

Etched in stone



Daniel Strohmeyer, a freshman ocean engineering major, lays bricks at the Corps Center Plaza Wednesday. The money from selling the bricks will go toward scholarships and upkeep of the Sanders Corps of Cadets Center.

TERRY ROBESON/The Battalion

East Texas killer executed

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Convicted murderer Ricky Blackmon was executed last night for hacking to death an East Texas man with a 3-foot-long sword fashioned from a steel sawmill blade.

Blackmon, 41, was the first of six Texas death row inmates expected to receive lethal injection over the next two weeks. He became the 17th put to death so far this year.

Blackmon had no last words as the deadly chemical cocktail began flowing, but earlier released a prepared statement that asked people to view the Internet Website of a church in Huntsville.

"Use this to teach others about what not to do and pray God receives the glory, not me," he said.

"This is what he (Blackmon) did and this is what needs to be done."

—Thomasine Crow
Victim's mother

As the drugs were being administered, Blackmon obviously

choked up, sobbing, then closed his eyes and gasped twice as a muscle in his neck began twitching.

Eight minutes later, a tear still running from his right eye, he was pronounced dead at 6:22 p.m. CDT.

"I wouldn't want to call it relief," Thomasine Crow, the victim's mother, said of the execution. "I think there is justice that needs to be met and I think this is what needs to be done."

"Nothing can bring Carl back. Nothing can ever ease that pain completely. This is what he (Blackmon) did and this is what needs to be done."

Brazos summons potential jurors

BRYAN (AP) — Brazos County officials are expected to mail 600 jury summons today to residents considered for the second trial in the 1998 dragging death of a Jasper black man.

Jury selection begins Aug. 31 in Bryan for the capital murder trial of Lawrence Russell Brewer, one of three white men charged in the gruesome June 7, 1998 killing of 49-year-old James Byrd Jr.

DEATH

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Wagener worked as a graphics artist for *The Battalion*.

Mark McPherson, graphics editor for *The Battalion* said Wagener had a really good sense of humor, which showed in both his conversations and his drawings.

"He was always eager to do as many graphics as he could," McPherson said.

McPherson said Wagener had changed his major from

agricultural engineering to environmental design because he was interested in joining the Visual Arts Laboratory.

"He was really interested in animation," he said.

Toscano said he recalled at least one A&M student who died from alcohol poisoning this year and an 18-year-old student who had a high blood-alcohol level when he fell to his death in the Southside Parking Garage.

"Maybe if the media puts the message out that alcohol can kill, maybe it would get through," Toscano said.

NUTZ



BY R. DELUNA



KITES

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Beverly Wagner, administrative secretary for the gallery, says the display is not the usual exhibit because there are no physical barriers to protect the art from the open elements of the gallery.

The exhibit is a presentation brought to A&M by Murrah Exhibitions for a \$4,500 per month, not including curatorial and travel expenses.

THOMPSON

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In 1975, Thompson began his career with the System as a department head in the Department of Secondary and Tertiary Education at East Texas State University, which is now known as East Texas University-Commerce.

Since then he has served as president and chief executive officer of both Tarleton State University and West Texas A&M University, where he served as interim chancellor of the System.

Don Powell, a member of the Board of Regents, said the service has defined the land-grant mission.

"His devotion to education is a true inspiration to all of us who have ever had the honor of knowing him," he said.

EVANS

Continued from Page 1

Stokes said Evans has been a very outgoing and passionate A&M alum.

"There is no way you can know him without knowing his biography," he said.

Stokes also said Evans was

This year, The Texas A&M Board of Regents passed a resolution honoring Evans for his lifetime contributions to the library, the university, the System and the

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Texas A&M University
A department in the Division of Student Affairs

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- You must be a degree seeking student and have a total of 25 undergraduate credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System. (A passed course, which is repeated and passed, cannot count as additional credit hours.)
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Graduate Student Requirements:
If you are a August 1999 degree candidate and do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree, you may place an order after you meet the following requirements:

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Procedure to order a ring:

- If you meet all of the above requirements and you wish to receive your ring on October 14, 1999, you must visit the Ring Office **no later than Thursday, August 5, 1999** between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to complete the application for eligibility verification.
- It is recommended that you do not wait until August 5 to apply for your ring audit. Should there be a problem with your academic record, or if you are blocked, you may not have sufficient time to resolve these matters before the order closes out on August 6.
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