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Memorial Student Center
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February 3, 2000
12:30 pm

MSC
Flagroom

**Come reflect
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NEWS

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THE BATTALION

Thursday, February 3, 2000

Web offers money for scholarships

BOSTON (AP) — An Internet site to be launched Thursday is promising to give away \$10,000 a day in college scholarship money. No essay required. No nerve-wracking interview. Just the luck of the draw.

The folks at FreeScholarships.com know the sweepstakes may sound too good to be true. But it's the latest of a host of Websites handing out millions to Web surfers willing to tell marketers about themselves.

The scholarships from the new Cambridge-based company are financed largely by marketers and advertisers who are particularly keen on the teen-age and 20-something markets.

And the incentives for coughing up demographic information are great. FreeScholarships plans to award an additional \$25,000 every month and \$50,000 each quarter, in addition to the daily giveaway of \$10,000.

The money is available for college, graduate school, even private school for children. College grads with loans to pay off are also eligible, as are parents plan-

ning for future college bills. Winners need only be U.S. citizens over 13.

The Website sounds well-intentioned enough, said Mark Cannon, deputy executive director of the National Association for College Admission Counseling, which represents guidance counselors and admissions officers.

Still, he said, "You don't need to be a sweepstakes winner to afford college."

To ensure the money goes to school and not a new car or vacation, the company will send the check directly to the college, bank or other lending program, said Chuck Digate, the company's founder.

Site visitors must register to be eligible. Visitors earn more chances by playing games, answering surveys and polls, referring friends and clicking on ads.

Winners, chosen by a computer-generated random drawing, can win more than once. The odds of hitting the jackpot depend on how many log on.

"It's a low-energy path for people to get a shot at helping them pay for school," Digate said.

Paint it black



STUART VILLANUEVA/The Star

Juan A. Reyes, a painter from HEB Construction, puts a fresh coat of paint on the Texas Avenue Freebirds Wednesday.

Agricultural grant awarded to area business

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Agriculture awarded financial grants Wednesday for a series of promotions — everything from selling more maroon carrots to teaching Polish chefs how to serve beef in Texas-style dishes.

Eleven projects, totaling \$220,000, were the first to receive matching funds under a new Go Texan Partner Program created by the 1999 Legislature to boost sales of agricultural products and commodities.

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said the program offers some good news to farmers and ranchers cop-

"This is a positive sign that Texas agriculture is alive, [and] well..."

— Susan Combs
Texas Agricultural Commissioner

ing with the third drought in four years. "This is a positive sign that Texas agriculture is alive, well and taking off in ex-

citing new directions," she said.

One grant went to the Texas Beef Council, which will conduct training seminars in Poland in cooperation with the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

The training will teach chefs and restaurant owners in seven cities how to serve underutilized beef cuts and should help cattlemen by creating a demand for beef chuck and round, which have dropped more than 20 percent in value since 1992, TDA officials said. Cost is \$29,235.

J&D Produce of Edinburg will undertake a \$29,959 project to open new

markets for maroon carrots developed at Texas A&M University's Vegetable Improvement center. The carrots have maroon exteriors, contain 10 percent more beta carotene than regular carrots.

Other grants: Brazos Country Food, \$10,000, for recipe cards and materials promoting Red Eye Black Mix as a cooking ingredient.

Douget's Rice Milling, \$30,000, for initiatives to increase rice sales in East and West Texas.

Annualized Total Return % as of 12/31/99

	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Life	Inception
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Fidelity Blue Chip Growth Fund	24.26	28.60	25.80	22.04	21.72	12/31/87
Fidelity Diversified International Fund	50.65	25.14	22.64	N/A	16.17	12/27/91
Fidelity Growth Company Fund	79.48	39.51	34.66	23.63	21.29	1/17/83
Fidelity New Millennium [®] Fund	102.52	47.72	43.28	N/A	33.68	12/28/92
Fidelity OTC Portfolio	72.53	38.59	35.41	22.86	23.59	12/31/84

¹Effective 3/20/00, the fund will increase its short-term trading fee from 0.75% to 1.50% of the amount redeemed on shares held less than 90 days. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns are historical and include change in share value and reinvestment of dividends and capital gains, if any. Life of fund figures are reported as of the commencement date to the period indicated. Each investment option's share price and return will vary and you may have a gain or a loss when you sell shares.

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