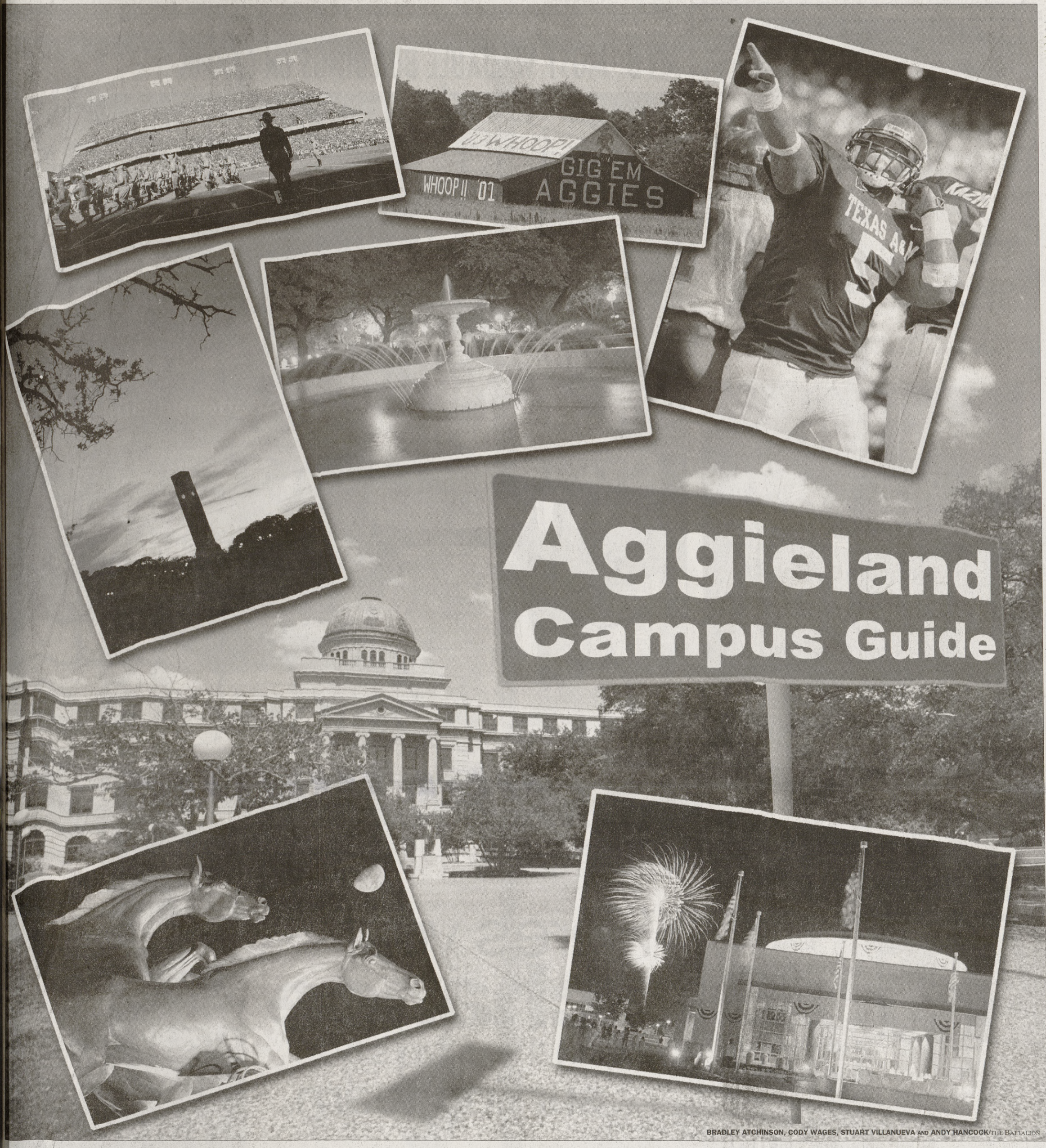


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BRADLEY ATCHINSON, CODY WAGES, STUART VILLANUEVA AND ANDY HANCOCK/THE BATTALION

## MSC celebrates 50th anniversary

By JOSEPH PLEASANT  
*The Battalion*

One building on campus that will be visited by all Texas A&M students and that houses many necessities for college life is the Memorial Student Center (MSC).

At the MSC, students can find a bookstore, restaurants, a post office, a barber shop and art galleries.

The MSC, established in 1951, serves as a living memorial to Aggies who died defending the United States.

This year the MSC celebrates its 50th anniversary, and the Department of the MSC, a division of the Department of Student Affairs, has a number of activities planned.

The 21st day of each month will be declared MSC Awareness Day, and a birthday party will be held, said Amanda Arriaga, executive vice president of marketing for the Department of the MSC. "Also, on April 20, the Department of the MSC will host a black-tie ball as the culmination of the activities planned throughout the year," Arriaga said.

Arriaga added that everyone, both present and former students, is invited to all the activities celebrating the MSC's anniversary.

Luke Altendorf, senior associate director for the

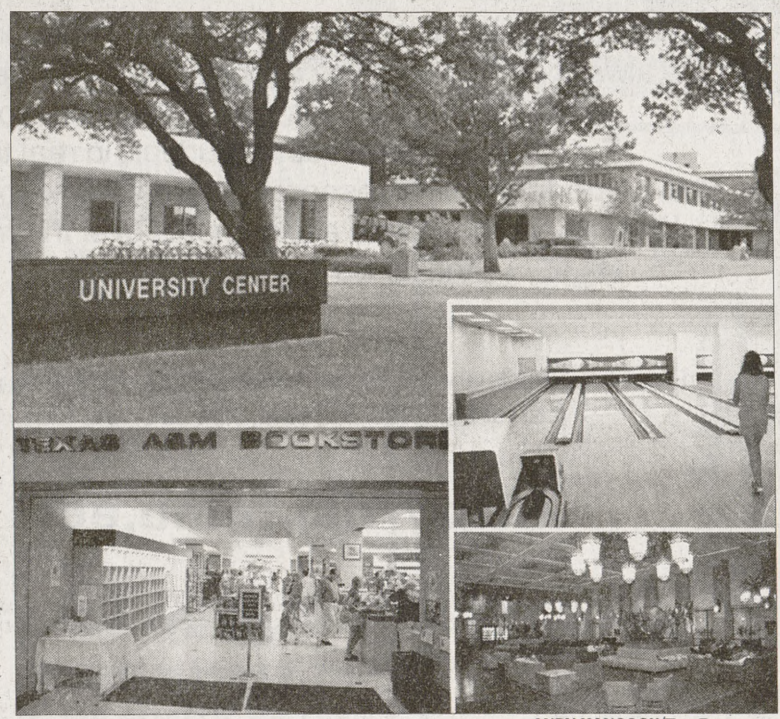
Department of the MSC, said students can find out more about the programs, organizations and ways to get involved at the MSC Open House on Sept. 3 from 2 to 6 p.m.

"This year we have made some changes to Open House," Altendorf said. "We have opened up Rudder Exhibit Hall, as well as the Rudder Fountain area, which will reduce the congestion of past Open Houses."

Altendorf added that a lot of programs and activities will be going on-line at the MSC Website, so students will be able to access up-to-date event calendars.

The MSC offers recreational activities as well as personal services, such as a barber shop.

Theresa Herrin, manager of the MSC barber shop, said the majority of students do not know about the barber shop in the MSC or think it is



ANDY HANCOCK/THE BATTALION

The Memorial Student Center serves as a memorial, houses student organizations and is a popular on-campus meeting and event site.

strictly for the Corps of Cadet's members. "We used to be just for the Corps, but now we do all students," Herrin said.

Herrin said the barber shop is usually busy during the school year, but business has dropped as a

See MSC on Page 8B.

## Student Counseling Service offers advice, promotes study skills

By STUART HUTSON  
*The Battalion*

Everyone needs some help sometimes, and college students are no exception. For many, the college years are a time when students learn to cope with the realities and obligations of life — all while balancing an intense regimen of classes and tests. It is no wonder that there are times when students can use help making sense of it all.

The Student Counseling Service (SCS) is an on-campus facility designed to aid Texas A&M students by providing advisers, counselors and psychologists to help with problems from poor test-taking techniques to relationship difficulties.

"You can basically divide our operations up into four categories — learning skills development, education and career counseling, personal and relationship counseling, and cri-

sis intervention," said Wade Birch, director of the SCS.

Birch said learning-skills development may encompass everything from learning how to cope with test-taking anxiety to learning how to properly read a textbook.

"Some students haven't learned how to read a chapter in a textbook effectively," Birch said. "We ask them, 'What is the first thing you do when you begin reading?' and they say, 'Well, I open the book and start reading.' Wrong. The most effective way to read is to first survey the chapter for the main points, develop some questions based on those main points, read the chapter to answer those questions, recite the main points after reading, write notes based upon your reading, and then review your notes before the test."

Birch said the learning skills

See COUNSELING on Page 8B.