

MSC Open House draws thousands

BY BROOKE HODGES
The Battalion

Mark Coventry does not mind spending his day behind a desk, as long as it means he can convince a few more people to ride a horse. Coventry, a Texas A&M Club member and senior electrical engineering major, is one of dozens of students who turned out to gain a few new members for their student organizations at this past weekend's Memorial Student Center Open House.

"Normally, one-third [of the people who sign up] stick with the club," Coventry said. "This is the only way to let people know we exist."

MSC Open House, which held the Sunday after the first week of classes every semester, offers student organizations the opportunity

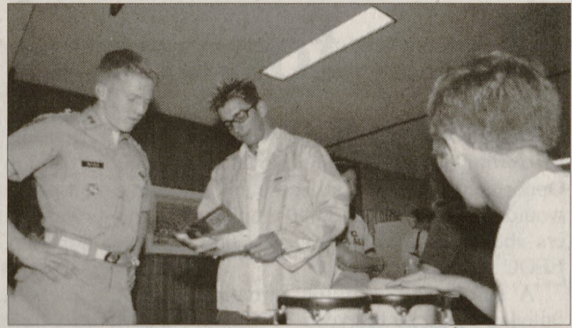
to display their organizations to students interested in getting involved.

Jeff Fleener, a Fish Camp co-chair and a sophomore kinesiology major, said Open House gives Fish Camp a chance to hand out a lot of counselor applications.

"People walking through Rudder [fountain area] grab an application and are in a hurry to get to class," Fleener said. "Today we get to tell them more about [Fish Camp]."

Some organizations, like Caring Aggies R Protecting Our Lives (CARPOOL), were at Open House to promote their organizations, rather than to attract new members.

"We like every chance to get our name out there," Michael Kemper, a CARPOOL volunteer and a sophomore industrial distribution



Zach Ritter (left) and Nathan Bowden (center) discuss an upcoming Town Hall concert while E. Ray Gard plays bongos to advertise the event at the MSC Open House.

major, said. "CARPOOL can't work without people knowing about us."

Jody Vance, a CARPOOL volunteer and a sophomore information and operations management, said advertising is very important to make their organization work.

Aaron Foley, a sophomore

marketing major, was one of the many students who attended the open house in hopes of getting involved on campus.

"Fish Olympics [caught my attention]," Foley said. "They were cheerful people with free t-shirts. They seemed anxious to get people involved."



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Residency Events for TAMU Students

Workshop Academic 402 1/25, 1:10 - 2:00 p.m.

Workshop Academic 402 1/26, 9:10 - 10:00 a.m.

Open Rehearsal at the Bush Conference Center (BCC)
Wednesday, January 26, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Reception with musicians BCC 1/26, 6:30 p.m.

Coming to Terms, Miles Hoffman BCC 1/26, 7:30 p.m.

Concert by The American Chamber Players
Bush Conference Center Thursday, 1/27, 7:30 p.m.

All events are free. No tickets. Information: 845-3355

Ice storms hit Georgia, East Coast

ATLANTA (AP) — Rain and freezing temperatures spread a coat of ice across parts of Georgia on Sunday, officials suspect knocking out electrical service to more than a half-million customers.

Many of those households and businesses could be without power until at least Tuesday as crews struggle over slippery roads to reach downed lines and presidential election-coated tree limbs continued to snap, spokesman Mike Jones said.

"This is the worst storm since Hurricane Opal came through in 1996, and it will take six days to get power fully restored totally or on purpose," said Georgia Power spokeswoman Becky Blaylock. "If it keeps raining and it freezes again ... we would be looking at more people without power. We're in for a long haul."

Snow and freezing rain also fell in parts of the southern Appalachians, and locally heavy rain fell across coastal areas, said.

east of Georgia and the Carolinas as the storm pushed eastward and out to sea.

The rain had been forecast to end late Saturday in Georgia but was still falling Sunday afternoon. Temperatures in the

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— Becky Blaylock
Georgia Power spokeswoman

Atlanta area didn't warm above freezing until the middle of the day.

More than 340,000 home and business customers of Georgia Power lost service statewide, 290,000 of them in the

metropolitan Atlanta area, Ms. Blaylock said. At least 175,000 customers of electric membership corporations also were blacked out.

Fallen branches and power lines closed about 20 roads in northern Georgia, State Department of Transportation spokeswoman Vicki Gavalas said.

Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport remained open, but many flights were delayed or canceled as crews tried to de-ice the planes.

Late Saturday, a U.S. Airways jet that had landed at North Carolina's Charlotte-Douglas International Airport slid onto a grassy area as it turned onto a taxiway. No injuries were reported.

Parts of South Carolina got up to six inches of snow late Saturday, and traffic on parts of Interstate 85 came to a standstill in several spots because of slippery pavement and accidents.

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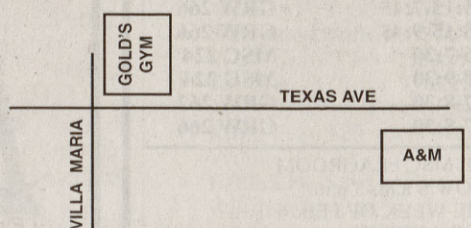
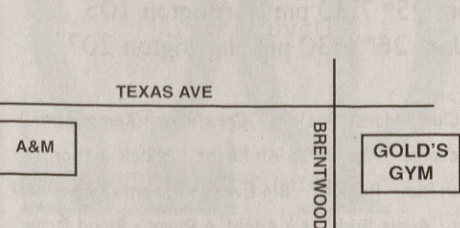
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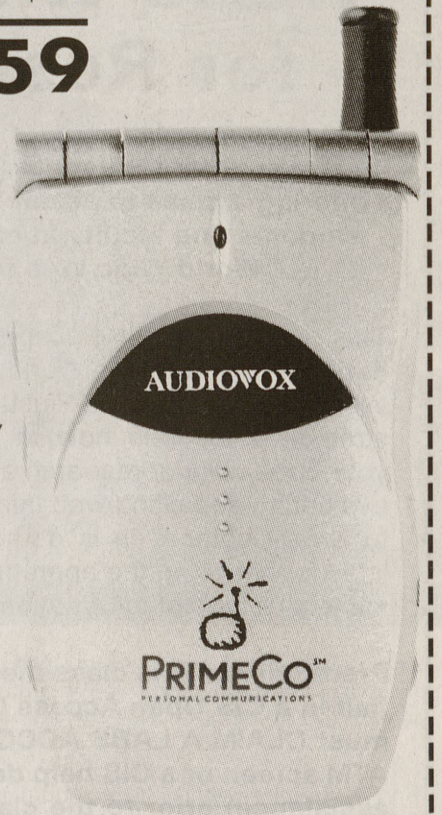
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