

The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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College Station, Texas



sports

• Don Nelson's draft moves illustrate the troubles facing the Dallas Mavericks.

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Battalion Radio

Tune in to 90.9 KAMU-FM at 1:57 p.m. for more details on an assault at a College Station apartment complex Saturday.

opinion

• Liddy Dole must capitalize on talents to overtake George W. Bush for the nomination.

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Center to expand intern, co-op programs

BY STUART HUTSON
The Battalion

Beginning this fall, the Career Center's Cooperative Education Department will be renamed the Experiential Education Department, which will supply students with both cooperative (co-op) educational and internship opportunities in one location.

Jennifer Humphries, assistant director for the cooperative education department, said that in the past, students who wanted work experience prior to graduation had to go to several offices to find all the available opportunities.

Humphries said she often encounters students who are looking for work experience prior to graduation but are not aware of exactly what type of experience they want. "We will be able to let these students know about many of the pos-

sible opportunities as well as help them decide which program, whether co-op or internship, will best suit what they want to do," she said.

Humphries said co-op opportunities and internships both offer their own distinct advantages and disadvantages.

Cooperative education is an academic program that allows students to work with a company for a minimum of two semesters. Students receive co-op pay and have full-time student status. The student's academic credit for the term is determined by a University co-op adviser, comments from the student's respective employer and a technical report filed by the student.

Internships generally offer the students one semester of work experience that may or may not provide students pay, academic credit

or full-time student status; but often offer a more diverse selection of opportunities that do not require a two-semester commitment.

Humphries said along with the integration of co-op and internship opportunities, the department will also be receiving a computer upgrade, which will allow students easier Internet access and more information about work experience opportunities than the current data operating system.

"For example, employer's now only have six lines of text to give vital information like job descriptions and contact information," she said. "With the new system, they will have almost unlimited space."

Martha W. Boerema, associate director of cooperative education, said the department will also be focusing on developing new international connections and programs such as one currently in-

volving seven construction science students in Moscow. These students are working with the H.B. Zachry Company to revamp the U.S. Embassy there.

Humphries said these programs will help give the students a "global perspective" that will aid them later if they enter into a multinational company. She said this will force the students to deal with people of other cultures on a professional level.

Boerema said the department is attempting to obtain a wider variety of employment opportunities that will include more positions for non-technical majors such as liberal arts.

"We always have a good number of positions for engineering and science majors," she said. "But we feel it is also important to open the door of opportunity as widely for the non-technical majors."

CHANGES TO THE CAREER CENTER FOR FALL 1999

- The Career Center's Cooperative Education Department will be renamed the Experiential Education Department
- The department will also be focusing on developing new international connections and programs.
- The department is attempting to obtain a wider variety of employment opportunities that will include more positions for non-technical majors.
- The department will receive a computer upgrade

GABRIEL RUENES/THE BATTALION

Gotta sing



Harold Presley (foreground), of College Station, sings the song *One More Angel in Heaven* while rehearsing Sunday for "The Broadway Cabaret."

Theater groups to present revue

BY MEGAN E. WRIGHT
The Battalion

Residents of the Brazos Valley will have the opportunity to experience various musical performances this week at the Brazos Valley TROUPE and MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society's presentation of "The Broadway Cabaret," a musical revue.

The selections to be performed were taken from musicals and shows that are scheduled for the upcoming 1999-2000 OPAS season. Selections have been taken from musicals such as *Annie* and *The King and I*.

The Brazos Valley TROUPE, a theatrical organization composed of local children and community members, held auditions earlier in the summer for performers. The group has been in rehearsal and making preparations for the event over the past three weeks.

Jeremy Byrd, OPAS chair and a se-

nior psychology major, said this week's performances will highlight not only the musicals but the local talent.

"This is an opportunity for people in the area to see some great performers and to preview some of the great shows that OPAS has lined up for this season," Byrd said.

Byrd said a number of A&M students tried out.

"There are quite a few Aggies who will be performing in the Cabaret this year," he said.

He said "The Broadway Cabaret" is in its third year and will continue to be a tradition in the Brazos Valley.

Available seating is limited; tickets can be purchased through the MSC Box Office at a cost of \$5 for students and \$7 for non-students. Performances will run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 at the College Station Conference Center.

OPAS Schedule 1999-2000

- Don Cossacks of Rostov (Sept. 30)
- Preservation Hall Jazz Band (Oct. 29)
- The King and I (Nov. 7)
- The Nutcracker (Dec. 3, 4)
- The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber (Jan. 22, 23)
- Romeo and Juliet (Feb. 25-27)
- Spirit of the Dance (March 4)
- The Barber of Seville (March 21, 22)
- Annie (April 11, 12)

Searchers zero in on distress signal

JFK Jr., passengers still unaccounted for

AQUINNAH, Mass. (AP) — Searchers looking for John F. Kennedy Jr.'s plane zeroed in on a spot at the bottom of the sea after picking up an automatic emergency signal yesterday, while Americans grieved over the almost certain deaths of Kennedy, his wife and her sister.

A sonar-equipped ship was sent to the spot off Martha's Vineyard where debris from the plane was found earlier.

The Kennedy family spent a second anguished day awaiting word along with the rest of the nation, as federal authorities set up a top-level command center to oversee the search.

The glamorous, 38-year-old Kennedy, his wife, Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, 33, and her older sister Lauren Bessette were feared dead after the single-engine plane he was piloting went down in the waters off Martha's Vineyard on Friday night en route to his cousin Rory's wedding. The Saturday wedding was postponed, and the family held Mass to pray for the missing.

In Washington, President Clinton offered the prayers of a nation, saying the Kennedys "have suffered much and given more" as a family over the past 40 years.

"At this difficult moment, we hope

the families of these three fine young people will feel the strength of God, the love of their friends and the prayers of their fellow citizens," Clinton said.

More than 300 people, including Coast Guardsmen and members of the Air Force and National Guard, concentrated on a 600-square-mile area off Gay Head, on the southwestern edge of Martha's Vineyard, using ships, helicopters, planes and all-terrain vehicles.

Coast Guard Rear Adm. Richard M. Larrabee said searchers heard an underwater signal yesterday from an emergency locator transmitter near where debris from the plane was found. It was not certain whether the signal — detected by an Air Force plane — came from Kennedy's aircraft, the Coast Guard said.

"I would caution you that this was only one transmission," Larrabee said.

A sonar-equipped National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, the *Rude* (pronounced "Rudy"), was dispatched to the place where the beacon was heard about 4 1/2 miles southwest of Gay Head, in about 80 to 100 feet of water, Lt. Gary Jones, a Coast Guard spokesperson, said.

SEE JFK ON PAGE 6.

The numbers game

Officials consider changes to student IDs

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

The possibility of changing Texas A&M students' identification numbers from their Social Security Numbers to a random number generated by a computer may become a reality.

A committee composed of members of several departments on campus, including Payroll Services and the Finance Department, has been organized to determine the feasibility of making the change, which is being examined because of safety and confidentiality concerns.

Dr. Rick Floyd, chair of the committee and associate vice president for finance, said the question of privacy associated with the use of Social Security Numbers has always been present.

Steven Pace, a member of the committee and Aggie Card administrator, said the committee is still discussing the manner in which the number on the student ID cards will be changed.

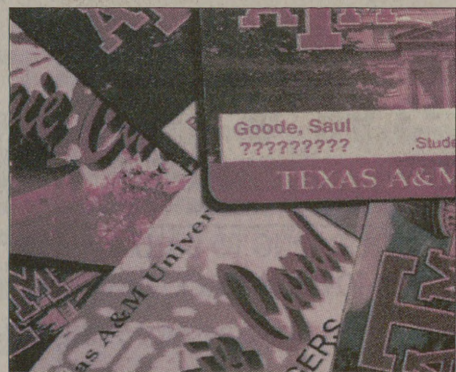


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

"It might be difficult if the entire campus changed all at once, but if we started with incoming students and moved throughout the rest of the campus it might not be as difficult," Pace said. "We are still at the planning stages, and these issues will be discussed."

SEE CARDS ON PAGE 2.