanne Sweney, a nutrition graduate student, said the four most popular fad diets are the high-protein diets, liquid diets such as Slim-Fast, the grapefruit diet and thermogenic diets such as Metabolife, which contain appetite suppressants. Sweney said the goal of her booth was to promote healthy alternatives to fad diets, such as eating smaller meals.

"Many young people are very susceptible," she said. "It's all about this."

Michelle Davila, a dietician who was visiting the fad diets booth, said in her practice she sees too many people following these diets.

"One very popular diet which I have run into is Dr. Atkins' high-protein diet," she said. "The problem with these diets is that people are just losing water and not weight."

At the herbal remedies booth students compared dosages and side effects of herbs and supplements.

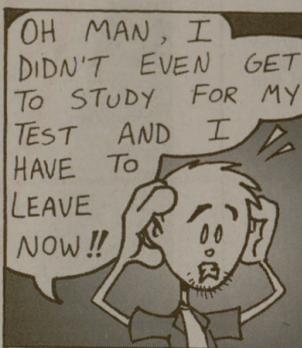
Radhika Karle and Amanda Finke, both senior nutrition majors, said the herbs which they found to be safe were ginseng, echinacea, St. John's Wort, kava kava and green tea.

Finke said ginger and garlic have been proven to help cure motion sickness and reduce cholesterol, and echinacea has been proven to help cure colds and influenza.

Karle said the main problem people have when using herbs is that they do not read the labels carefully and often take more than the recommended dosage.

Students can have a nutrition check-up in the health education office at A.P. Beutel Health Center, during which the students can have their food intake analyzed in order to learn which foods or nutrients may be needed to reach health goals.

NUTZ



BY R. DELU

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