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DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES VOLUNTEER SERVICES CENTER

### Volunteer Opportunities Fair

September 22-23 (Wednesday and Thursday)

10am-2pm

at the Bonfire Field near Aggie Habitat's On-Campus house!

serve@tamu.edu



GivEm, Aggies!

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Virtual Volunteer Services Center!! http://vvsc.tamu.edu/

Lori Salter lori-s@tamu.edu 845.1133 168 Koldus

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#### AGGIE RING ORDERS CLAYTON W. WILLIAMS, JR. ALUMNI CENTER

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 21, 1999

Undergraduate Student Requirements:

ou must be a degree seeking student and have completed all of the following requirements to order an Aggie ring 25 cumulative undergraduate credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information agement System degree audit. (A course passed with a grade letter of D or better, which is repeated and ed, cannot count as additional credit hours unless the catalog states the course may be repeated for credit. The lowest grade is the repeated course.)

60 undergraduate credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University if your first semester at Texas A&M University was January 1994 or thereafter, or if you attended prior to 1994 and do not qualify under the successful semester requirement defined in the following paragraph. The 60 credit hour requirement will be waived if your degree is conferred with less than 60 A&M credit hours. The waiver will not be granted until after your degree is posted to screens #123 & #136 of the Student Information

30 undergraduate credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University, providing that prior to January 1, 1994, you were enrolled at Texas A&M University and successfully completed either a fall/spring semester or summer term (I and II or 10 weeks) as a full-time student in good standing (A full-time student is defined in the university catalog as one that completes 12 credit hours with a 2.0 GPR in a spring or fall semester; or 4 credit hours with a 2.0 GPR in a 10 week session.)

Please remember that you will lose resident credits if you pass a course at A&M with a D or better and retake it at another institution and make a higher grade. The lowest grade is always deducted by the university as a

2.0 cumulative GPR at Texas A&M University.

Be in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

Graduate Student Requirements:

If you are a December 1999 degree candidate and do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree, you may plac an order after you meet the following requirements:

Your degree is conferred and posted on the Texas A&M University Student Information Manage

You are in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees

However, if you have completed all of your course work prior to this semester and have been cleared by the thesis clerk, you may request a "letter of completion" from the Office of Graduate Studies (providing it is not past their deadline). The original letter of completion, with the seal, may be presented to the Ring Office in lieu of your degree being posted.

Procedure to order a ring:

If you meet all of the above requirements and you wish to receive your ring on November 18, 1999, you must visit the Ring Office no later than Tuesday, September 21, 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 September 21 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 September 23.

Return no later than September 23, 1999 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to check on the status of your audit and if qualified, pay in full by cash, check, money order, or your personal Discover, Visa or MasterCard (with your name imprinted).

> 10K - \$312.00 Men's Women's 10K - \$197.00

14K - \$410.00 14K - \$217.00

Add \$8.00 for Class of '98 or before and \$15.00 if ring needs to be shipped out-of-town The ring delivery date is November 18, 1999.

Page 2 • Tuesday, September 21, 1999

#### BREWER

Continued from Page 1

Strickland said Brewer's words prove he "is a future threat to black people in the future.

The defense said the letter referred to a sexual act. Strickland agreed that letters may be interpreted differently according to the interpreter.

Brewer's family was not available for questioning following the verdict.

### CHURCHES

Continued from Page 1

He said the churches have prayer ministers available in case the Byrd family members have spe-

cific requests or need counseling. It's been a cooperative effort; [members of both churches] have really stepped up to the challenge,' Hall said.

Reverend Bobby Hudson, the reverend of Goodwill Baptist Church in Jasper when the murder occurred, said pastors and ministers held a prayer vigil outside the courthouse in Jasper, making sure they remained visible for the family and the community.

"We walked around the [Jasper] community to show our support and sympathy and to keep unity," he said.

Hudson said, that although he has retired as the reverend of Goodwill Baptist Church, he is still a member of Ministeria Alliance, and leads a Bible study with Shawn Berry, the third man accused in the

### CARPOOL

Continued from Page 1

"It was amazing to see the amount of drivers giving up their time to make sure Aggies have a safe ride home," he said.

Shiefelbein said even with the initial success of the program, misconceptions still exist.

He said one myth of the program is that drivers are going to preach to the riders about the evils of drinking,

Shiefelbein said the applicants knew they could not lecture to the riders when they applied.

He said another misconception is that the program keeps records of the calls in order to turn them into the police for drinking violations, especially minors.

Shiefelbein said they take names to find the person who called when they get to the bar or party, not so they can report the names to the police. He said this information can also be used to report the number of rides given for program sponsors.

The third myth is that the program is against drinking and the group consists completely of non-

Shiefelbein said it is a student's choice to drink, and they are old enough to make that decision. He said one-third of the students who used the service over the weekend were sober.

"Some people lost their keys, had a flat tire or wanted to leave the club before the rest of their group," he

Shiefelbein said the group of student volunteers consists of students who drink and those who do not. He said as a program they are not concerned with drinking, they are concerned with getting people home safely who have been drinking.

Shiefelbein said some students who used the service called back or saw the drivers on campus and thanked them for the safe ride home.

#### **Tuesday**

Aggie Lutherans: A gathering for fun and fellowship will take place at 7 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

TAMU Men's Rugby: Open practice will be held from 7 to 8:45 p.m. in the Rugby field behind the Zachry Parking Lot. No experience necessary. For more information, contact Lucas at 691-8363.

#### **Campus Calendar**

Aggie Toastmasters: A nationally recognized speech organization. practicing impromptu speaking will meet at 8:30 p.m. in Rudder. Check the bluescreen for room number, or contact Laura Ripple at 695-2833 for more information.

National Society of Black Engineers: There will be a general meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Rich 101.

Sailing Team: An open The B will be held at 8 p.m. Center. No experience to attend. For more contact Matt at 823-578

TAMU Roadrunners: A3 run will be held at 6 p.n the Rec Center, invited formation, contact Marco

# Credit card debt plagues studen

Average credit card debt for college students has risen 5 percent in the last year, which can eventually make large purchases in the future difficult, if not impossible.

Lawrence W. O'Toole, president of Nellie Mae, a national student loan provider, said the increase calls for more education about credit card use.

"With the average credit card debt nearing \$2,000 [per student], it is clear that we must continue to educate students about credit card use," he said.

Carolyn Shanley, senior writer for Nellie Mae, said students are easy targets for credit card companies.

The booths are all over camshe said. "Most companies think if you don't pay, mom and

Debra LaGrone, assistant director of the Department of Financial Aid, said a lot of students do not think about the future when they are spending in the present. Many students with credit card

debt get another card to replace the one they cannot charge with," La-Grone said. "They don't realize the debt will still be there. Credit card companies increase

the interest rates after a month grace period which makes any amount due more than the cost of the original item purchased.

LaGrone said companies can

raise the line of credit, but that is not always a positive thing for stu-

"Raising the level just makes the student want to spend more," she

"Students have the right to ask

"Students need to use their cards, but for emergencies and to build [credit] history."

> — Debra LaGrone assistant director for the Department of Financial Aid

the company to lower their credit line, lessening the chance of overspending.

LaGrone said students also need to know that frequent flier miles and free minutes for phone companies are not always a bonus.

"There is a premium each month that is added to the bill, that people pay for the 'free' additions, so they are not really free at all," she said. Shanley said learning to budget

money is a necessary skill for future purchases. There is a trend that students card debts in their h said. "If they cannot lear get their money, they will down from realtors and men in the future."

Students can go to fina offices to make monthly and learn to use their mon

Shanley said there are lenders and loan offices to students. Robyn Gelman, a sop

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business major, said shew the Pavilion for a credit capany, which asked student up for credit cards.

She said students can ing t ferent credit cards to pur been which helps students to Li. nancial responsibility. the u tiona

Creating a solid credit in important, but the biggest cals o students who cannot decide a need and a want, said la "Students need to us a full cards, but for emergencies inal to Ph

build [credit] history," said. "Before pulling out by Fo ask yourself, 'Do I really to The or do I just want it?" Gelman said students pay off their credit card tener that i soon as possible so they

the company. Students don't understas dor a need to pay it off because the keeps building, the worst student is to keep buying and his or her debt," Gelmans

have an outstanding balance









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PAGE DESIGNERS- Jaime Morris & Kyle Whita News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publicates 11
Department of Journalism. News offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building, Newsroom phone; 845-3313; Fax 8555
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THE BATTALION (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring seme ng the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University. Periodicals Postage Paid at Chies. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 0.15 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station 11.77