

## A&M No. 2 in minority doctorates

BY BRANDIE LIFFICK  
The Battalion

According to a study done by the Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network, Texas A&M was ranked second in awarding doctorates to minorities in mathematics, physical sciences and engineering (MPSE).

"Our standing as a leader in producing minority Ph.D.s not only speaks to the quality of our graduate and research programs but also to our success in recruiting the best and brightest students," said Ronald G. Douglas, executive vice president and provost.

The study examined the 320 universities in the United States that award MPSE doctorates from 1990 to '97. A&M awarded 81 MPSE doctorates to minorities. The University of California - Berkeley awarded 89 degrees and ranked first place nationally.

"When you look at our numbers, we've done well in compar-

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— Ronald G. Douglas  
A&M executive vice president and provost

ison," Douglas said. "But we all need to be striving towards higher levels of minority students in United States graduate programs."

According to the QEM Website, [www.gemnetwork.org](http://www.gemnetwork.org), non-Asian minorities have historically been under represented at the graduate level.

"We are always interested in having more graduate students, not just minorities here at Texas A&M," said Douglas. "But we continue to try to recruit heavily from colleges that have high levels of minority undergraduate students."

According to Frank M. Raushel, graduate adviser for the Department of Chemistry, minority recruiting has been made a higher priority at universities across the nation, especially within the past decade.

"For example, within the chemistry department, we send out a lot of materials and make many presentations at colleges known for their high levels of minority students," Raushel said. "We've even sent recruiters to foreign countries to show them what A&M's graduate schools have to offer. The overall idea is to increase the number of applications that A&M receives from minority students."



(Above) Corey Rosenbusch (L), a junior agricultural development major, and Forrest Lane (R), a senior political science major, celebrate their runoff victories with fellow students after the announcement of student body president election results Thursday. (Bottom) Students rally after the election announcements were made for student government and yell Leaders.



GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

## Rosenbusch, Lane in runoff

### Four yell leaders elected; Cholick, McFate to be decided

BY ROLANDO GARCIA  
The Battalion

In a record voter turnout, Forrest Lane, a senior political science major, and Corey Rosenbusch, a junior agricultural development major, were the top two finishers in the race for student body president and will meet in a runoff election April 5-6.

Lane finished with 3,155 votes, or 31 per-

cent, and Rosenbusch received 2,921 votes, or 29.48 percent. Jeff Schiefelbein, a senior marketing major, finished a close third with 2,890 votes, or 29.17 percent. Senior international studies major Brandon Garrett got 943 votes, or 9.52 percent.

Junior biomedical engineering major John McFate, who received 3,211 and 11.46 percent, and junior construction science major Ben Cholick, who got 5,018 and 18 percent, will square off in the second voting for a senior yell leader position.

Bubba Moser, a junior agricultural economics major, and Ricky Wood a junior theatre arts major, won the other two senior yell positions. Moser was the top vote getter with 8,128 votes or 29 percent, and Wood received 7,962 votes or 28 percent.

The other senior yell candidates were Zach Brewer, who finished with 2,157 or 7.7 percent, and E. Ray Gard, who got 1,538 votes, or 5.5 percent.

The junior yell leader positions went to Kevin Graham, a sophomore business major, and Sam Seidel, a sophomore animal science major. Graham, who received 6,148 votes or 34 percent, and Seidel, who got 5,719 votes or 31.6

percent, far outdistanced rivals sophomore business administration major Josh Ray, 3,048 votes or 17 percent, sophomore general studies major Mike Harkey, 1,894 votes or 10.5 percent, and sophomore business administration major Troy Miller, 1,275 votes or 7 percent.

Ashlea Jenkins, the student elections commissioner and junior political science major, said the 10,391 students who cast ballots were the highest recorded turnout in student body elections at Texas A&M. For the first time this year, students could vote online, and 3,693 students did so, Jenkins said.

Lane said he and his campaign staff were ready for the challenge of the runoff election.

"It's different now because you've got to get a majority, but we're just going to continue working hard and doing what got us here," Lane said.

Rosenbusch said he would have a strategy meeting with his campaign volunteers Friday and use the next few days to appeal to students who did not vote for him in the first round.

"Our group worked so hard, and I'm grateful for the all the support. Now, we're just going to cross our fingers and continue to get out

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2000 STUDENT BODY ELECTIONS RESULTS	
<b>SBP</b>	<b>VOTES</b>
<b>RUNOFF:</b>	
Forrest Lane	3155
Corey Rosenbusch	2921
Brandon Garrett	943
Jeff Schiefelbein	2890
<b>YELL LEADERS</b>	
<b>JR.</b>	
Kevin Graham	6148
Sam Seidel	5719
<b>SR.</b>	
Bubba Moser	8128
Ricky Wood	7962
<b>RUNOFF:</b>	
Ben Cholick	5018
John McFate	3211

RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION



RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

## Senate fails to constitutionally protect American flag

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate attempt to give the American flag constitutional protections again fell short, with supporters failing to move dug-in opponents who said the measure would undercut basic free speech rights.

The 63-37 vote Wednesday was four short of the two-thirds majority needed to amend the Constitution and almost identical to the 63-36 vote when the Senate defeated the amendment in 1995.

The author of the amendment, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairperson Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, vowed that he would try again: "We are not going to quit until we win."

He said a large majority of Americans want Congress to be able to punish those who desecrate the flag and that "this place is filled with elitism among those who are voting against the amendment."

But those in opposition, including four Republicans, argued that attacks on the flag are rare and do not justify what they said would be the first time in the nation's history that the Constitution is changed to qualify First Amendment free speech rights.

"A desecrated flag is replaceable. Desecrated rights are lost forever to those who experience the loss," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass. He noted that among the nations that ban flag desecration are Iraq, Iran, Libya and North Korea.

The amendment consisted of one sentence,

*"A desecrated flag is replaceable. Desecrated rights are lost forever to those who experience the loss."*

—John Kerry  
Senator, D-Mass.

that "Congress shall have the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States."

Hatch and others argued that the amendment was needed because the Supreme Court in 1989 struck down a Texas state flag desecration law and the next year a law passed by Congress, both times on the grounds that they infringed on First Amendment rights. Both votes were 5-4.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said the high court had made a mistake. "In my opinion flag-burning is not speech, it is conduct of the most offensive kind."

But in a setback for supporters, Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., one of 14 Democrats to vote for

the amendment in 1995 and a leading constitutional scholar, on Tuesday announced to the American Legion, primary backers of the amendment, that he was changing his vote.

"I shrink from the possibility of providing a tiny minority of rabble-rousers with the ammunition to fire upon the most important and beloved document in the country," he said.

The House has approved flag desecration amendments three times since 1995, the last by a 305-124 vote last year. Constitutional amendments also must be ratified by three-fourths of state legislature, which would have been a near certainty in this case because 49 states have passed resolutions urging Congress to send them a flag amendment.

## SBSLC receives award for campus leadership

BY KEVIN BURNS  
The Battalion

This spring, stars such as Tavis Smiley, political commentator for Black Entertainment Television (BET), Hasani Pettiford and Bertice Berry, talk show hostess and comedian, headlined the Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference (SBSLC). SBSLC drew a crowd of one thousand people from across the nation, and earned the conference "Outstanding Achievement in Community Outreach Award," an award from the Leadership Reception Committee (LRC) at the 2000 Aggie Leadership Invitational (ALI).

Anitra Bigler, director of the LRC, labeled SBSLC as an "exceptional" performance.

The 20 ALI members reviewed student conferences and voted the SBSLC number one for excellence in community outreach. This year's 12th annual conference was planned by 25 students.

Karisha Hearn, chairperson for the SBSLC of 2001 and a junior industrial distribution major, described SBSLC as "impacting the campus community."

"Most people notice what a profes-

sional conference we [SBSLC] are [is]," Hearn said.

SBSLC is the largest self and corporately-funded student-run organization in the nation. The ALI was cooperatively sponsored by the Association of Former Students and by Texas A&M's Class Councils.

The ALI was constructed because, "recognition of groups...is lacking on campus," said Peggy Holzweiss, a student development specialist.

"This program is designed to recognize and say thank you to the students for their commitment to excellence," said Patrick Williams, director of campus programs for the Association of Former Students of the invitational.

"Students do put so much work into their organizations, and this was our way to say thank you," he said.

Williams said "[The Association] hosted [the invitational] as an effort to let our resources benefit the students. When a former student gives an award, it carries weight."

The SBSLC is currently filling positions for executives, hosts/hostesses and two student positions for participants. For application information, stop by 138 Memorial Student Center

## Students to clean up community

### 19th annual Big Event service project to help local residents

BY BROOKE HODGES  
The Battalion

Robbie Clark, an 80-year old College Station resident, has trouble with some of the odd jobs that need to be done around her house, so she is seeking assistance from student volunteers this weekend.

Clark is just one of the 547 Bryan-College Station residents who are asking for a little help this Saturday from student volunteers during The Big Event.

"I enjoy those children around me," Clark said. "They are so nice, and I wish I was able to do something for them."

In past years, Clark has had volunteers clean her garage. This year, Clark is asking for help with cleaning her garage and



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Each year Texas A&M students help the community with The Big Event service project.

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**Batt Radio**

- Listen to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

**Batt Online**

- Check out *The Battalion* online at [battalion.tamu.edu](http://battalion.tamu.edu).