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Software Engineer Position
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- Requirements:
- BS or MS in Comp Science or Comp Engineering related Engineering discipline.
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 - Strong teamwork and communication skills.
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 - COM/DCOM, ActiveX experience is a plus.
 - Summer or Coop experience in Software Engineering tasks is a strong plus. Prior full time employment is not required.

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Sugar Land, TX 77478
Or email to rkellogg@slb.com

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Outdoor Fiesta

Saturday, May 6th

3pm - Midnight

- KTSR 92.1FM will be broadcasting *Live* -

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- ★ Miss Cinco de Mayo Bikini Contest (must pre-register)
- ★ Beer & Margaritas
- ★ Grilled burgers, hot dogs, & nachos

Call 693-6684 for more details!

1912 South Texas Ave. (under the water tower)

STATE

THE BATTALION

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Swisher County drug bust raises questions

LUBBOCK (AP) — An undercover drug operation that netted 43 arrests is raising eyebrows and taxes in a rural Panhandle county.

Swisher County — a farming area of about 7,000 people — must spend a big chunk of its annual budget to deal with expenses related to the busts last summer in Tulia, the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* reported Sunday.

Meanwhile, authorities are responding to accusations that racism tainted the investigation and defending a key witness in the case.

"It's all around town, they don't want blacks living around town. The police have always targeted my family. It's terrible here," said Mattie White, mother of three who were indicted in connection with the investigation.

In a sworn affidavit, White claims Sheriff Larry Stewart told her blacks were to be targeted in the busts, which Stewart denies.

The county is dealing with an overflowing jail population and fielding questions from residents dismayed about a tax increase stemming from the arrests.

The cost of jailing the defendants and trying them is expected to run about \$230,000, about 14 percent of the county's annual budget of \$3.2 million, Swisher County Judge Harold Keeter said.

Prisoners are being housed in neighboring Hockley and Hale counties, which costs about \$35 a day. Seven inmates are in out-of-town jails now, the judge said.

Because of costs related to the cases, Swisher County taxpayers saw a 5.8 percent property tax increase in October, Keeter said.

"There's going to be a taxpayers' revolt before it's all over," said Mike Culwell, a Swisher County farmer and

rancher. "I tell you what, it makes me sick to see the absolute waste of taxpayers' money."

Others say they understand why the tax increase was necessary.

"As far as getting the drugs off the streets, they need to be out of here and away of my kids," said Penny McClurg, a longtime resident of Tulia, 70 miles north of Lubbock. "They have no business being in our society, and if I can pay a few extra dollars in taxes to get them out of here, that's fine."

Convictions in the cases have rested largely on evidence provided by Tom Coleman, whom the Swisher

County Sheriff's Department hired in January 1998 in conjunction with the Panhandle Narcotics Task Force in Amarillo.

Soon after he started work in Swisher County, Coleman was charged with theft and abuse of his official position in Cochran County, where he previously worked as a deputy, records from the Cochran County District

Clerk's Office show. Coleman was accused of misusing property, fuel and money belonging to the county.

His Lubbock attorney, Garry Smith, would not comment. In a copy of a letter addressed to Pat Phelan, Hockley County attorney and special prosecutor in the case, Smith said Coleman agreed to pay \$6,950 in restitution. The charges were dismissed Aug. 17.

Coleman, who no longer works in Swisher County, declined an interview with the Lubbock newspaper.

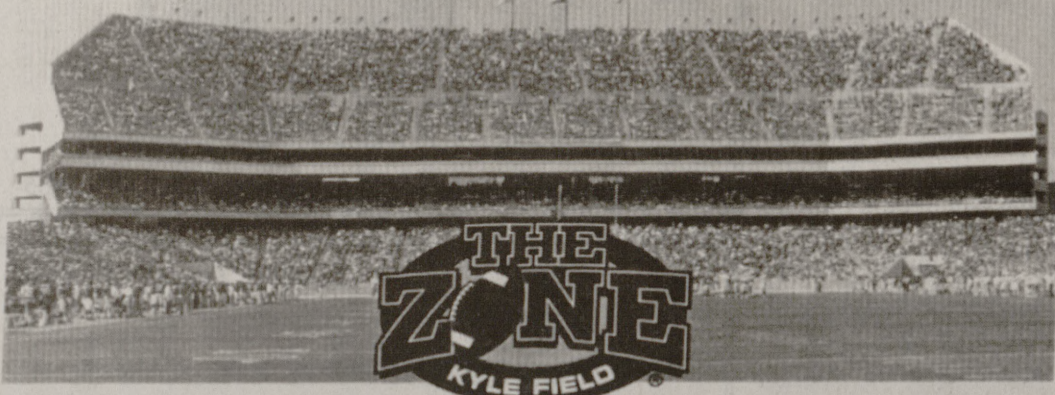
District Attorney Terry McEachern said Coleman is in good standing with local authorities and was named Outstanding Lawman of the Year in 1999, after the drug busts.

"There's going to be a taxpayers' revolt before it's all over. ... It makes me sick to see the absolute waste of taxpayers' money."

— Mike Culwell
Swisher County farmer

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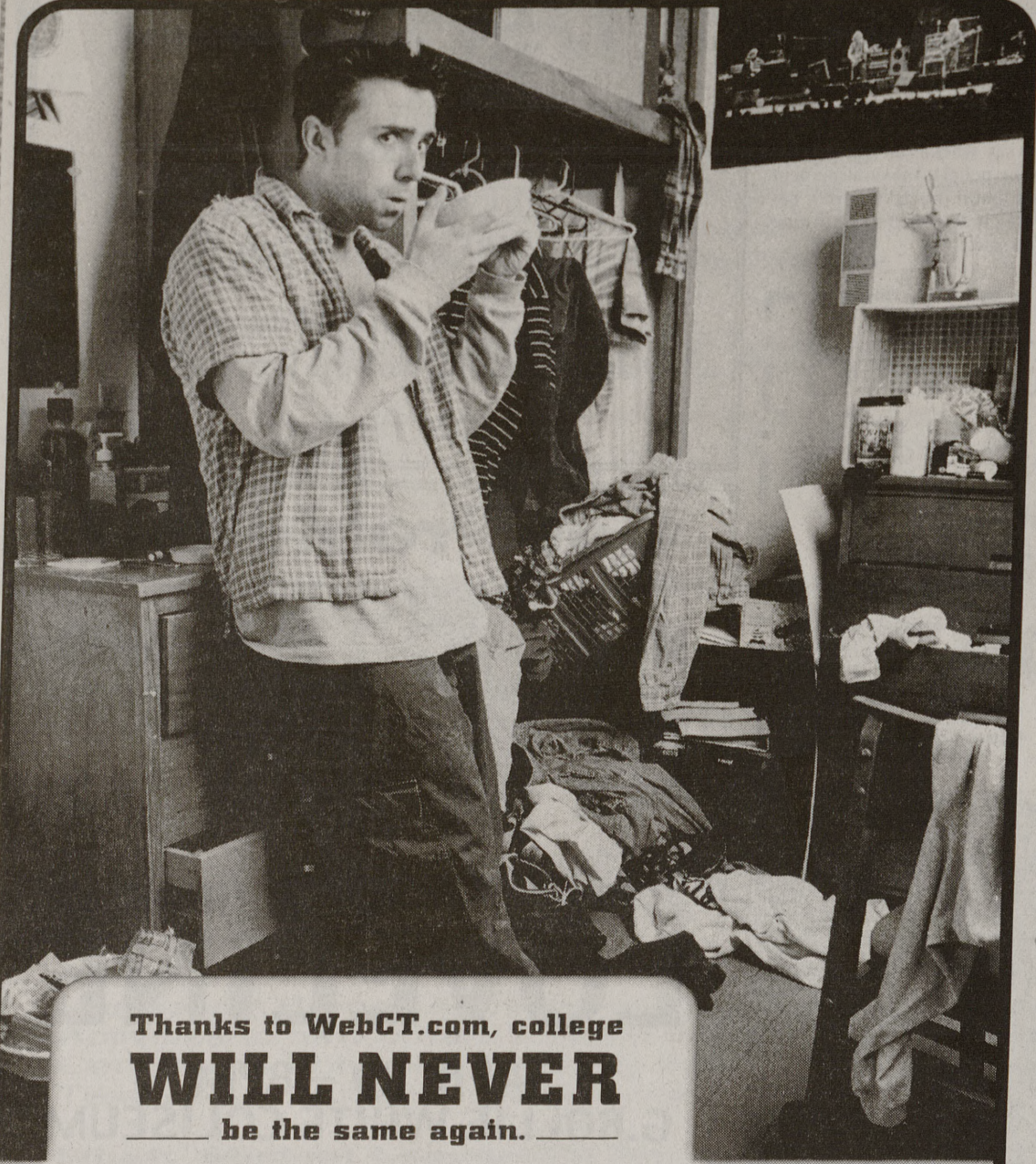
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1999-2000 University Undergraduate Research Fellows Symposium Presentations

The University Undergraduate Research Fellows Program is the capstone of the Honors curriculum at Texas A&M. This program is the most prestigious research opportunity available for undergraduates at the University featuring a close, master-apprentice relationship between student researcher and faculty advisor.

Shortly after Fellows submit their completed Senior Honors Theses, they are invited to make formal presentations of their completed research at the annual University Undergraduate Research Fellows Symposium. This year the Fellows have been divided into eight groups of students pursuing research in related areas. Each group will conduct a separate Symposium session on the fifth floor of Rudder Tower according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, April 25th, 7:00 p.m.

Computer Science, Rudder 504
Michael Audenaert
Leeha Hererra
Tim Pertuit
Jocelyn Williams

Cultural Studies, Rudder 507

Kathryn Everett
Sarah Forbey
Heather Holcombe
Kim Nguyen
Diana Perez
Stephanie Stanbro

Engineering, Rudder 501

Amanda Black
Brian Corbett
Kyle Cowen
Paul Meiller
Steven Ortiz

Humanities, Rudder 502

Emily Jackson
Lori Lee
Marcia Murchison
Kate Pennebaker

Physical Sciences, Rudder 510

Jason Hart
Thomas Miller
Anita Rapp
Kevin Shea

Thursday, April 27th, 7:00 p.m.

Cell Biology 1, Rudder 502
Ashley Cox
Geoffrey Denny
Jonathan Hommel
Sarah Hutchison
Ana Lyuksyutova

Cell Biology 2, Rudder

Mardelle Atkins
Myra Beshear
Luke Engelking
Stacy Granberg
John Proctor

Economics & Political Science, Rudder 501

Marie Au-Young
Joy Brennan
Cass Burton
Meredith Cook
Sarah Spivey
Aaron Tilley

Molecular Genetics, Rudder 510

Julie Cotton
Jennifer deGrauw
Geoffrey Funk
April Peterson

Psychology 1, Rudder 504

Christy Hall
Sara Litzinger
Karen O'Brien
Tara Teeter

Psychology 2, Rudder 402

Amy Pinkham
Conor Seyle
Kelly Smith
Jennifer Tackett

A reception honoring the 1999-2000 University Undergraduate Research Fellows will be held in the fifth floor of Rudder Tower at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 25. Faculty, students, and other members of the University community are invited to attend the reception and any of the Symposium sessions. For more information, contact Dr. Donald Dickson, Associate Director of the University Honors Program at 845-6774 or via email dickson@aphonors.tamu.edu.

News in Brief Tuesday, April 25, 2000

Tornado tore down in East

LINDEN (AP) — A powerful tornado tore through parts of East Texas Sunday, knocking down power lines and damaging buildings, county officials said.

There were no reports of injuries or deaths. The tornado reported down several times after hitting the far East Texas town of Linden, Hughes Springs and Glassville.

The area hit is about 100 miles south of DeKalb, where a major damage year ago. That May 5 tornado killed 150 houses, injured 10 people and obliterated half the town district.

Laredo bridge for inauguration

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The World Trade Bridge is the largest international span to connect the United States and Mexico.

Texas Gov. and GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush is expected to inaugurate the bridge in Nuevo Laredo with Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo at the ceremony.

Political tensions have delayed the scheduled event. Protocol officials had excluded local participants from the ceremony. The mayor of Laredo is expected to be seen at the event.

Bush, who was absent from the ceremony, was expected to be on the side of the bridge, where the ceremony via one of the downtown bridges because officials had declined to give a motorcade permission to enter the city.

The border's largest span was ready moved the 1,000-ton bridge from downtown streets to roads designed for heavy traffic. Laredo, to keep the 15 opening on schedule, held its event on the north side of the span.

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