

The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Wednesday
July 21, 1999
Volume 105 • Issue 173 • 6 Pages
College Station, Texas



opinion

• Disney's animated movies ruin classic fairy tales with senseless plots and characters.

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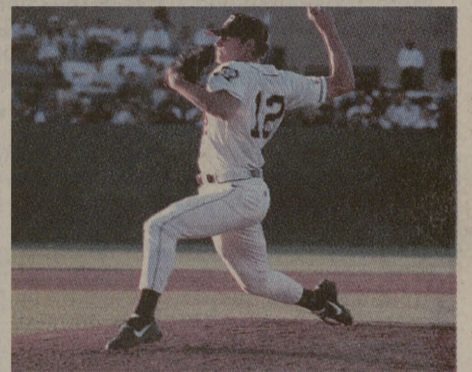
Battalion Radio

For details on an attempted forgery at the College Station Wal-Mart Sunday, tune in to 90.9 KAMU-FM at 1:57 p.m.

sports

• Cardinals draft pick Chance Cagle looks to the future with a stint in the minor leagues.

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Justice urges reform of judicial selection

BY MEGAN E. WRIGHT
The Battalion

The Texas Supreme Court chief justice focused on alternate methods of selecting judges to instill more trust between the judiciary branch and Texans during his speech last night on judicial selection in the next millennium.

Thomas R. Phillips discussed the methods and problems of judicial selection as part of the Millennium Lecture Series hosted by the Arts Council of the Brazos Valley at the College Station Hilton.

Phillips said Texans need to look at the different methods being used around the country. "There is no perfect method," he said. "And we know we can't come up with a perfect system, but we can make improvements."

Phillips said the current partisan system forces judges into asking and accepting money for campaigns. In other states, judges are selected on a merit system in which the governor selects judges from a list of candidates. The merit system is currently employed in 21 states. In some states, like New York, judges are selected by one election and serve extended terms as long as 14 years.

"One election systems give the public control over judges," Phillips said. "However, after elected, the judges develop a sort of independence knowing they are in office for so long."

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GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

Chief Justice Thomas R. Phillips discusses judicial selection Tuesday as part of the Millennium Lecture Series.

Secretary charged with forgery

BY VERONICA SERRANO
The Battalion

An employee of Texas A&M's Office of Institutional Studies and Planning has been charged with theft and forgery for altering her payroll reports.

Melina Ann Cashaw, an administrative secretary for the Office of Institutional Studies and Planning, posted bail after her arrest Monday.

Cashaw allegedly added 278 hours of overtime to her timesheets and tried to add an additional 74 hours before being

caught by her supervisor, according to a statement given to police by Cashaw's supervisor, Dr. Cindy Dutschke.

According to Dutschke's statement, the theft began Feb. 1999, when Cashaw was first employed by the office, and continued until June 1999. The value of the overtime was placed at \$7,307, not including the attempted 74 hours, which was valued at \$1,312.

In another statement Dutschke alleges that Cashaw forged Dutschke's name and initials onto a memo and a payroll document

requesting a cash advance for overtime hours worked.

Bob Wiatt, director of the University Police Department, said Cashaw has given a statement concerning the charges that will be used as evidence if Cashaw goes to trial.

The theft charges are felonies, punishable by a jail sentence of six months to two years, and/or a \$10,000 fine, Wiatt said.

He said forgery is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a \$4,000 fine.

Private eyes



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

David Elizondo of Advanced Security Concepts replaces a security camera outside the Southside Parking Garage Tuesday. He said about 20 campus cameras will be replaced this summer.

Educators offer abstinence facts

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

Several sexual health educators will be available at the Student Rec Center tomorrow from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. to answer questions on topics ranging from women's gynecological visits to testicular cancer at an information table focusing on abstinence.

The event, sponsored by Texas A&M's Health Education Department, will have available several sexual health educators, including a graduate assistant from the department and a member of Aggie R.E.A.C.H. (Representatives Educating About College Health), to answer questions.

Margaret Griffith, health education coordinator and HIV specialist, said people often think everyone is having sex when that is not the case.

The only sure way to prevent sexual transmission of HIV infection and other STDs is total abstinence from sexual activity.

"If somebody is abstinent, they're safe," Griffith said. "We want to identify and define abstinence when it comes to health and sex."

SEE ABSTINENCE ON PAGE 2.

She said abstinence and virginity are not the same thing, and people often interchange the two.

"Virgins can be virgins and not abstinent," Griffith said. "They can engage in oral sex or anal sex. And so, I think we've gotten really confused on focusing on virginity when, for health, we really need to focus on sexual abstinence."

She said an important message is that people can choose to return to abstinence at any point even after they have already had sexual relations. Griffith said abstinence is "hassle-free and worry-free."

Rhonda Rahn, a graduate student assistant in the health education office, said the top two reasons to abstain are it allows freedom from worrying about pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, and it has no side effects.

Griffith said it becomes difficult to remain abstinent if someone is involved in a caring relationship. She said abstinence is a way to show each other how much you love one another.

Party-time policies

Task force recommends changes to tailgate party, game-day alcohol rules

BY CARRIE BENNETT
The Battalion

The Alcohol, Tents and Tailgating Task Force at A&M, composed of faculty from various departments and student leaders, will present a list of recommendations concerning alcohol and the use of tents at NCAA intercollegiate athletic events and tailgate parties at A&M to Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for student affairs.

The proposed revisions include permitting alcoholic beverages at tailgate parties or picnic activities at NCAA intercollegiate athletic events only and only on the day of the event and in the general proximity of the event. The location of the gathering must also be in an outdoor location or outdoor parking area that has been deemed appropriate by the University.

These activities will not be permitted in any University facility, the O.R. Simpson Drill Field, the grounds of the All-Faiths Chapel grounds or Cain Park.

The task force suggests tents only be erected in designated areas on the day of intercollegiate and University-wide events. No sales, solicitations or commercial advertising on or under the tent will be permitted. People will be responsible for cleaning the area after removing the tent.

Dr. Bill Kibler, chair of the task force and associate vice president for student affairs, said these restrictions reflect ac-

tivities already occurring on campus. He said the proposed changes are a proactive effort to prevent problems that might happen in the future rather than a result from an incident in the past.

"We want to promote how to drink properly and not in excess, and this is a more organized way ... to consume alcohol on campus."

— Will Hurd
Student Body President

"Part of the concern that created this task force was the idea that the level of this kind of activity is increasing and we need to look forward," Kibler said. "One of our goals would be for the University to try to prevent the campus from ever getting to a place where tailgating becomes the kind of campus-wide problem that it is on campuses of other universities around the country."

Kibler said the issues of tents on campus came from a problem a few years ago dealing with corporate

advertising on tents that were left up for months without permission from the University. He said, previously, there had not been any rules concerning tents so the task force felt the need to include parameters on this issue to prevent problems in the future.

Student Body President Will Hurd said the proposed regulations are a good effort to make sure that we control consumption of alcohol on campus.

"We want to promote how to drink properly and not in excess, and this is a more organized way and policy to consume alcohol on campus," Hurd said. "This is still an academic environment, and we want to preserve that."

Kibler said the goal is to provide an environment where visitors and family of former students and current students feel welcome at A&M.

"We want to always maintain a balance where people can come and responsibly do this [tailgate] in the context of these athletic events that bring thousands of people to campus and still feel that the integrity of this campus is preserved," Kibler said.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

Alcoholic beverages will be permitted:

- At tailgate parties or picnic activities
- At NCAA intercollegiate athletic events only
- Only on the day of the event
- In the general proximity of the event
- In an outdoor location or parking area that has been deemed appropriate by A&M

Will not be permitted in any University facility, the O.R. Simpson Drill Field, the All Faiths Chapel grounds or Cain Park

GABRIEL RUENES/THE BATTALION

SEE ALCOHOL ON PAGE 2.