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WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES 2000 - 2001 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



Who's Who applications are now available for both undergraduate and graduate students in the following locations:

- Commandant's Office (Military Sciences Building)
- Student Programs Office (2nd floor MSC)
- Student Activities Office (125 John J. Koldus Building)
- Sterling C. Evans Library
- Office of Graduate Studies (125 Teague)
- Office of the Dean of each College
- Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs (10th floor Rudder)

Completed applications may be submitted to either of the following locations no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, September 29, 2000:

- Department of Student Activities, 125 Koldus Building
- The Office of Graduate Studies, 128 Teague

Questions may be addressed to Sandy Briers (862-1973) in the Department of Student Activities or via the web site (<http://stuaact.tamu.edu/whoswho>).

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Water levels may reach critical state

BY BRIAN RUFF
The Battalion

Ninety-seven percent of all water is found in the oceans, leaving 3 percent in the form of fresh water for human consumption. However, 99 percent of freshwater is in the polar ice sheets or in deep, unreachable aquifers. This leaves less than one-half of 1 percent of fresh water for human use.

"On a global scale, there appears to be enough water for all of us," said Dr. Jurgen Schmandt, a University of Texas-Austin professor, in a press release. However, Schmandt went on to say that though there appears to be enough water, the amount of fresh water available to an average person in 1950 was twice the amount available today.

Gerald North, head of the atmospheric science department, said in a press release that there are great uncertainties about the future of water. "It is clear that Texas will experience a warmer climate in the next century," he said. "Water will be scarce and, therefore, more expensive."

Texas' climate, weather influences, water quantity and quality and the public's role in water planning were addressed by water experts as part of the Water for Texas: 2000 and Beyond conference this weekend in the Memorial Student Center (MSC). Senate Bill 1, which provided the framework of many of the issues, was one of the hot topics. The bill, enacted in 1997, divided Texas into 16 distinct regions and changed the way water conservation was discussed and researched before being presented to the Texas Water Development Board.

Valeen Silvy, of the office of grad-

technical issue to one that has to take into account political and socioeconomic considerations."

Instead of being headed by a technical team, the bill brought together consultants from various interests to present solutions to the Texas Water Development Board.

"The bill increases public awareness of the water situation and is just the start of the process of assessing Texas water," said Allan Jones, assistant vice chancellor of agricultural and life sciences at Texas A&M.

Ronald Kaiser, a recreation, park and tourism science specialist with the Texas Agriculture Extension Station, presented the water management strategies for the 16 regions.

"While Texas' surface water resources are limited and its ground water resources are being depleted," Kaiser said in a press release, "its water needs are growing. In order to meet projected water needs, Texas must plan to use a combination of 'demand management,' supply development, conservation, reuse and recycling strategies."

The Ogallala Aquifer, serving the Texas Panhandle, and the Edwards Aquifer, providing most of south-central Texas water received attention at the conference. To assess the quality of the water, results of studies were shown that traced the effect of herbicide and fertilizer deposits in streams and rivers across

Texas. Michael Messina, with the A&M Department of Forest Sciences, reported that traces of herbicides in streams are usually nonexistent three storms after application of the chemicals.

"Agriculture is the largest user of the water resources in the state, so the conference was very important to the field," Jones said. "Some regions face different types of water problems than others, so many experts from universities and cities across the state were able to give a good sampling at the conference of the work being done in the state."

However, Texas is not the only state to face future water problems. Schmandt said that as third world countries become industrialized, water problems could escalate.

"To meet the water needs of the estimated nine billion people by the middle of this century, the World Water Commission says that \$180 billion per year is needed to meet the demand," he said. "At present, the world invests about \$70 billion."

The program was sponsored by Texas A&M International University, Texas A&M-Kingsville and the Hausen Water Resources Center along with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Science at Texas A&M University.

"Agriculture is the largest user of the water resources in the state, so the conference was very important to the field."

— Allan Jones
assistant vice chancellor of agricultural and life sciences

Texas Reconstruction Expo to study effects of car crashes

BY CYRA GATLING
The Battalion

Motor vehicle deaths account for more deaths in the United States than deaths by natural disaster. A male is twice as likely to die in a motor accident than a female, but a female is twice as likely to be injured.

Getting onto the road is becoming more of a hazard than a convenience. To combat motor vehicle accidents, the Bryan-College Station Convention Bureau and the Texas Association of Accident Reconstruction Specialists (TAARS) are observing crash tests at A&M during the World Reconstruction Expo 2000 (WREX2000), the largest conference on motor vehicle collision investigation and reconstruction ever held.

The purpose of the expo, which is geared toward engineers and law-enforcement officials, is to investigate and reconstruct motor vehicle accidents, said Conrad Dippel, chairman of the steering committee.

"Our goal is to try to save lives by reconstructing the accident," he said. "That helps us decide on what to do next."

Dippel said by reconstructing the accident, experts can evaluate and make decisions on what can be done to prevent similar accidents. Anti-lock brakes and other safety features have resulted from accident reconstruction.

"If you can't tell now how an accident happened, then you can't fix it," Dippel said.

A new development to be revealed at the conference is the display of the Intelligence Transportation Systems for Commercial Vehicle Operations (ITS/CVO) technology truck. The ITS/CVO is a 48-foot trailer that has expandable sides.

George Black, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board will be the keynote speaker for the ITS/CVO presentation.

In addition to the main event, there will be three car crashes and possibly 20 motorcycle crashes, Dippel said. Crash-test dummies will be placed inside the vehicles.

Dippel said A&M was chosen by TAARS as the expo site because of the amount of room available both on and off campus, and because the A&M law-enforcement groups have been supportive.

Specialists from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and Puerto Rico are expected to attend. The specialists are coming to the World Reconstruction Expo to see how TAARS reconstruct and investigate motor vehicle accidents, Dippel said.

"[The specialists] think we have a great program," Dippel said.

The conference will kick off today with sessions beginning at 9 a.m. Crash-test demonstrations will take place Tuesday and Thursday at the Riverside Campus. Motorcycle and barrier crash tests will continue throughout the day Thursday.

Approximately 500 attendees and their families are expected at the conference. WREX2000 is hosted by TAARS and 21 other nonprofit organizations.

"This is one-of-a-kind, never-held-again event," Dippel said. "It is the first and only."

The conference is a members-only conference and is not open to the public.

BLINN
Continued from Page 1

"Blinn also has no teaching assistants (TAs), forcing professors to be in close contact with their students."

Another factor boosting Blinn enrollment is the open-enrollment policy allowing several students to be able to gain acceptance into A&M to attend Blinn. Three thousand students transfer into A&M annually.

Although Blinn's minority enrollment rate has hardly fluctuated in recent years, the institution lags behind in comparison with other state community colleges.

"Our minority breakdown is reflective of Texas A&M's, in that we couldn't hurt to have some more diversity," Parsons said.

Parsons further clarified that the discrepancy between Blinn's graduation breakdown and other community colleges' may be reflective of Blinn's academic slant.

"Most community colleges have a technical slant," Parsons said. "Although Blinn has 13 different technical programs, we have an especially high concentration when dealing with the academic atmosphere."

This semester was the first Blinn allowed electronic registration for students via the telephone or Internet. With 60 percent of the Blinn student body opting for this new system of registration, 40 percent used the phone system, 20 percent registered online and the remaining 40 percent registered through the Blinn office.

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Econ 322	Test Review Sun Sept 24 3pm-6pm			
Info 305	Part I Sun Sept 24 5pm-8pm	Part II Mon Sept 25 5pm-7pm	Part III Tue Sept 26 5pm-7pm	
Math 151	Part I Mon Sept 25 10pm-1am	Part II Tue Sept 26 10pm-1am	Part III Wed Sept 27 10pm-1am	
Math 152	Part I Mon Sept 25 7pm-10pm	Part II Tue Sept 26 7pm-10pm	Part III Wed Sept 27 7pm-10pm	
Mgmt 363	Test Review Sun Sept 24 7pm-10pm			

Tickets go on sale Sunday at 2:30 PM.
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