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Call for Nominations

2000 AT Mentor of the Year Award

Dear Student:

The AT Mentors program will be giving a Mentor of the Year Award at the Division of Student Affairs meeting on May 3th.

The purpose of the award is to provide support for mentoring activities and recognition for excellence in mentoring. The winner of the award must be a member of AT Mentors who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and commitment to making a difference in students' lives.

If you would like to nominate a member of AT Mentors, send a letter to the AT Mentors program office at Mail Stop 1263. In your letter please indicate how the mentor you are nominating has "made a difference" in your life. Only currently enrolled students may nominate a Mentor for this award. Letters must include the student ID number of the nominating student and be no longer than one page with 12 point font. If you have any questions, call 845-6900 or email atmentors@tamu.edu.

A complete list of Mentors is available on the AT Mentors webpage at <http://mentors.tamu.edu>. All letters are due by April 7th at 5:00p.m.

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\$18/students at the MSC Box Office in Rudder Tower. For a complete listing of guests and events, visit us on the web at <http://cepheid.tamu.edu/aggiecon>.



Persons with disabilities please contact us at (409) 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs.

Ex-Black Panther Brown arrested

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — H. Rap Brown, the 1960s black militant, was cornered in a shed and arrested after a gun battle with U.S. marshals searching for him for the fatal shooting of a sheriff's deputy in Atlanta, authorities said.

Brown, now known as Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, was arrested Monday night on a rural road west of Montgomery after he fled the shed and was pursued through woods by federal and local law officers.

Al-Amin was wearing a bullet-proof vest when Williams spotted him and ordered him to the ground, Lowndes County Deputy John Williams said today.

"He didn't say anything. I said, 'Get on the ground. Spread 'em and keep your hands where I can see them,'" Williams said. "I guess he didn't want to die. He knew what would happen if he came out of the woods with a gun."

A rifle was found about 50 yards from where Al-Amin was arrested, Sheriff Willie Vaughner said. Two ammunition clips also were found, he said. Shell casings were found by the shed.

Al-Amin's capture came three days after he allegedly killed a Georgia deputy and wounded another while they tried to serve him with an arrest warrant in Atlanta, 160 miles northeast of Montgomery.

Al-Amin immediately began firing shots when discovered at the shed, then ran into nearby woods, said FBI agent Theodore Jackson. Agents encircled him, then released dogs. A short time later Williams spotted him.

"He was walking away from me, and I knew it had to be him," Williams said.

Al-Amin apparently changed clothes at some point after initially being reported to have on tan clothing. "When they caught him he was wearing overalls. He was walking just like he was part of the community with overalls on," Vaughner said.

Several other people were being detained for possibly harboring a fugitive, though no charges have been filed, Atlanta Police Chief Beverly Harward said.

It was not immediately clear what led to the confrontation at the shed about 30 miles west of Mont-

gomery. Officials with the FBI's Mobile office refused to comment.

Al-Amin, 56, is accused of fatally shooting Deputy Ricky Kinchen and wounding Deputy Aldron English last Thursday. The deputies were trying to serve Al-Amin an arrest warrant at his store.

After Al-Amin's arrest, Fulton County Sheriff Jackie Barrett spoke with English. She said he told her: "Tonight I can sleep."

The warrant was issued after Al-Amin failed to appear in court in January on charges of theft by receiving stolen property and impersonating an officer. Those charges stemmed from an incident last May, in which Al-Amin was allegedly stopped in a stolen car and flashed a badge.

On Thursday, as the deputies approached a black Mercedes-Benz, the driver got out and started shooting an assault rifle. English identified the shooter as Al-Amin.

In 1968, Al-Amin was briefly the justice minister of the Black Panther Party when the organization entered a short-lived merger with his Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

Al-Amin once exhorted blacks to arm themselves, saying, "Violence is as American as cherry pie."

The Black Panthers collapsed in the late 1970s, brought down by deaths, defections and infighting.

In 1967, Al-Amin was charged with inciting a riot in Cambridge, Md., where he had told about 400 blacks: "It's time for Cambridge to explode, baby. Black folks built America, and if America don't come around, we're going to burn America down."

After the rally, shots were fired between blacks and

whites. Al-Amin was wounded by a shotgun pellet, a white police officer was wounded. The next morning a school and two city blocks burned.

Al-Amin went to Atlanta in 1976 after coming to Islam while serving five years in prison for his role in a robbery that ended in a shootout with New York police. In recent years, he has been the spirit

What's become of the Black Panthers?

H. Rap Brown, the 1960s militant now known as Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, was arrested Monday, accused of killing a Georgia deputy and wounding another. Here is a look at Al-Amin and some other notable people associated with the Black Panther party.



H. Rap Brown
Justice minister of the Black Panther Party and a leader of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Brown once said, "Violence is as American as cherry pie." He took the Muslim name Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin after converting to Islam while serving five years in prison. In recent years, he has been the spiritual leader of a mosque and has operated a small grocery in Atlanta.



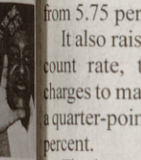
Stokely Carmichael
He popularized the rallying cry "Black Power" during the 1960s. He was head of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and prime minister of the Black Panther Party but later cut his ties with the groups. In Guinea, he organized a revolutionary group and took the name Kwame Ture. He died Nov. 15, 1998, at age 57, of prostate cancer.



Huey Newton
A co-founder of the Black Panther Party, he was charged with the murder of an Oakland policeman after a gun battle in 1967. He was convicted of manslaughter, but the conviction was set aside and he was freed in 1970. In 1974, Newton went into self-imposed exile in Cuba. He later abused drugs and alcohol and was shot to death in west Oakland in 1989.



Eldridge Cleaver
The party's minister of information, he went to prison for assault and wrote "Soul on Ice," a series of essays. Cleaver ran unsuccessfully for president in 1968 on the Peace and Freedom ticket. Later, he denounced his past and joined the Republican Party. He worked as a diversity consultant at the University of LaVerne near Los Angeles and died in May 1998 at 62.



Bobby Seale
Chairman of the party and the second vice president, he went on to become a community organizer. He was active on the 1968 presidential campaign with Bobby Seale.

MicroStrategy stock plunges

SPRINGFIELD, Va. (AP) — MicroStrategy Inc.'s billionaire chief executive, who announced plans last week to donate \$100 million to help create an online university, saw the value of his holdings in the software company sink more than \$6 billion in a single day.

Shares of MicroStrategy plunged nearly 62 percent Monday after the Vienna-based company said it would have to lower its revenue totals for the past two years to comply with recent Securities and Exchange Commission guidelines. The selloff continued today, with the stock down \$10.75, or 12 percent, to \$76 in early afternoon trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

That decline knocked the value of chief executive Michael Saylor's holdings to \$3.8 billion from about \$9.9 billion. With today's losses, Saylor's holdings were down an additional \$470 million at mid-afternoon. But a spokesperson has said the plans for a donation to create an "Ivy League"-caliber online school would remain unchanged.

MicroStrategy, which makes software that analyzes corporate data on marketing and customer relationships, said it had recorded too large a portion of revenue for multiyear contracts in the first year rather than spreading those revenues over the length of contracts.

Some revenue initially booked for 1998 and 1999 now will be spread over several years, it said.

"Our contracts have become so much more complicated. We're doing megadeals, 50 times larger than we did a few months ago."

— Michael Saylor
Chief Executive of MicroStrategy Inc.

For 1999, revenue was revised to \$150 million to \$155 million, down from \$205 million. That would be a loss of between 43 cents and 51 cents a share, compared with previously reported earnings of 15 cents per share. For 1998, the company reduced its reported revenues to between \$96 million and \$101 million, from \$106 million. Earnings per share will drop to between 1 cent and 4 cents, from 8 cents.

In an interview, Saylor declined to blame anyone within his company, at the SEC or at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the auditing firm that approved MicroStrategy's revenue figures. MicroStrategy was the victim of evolving accounting practices, he said.

"Our contracts have become so much more complicated," Saylor said. "We're doing megadeals, 50

times larger than we did a few months ago."

PricewaterhouseCoopers also cited the complicated nature of software industry contracts as a reason for the earnings restatement.

Steve Abrahamson, an analyst with Prudential Volpe Technology, said MicroStrategy's long-term prospects remain strong. "This is an accounting-only issue," Abrahamson said. "Their products haven't deteriorated."

He added that the news from MicroStrategy may force other companies to revise results.

A spokesperson for the SEC declined to comment on whether other companies might be forced to revise earnings.

News in Brief

Teen drivers at risk with passengers

CHICAGO (AP) — The more young people you pack into a car with a teen-ager behind the wheel, the more likely the driver will die in a crash, a study found.

The study, conducted by researchers at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in Baltimore, confirms what many parents have long suspected.

The study, published in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association, was based on federal data from 1992 through 1997.

Researcher Li-Hui Chen and her colleagues found that 16-year-olds

carrying one passenger were 39 percent more likely to get killed than those driving alone. That increased to 86 percent with two passengers and 182 percent with three or more. The rate for 17-year-olds was even higher: 48 percent, 158 percent and 207 percent respectively.

Mother abandons toddler on bus

NEW YORK (AP) — A 2-year-old rode a Greyhound bus to New Jersey by herself after the child's mother got off in New York to get a snack and the bus left without her.

Yanitza Castro, 21, and her daughter, Yanitza Rivera, had boarded the bus Monday morning in

Massachusetts to travel to their home in York, Pa.

When the bus pulled into New York's Port Authority Bus Terminal at midday, little Yanitza was hungry. Castro got out to get a snack, and returned to find the bus had left.

New Jersey State Police pulled over the bus about a half-hour later near New Brunswick and drove the girl back to her mother.

During the bus ride, Yanitza entertained other passengers with her Winnie the Pooh pillow. They assumed her mother was in a seat nearby.

"I think the people on the bus took good care of her," her mother said, "because she came back happy."

Victim attempts to remove hand

DOWNEY, Calif. (AP) — Trapped for days in a crushed van as traffic whizzed by only a few feet away, Lee Risler got so desperate he tried to cut off his pinned hand with a pocketknife.

Risler's van veered off Interstate 605 and overturned in a ditch around 3 a.m. Saturday. The 54-year-old sandal maker spent the next 12 1/2 days stuck there, his arm trapped under the van, his feet hanging out the window and his head covered with boxes of sandals.

Risler was freed around noon Monday when a California Department of Transportation worker spotted his 1991 Ford hidden by trees a few yards off the freeway, about 15 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles.

Risler complained of a tremendous thirst and was bleeding from the hand, but he was coherent, rescue workers said.

Maintenance worker Jose Ochoa, the second on the scene, said Risler told him, "I tried to amputate my arm because I'm trapped."

"He did more damage to his arm than the accident," said Downey Fire Department Battalion Chief Chuck Seely. "This guy was definitely in desperation."

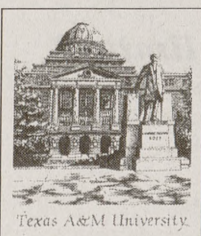
Rescue workers rushed Risler to the St. Francis Medical Center in Lynwood, where he was in fair condition late Monday, said hospital spokesperson Lisa Cicanti.

Risler was driving from his high desert home in Lucerne Valley to sell sandals at a craft fair in Hermosa Beach when the accident occurred. Investigators did not immediately determine Monday why his van left the highway.

Risler's wife, Bryn Risler, said family members went to the Hermosa Beach show and wondered where Risler was. They eventually called the Highway Patrol.

"I knew he was hurt," Bryn Risler said.

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In the Student Body Elections there will be a Referendum to raise the International Education Fee to \$4.00. With this fee, \$2.50 will be given immediately to students in study abroad scholarships and the other \$1.50 will go to establish an endowment, allowing the fee to be self-sufficient by the year 2020. **Finally a fee that will eventually end, instead of continually increasing!**

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