

# THE BATTALION

106 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Wednesday • November 17, 1999

College Station, Texas

Volume 106 • Issue 58 • 14 Pages

## UPD to investigate allegations of hazing at Bonfire cut site

BY STUART HUTSON  
The Battalion

The question of what constitutes hazing once again has been posed to the students and faculty of Texas A&M associated with the Aggie Bonfire as an alleged hazing incident last Saturday by members of Hart Hall at the Bonfire cut site is now being investigated by the University Police Department (UPD).

The incident involved former Hart Hall crew chiefs Dave Berret and John Sims, both sophomore mechanical engineering majors, who were bound with tape and physically restrained at the bonfire cut site while being smeared with mustard, chocolate syrup and honey.

Rusty Thompson, Bonfire adviser, said from what he could see from pictures taken during the incident, hazing as defined by University regulations likely to happened.

"This is definitely something that must be looked into, and a decision must be made," he said. "But [the] hazing law is something that is difficult to understand, and the question of

where you draw the line is always being asked." Thompson said the UPD, will investigate the issue and decide what charges, if any, will be brought.

According to Appendix IV of the Texas A&M Student Rules Handbook, A&M includes "any form of physical bondage" as a punishable hazing offense regardless of whether the person being hazed assents to the activity.

Berret said neither he nor Sims feel they were hazed because the tape used to bind them was loose enough for escape and the incident would have stopped at any time if either of them had felt uncomfortable.

"All we had to say was 'stop' and everything would have stopped," Berret said. "Beside that, the way they tied us, we could have just slipped our hands out."

Thompson said there is a prevalent attitude among Bonfire participants that certain forms of what is defined as hazing is permissible, and this attitude often is what leads to questionable incidents.

"At the beginning [of this year], the student

leaders of bonfire made it clear that this kind of stuff was not allowed," he said. "Last year, about 75 percent of injuries at Bonfire came from injuries from people just roughhousing around. This year, we have said that isn't OK, and injuries have dropped dramatically."

Thomas Kennedy, a Hart Hall resident who was involved in the incident and a freshman industrial engineering major, said the incident happened as a normal activity during the last cut session known as "dorm log."

"This was pretty much our last time at the cut site, and this is something that we do to the crew chiefs to celebrate," Kennedy said. "[It was] kind of like dunking yell leaders after a game. Basically, the crew chiefs were expecting it, and it was just a good way to break some tension after a hard day of work."

Berret said the incident does not qualify as hazing as he understands it.

"No one got hurt, this wasn't an initiation, this wasn't against anyone's will, and no one was mentally or physically damaged," he said. "I don't see how you can call that hazing."



CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION

Top photo: Residents of Hart Hall pour honey on John Sims, a Hart Hall crew chief, (in foreground), whose hands and feet have been bound with duct tape. (In background) Thomas Kennedy holds down Dave Berret, a Hart Hall crew chief, his face near a can of cat food. Bottom photo: John Sims, his face covered with mayonnaise, has honey poured on his face by Hart Hall residents.



## Programs to address hunger, homelessness in B-CS area

BY JULIE ZUCKER  
The Battalion

MSC Hospitality is hosting several events on the next few days this week to inform Texas A&M students, faculty and staff about the growing problem of hunger and homelessness in the Bryan-College Station area. Today a discussion panel featuring homeless men and women from the Brazos Valley will be in the MSC Flagroom at noon.

According to United Nations statistics, 34,000 people die of hunger each day; 90 percent of those are children under five.

The panel members currently are patrons of the Twin City Mission, a homeless shelter in Bryan that provides food, clothing and case management.

Theresa Alessandra, program director of the Twin City Mission bridge program, said the panel is important because the public needs to be sensitive to the men, women and children who do not have the means to survive.

"The [homeless] participants this week are going to discuss private aspects of their lives," Alessandra said. The public must be aware there will be no exploitation.

Alessandra said the discussion will benefit students because although panel members all are homeless in common each got to this point a different way.

"The most important thing, I think, is that A&M students realize most of these people are not much older than they are," she said. "A lot of them are in their 20s and early 30s."

Tim Duvall, campus and community executive of MSC Hospitality and a junior speech communication ma-

ior, said homelessness is an issue most people do not like to deal with, but it is important to keep the community informed.

"Hunger and homelessness are problems that can be remedied," Duvall said. "This is a subject people tend to back away from. We can end hunger, but people are too misinformed."

Duvall said a portion of today's profits from Rumors Deli in the MSC will go to the Twin City Mission.

"I encourage people to eat there today, because the more money they make, the more food will be donated," he said.

"Camp Out for a Cause" will be tomorrow evening beginning at 8 p.m. at the Grove. Free tents, food and entertainment will be provided for the public by TAMU Outdoors and Little Caesar's Pizza.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for student affairs, will speak and participants will be able to bid on Student Body President Will Hurd, MSC President Bill Anderson, Corps Commander Forrest Lane and Reveille VI at a date auction. There is a \$15 minimum bid, and winners will receive dinner and flowers from their date. All money raised will fund the Habitat for Humanity house on campus project.

Two bands, 24/7 and Blackbirds, will perform, and the International Student Association will offer salsa lessons later in the evening.

The MSC Film Society will show The Saint of Ft. Washington, a movie about two homeless men and their experiences.

Friday, people can participate in a fund raiser for the mission. Patrons can purchase a turkey feather for 50

### MSC Hospitality Events

Wednesday:  
• Panel discussion  
MSC Flagroom, noon

Thursday:  
• "Camp Out for a Cause"  
The Grove, 8 pm.

Friday:  
• Fund raiser  
MSC, Rudder, Wehner and Zachry buildings  
• Hunger Banquet  
Koldus 110, 12:30 p.m.  
Admission \$3

cents at tables at the MSC and the Rudder, Wehner and Zachry buildings. Each feather counts as a vote to who gets a pie in the face at noon at Rudder fountain—Hurd, Anderson, the yell leaders or chair MSC Hospitality Tish Shanley. Money raised will be used to buy turkeys for needy families in the Brazos Valley.

People also can buy a \$3 ticket for the hunger banquet in Koldus 110 at 12:30 p.m.

Duvall said the banquet will be an informative way for people to interact in a simulated homeless way of life.

"The hunger banquet will be role-playing for participants that simulates the distribution of the world food supply," Duvall said. "There will be high-, middle- and low-income scenarios, but at the end of the banquet, everyone will get to eat."

## Student Senate to discuss fate of Southside garage

BY ERIKA DOERR  
The Battalion

The possible randomization of the Southside Parking Garage during move-in week is one of three pieces of legislation regarding the Southside Parking Garage that will be discussed at tonight's Student Senate meeting at 7:30 in the J. Koldus Building.

Mamta Patel, Senate parking and transportation subcommittee chair and a sophomore aerospace engineering major, said another piece of legislation concerning the Southside Parking Garage is a resolution commending the relationship between Parking, Traffic and Transportation Services (PTTS) and the Student Senate.

"A mutually respected relationship has been established between PTTS and Student Senate," she said. "We are pleased at the way PTTS is listening to the student opinion given through Student Senate on this area."

Patel said the legislation will try to parallel the research PTTS is doing on the garage. PTTS has been gathering information to determine if the garage is used to maximum capacity.

"Nothing will be said about randomization, because PTTS is content with the numbers they are receiving from their research," she said.

Patel said the first piece of legislation will try to make the Southside Garage similar to the Northside Garage in regard to numbering parking spots.

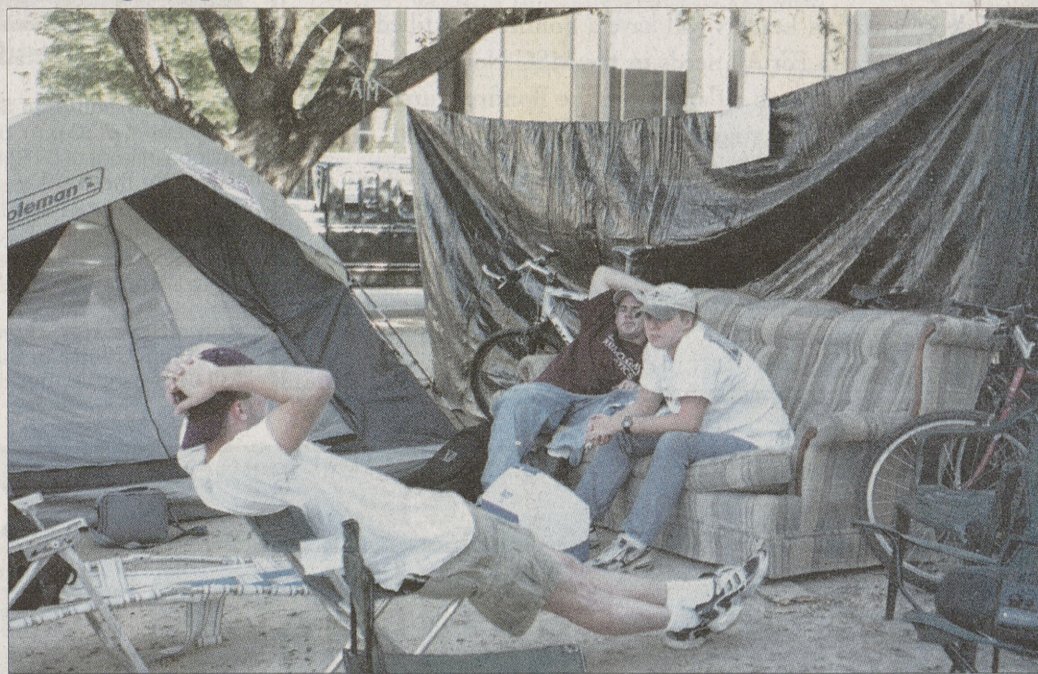
"In the Southside Garage, only the number is on the spot," she said. "In the Northside Garage, the level, row and spot number are on the actual parking spot."

The third piece of legislation will produce a timeline for students to pick up parking permits.

Aaron Dobbs, an off-campus senator and a junior journalism and political science major, said

SEE GARAGE ON PAGE 2.

### Hurry up and wait



KIMBER HUFF/THE BATTALION

Matt Rice (left), a senior computer science major, chats with Chris Ehlers (center), a senior math major, and Jessica Kieras (right), a sophomore psychology major, outside G. Rollie White Coliseum Tuesday morning. They and others have set up tents outside the ticket booths in anticipation of the sale of tickets to the A&M-University of Texas football game.

## The road most traveled

A&M, College Station to expand heavily trafficked streets  
BY AMANDA SMITH  
The Battalion

The city of College Station and Texas A&M University are planning to expand some heavily traveled roadways, including the Jones-Butler Passageway, to reduce traffic congestion.

Bob Mosley, a city engineer with the City of College Station, said preliminary planning will divide construction into Jones-Butler phase one, which will include construction from Luther Street to George Bush Drive East, and Jones-Butler phase two, which will include construction connecting Jones-Butler from Holleman Drive and connecting to FM 2818.

"We have had numerous meetings with the University personnel," Mosley said. "As soon as we can get aligned with the University, we are ready to start design. I know that we are ready to proceed if we can get their consideration and approval."

Mosley said the city has worked with the Department of Recreational Sports, the Animal Science Building and other entities which would be affected by construction on West Campus.

Tom Williams, director of Parking, Traffic and Transportation Services (PTTS), said the University is facing increased traffic congestion.

West Campus has faced more traffic to inroads leading to the Student Recreation Center, Reed Arena, three large parking areas, West Campus library and classroom buildings, Research Park, the George Bush Presidential Library Complex and the George Bush School of Government and Public Service.

A proposed West Campus parking garage would be constructed on the current "fish lot" parking area which holds 900 spaces. The parking garage would hold between 3,500 to 3,750 vehicles.

Construction of the garage and a connecting underground pedestrian passage under Wellborn Road is tentatively slated to begin construction in 2000, according Department of Facilities, Planning and Construction estimates.

Mosley said phase one of the Jones-Butler project tentatively would start two months after the University's approval of the plans.

SEE ROADS ON PAGE 2.

## Wiley Lecture Series hosts experts on India-Pakistan conflict, weapons

BY RICHARD BRAY  
The Battalion

The Wiley Lecture Series will host a lecture tonight in MSC 206 at 7 which will feature experts in the field of nuclear arms and the nations of India and Pakistan.

Dr. Mario Carranza, an associate professor of political science at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and Dr. Robert Hartgrave, a professor of government and Asian studies at the University of Texas-Austin, will discuss the threat of nuclear conflict, particularly between India and Pakistan.

Dr. Charles Hermann, asso-

ciate dean of the George Bush School of Government and Public Service and a professor of political science, will moderate the symposium.

The relations between India and Pakistan have been tense throughout history, but recently the nuclear capabilities of both countries have been cause for international concern.

Andrew Perrone, director of public relations for the Wiley Lecture Series and a junior economics major, said the largest obstacle to peace between the two countries is the dispute over the Kashmir region. India and Pakistan have been fighting

over this region since they both were given their independence from Britain in 1950.

"The border between the two countries is not clearly defined in this region," he said. "Kashmir has the potential to be the spark that sets off a nuclear war."

Perrone said the discussion will go beyond the possibility of nuclear war to discuss opportunities for peace in the region.

"We're also going to focus on the possibility of a peace plan and the measures that must be taken to win favor of such a plan by both nations," he said.

SEE WILEY ON PAGE 2.

Atlantic Ocean  
Moving: ESE at 140 mph  
Sustained winds: 120 mph  
Wind gusts: 120 mph  
Hurricane Lenny  
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