

## Halloween fun



STUART VILLANEUVA/THE BATTALION

Eddie Leal, 6, searches for candy in a pile of hay with the help of freshman biomedical science major Heather Vordo at a carnival in front of the Memorial Student Center on

Tuesday evening. The carnival was organized by the Residence Hall Association to provide safe Halloween fun for area children.

## EMS proposes mercy clause

By SOMMER BUNCE  
The Battalion

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is seeking Student Senate legislation for a mercy clause to make students immune from University punishment when they call EMS seeking assistance for alcohol-related problems.

Students who dial EMS for medical help in alcohol-related cases on the Texas A&M campus may face repercussions from University officials, such as suffering possible losses of scholarships and funding.

Officers from the University Police Department (UPD) monitor calls made to EMS and regularly respond to those involving students seeking emergency care for alcohol poisoning or overdose. UPD follows that procedure to ensure that EMS workers are safe when dealing with inebriated students, said UPD Director Bob Wiatt.

UPD does not issue citations to those in need of emergency care, but officers make a notation of the event in their reports, Wiatt said. The notation is then sent to the Department of Student Life, where student records are kept on alcohol-related occurrences.

Each time a student violates University rules on alcohol use, a letter is sent to the student's parents, said Director of Student Life Brent Paterson. The letter describes health issues related to drug

and alcohol use, and the student is informed of the process, he said.

Violation of any University rule that leads to the suspension of a student results in that student not being in good standing with the University, as outlined in the A&M student handbook. Such standing with the University may, in some cases, result in A&M withdrawing a University scholarship during the student's suspension, Patterson said.

EMS Chief Jack Van Cleve voiced his concerns before the general assembly of the Residence Hall Association last week. Van Cleve, a senior community health major, said the mercy clause exists on other college campuses and protects students seeking emergency care for alcohol-related incidents.

Van Cleve met with Chad Wagner, speaker of the Student Senate and a junior political science major, who is sending his concerns to the committee tonight. Senators and members of the Student Services Committee are investigating the issues to determine whether legislation is in order.

Van Cleve's concerns arose in the spring after he received a phone call from the mother of a student whom EMS had treated for high levels of intoxication. The mother questioned the policy of calling police to the scene and told him that her son could lose his

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## Lane calls for support of 2002 Bonfire

By BRADY CREEL &  
ELIZABETH RAINES  
The Battalion

Almost one year after the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse, members of Keep The Fire Burning (KTFB) have canceled their plans for an off-campus bonfire. Amid controversy concerning his leadership role, Student Body President Forrest Lane is encouraging students to focus their energy and time on planning for a successful 2002 Aggie Bonfire.

Lane said that he knows some students are still campaigning for changes in the

parameters set forth by A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen for Bonfire 2002, but he said their efforts are futile.

"I don't understand advocating something that won't be changed," Lane said. "The parameters will not be changed."

Becky Bartschmid, a sophomore journalism major, organized a petition beseeching Bowen to reinstate cut, increase student involvement and allow a Bonfire in 2001. Bartschmid is soliciting signatures in the MSC breezeway this week.

KTFB board members have spoken out against

Lane, accusing him of pursuing personal interests and those of the administration, instead of those of the students. When asked about refusing to represent KTFB, Lane said, "Our doors have been open the whole time." He denied accusations of representing administrators' opinions.

Despite the media circus that has trailed KTFB in the past six months, Lane said only a handful of students came to his office to voice their concerns.

Will Clark, a KTFB board member, accused Lane of lying about telling students he

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LANE

would not represent them to A&M administrators. Clark said Lane told a student he would not present a petition to the administration, despite his policy of addressing issues raised by students.

"They asked if a majority, or if, in theory, all of the stu-

dents signed that petition, would he take it to the administration and represent the students, and he said 'no,'" Clark said after the Bonfire forum held Sunday.

Lane said misunderstandings clouded his intentions; he said he has and will con-

tinue to advocate student views, but would not champion KTFB's cause.

"I think they want me to be a sponsor — almost a leader — and I've said 'no,'" Lane said, explaining that he would represent but not endorse KTFB. "We have to be somewhat objective."

Lane said many people have talked about his role as a student representative, yet he has not been given any petitions, nor have many students met with him. But, if petitions are brought to him, he said, he will take

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## Early Voting

Vote before Nov. 3 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. at the following locations:  
Brazos County Courthouse  
Arena Hall  
Galilee Baptist Church  
136 and 146 MSC  
College Station I.S.D. Administrative Offices

## Hart residents may get cooler

Survey says 70 percent oppose

By SOMMER BUNCE  
The Battalion

In a survey conducted by Hart Hall Council President Stephen Blaskey, nearly 70 percent of the hall opposed adding air conditioning to Hart. Despite those results, Blaskey recommended Tuesday to Director of Residence Life Ron Sasse that Hart become an air-conditioned hall beginning in Fall 2002.

Only 26 percent of the residents supported becoming air-conditioned, but Blaskey found that nearly 85 percent of those opposed to the proposal were upperclassmen who would not be affected by the transition to air conditioning.

"It turns out that the people who will be here, and who it will actually affect, do want this to happen," Blaskey said, personally disagreeing with the proposal but acknowledging that he

must represent what the residents want.

**"It turns out that the people who will be here and it will actually affect do want this to happen."**

— Stephen Blaskey  
Hart Hall Council  
President

In September, Sasse sent Blaskey's proposal, requesting input on the possible air conditioning of the hall. At the beginning of Fall 2000, Hart had nearly 40 vacancies, Sasse said. He said that the University has lost

money for programs and funding due to lost rent income. Residence halls are not subsidized by state funding.

Following the success of Walton Hall's conversion to air conditioning this fall, Sasse gave Blaskey and the Hart Hall Council until Tuesday to respond to his proposal, which would likely fill the vacancies in Hart.

Blaskey, a senior civil engineering major, surveyed Hart residents to determine the hall's response to Sasse's proposal.

Hart's community is built on open doors, running fans and congregating in the air-conditioned lounge, Blaskey said, explaining why most older residents felt air conditioning was unnecessary and could potentially hurt the community.

"A big part of Hart is the first two weeks when a student comes to live

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## Gore focuses on economic boom

Environment, armed forces, surplus also important campaign issues

By STEPHEN METCALF  
The Battalion



Even though the White House gained an overwhelmingly high approval rating over the past eight years, Democratic presidential candidate Vice President Al Gore is not looking to blindly continue the actions and policies of the Clinton administration. Indeed, Gore has spent much of his campaign speaking with voters in an attempt to convey who he is, where he comes from and what his own policies entail.

Although Gore's campaign has emphasized the economic boom the country has enjoyed since he took the vice presidential office in 1993, Gore is using events throughout his lifetime to illustrate how he will bring his own legacy to the White House.

As the son of former U.S. Sen. Albert Gore Sr., Gore Jr. spent much of his early years splitting time between Washington, D.C., and his family's farm in Carthage, Tenn. He graduated with honors from Harvard University with a degree in government in 1969 and promptly enlisted voluntarily in the Army and served as a reporter in Vietnam. After returning from Vietnam, Gore studied religion at Vanderbilt University before becoming a police and city hall reporter for The Tennessean in Nashville. Gore also had a brief stint at Van-

derbilt Law School before getting elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1976. He served in the House until he was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1984, where he stayed until he took the office of the Vice President in 1993. Gore sought the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988 and won Democratic primaries and caucuses in seven states.

Throughout his current campaign, Gore has drawn on these experiences in an attempt to relate to voters.

Alison Friedman, director of Students for Gore at the Gore campaign headquarters, emphasized the importance Gore places on the environment.

"Al Gore has spent his lifetime working on an environmental policy that is more forward-looking and deals with issues such as global warming," Friedman said.

Eight years ago Gore wrote *Earth in the Balance*, a book that describes the perils of global warming. According to *The Economist*, Gore supports a strong government-led approach to dealing with air and water pollution. He also backs a \$7.8 billion effort to clean up the Everglades in Florida and seeks to enlist the cooperation of the Big Three automakers to triple the fuel efficiency of vehicles.

At the National Guard Association of the United States General Conference, the vice president cited his past experience in the armed services and as a congressman as evidence that defense is a priority in his campaign.

"My own experiences gave me strong, unshakable beliefs about our obligation to keep our national defenses strong," Gore said in a Sept. 12 speech. "As a senator, I broke with my party and voted to support the Gulf War



Vice President Al Gore is pushing the economic boom in his campaign.

when Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait — because I believed America's vital interests were at stake."

Gore maintains that the armed forces should be updated with the latest tactical weaponry and must be ready to promote missions of peace and stability.

The fate of a projected \$4.19 trillion, 10-year federal budget surplus is also taking center

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