

# Student organizes run to help father

BY BROOKE HODGES  
The Battalion

Upon calling home about his financial aid application, Jimmy May, a senior construction science major, found out that his college tuition was the least of his money problems — his family was struggling to pay off medical bills totalling \$100,000.

"I could tell [my father] was acting weird. That's when he told me he had cancer," May said.

May's father, Jim May Sr., had been diagnosed with non-secretory melanoma, a form of bone cancer.

In order to help foot the bill, May organized a 5 kilometer run, with proceeds from the run going directly to a fund set up for his father with the National Foundation for Transplants (NFT).

The 5K is scheduled for 10 p.m. on March 25 and begins at the corner of Olsen Road and Kimbrough Boulevard.

"Any money left over [from the run] goes to other patients through NFT," May said.

"If my dad doesn't make it, then another patient will receive the money. Either way, the money goes to cancer patients."

May is currently seeking sponsors to pay for the T-shirts which participants will receive. The sponsors who donate money will have their businesses' name printed on the back of the shirts.

**"I could tell [my father] was acting weird. That's when he told me he had cancer."**

— Jimmy May  
organizer of 5K run

"I've gotten about \$1,600 from business," he said. "Some sponsors are Dudley's Draw, University Copy, All-Star Cheer and Fitness, Hole In the Wall Saloon and a friend's family donated \$1,000."

May said he will continue to accept donations from businesses up until March 1.

The \$100,000 will pay for a bone marrow trans-

plant and post-surgery care. The first hospital family went to would not perform the surgery it was paid for beforehand, May said.

The family's insurance company does not cover treatment for Jim May Sr.'s cancer.

May's family has held other fundraising events to help with the medical bills.

"My grandma has been doing all sorts of things," May said. "She has raised about \$6,000."

"My grandma and mom started to raise money for our hometown of Lindale, Texas," he said. "2,000 people, there is just not enough resources."

The May family did find a hospital in New Orleans, La., that would do the surgery with money up front.

Jim May, Sr. underwent chemotherapy in the fall of 1999 and entered the hospital for his bone marrow transplant on Jan. 7, 2000. His brother, May, from New Mexico, donated the marrow.

"He was supposed to get out of the hospital on Jan. 5, but was having some kidney problems," May said. "He is scheduled to get out of the hospital on Feb. 10."

"I always had a safety net in my dad, that's the first time he needed me."

## Inspirations



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3 pm

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### Campus Calendar

#### Wednesday

**Agnostic and Atheist Student Group:** There will be a discussion of children and population in Rudder 707 at 7 p.m. Contact Jason Romero at 731-1126 for details.

**Mexican Student Association:** Junta urgente, New officers/International Week. Meeting in 145 MSC Wednesday, Feb. 9, at 5:30pm. Contact Argentina Vindroie 845-1121 for more information.

#### Thursday

**Saddle & Sirloin Club:** The Texas A&M University Chapter of Texas

Public Employees Association (TPEA) will meet Thursday, Feb. 10, from Noon to 1p.m. in the Old Country Buffet meeting room. Business meeting will be 12:15 to 12:45. Discussion topic this month will be the similarities and differences between state supported higher education institutions and other state agencies. <http://www.tpea.org> or Jan Richards, Chapter President, at jrsquared@hotmail.com

#### Sunday

**Alzheimer's Association/Brazos Valley Family Support Group:** We will be holding a meeting of caring and sharing the various problems encountered in taking care of our loved ones suffering from de-

mentia. It will be at 3 p.m. at The A&M Presbyterian Church (behind Dixie Chicken). For more information, please call Pat at 693-1680 or Sally at 693-8707 (evenings).

#### Tuesday

**Aggie Lutherans Treehouse:** Join us for a bible study, fun, and fellowship at 7-8:30 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church located near Northgate.

**Aggie Toastmasters:** Learn public speaking and interviewing skills with possible certification. Will be in Rudder at 8:30 p.m. check blue screen. For more information please contact Laura at 695-2833.

### CONSTRUCTION

Continued from Page 1

Pedestrian safety is also a concern. Depending on the location, the ditches can be four feet wide and six feet deep or larger.

With other construction projects happening simultaneously across campus, students must be aware of construction signs.

"If you wonder into the midst of a construction site wearing hard hats, you probably won't be there," Darnell said.

Jim Harless, an assistant utilities department manager at the Physical Plant, said that while the project causes some inconvenience, it would greatly improve the university's electricity system a much needed upgrade.

"We've had major electrical deficiencies in the past in terms of distribution and supply," Harless said.

In addition to the increased reliability, Harless said, the upgrade would allow the University to become completely self-reliant for its energy needs. Currently, the University must buy its electricity from commercial suppliers.

### TAXES

Continued from Page 1

government operated Website, so if they mess up anything I'm sure they can be held accountable."

Vargas said security should not be a problem with electronic filing.

"All of the IRS computers operate behind a firewall, and all of the software providers submit their software for testing of the transmission system," Vargas said.

"All information is encrypted and sent via the telephone lines and once they're behind our firewall, they're safe."

Through the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, students and parents may qualify for special tax deductions or credits.

A new tax deduction, known as the Student Loan Interest Deduction, allows taxpayers to deduct up to \$1,500 of interest paid on a qualified student loan during the first five years of repayment.

The Hope Credit allows a tax credit each year of up to \$1,500 for qualified tuition and related expenses for first and second year students, and goes to the person who paid the college expenses.

The Lifetime Learning Credit allows a tax credit of up to \$1,000 for tuition expenses paid during the tax year for juniors, seniors and graduate students.

A tax seminar will be held Friday in Rudder Tower 601 for students, faculty and staff who need assistance or have questions about their income taxes.

"This seminar is aimed at trying to explain to individuals what their tax obligation is, help them understand what form to fill out and to give general guidance about how to fill it out," said Suzanne Droleskey, executive director of International Student Services and coordinator of the tax seminar.

"International residents have different tax laws to follow than U.S. residents do, so we want to make sure they know what they need to do," Droleskey said.

Representatives from the IRS and Student Financial Services will be at the seminar to help answer any questions attendees may have.

Students can file taxes online at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

### MEMORIAL

Continued from Page 1

diversity of peoples and ideas.

"I'm not saying that there shouldn't be any Confederate flags on helmets or trucks," he said.

"I'm just saying that I would like to see some Japanese and African flags out there with them."

Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. J. Malon Southernland, said any comments or ideas about a Bonfire memorial are still welcome by his office.

"We will shortly assign a committee that will take a look at all the suggested con-

cepts and then make a recommendation to the Board of Regents," Southernland said.

"But we're going to have a lot of tens of thousands of people here, so it may take a while to build a permanent bonfire on the Polo Fields.

An "eternal flame" could be placed at the top of the stack and could be lit by a stairway which would wind around the stack.

The model also includes that 12 log cabins be placed near the stack, each containing memorabilia of 12 students who died in the collapse.

### Be on your way to an "A"

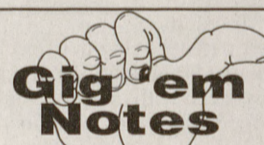
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ANTH 201.501	ECON 324.501-502	HIST 106.511	MKTG 321.501-502	SCOM 327.500
ANTH 202.500	FINC 201.501-504	HIST 106.513	MKTG 322.505-506	SOCI 205.503-506
ANTH 205.505	FINC 341.501-503	INFO 364.502-503	MKTG 347.501-502	SOCI 316.501-502
ANTH 301.500	GENE 301.509-511	INFO 364.504	POLS 206.502	THAR 101.500
ANTH 317.500	GEOG 201.501	JOUR 102.501	POLS 206.506-507	VAPH 305.501-502
BIOL 113.503	GEOG 203.507-522	JOUR 301.500	POLS 207.501-503	VAPH 404.500
BIOL 114.503	GEOG 301.501	LING 209.500	POLS 207.504-505	VTPB 409.501
CHEM 227.502-504-505	GEOG 305.500	MGMT 105.500	POLS 207.507-509	ZOOL 107.501-509
CHEM 228.507-508	GEOG 323.500	MGMT 211.501-502	POLS 207.508	ZOOL 320.501-511
ECON 202.505-506	GEOG 101.519-527	MGMT 211.503-504	POLS 207.510-511	
ECON 202.508	GEOG 101.528-536	MGMT 212.503-504	PSYC 305.503	
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Students/ Children...\$5

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## Contest

COOL PRIZE TO BE ANNOUNCED

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE A T-

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WORN BY AGS ALL OVER CAMPUS?

There's still time!

E-mail our office at [erinc@stulife2.tamu.edu](mailto:erinc@stulife2.tamu.edu) for details of our T-shirt Design Contest to create your winning design!

ENTRIES DUE  
FEBRUARY 14TH



<http://stulife.tamu.edu/adep>

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invite you to visit our booth to discuss your opportunities in automobile retailing at the

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Wed. & Thur., February 9th & 10th

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Wehner Building

Majors of specific interest:

Marketing, Management, Industrial Distribution, Ag Economics

Dallas • San Antonio • New Orleans • Fort Worth

### THE BATTALION

Mariam Mohiuddin  
Editor in Chief

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