

# THE BATTALION

106 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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## Hagler Building to be dedicated

BY BROOKE HODGES  
The Battalion

The new Jon L. Hagler Building located at the corner of Houston Street and George Bush Drive, which will house the Texas A&M Foundation, will officially be dedicated tomorrow at 9 a.m.

Rose Ann McFadden, manager of communications for the Texas A&M Foundation, said the building-dedication ceremony will feature remarks from the building's namesake, Jon L. Hagler, Class of '58; Don Powell, chair of the Texas A&M Board of Regents and A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen.

She said the building will be open for viewing, and entertainment will be provided by the Singing Cadets.

McFadden said the building has been named after Hagler because he was the lead donor for the building project.

After graduating from A&M, Hagler earned an MBA from Harvard University. He is now working in investment management in Boston. He is also a Texas A&M Foundation trustee and

co-chaired the Vision 2020 project with Bowen, who is his former college roommate.

McFadden said the building project was funded by private gifts from 79 individual donations starting at \$50,000. Nine of the donors provided money for specific rooms.

The construction began in April 1998 and took 18 months to complete. The Texas A&M Foundation staff is presently conducting business in the building.

McFadden said that before the new building was completed, the Foundation was housed in a renovated bank building at the corner of Dominik Drive and Texas Avenue. She said the building was too small for the Foundation.

She said the building is equipped with offices and meeting rooms.

"We have five meeting rooms, two conference rooms, one seminar room and one board room," she said. "We also have over 100 offices, which will be used by the Foundation staff."

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## POW to return to campus

Former Kosovo detainee to re-enroll at A&M this spring

BY BROOKE HODGES  
The Battalion

For Steven Gonzales, a former prisoner of war, going to class is a welcomed experience. This spring, Gonzales will return to the Texas A&M University campus to complete his degree.

Gonzales left A&M after finishing his freshman year in Spring 1995 and enlisted in the United States Army.

Gonzales, along with two other soldiers, was captured during the Kosovo Crisis last spring and was released from a Yugoslavian prison camp May 2.

Gonzales was dismissed from active duty Oct. 22. His discharge is classified as honorable and a Secretarial Authority, which the Army secretary approves and decides if the release is for the good of the Army or the soldier.

Gonzales said he is anxious to get back to just being a college student and attending classes.

"Of course I want to get back to college life," he said. "But I'll probably be complaining soon."

Gonzales said that during his freshman year, he lived in Dunn and Lechner halls and was a mechanical engineering major. Gonzales will live off campus when he

returns to A&M and will continue to pursue a mechanical engineering degree.

Gonzales said he considered joining the Corps of Cadets for a short time during his freshman year but later changed his mind.

**"Of course I want to get back to college life. But I'll probably be complaining soon."**

— Steven Gonzales  
Former prisoner of war

He said that while he was enlisted in the Army, he had an opportunity to leave and come back to A&M as a Corps member. He said he would then re-enter the Army as an officer.

He chose not to return to school to accept an enticing mission in Kosovo.

Gonzales said after his release from the prison camp, he was introduced to many famous people.

"We got to meet [George W. Bush],

President Clinton, the Secretary of Defense (William H. Cohen) and Chris Tucker," he said.

"We've spent quite a bit of time with Rev. [Jesse] Jackson."

Jackson went to Yugoslavia during the soldiers' captivity to negotiate their release. Gonzales said that when they were released, they were signed over to Jackson personally.

Gonzales said that since his release he has accompanied Jackson to several events and feels their relationship has grown more personal.

He said he does not know if the University will have him speak about his experience in the prison camp, but if organizations asked him, he would feel comfortable presenting his story.

Gonzales said his three-year break from college may have postponed his graduation, but he hopes to get back and complete his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He said he also is considering graduate school.

"I want to thank the A&M student body for all their support during the crisis," he said. "Many students sent e-mail to my parents with wishes and support. The experience showed me exactly how close Aggies really are."

## Fore-is-bee



Ben Stover, a senior speech communication major, plays disk golf at Research Park Thursday afternoon.

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## Canceled flight

Hopgood bans 'Great Pumpkin' tradition

BY KENNETH MACDONALD  
The Battalion

The Corps of Cadets Quadrangle was unusually silent last night, on what would have been "The Flight of the Great Pumpkin," because the annual event was canceled this year by the Corps of Cadets Commandant M.T. "Ted" Hopgood, despite the attempts of Company C-2 to reconcile differences.

The Flight of the Great Pumpkin is an annual event in which junior and senior members of Company C-2 find a large pumpkin and throw the pumpkin into one of the Aggie Band dorms in a ceremony during the week of Halloween.

Steve Morrison, commanding officer of C-2, said the midnight ceremony attracts thousands of people to watch the pumpkin, perched on top of a junior's head and guarded by upperclassmen, as it makes its way from the arches of the Quad to the Aggie Band dorms nine and 11.

"There are 30 or so juniors and seniors trying to protect the pumpkin versus the 100-and-some-odd band freshmen who try to stop forward progress," he said.

The pumpkin is usually destroyed near the entrance of the Duncan Dining Center.

Col. "Doc" Mills, media relations coordinator in the office of the commandant, said the 30-year-old tradition was canceled because of the risk of injury.

"[Hopgood] disapproved The Flight of the Great Pumpkin because he felt that the potential for



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injury was too great, and it would not be prudent for the University to have it this year," he said.

The leadership of C-2 sent a proposal for the event to Hopgood, who initially denied it, Morrison said.

"We met with the commandant for an hour and a half to discuss how we could compromise, and then sent up a modified proposal," he said.

The commandant appreciated the effort to redesign the event to be in compliance with all guidelines of The Standard, the Corps of Cadets rule book, but said that the risks were too great, Morrison said.

The tradition began in 1969 and was created by members of Company C-2 who decided to play a Halloween prank on the band out of boredom. Former members of C-2 come to see The Flight of the Great Pumpkin annually.

## Sorority Row sponsors 9th trick-or-treat

BY CHRIS CARTER  
The Battalion

Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority will host the ninth annual Halloween on Sorority Row from 7 to 9 p.m. this Sunday to provide a safe place for the children of the Bryan-College Station area to trick-or-treat.

Zeta Tau Alpha coordinated the event so that each sorority house will host different activities. Events include face painting, beanbag tossing, bobbing for apples and cookie decorating.

Arann Tyler, member of Zeta Tau Alpha and a junior agribusiness major, said that through the event, the sororities provide a safe place for children to go to have fun on Halloween.

"It is important there is somewhere safe where children can go to participate in Halloween with some of the things that go on in the world these days," she said. "You never know what can happen."

Zeta Tau Alpha has taken such safety measures as stationing members along the streets

**ANNUAL Halloween On Sorority Row**  
7 PM to 9 PM Sunday  
Sponsored by Zeta Tau Alpha

GABRIEL RUENES/THE BATTALION

with flashlights to ensure the safety of trick-or-treaters.

Sharon Robinson, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and a junior accounting major, said this service is a safer trick-or-treating option for children this Halloween than going door-to-door.

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## College of Education marks 30 years at A&M

BY JEANETTE SIMPSON  
The Battalion

In celebration of 30 years of excellence, the Texas A&M College of Education will host an open house today and tomorrow, beginning with the dedication of a sculpture to be placed in the new Education Plaza on the west side of the Harrington Education Center Office Tower.

The 12-foot bronze sculpture titled "Shaping the Future" was designed for the College of Education by William McGlaun and is symbolic of the role teachers play in shaping the lives of their students.

Janeen Wood, development relations coordinator and dean of the College of Education, said the sculpture was chosen from three designs proposed by McGlaun. The chosen design depicts an open book with children rising from its pages, symbolizing the children's emergence into their futures.

A woman standing adjacent to the book represents all teachers guiding children in their growth. Wood said this sculpture is the only piece of campus art that features a woman.

An informal reception will be near the Education Plaza at 9:30 a.m., followed by the official unveiling of the statue by A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen at 10 a.m.

The celebration will continue Friday evening with an anniversary gala at the College Station Hilton to honor 30 graduates of the College of Education.

Wood said the nominees were chosen for their outstanding service, both in the field of education and other areas.

Saturday morning the College of Education will welcome guests to an open house held in the Harrington Education Center Classrooms building.

All students, former students and parents are invited to attend interest sessions, visit the centers and laboratories and meet with the faculty and staff of the college.

"The open house is a good opportunity for parents and students to meet with the dean and faculty," Wood said. "It is also important to recruit potential students and promote the College of Education."

A barbecue lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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**Batt Radio**  
Listen to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on a new field day program for Bryan-College Station children.