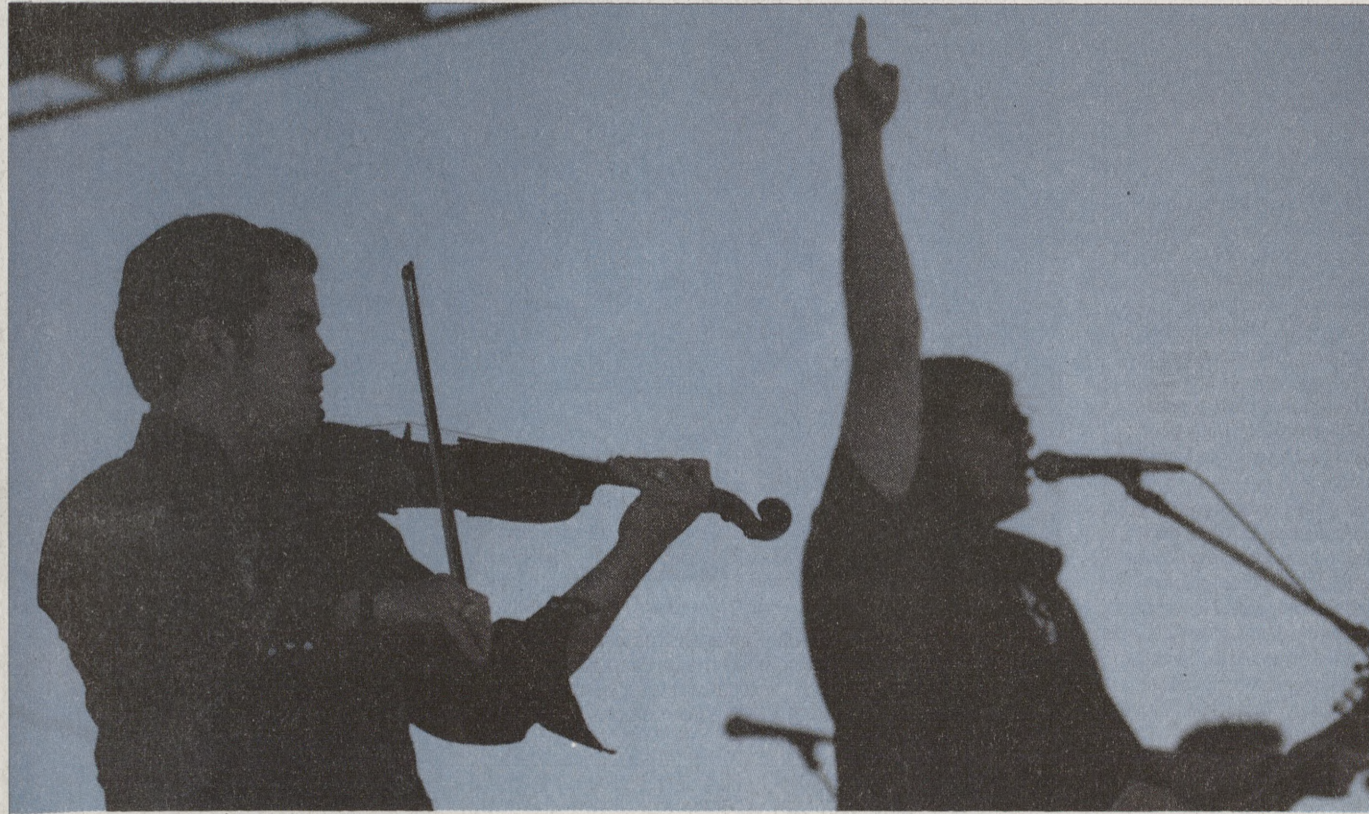


## Chillifest



CODY WAGES, GUY ROGERS & JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

(Top) Pat Green (right) and Brendon Anthony, a senior political science at Texas A&M (left) perform Saturday at Chillfest 2000, held outside of Snook, along with five other singer/songwriters. (Bottom left) Mark Chestnutt performs as the headliner. Chestnutt was also filming a music video during his set. (Bottom center) Kristan Wendel samples chili at the Texas Cackleburrys booth; (Bottom right) Mandi Toepferwein rides a mechanical bull. Bull riding was only one of the many attractions enjoyed by over 20,000 participants.

## OSHA reopens bonfire inquiry

AUSTIN (AP)—The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) may reopen its investigation of the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse.

The agency closed its investigation of the Nov. 18 accident on Jan. 6, but OSHA officials told the *Austin American-Statesman* they were unaware at the time that a crane may have hit the stack days before the collapse.

John Miles, regional administrator of OSHA, was quoted in the newspaper Saturday as saying it is a "real good possibility" the agency will return to College Station to conduct more interviews after studying students' statements to campus police about a crane hitting the cross-ties four days before the collapse.

Statements made by students working on the stack were released by campus police in February. A commission appointed

**See related article on pg. 2**

by Texas A&M is still investigating the cause of the accident, in which 12 people

were killed and 27 injured. The commission is expected to release its findings in May.

**"I saw the end of the crane hitting the cross-tie, and knocking off 3-5 inches of wood off the end, and the crane moving away from the cross-tie."**

— Luigi Angelucci  
freshman environmental design major

Miles said OSHA can go back and re-examine the incident. Though it has no jurisdiction over the University, it was able to investigate the site because a crane operator employed by H.B. Zachry of San Antonio was working there. For years, Zachry has donated its services to the bonfire.

It has not been revealed publicly who was operating the crane that hit the stack. Two cranes were working at the time — one operated by a Zachry employee and one operated by a student.

"I felt a jolt, grabbed stack, but then realized nothing was going to happen," Luigi Angelucci said in a Dec. 15 statement. "I immediately looked to my left; that's where the noise came from. I saw the end of the crane hitting the cross-tie, and knocking off 3-5 inches of wood off the end, and the crane moving away from the cross-tie."

## Marine aircraft crashes in Arizona

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) — A Marine Corps aircraft attempting to land during a nighttime training mission crashed and burst into flames, killing all 19 aboard and adding to a checkered history for a new breed of hybrid plane that can take off and land like a helicopter.

The MV-22 tiltrotor Osprey, which looks like a turboprop, is part of new generation of aircraft scheduled to eventually replace all of the Marines' primary troop-transport helicopters. The military began flying the aircraft six months ago.

A Pentagon spokesperson said the names of the Marines killed in Saturday night's crash — 15 passengers and four crew members — and the base where they were stationed would not be released until their families were notified, which could take until Monday.

On Sunday, investigators were reviewing the crash site at Marana Northwest Regional Airport west of Tucson. Few details were released.

Military officials said the downed aircraft had been attempting to land at the airport when it crashed. It was one of two Ospreys simulating the evacuation of civilians.

Firefighters said witnesses reported see-

## Former student among fatalities

Second Lt. Clayton J. Kennedy, Jr. was a platoon commander from Clifton Bosque, TX. Kennedy graduated from Texas A&M in 1998. As a member of the Corps of Cadets, Kennedy, a third generation Aggie, was commander of the Aggie Band his senior year and was named a Ross Volunteer his junior year.

"Clay was a phenomenal guy, a natural leader that held himself to the highest standard," said Mark Macicek, a senior business administration major and a close friend of Kennedy's through the Aggie

**See FORMER STUDENT on Page 2.**

ing the plane head straight down and become engulfed in flames after it crashed.

"It's an unfortunate situation. Our sympathies go out to the families of these Marines," said Marine Lt. Mark Carter, a spokesman for the Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, where the flight originated.

**See CRASH on Page 2.**

## Faculty Senate to discuss minorities

BY BRANDIE LIFFICK  
The Battalion

A report on the low percentage of minority students and faculty members at Texas A&M will be presented to the Faculty Senate at their monthly meeting Monday.

The annual report, compiled by the Minority Conditions Subcommittee of the Faculty Senate, states that females, African Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans are all underrepresented in faculty status positions and in the student body.

While the report states that the number of women faculty in public learning institutions continues to grow,

of 896 full professors on the A&M campus, only 6.6 percent, or 59 professors, are women. In 1999, of the 1,348 tenured faculty on the A&M campus, 88.6 percent are Caucasians.

Nevertheless, the subcommittee feels that a more balanced ratio of Caucasians to non-Caucasian students and faculty can be attained. According to their report: "The Hopwood decision and other legal developments have clearly complicated minority graduate student recruiting and retention efforts. Nevertheless, our subcommittee believes it is possible, albeit extremely difficult, to accomplish our goal."

The Hopwood vs. the State of Texas case addressed the issues of re-

verse discrimination in public learning institutions. The courts ruled that, within the state of Texas, affirmative action policies are illegal.

As a result, A&M cannot use race as a determining factor when admitting students or hiring faculty.

In other business, the faculty senate will also review a report submitted by the Core Curriculum Review Committee (CCRC), addressing several suggested changes for the mandated core curriculum. The committee's report suggests lowering the current 48 mandatory core credits to 42 credits. The main discipline affected will be kinesiology, which the CCRC recommends reducing from four mandatory

credit hours to only one credit.

The committee's recommendation stated:

"This recommendation should in no way be constructed as a criticism of this program or its faculty. Nor should it be interpreted as a reluctance of this University to encourage a healthy lifestyle among our students and graduates. The Department of Health and Kinesiology should be encouraged to pursue the goals of inculcating a healthy lifestyle in our students through mechanisms outside the Core Curriculum."

Both of these reports will be reviewed by the Faculty Senate and, if approved, will advance to Texas A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen.

## Lane ready for SBP position

BY ROLANDO GARCIA  
The Battalion

If Forrest Lane has a mantra or a governing philosophy, it is "leadership."

The newly-elected student body president and former Corps of Cadets commander said his experience in organizing and coordinating others will be a tremendous asset when he assumes his new role.

"I've worked with issues like team-building and dealt with different circumstances that test your ability to be cool and collected," said Lane, a senior political science major.

The leadership opportunities available to students is one of the best things about Texas A&M, Lane said.

"The faculty and administration give students excellent opportunities and put a lot of responsibility in their hands. That's why we go out and become successful and represent the school well," Lane said. "Academics is important, but we have to have those skills that are beyond the books of learning."

Lane said one of his long-term goals for the University is to maintain its status as a center for leadership development. To that end, establishing a sophomore leadership organization was near the top of his campaign platform.

"At some point, we all have to lead others. We have to learn how to direct others to accomplish goals and make people aware of the voice they have and the role they play," Lane said.

Lane said one of the most important components of leadership development is mentoring, and that he has come value this relationship, having been both a pupil and a mentor.

"Sometimes you don't know where it is you're supposed to go, and it helps to come across quality who can guide you, somebody who will take the time to mentor you," Lane said.

Lane said he has learned that good communication skills



JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

Student Body President-elect **Forrest Lane** said one of his long-term goals is to maintain its status as a center for leadership development.

are the key to being an effective leader.

"It's a big school, and we need to communicate effectively, and that means listening to students' concerns," Lane said. With that in mind, Lane said one of his main tasks will be to establish lines of communication with other student leaders.

"We need to build relationships with the new leaders on this campus. Working together has to be our first priority," Lane said.

Though the campaign lasted only a few weeks, Lane said he made the decision to run for student body president in late November.

"I knew what I was getting into and the responsibility I was undertaking, but after the experience we had, it provided a unique opportunity to work with what this campus is about — Aggies coming together," Lane said.

Though his new job won't leave him much free time, Lane says you won't find him complaining about the rigors of being student body president.

"It's a great opportunity to be working for and with students, and that's incredibly rewarding," Lane said. "I won't be working from behind a desk. I'll be out there at organizations' meetings and social events; I'll be doing what I enjoy most."

## Bush, Panetta examine federal budget process



JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

Former President **George Bush** makes the opening remarks Friday at a discussion on the federal budget.

BY BRANDIE LIFFICK  
The Battalion

Former President George Bush was on hand at the George Bush Presidential Library center Friday afternoon for a discussion on the federal budget.

"In recent years, we moved from a period of deficit, to one of budget surplus, yet we still have many of the same questions," Bush said.

Mediator Tom Scully, current lobbyist for the federation of American Health Systems, gave brief introductions for each panel member.

"We got three of the best budget people

in the country to talk about budget policy," Scully said. "It is unusual to have these three together in Washington [D.C.] on any given day, much less in College Station. This is a great opportunity."

Harvey Tucker, Texas A&M political science professor, began the discussion with a brief history of the federal budget in which he discussed cause and effect, the influence of the president and Congress on the budget and the current size of the federal budget surplus.

"The reason we are so excited is that, for the first time in a long time, the federal government is taking in more money than it is spending," Tucker said.

Leon Panetta, chief of staff under President Clinton from 1994 to 1997, said there is a need for change in the budget process, despite the current estimated surplus of 176 billion dollars.

"The budget process, as much as we know about it and as much as we work to try to bring some stability to it, the reality is that it oftentimes is very difficult to know what direction we should take," Panetta said. "Members of Congress keep saying that 'If I keep spending, I know I'll get re-elected.' And it's very tough to sometimes change those habits. But congressmen must change; they must continue to work towards

**See BUSH on Page 2.**

**INSIDE**

**AggieLife**

**TWIN CITY MISSION**

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

- Homeless for a weekend. Page 3
- **Opinion**
- **Baby Bills**
- Even if split, Microsoft will continue to dominate. Page 11
- **Sports**
- **Oklahoma puts brooms to Aggies**
- Page 7
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- **Listen to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on violence in B-CS schools**
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