

# The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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College Station, Texas

## sports

• *The Stanley Cup Finals do not offer a legitimate excuse for the NHL to ignore rules.*

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## today's issue

Nation ..... 6

### Battalion Radio

Tune in to 90.9 KAMU-FM at 1:57 p.m. for details on one local Methodist church's youth outreach program.

## opinion

• *The proposed NBA age limit would keep ill-prepared high-school players out of league.*

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## Practice makes perfect



TERRY ROBERTSON/THE BATTALION

Justin Richardson (foreground), a 14-year-old Bulverde, Texas, resident, takes batting practice from coach Tyler Wilt of Angelina College at the Texas A&M Baseball Coach. The camp at Olsen Field hosts 133 campers, ages 13-18.

# A&M student dies in boating accident

BY VERONICA SERRANO AND NONI SRIDHARA  
The Battalion

Texas A&M senior agricultural systems management major Arend Gabro Higgs of Bastrop was killed in a water-skiing accident at Lake Bastrop Sunday.

Higgs, known to friends and family as "Bo," died of his injuries Monday.

His father, Lt. Col. Stephan Higgs, Class of '73, said Bo collided with a boat that was stationary in the water while water-skiing, injuring his head and chest.

Higgs' father said his son was taken to an Austin hospital where doctors told him his son was alive but clinically brain dead and heart failure was imminent.

"Bo had told his mom if anything ever happened to him, he wanted his organs donated," Higgs' father said.

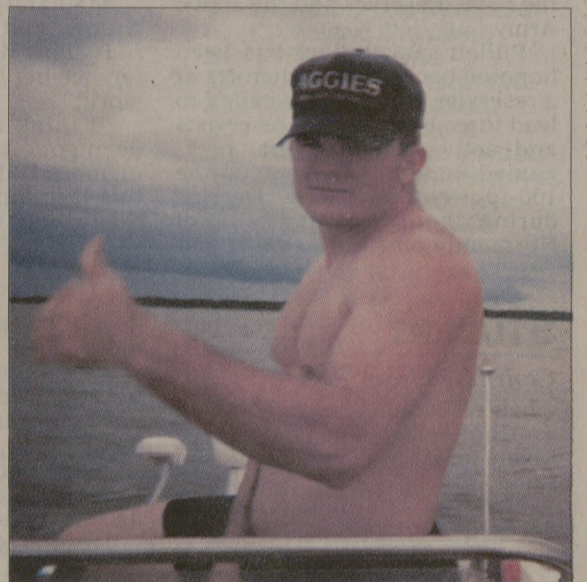
"It was a tragic accident," he said. "It was just a boy being a boy."

Higgs' father said because he is in the Air Force, the family has lived all over the world and was very happy everywhere, but the family's roots were in Bastrop.

He said his son had a steadfast belief in God and was very involved at the Ridgeway Baptist Church in Paige.

"I had a perfect son," he said. "He never drank or did drugs. He was a positive influence on so many of his friends."

Anthony Matocha, a senior kinesiology major



SPECIAL TO THE BATTALION

Senior agricultural systems management major Arend "Bo" Higgs was killed in a water-skiing accident Sunday at Lake Bastrop.

who had been best friends with Higgs since the sixth grade, said Higgs' favorite activities were outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing and water skiing.

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# Change causes budget error

BY STUART HUTSON  
The Battalion

Texas A&M University will not be made to repay an extra \$1.7 million in state revenue it received as a result of a budget miscalculation by A&M finance officials.

William Krumm, vice president for finance, said finance officials at A&M weighed class hours according to the classifica-

tion of the student taking the class instead of weighing the hours with respect to student's classification and the class level.

Krumm said this resulted in A&M reporting 33,000 extra credit hours, which added up to the extra \$1.7 million A&M received for the 1998-1999 budget cycle ending Aug 31.

In the past, the Legislature appropriated each public university in Texas an amount of the

state's money for each two-year budget cycle based upon the total of weighted credit hours. The weighted credit hours are based on the number of credit hours taken by the students at the respective university during the previous two years.

However, under new legislation, which began with the 1998-1999 budget cycle, the credit

SEE FUNDS ON PAGE 2.

# Visiting professor discusses Japanese architecture styles

BY RYAN WEST  
The Battalion

Dr. Yasushi Nagasawa, head of the Department of Architecture at the University of Tokyo, discussed the past, present and future of Japanese architecture at a lecture yesterday.

Nagasawa, who is undertaking his research at Texas A&M this summer, originally had planned to speak about his specialty, health-care facilities design, but decided to focus on Japan for several reasons.

"I didn't know what kind of audience I would have, but I thought not very many of them would be specialists in health-care design," he said.

"Also, I thought I would take the opportunity to introduce Japanese architecture, which would be a starting point [for A&M and Japanese architects] to understand each other."

Nagasawa said 120 years ago the University of Tokyo invited a young British architect to demonstrate Western style houses and buildings as part of an introductory class in the Department of Architecture. This visit subsequently influenced modern-day Japanese design.

"Before Western culture was introduced, we used one room for everything," Nagasawa said. "Nowadays, we have different rooms in each of the homes."

Nagasawa said because of the high humidity, Japanese create space between the hard floors and wood finishes, creating a gap between the foundation and the floor within the homes to provide ventilation throughout the home.

"This is not considered as acceptable today because it causes problems for people in wheelchairs — especially in public buildings where a number of steps are used," he said.

Nagasawa also showed slides of the architecture styles used



BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

Professor Yasushi Nagasawa discusses Japanese architecture Tuesday at the Langford Architecture Center.

throughout the 14th century in celebration of the tea ceremony. He said at that time, the Japanese ceremony differed greatly from the Chinese one, though many similarities exist between the two even today.

"The tea ceremony was not only about drinking tea," Nagasawa said. "It was a time when every lord and high-ranking

SEE JAPAN ON PAGE 2.

# Performing-arts classes redefined for Fall 1999

BY RYAN WEST  
The Battalion

On the 12th day of the fall semester, the visual and performing arts classes now listed as Kinesiology 199, will be changed to Special Topics 289.

A student currently enrolled in one of these classes will then have the choice to use the class to fulfill a kinesiology requirement or a visual arts requirement. Beginning with the Class of '03, students will be required to take three hours of visual arts courses in addition to any kinesiology requirement.

In addition, all incoming freshmen and transfer students will be required to take a health and fitness course as part of their kinesiology requirements. These courses will offer formal instruction and nutritional information during one class meeting a week, and use the other class meeting for physical activity.

Frank Thomas, chair of the Physical Education Activity Program, said the changes in kinesiology are in line with A&M's Vision 2020 to become one of the top-10 public universities.

"The amount of nutritional information available to us is growing at an incredible rate," Thomas said. "Through the lectures and activities, we hope to show them how to become physically fit."

Thomas also said they hope to create a lasting willingness to get in shape on the stu-



BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

Senior finance and accounting major Holly Davis and senior psychology major Roman Garcia De Alba dance during a country-and-western dance class Tuesday.

SEE DANCE ON PAGE 2.