

# THE BATTALION

106 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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## A&M to notify kin of alcohol, drug use

BY RYAN WEST  
The Battalion

Next week, Texas A&M will begin notifying parents of under-age students who have violated University drug and alcohol policies since the end of August.

The Family Education of Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protected the privacy of students' records until early this year when universities throughout the nation were offered the option of notifying parents in violation situations.

Brent Paterson, chair of the A&M Task Force on Parental Notification, established shortly after the government decision, said authorities will recommend that students charged with violations talk to their parents before the letters are sent home.

"We're not wanting to rattle on the students," he said. "We're trying to encourage communication between parents and students about the responsible use of alcohol." "We are trying to approach this from the education standpoint. Our interest is in the health and safety components."

Dennis Reardon, parental notification task force member and senior coordinator of Student Life Alcohol and Drug Education Programs, said the task force, created to advise University President Dr. Ray Bowen and Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. J. Alton Southerland about the option, recommended that the University establish alcohol education programs and dependency treatment for violators.

Reardon said that when students are cited for a violation, they would be referred to a Student Life Alcohol and Drug Education Programs representative and would be placed in an "Alcohol 101" class, an alcohol education workshop or treatment for severe alcohol abuse or dependency.

Students with a minor violation, such as possession of alcohol in or near residence halls, would be enrolled in Alcohol 101.

Students who commit a more serious violation, like obvious intoxication, repeated offenses or possessing large quantities in residence halls, would participate in the alcohol education workshop.

Students with multiple offenses, such as vandalism or violence, or who require police or Emergency Medical Service notification will be mandated to meet directly with Reardon.

Reardon said there has been a change in students' attitudes toward alcohol involvement, which has cost some students their health, education and lives.

"We want to intervene earlier," Reardon said. "We now have the opportunity to enlist parent aid as early as possible."

"[Alcohol and drug violations] are a significant problem, and we are working harder than ever before to solve it."

## Fraternity fire



GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

The Delta Chi Fraternity house at 6133 Chick Lane in Bryan caught fire Thursday evening. The cause of the fire is still under investigation by the Bryan Police Department. The house was vacant.

## Student Senate discusses 'Mall' project

BY ERIKA DOERR  
The Battalion

The 52nd session of the Student Senate discussed the Joe Routh "Mall" Concept Bill and the Legislative Agenda Resolution last night after the State of the University Address.

Student Body President Will Hurd said the Joe Routh "Mall" is intended to improve pedestrian safety, beautify the surrounding area, increase bus efficiency and to fulfill the idea of a pedestrian-friendly campus.

The Texas A&M University Board of Regents approved phase one of a proposal that would close off the portion of Joe Routh Boulevard from Clark Street to Throckmorton Street.

The goal of a "mall" environment, an area limiting traffic to pedestrians, University buses, bicycles and emergency vehicles, is to increase pedestrian safety.

"Phase one is a preliminary planning stage, where loading docks and

restrictions will be placed throughout the street," Hurd said.

"The second and third phases, which are not voted on by the Board of Regents yet, are the actual tearing up of the Joe Routh Boulevard and implementing utility wires and the beautifying and tidying the area, respectively."

**"Closing Joe Routh would increase bus efficiency."**

— Elizabeth McKee  
Executive vice president of the Student Senate

Elizabeth McKee, executive vice president of the Senate, said how traffic will be affected, which roads will be opened and how to prevent limit-

ed access to the surrounding buildings are issues that remain undiscussed.

"Phase two, the construction phase, is to be completed by August 2000," she said.

"Closing Joe Routh would increase bus efficiency. The elimination of motor vehicles competing with buses will provide more safety to the pedestrians, causing less chaos."

Hurd said the area's aesthetics will be enhanced, making the MSC and surrounding buildings visually appealing. "\$1.8 million will be given by the Athletic Department to this reconstruction," he said. "This will tie into the aesthetics of the Kyle Field tunnel and plaza area."

Another topic of discussion at the Senate meeting was the Legislative Agenda Resolution.

Various goals of the agenda include evaluating the effectiveness rating faculty, transportation and class section expansion.

## Hurd delivers address

BY RACHEL HOLLAND  
The Battalion

During the State of the University Address last night, Student Body President Will Hurd said developing a fee oversight board, a comprehensive transportation package and a recycling program are ways to utilize campus resources to create a culture of excellence.

Hurd, a senior computer science and international studies major, told an audience of 230 in the MSC Flagroom that Aggies must not think of the problems inherent in any solution but of how to make the solution work.

"I sure don't have all of the answers," he said. "But all of us combined, working together, can make sure we come up with the best solutions to continue Aggieland, Bryan and College Station's traditions of excellence."

One initiative Hurd described is the creation of a fee oversight board staffed by students to examine fee increases and determine what services should be funded by students.

"We understand that in order to have the benefits of a service or an enhancement of service we must pay for



KIMBER HUFF/THE BATTALION

Student Body President Will Hurd speaks about reforming campus life at A&M during his State of the University address

these services because they aren't free," he said.

"We also understand that the University is obligated to provide certain services that benefit only a marginal amount of students, but the majority of students bear the burden of this service."

Hurd said recycling should also be reestablished on campus to set a standard for other large communities. "We need to pledge to eliminate half of the trash cans around campus, in our of-

fices and in our homes," he said, "and replace these archaic items with recycling receptacles that collect major items of the waste stream that can be recycled."

Hurd also said students should focus on not wasting time getting on, getting around and getting off of campus.

He said the solution to the access dilemma is a corridor through Joe Routh Boulevard, Coke Street, Lubbock Street, Spence Street, Ross Street and the northwest portion of Houston Street, based on the mall concept, which is a passageway for pedestrian, bicycle, University bus and emergency vehicle travel with restrictions on private vehicular travel.

Keri Raney, senator for the College of Education and a senior elementary education major, said the Student Senate is ready to tackle these issues under Hurd's leadership.

"I believe that President Will Hurd is on fire and will do whatever it takes to promote unity at Texas A&M," she said.

"Most importantly, Will Hurd's focus on a culture of excellence is just the beginning to a successful year that lies before us."

## Magazine ranks Lowry Mays College 21st among nationwide business schools

BY BROOKE HODGES  
The Battalion

The Lowry Mays College and Graduate School of Business' undergraduate program ranked 21st among nationwide business schools and in the top 15 among public universities in U.S. News & World Report.

Dr. A. Benton Cocanougher, dean of Lowry Mays College and Graduate School of Business, said the ranking is based on colleges' academic reputations and evaluations of various business schools and distinguished faculty members.

The evaluation was on a scale from one to five, five being "distinguished." A&M scored an average of 3.7. "[This ranking] assures we have a world-class business education program," he said. "This lets us know we are on around the country as outstanding."

Cocanougher said getting the high ranking poses a challenge to provide programs that meet expectations established by this year's program.

The undergraduate program enrolled 6,400 students in 98-99, making it the fourth largest in the nation. Despite the challenges in meeting the needs of such a large student body, Cocanougher said the program was educationally enhancing.

He said a vast majority of the college's graduates go into occupational settings and a large number of those continue to graduate programs.

Dr. William Fuerst, associate dean for academic programs in the Lowry Mays College and Graduate School of Business, said the ranking are a chance to increase the number of recruiters that come to campus to look for future employees.

"This [ranking] will provide our graduates with a fuller range of opportunities," he said.

Fuerst said that because rankings are based on different subjects, the rankings of other polls must also be considered to get a clear picture of a program's ability.

Fuerst said the education goal of the undergraduate program is to turn out the best graduates it possibly can, and a high ranking shows that it is being accomplished.

Fuerst said he hopes the program continues to move up ranking.

Cocanougher said the program is celebrating a 10th year ranking in the Princeton Review/Gourman Report.

## U.S. News and World Report's Best Business Schools

1. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
1. University of Michigan -- Ann Arbor
1. University of Pennsylvania
4. University of California -- Berkeley
5. University of North Carolina -- Chapel Hill
5. University of Texas -- Austin
5. University of Virginia
8. Carnegie Mellon University
9. Indiana University -- Bloomington
10. New York University
10. University of Illinois - Urbana - Champaign
10. University of Southern California
10. University of Wisconsin - Madison
14. Purdue University -- West Lafayette
14. University of Minnesota -- Twin Cities
16. Emory University
16. Ohio State University - Columbus
16. Pennsylvania State University
16. University of Washington
16. Washington University
21. Michigan State University
21. Texas A&M University -- College Station

## City Manager resigns

BY CARRIE BENNETT  
The Battalion

College Station City Manager, Skip Noe resigned yesterday, after serving the city for four years.

College Station Mayor Lynn McIlhane said the Council received Noe's letter of resignation 20 minutes before the 12 p.m. meeting.

"We want to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge his leadership during a difficult time in College Station's history," she said.

"We wish him success in his future endeavors. In respect for his tenure and leadership, the City Council is honoring his employment contract with the city."

Noe had no comment as to the reasons behind his resignation.

"I have been proud to serve this city and to be a part of this organization," he said. "I wish the Council, staff and citizens of Col-

lege Station all the best in the years ahead."

The Council designated Assistant City Manager Tom Brymer as acting city manager. McIlhane said that although Noe's resignation is effective immediately, he will help Brymer through the transition period.

"Because of Skip's leadership, we have the staff that we know can move this city forward," she said.

Noe has served as city manager since July 1995 and was responsible for supervising departments including police, fire/ Emergency Medical Services, public works and economic and community development.

Noe worked to expand the use of technology to improve services such as the City's first Web page, the deployment of mobile data computers in police and fire vehicles and the expansion of Geographic Information Systems, which track the movement of vehicles.

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•Coeds make the Hart grow fonder

Columnist speaks on the benefits of allowing women to live in hall.



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#### Batt radio

Listen to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on a new shelter for the homeless.