

## Residents pay price for vandalism

BY RICHARD BRAY  
The Battalion

It may not seem like a broken window here or graffiti on a bathroom stall there would add up to much damage to Texas A&M's campus, but University officials argue it does.

A&M charges students an average of about \$7,200 each year to pay for damages to the campus, said Dan Mizer, assistant director of the Department of Residence Life.

During the last decade, students were charged a total of \$39,525.48 for damages. From 1998 to 1999 only, students were charged \$4,140.75.

Moses Hall was charged the most, costing residents a total of \$12,330.68 during the 1990s.

Susan Foster, assistant director of dormitories administration, said students are charged for damage to residence halls when the person who caused the damage cannot be identified.

"Group billing is holding the community responsible for the condition of their facility," she said. "Group billing is applied in a case where an individual is not identified and does not come forward and accept responsibility when there is reason to believe that it was a resident in the building."

Mizer said a majority of the billing was due to broken windows. About 70 residence hall windows are broken on campus each year, costing about \$3,900 annually.

Students are only charged for damages if there is reasonable suspicion that students caused the damage and the damage costs more than \$1 per student in the damaged residence hall.

"Our rationale has been [that] it is next to impossible to control what happens outside the building, but we expect the students to take responsibility for damages within the hall," Mizer said in an email.

Students are charged for different forms of vandalism.

"The kinds of things we typically group bill for are excessive messes, damaged ceiling tiles, vandalized or stolen interior building signage, broken lights, damaged exit signs, stolen furniture, vandalized door locks (crazy glue), boxes left in public areas of the buildings after signs have been posted warning of possible billings if boxes aren't removed, and spray paint and chalk removal," Mizer said.

Sgt. Betty Lemay of the University Police Department (UPD) said most cases of criminal mischief reported to them include destroyed signs, broken antennas from vehicles in parking lots, attempted auto thefts that result in damage to the vehicle and destroyed bicycles.

Lemay said the best way to prevent vandalism on campus is to report any suspicious activity to UPD immediately.

"The biggest thing [students] can do to prevent [vandalism] as a whole is reporting suspicious activity," she said. "That's anything that's out of place for the time of day or night it's occurring. We can do everything we can, but we need the help of the students."

## Student workers, faculty to meet, discuss ending early registration

BY BRANDIE LIFFICK  
The Battalion

Students will have a chance to express their opinion about the proposed end to early student worker registration at a forum at 7 p.m. in 111 Koldus Student Service Building.

James Mickler, an organizer of the forum and a senior English major, said members of the Academic Operations Committee (AOC) and Faculty Senate will present the reasons behind the proposal to end early registration for student workers.

A panel composed mostly of students will be given the same amount of time as the faculty to express concerns and objections over the proposal.

"This is not a demonstration or a protest. This is not a debate. Each side will simply be given a set amount of time to talk," Mickler said. "There will be no back and forth discussion."

Kriss Boyd, AOC committee member and the general academic programs director, said faculty will use the forum as an opportunity to hear student opinions.

"We are mainly going to be there to answer questions and listen to student concerns," she said.

While Boyd did not express her opinion on the early registration issue, she said that the current system does have "many problems that desperately need to be addressed."

"For example, a student may register early as a student worker right now. But who's to say that the student will stick with the job next semester?" Boyd said. "That's the biggest question mark right now."

Mickler said he is hoping for a good turnout to demonstrate strong student opposition to the proposal.

"The number of students that show

up for this will really express what the students think. The room holds 150 people. I'm really hoping that we will overflow the room and let the faculty know that we do care," Mickler said. "I'm asking that all students, whether workers or not, come out and support this cause."

Mickler added that all student workers would be affected by the proposal.

"Not many realize that the term 'student workers' covers workers off campus too," Mickler said.

"Student who work at off-campus locations will be just as affected by the [AOC's] decision as the on-campus workers."

The forum will be followed by a question and answer session.

"We organized this event in an effort to open up the lines of communication between faculty members and students," Mickler said.

### End Early Worker Registration?

**WHAT:** AOC, Faculty Senate, and a student panel will discuss ending student worker registration

**WHEN:** Tuesday 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Koldus room 111

**WHO:** Open to the public

GABRIEL RUENES/THE BATTALION

## Resweek 2000



STUART VILLANUEVA/THE BATTALION

Freshman journalism major Sara Wilson reads passages from the Bible to passers by outside the Academic Building as part of Resurrection Week 2000, a week of Christian activities in preparation for Easter. Volunteers will read from the Bible 24 hours a day taking 30 minute shifts.

## Researchers test drinking and driving

BY MAUREEN KANE  
The Battalion

Twenty people from the Pan-College Station area will drink and drive on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

Their drinking and driving will not earn them a night in jail or endanger any lives, though.

Texas A&M University's Center for Alcohol and Drug Education Studies (CADES) will be testing participants' abilities to drive before and after being administered various amounts of alcohol. The project will take place on the runway of the Texas A&M Westside campus and will be attended by representatives of the Texas Department of Public Safety who will administer breath and blood alcohol tests. Participants' reaction times will also be tested.

Dr. Maurice Dennis, director of CADES at A&M, said the study is being done as part of a contract with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT). The CADES will videotape the project for use in alcohol education programs throughout Texas.

"The first day a cross section of people of different gender, age, ethnicity, who have not consumed any alcohol, will be trained how to do evasive driving maneuvers and we will determine how well they perform," Dennis said.

The testing maneuvers will include evaluating how participants respond to skids, simulations of blocked roads and simulated accidents. The evaluations test the participants' motor skills as well as their decision-making skills.

"We try to involve as many decision-making experiments as possible," Dennis said.

The second day the same tests will be administered, but the participants in the experimental group will receive alcohol.

"After they've consumed alcohol we'll give them blood and breath tests. Then we'll retest. They'll drink, then go drive, drink then go drive and we'll plot how well they do. The control group will do the same thing without alcohol," he said.

Dennis said the experiment is

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## Resurrection Week hopes to unite, reach Aggies across campus

BY STUART HUTSON  
The Battalion

As Easter bunnies and chocolate cream eggs hop their way into the minds of hungry college students this week, Christian students are jumping into action to spread understanding of their faith to the A&M campus during Resurrection Week.

"Our mission is to unite all Aggie Christians into a single body on campus, and to present the power and effect Jesus has had on our lives to those who don't know the full story," said Bejan Nouri, president of the Resurrection Week Committee and a senior political science major.

"Basically, we're not about individual people, churches or what preachers preach. This is all about one guy who made the ultimate sacrifice."

Resurrection week, held every year during the week prior to Easter Sunday, officially began Sunday night with a "prayer walk" where students participated in prayer sessions at different locations on campus like the bonfire site. Monday night, Dr. Kenneth Long, a physician, who's son died in a car accident, spoke in Rudder Auditorium about his personal journey to Christianity.

Tuesday night, Breakaway Ministries, a weekly Christian worship service which regularly attracts 3,000 to 4,000 participants, will meet in Reed Arena.

"The major strength of this ministry is that it is non-denominational," said Greg Deitz, discipleship chairperson of Resurrection Week and a sophomore psychology major. "It really strives to tear down the walls that separate the different Christian denominations and lets us all look towards Jesus Christ as the unchanging, constant center of our faith."

The Aggie Men's Club and the Resurrection Week Committee are co-sponsoring the popular Christian band, Jars of Clay, who have had a top-40 hit, "Flood," and video play on MTV, in Rudder Auditorium Wednesday night.

"It is an awesome ministry tool for a top notch band like Jars of Clay to come play and spread the word," said Rob Kingsbury, the

concert chairperson for the Aggie Men's Club and a sophomore finance major. "They are a Christian band that can attract a non-Christian audience, so we hope those who have not heard about Jesus will walk away with a little more understanding."

Money raised by the concert will benefit Project Unity, a community service organization who sponsors activities like weekend activities for elementary school students who do not have a safe area to play.

The week will end with a reenactment of the crucifixion of Jesus at 12:30 p.m. Thursday near Rudder Fountain. Nouri said the reenactment has drawn negative criticism in recent years.

"In past years, people have viewed this as, in some way, intolerant and as us throwing our religion onto everyone whether they wanted it or not," Nouri said. "We are only trying to open ourselves and our beliefs to those who don't know what the story is really all about."

Jason Romero, president of the Agnostic and Atheist Student Organization and a senior psychology major, said, as a whole, the atheist and agnostic students find the reenactment as neither offensive or unoffensive.

"We don't necessarily have a particular view," Romero said. "We understand that those putting it on are just expressing their religion. But to me, it has always just seemed kind of barbaric. It seems similar to a minority organization coming out and pretending to beat and strike a black person to get the point across about minority rights."

**Resurrection Week Activities**

**TUESDAY**  
9 PM at Reed Arena  
- Breakaway Ministries

**WEDNESDAY**  
7 PM at Rudder Auditorium  
- Jars of Clay

**THURSDAY**  
12:30 PM at Rudder Fountain  
- Reenactment of Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

GABRIEL RUENES/THE BATTALION

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Batt Online

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