

# THE BATTALION

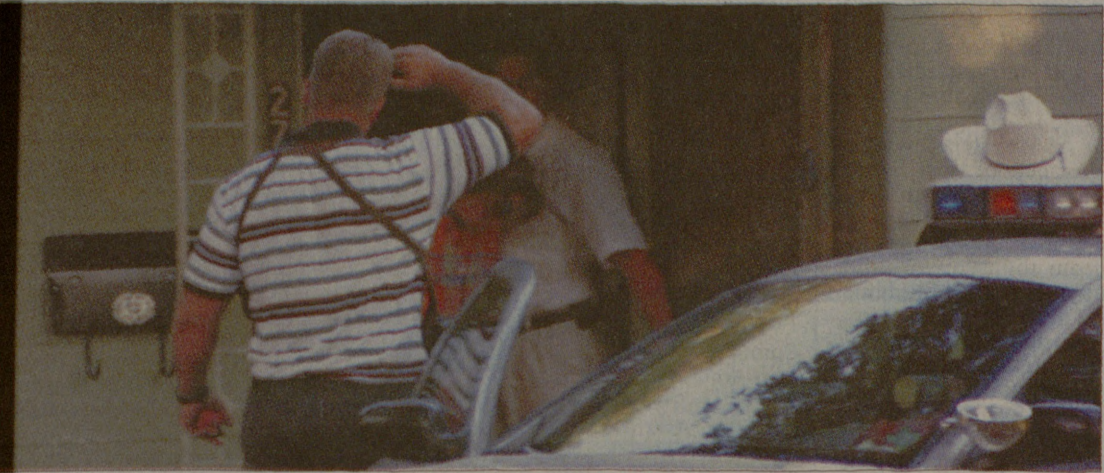
106 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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## Standoff ends quietly



After a seven-hour standoff police take a woman into custody (top, bottom right). The Bryan Police Department's Tactical Unit was summoned to the scene (bottom left).

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS  
The Battalion

A seven-hour stand-off yesterday between police and a suicidal Bryan woman suffering from mental-health disabilities ended peacefully when she was taken into custody unharmed.

Sgt. Ernie Montoya, Bryan Police Department public information officer, said at 11:10 a.m. yesterday morning a Brazos County sheriff's deputy attempted to serve a mental health warrant to a female resident at 2701 E. Villa Maria Road, across from the

Blinn College campus in Bryan. Montoya said the woman refused to cooperate and would not open the door. The deputy then went around to a side window and removed a screen to see inside, where he saw the woman holding a gun in her mouth, threatening suicide.

The Bryan Police Department's Tactical Unit, or "tact team", was immediately summoned to the scene for assistance.

He said in the early evening the woman attempted written communication with the officers and began throwing notes out

her window.

At approximately 6:40 p.m. the Sheriff's Department was able to peacefully take the woman from her home in handcuffs and into custody.

Clyde Collins, Brazos County chief deputy, said the identity of the woman will not be released.

"Because this is a mental issue it is a very touchy subject, and we cannot reveal any information like that [name]," he said.

Collins said the woman was

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## Students await reason behind bill's rejection

BY NONI SRIDHARA  
The Battalion

Texas A&M students, faculty and staff are still waiting for University President Dr. Ray M. Bowen to give a reason other than legal ramifications for his disapproval of a recent proposal to revise Article II in the Student Rules Handbook to include sexual orientation.

Article II as it is currently included in the Student Rules Handbook reads: Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of harassment and any form of illegal discrimination and without regard to any subgroup classification or stereotype.

Following a bill authored by the Student Senate, the Faculty Senate proposed the handbook to be revised.

The proposal from the Senate was worded as follows: Illegal or impermissible discrimination or harassment that deprives an individual of his/her rights under the law, dignity as a person or ability to pursue his/her academic career and ability to pursue in all areas and activities at Texas A&M University does not discriminate on the basis of factors including, but not limited to race, color, religion, age, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, veteran's status or disability in accordance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA).

David Kessler, author of the Stu-

dent Senate Bill and a senior English and history major, said the bill came about after a program called "Dispelling the Myths of Homosexuality" by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transsexual Association (GLBTA), and the Student Action Committee in October of 1998 in which a panel of GLBTA members spoke at various places on campus.

**"State laws don't protect against sexual orientation, so this could put us in legal jeopardy."**

— Lane Stephenson  
University Relations

After the bill was passed by the Student Senate, Kessler said it went to the Rules and Regulations Committee of the Faculty Senate and the Graduate Student Council.

"The Faculty Senate decided it wasn't within its jurisdiction to revise the University Statement on harassment and discrimination," Kessler said. "It then went back to the Faculty Senate Executive committee and passed and a memo was sent to Bowen dated Apr. 23, 1999.

"It then came back disappointed

on Aug. 2. We had no explanation as to why it was disapproved."

Lane Stephenson, deputy director for University Relations, said the bill was disapproved because of legal reasons.

"Bowen is accepting of everyone at this University and wants to make it all-inclusive," Stephenson said. "The reason this can't be approved is because federal and State laws don't protect against sexual orientation, so this could put us in legal jeopardy."

Kessler said other universities, including the University of Texas in Austin and Southern Methodist University, have added to sexual orientation in "matters of personnel consideration, admissions or academic evaluation."

Kim Novak, coordinator for judicial services for the Department of Student Life, said she believes Bowen wants to make Texas A&M an inviting university.

"What somebody wants and what reality is are two totally different things," Novak said.

Novak said these rules do not protect against discrimination, giving the example of a gay student.

"For example, if there is a girl who is a lesbian and her car is vandalized by people writing hatred remarks, the people who committed the crime would be cited for vandalism," she said.

SEE BILL ON PAGE 2.

## TV program features Ags

BY RYAN WEST  
The Battalion

Several students and faculty members from the Texas A&M College of Education will appear on "The Merrow Report: Teacher Shortage: False Alarm?," a nationwide television program examining youth and education, Friday at 9 p.m. central time.

John D. Tulenko, producer of "The Merrow Report," said he chose the Texas A&M Department of Education because the sub-standard training for new teachers drives many of them out of the classroom, and that, in turn, has a direct impact on teacher shortage.

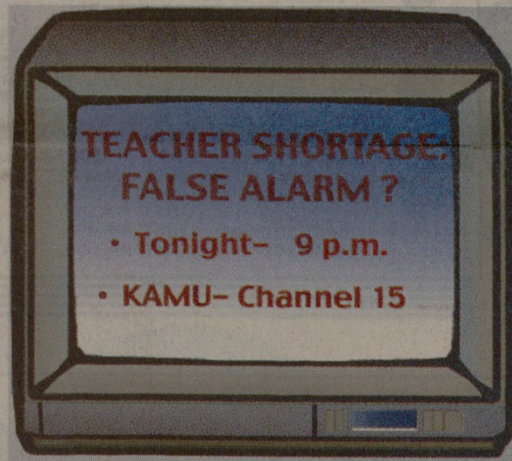
"Our documentary is bound to upset some people," Tulenko said. "(Texas A&M) has one highly innovative, highly effective program for teachers but it enrolls just a small fraction of the education students."

The broadcast takes a look at the Department of Education's Professional Development School (P.D.S.), a program that allows students to spend time in nearby elementary, junior high and high schools before they begin their student teaching semester.

Jennifer Supach, Class of '96, took part in the P.D.S. program at neighboring Somerville Junior High School; she is currently a sixth-grade social studies and science teacher there.

"I can't imagine how hard my first year would have been if I hadn't gone through the program," she said.

Supache now has a P.D.S. student in her classroom who observes classroom routine and management and, by the end of the semester, will design and carry out a lesson for the class.



JEFF SMITH/THE BATTALION

Jane Conoley, dean of education, said over the past three years the number of students in involved in the program has more than doubled.

"We know that program is successful, but it's also incredibly expensive to maintain," she said. (The program costs an extra \$1000 a year per P.D.S. student)

Professor James Kraut, assistant department head of the college of education, said the P.D.S. program is valuable for both the teachers and students involved.

Kraut said special sections of the University's coursework are tailored to the students' elementary and secondary school experience, and teachers are used from those schools to co-teach the courses.

"University professors know the most recent science and research used, but they may be a little rusty on working with the with the third and fourth graders," he said.

"Teachers (of elementary and secondary schools) may not be as up-to-date with new findings — so the partnership pays off."

## Reveille V to be laid to rest

BY EMILY R. SNOOKS  
The Battalion

Reveille V will be buried tomorrow with her four fellow mascots at 10 a.m. in a temporary gravesite at Cain Park in a military-style memorial.

From 1984 to 1993 Reveille V served as Texas A&M University's mascot and highest-ranking member of the Corps of Cadets. She was euthanized June 25, 1999, because of her failing health and old age. The memorial service was delayed until tomorrow so the entire student body would have the opportunity to attend.

Craig Serold, chair of the military-style memorial committee and a junior computer engineering major, served as mascot corporal in the Corps of Cadets last year. He said the memorial service is open to the public and will include an honor guard, a prayer led by the Corps Chaplain, the playing of "Taps" and remarks from former mascot corporals who served on duty from 1984 to 1993.

Dr. Joe E. West, a clinical pathologist for the Texas

Veterinary Medicine Diagnostic Laboratory, and his family have served as Reveille's surrogate family since March 7, 1994.

West said he remembers the day the school gave her to them and that they will remember her forever.

"We are very grateful. She was very special," he said. "She was a connection with many current and former students, administration and friends of Texas A&M."

Jon Anderson, a senior political science major in Mascot Company E-2, said he expects the ceremony to be similar to that of Reveille IV who died in 1989.

"There were about 40-50,000 people at the ceremony for Reveille IV," he said.

Serold said this tradition of a mascot funeral began after cadets participated in a World War II fund raiser in 1944 to get Reveille I commissioned as a general in the military. Therefore, after her death a year later, they felt it was appropriate to give her a military funeral.

## Statue on Quad to be dedicated

BY STUART HUTSON  
The Battalion

The most decorated officer in A&M's history, Lt. Gen. James F. Hollingsworth, will have a statue dedicated to him today at 4:30 p.m. on the Quadrangle.

Attendance will include distinguished military personnel from around the nation, including the general himself.

Frank M. Muller, senior vice president of The Coastal Corporation and a member of the Class of '65, said the idea for the statue originally came from the 1995 Corps Commander Matt Segrest, who was so impressed with Hollingsworth as a role model.

The Texas A&M Board of Regents in September of 1997 authorized the creation of the statue, which has been independently funded by supporters of the Corps of Cadets including Frank Muller.

"Hollingsworth deeply influences everyone he touches," Muller said. "When you meet the general, you feel as if you have just met the grandfather you never knew you had."

Hollingsworth was a cadet in

the A&M Class of '40. During World War II he participated in seven major campaigns including the occupation of Berlin, Germany in 1945.

He led the Army's 24th Corps in Vietnam, and was instrumental in the battle of Saigon.

Hollingsworth later served as special assistant to the Army's Chief of Staff where he helped create a program that doubled the number of scholarships given to ROTC students.

After retiring from the military in 1979, Hollingsworth went on to become president of the Washington D.C. based, Hollingsworth Consultants Inc.

Major J. H. "Doc" Mills, media relations coordinator for the Corps of Cadets, said Hollingsworth has always stayed close to his roots at Texas A&M by endowing several scholarships and serving on advisory boards at the University.

Muller said Hollingsworth often returns to speak to A&M students about his past experiences.

"He has touched the heart of so many young people," Muller said. "He exemplifies the

unique courage and leadership of Texas A&M."

Jaime Aparicio, a Corps of Cadets member and a junior engineering technology major, said seeing Hollingsworth speak is a motivational experience.

"He makes you feel proud to be an Aggie," Aparicio said. "He makes you feel like someone special."

The 700-pound, seven-foot-tall bronze statue was sculpted by Lawrence M. Ludtke, the same artist who sculpted the statue of late Texas A&M University President James Earl Rudder. It rests upon a base made from the same clay which composes the base of the statues of both Rudder and Lawrence Sullivan Ross.

Hollingsworth has been awarded three Distinguished Service Crosses, four Distinguished Service Medals, four Silver Star Medals, three Legion of Merit medals, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Soldier's Medal, four Bronze Star Medals for valor, 38 Air Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, and six Purple Heart Medals.



BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

The dedication of the Lt. Gen. James F. Hollingsworth statue, located in the Quadrangle, will take place today at 4:30 p.m.

## Fire still under investigation

BY CARRIE BENNETT  
The Battalion

State fire investigators will begin looking into the cause of a fire that destroyed the Delta Chi fraternity house at 6133 Chick Lane in Bryan Wednesday evening.

Joe Ondrasek, chief of the Brazos County Precinct 4 Volunteer Fire Department, said the origin of the fire is under suspicion because there was no obvious cause. "This was an unusual fire because the utilities, power, electricity and gas were not turned on," he said. "The house had been vacant for a while."

The fire spread from the house, which was the point of origin, to a shed which was 100 to 150 feet away," he said. "It burned approximately 30 acres of grass on the property and surrounding properties."

Two full diesel tanks that also were on the property "a good distance" from the house did not catch fire, he said.

"The fire spread towards the tanks, but our guys put it out before it got to the tanks," Ondrasek said.

He said it is not unusual for homeowners to have full tanks on their property.

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