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Saturday, February 19

check-in 8:30 am

Texas A&M University

Holdenfelds Hall

MCAT room 105 • LSAT room 107

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Career Center

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Camp Day 2000

Tuesday, February 15, 2000

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

MSC Hallway & Flag Room



Interview for summer positions as camp counselors and staff.

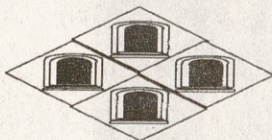
Wanted: People with an interest in kids and skills in

archery
arts
baseball
basketball
boating
camping
canoeing
crafts

dance
drama
equestrian
activities
fishing
football
hiking
lifeguarding

music
nature/outdoor
education
riflery
tennis
soccer,
swimming
theater

Sponsored by the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences, the RPTS Majors Club, and the TAMU Career Center

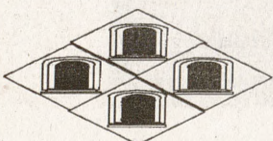


SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Office of Honors Programs and Academic Scholarships

If you are going to be a sophomore or junior next year and you are interested in the Barry Goldwater Scholarship competition, or if you will be a senior and are interested in the National Science Foundation Scholarship for graduate school funding, there will be an informational meeting on February 16 at 4:00 p.m. in room 402 Rudder. Both scholarships are for students interested in research as a career, especially in relation to mathematics, the natural sciences, the history or philosophy of science, or engineering. Research experience is helpful for both competitions.



Two firefighters killed

Houston McDonald's roof falls in blaze, cause unknown

HOUSTON (AP) — Lewis Mayo and Kimberly Smith stormed into a burning McDonald's early Monday morning to try and save the restaurant and, more importantly, anyone who might have been inside.

A signal to evacuate blared when the fire flared unexpectedly, racing toward the veteran firefighters. In an instant, the roof crumbled, killing the two in the department's first on-scene fatalities since 1996.

Smith, 30, was the first woman among 56 Houston firefighters who have died on duty, Chief Lester Tyra said.

"I was blessed by knowing these individuals and having them pass through my life," Tyra said.

Mayo, 44, and Smith took a hose into the southwest Houston restaurant before dawn to fight the blaze from indoors and search for any victims. When the flames spread, horns and radio calls alerted firefighters to get out.

The captain in charge traced the his hose outside to safety, but the others never emerged. Mayo was found after the roof collapse but died en route to the hospital.

Smith's body, pinned in rubble, was recovered about four hours later. There were no other injuries reported from the restaurant, which was destroyed.

Firefighters from Mayo and Smith's station congregated at another nearby station to receive grief counseling and debriefing. About 100 firefighters formed a "wall of honor," lining the street with hats off as an ambulance carrying Lewis passed.

The cause of the fire remained under investigation Monday afternoon. Mayor Lee Brown, who visited firefighters at the scene, ordered city flags to be flown at half-staff.

"I call upon all Houstonians to join me in prayer for firefighters and their families," Brown said.

The last full-time firefighter to die at a scene was George Ludwick, 43, who died in a house fire in 1977. Firefighters died during the early '80s in separate traffic accidents en route to calls, and volunteer Houston firefighter Lopez, 39, was killed in a house fire.

Steven Mayfield, 47, last Houston firefighter to die on duty when he suffered a heart attack during a 1998 training exercise near Dallas.

"We've been lucky. I look at it. So many close calls," Parry said. "I can think of times when I thought I should have been killed."

Parry said.

Mayo, who joined the department in 1981, is survived by his wife and three children. Parry, who served alongside Mayo in the late 1980s, called him a "regular, stand-up guy."

"He was very passionate about his job, and like most of the guys, he had a great sense of humor about it," said Parry.

Smith, who was engaged to be married, was a representative of the department in the "combat challenge" firefighter skills contest.

"I talked to her just three weeks ago to see if she wanted to be on the combat challenge team this year," said Parry. "She described Lewis as intensely athletic and religious. She couldn't because she was going to have reconstructive surgery."

"I was blessed by knowing these individuals and having them pass through my life."

— Lester Tyra
Police Chief

Austin homeless fear Census Bureau's tally

AUSTIN (AP) — As the Census Bureau begins its tally of the U.S. population next month, officials are renewing efforts to get an accurate count of the homeless.

But it will not be easy. Just try questioning Marjie, a 60-year-old homeless woman living behind a tool shed in Austin.

"Tell them that I am one," said Marjie, a small-boned wrinkled woman who was visibly agitated by questions in an interview with the *Austin American-Statesman*.

She refused to give her full name, her exact age or the year she moved to Austin. "Why do they have to know all that?" she asked.

Outdoor homeless encampments in Austin are so concealed and transient that the federal government is struggling to map them. The camps violate a city "no camping" ban enacted in 1996, and they harbor people who have a profound mistrust of outsiders.

Confronted with such barriers, the Census Bureau counted only 76 homeless people in Austin in 1990, a figure that both city officials and homeless activists say was significantly off-target. City officials estimate the homeless population now is closer to 3,800.

Part of the problem with the 1990 count was that census takers were not dispatched to remote areas in parks and under bridges

where many homeless people live. This time, the plan is to do exactly that.

"We did the best we could, but we just didn't do it all that great in 1990," said Dorothy Douglas, regional Census Bureau official in charge of counting those who don't live in conventional housing.

This year, the bureau has sent letters to city and social service agencies requesting lists of outdoor places where the homeless live. The agency also has asked community activists and outreach workers to seek jobs as census takers.

Douglas recently met with advocates for the homeless to try to allay fears that police would accompany census takers who visit illegal encampments.

Advocates for the homeless expressed interest in recruiting the homeless to count themselves. Even if that happens, opinion is divided over the results.

"There's a lot of mistrust," said Cindy Bretschneider, who produced a documentary about a homeless camp that was disbanded by police a few years ago.

"They won't let just anybody in. Some of them are not wanting their family to find them. Some of them have done something wrong. They'd be afraid to be found because of the way police treat them. Some of them have mental health issues," she said.

News in Brief

Defendant enters surprise guilty plea

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A man about to go on trial for capital murder in a triple slaying pleaded guilty Monday, even though he still could get the death penalty.

Clifford Kimmel, 24, entered the plea as opening statements were to begin in his trial. Jury selection had taken more than three weeks.

Kimmel and another man were charged in connection with the deaths last April of Rachel White and Susan Halverstadt, both 22, and Brett Roe, 29. All three victims suffered multiple stab wounds. Their bodies were found in an apartment in northwest San Antonio.

Pagans object to signs on campus

NACOGDOCHES (AP) — Religious differences spurred by a roadside banner have pitted pagans against Christians at one East Texas university.

The sign — strung across a road at Stephen F. Austin State University — came down Tuesday but is scheduled to go back up in two weeks. It read "This campus belongs to God" and had hung across the main entrance leading to the school's administration building.

According to university rules, the sign can go up for 14 days, must come down for two weeks and then can return for another 14 days.

European colony unearthed

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Work is advancing on the massive excavation of Fort St. Louis, unearthing conclusive evidence of a historic Spanish outpost on the same soil where French and American settlers established the first European colony.

A paper trail of Spanish documents dating back to the late 1600s has ways stated the fort — dubbed Fort La Bahia in Goliad — went up on the state's 300-year-old French settlement site.

Scholars said the discovery shed the state's first European settlement, as well as the Spanish colonization of the region.

"This is where Texas started," James E. Bruseth, the state's Historic Commission director of archaeology, said. "La Salle's building of Fort St. Louis is why we have our Spanish heritage are so proud of."

The 1996 discovery of eight iron cannons belonging to La Salle's Keeran Ranch near Victoria paved the way. The historical commission's team of archaeologists began a full-scale investigation of the site in January, only recently narrowing the site to a 4 1/2-acre site on the river.

Rene-Robert Cavalier Sieur de La Salle, setting sail from France in 1685 with four ships and a crew of 400 men, landed on the Mississippi River basin, around the tip of Cuba but missed the river — wandering instead to Matagorda Bay.

Today, a state archaeological claim to locating La Belle in the brackish waters about 25 miles from the fort site. La Salle led the expedition that found the fort deserted, all the settlers had died from disease and attacks.

A break came last spring when archaeologists, using a super-sensitive metal detector called a magnetometer, finally ferreted out the elusive Nuestra Señora de Loreto de La Belle del Espiritu Santo, the fort. Domingo Ramon established the settlement on the ruins of Fort St. Louis.

Thank You!!!



On Sat. February 5, over 150 Aggies and supporters gathered at the Brazos Animal Shelter's new property to begin land clearing for the shelter's Expansion Plan. Shelter staff would like to thank you for your participation in this special day:

- Aggie Fish Club
- Alpha Phi Omega
- Silver Wings
- Conservation Class at Blinn
- Texas Commercial Waste
- Readfield Meats
- Slovacek Sausage Co.
- William's Family



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