

## MBA program ranks internationally

### Lowry Mays positioned at 67 among world's business colleges

BY RISHA BRYAN

**The Battalion**  
Texas A&M University's Lowry Mays masters of business administration (MBA) program has been ranked among the top 100 MBA programs worldwide. According to London's *Financial Times*, the Lowry Mays College of Business placed 16th among state-supported institutions and 67th overall, surpassing Notre Dame, Brigham Young University, Michigan State, Penn State and other prestigious international programs.

"We feel especially gratified that, in the first international ranking in which we were included, our fairly young program has held its own with the best of the best," said Dan Robertson, director of the program at the business school.

This ranking differs from U.S. reviews such as *Business Week* and U.S. News and World Report because international and domestic programs are considered. The *Financial Times* compares worldwide business communication, as does the *Wall Street Journal* in the United States.

The *Financial Times* bases its surveys on students' career progression and salary increments three years after graduation. Survey factors include salary increases, career placement and international mobility.

"The *Financial Times* review tests where the rubber meets the road," Robertson said. "Rather than surveying initial career placement, this survey examined management positions held later down the road."

Other factors considered in the survey include the quality of the schools' study abroad programs and research.

The Lowry Mays MBA program encourages students to study abroad and provides flexible options for international studies. This improves students' resumes by meeting the current demand of top U.S. companies for international experience.

"Based on the number of U.S. schools in the top 100, it cannot be claimed that the *Financial Times* report is U.S.-biased," Robertson said. "The Mays College of Business MBA ranked comparably with its international competitors as it did with U.S. institutions."

Robertson said he expects the

ranking to have a positive impact on future admissions. He predicts this recognition will help attract and retain quality students from around the world.

"It's great to see other people appreciate our programs," said Dr. Ron Douglas, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. "The MBA degree is difficult to obtain and this recognition will assist our students in getting future jobs. Also, the ranking will help attract students to the program."

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TEXAS A&M'S  
Lowry Mays College & Graduate School  
of Business  
ranked

- 16th among state-supported institutions
- 67th among 100 MBA programs worldwide

Source: London's Financial Times



RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

## Vision 2020 serving as a role model

BY MARIANO CASTILLO

**The Battalion**

Walter Wendler remembers stepping off the train at the station on the corner of Main Street and Texas Avenue, where Alfred T. Hornback's is today. It was 1970, and the native New Yorker looked around and took in the atmosphere as the dust cleared.

"To me, it looked all male and all military," Wendler said. The Corps of Cadets made up a significant portion of the 15,000 students, there were few women on campus and signs on the walls of buildings read, "Rick Perry for Junior Yell."

The campus that Wendler, now vice chancellor for planning and system integration, recalls is a world away from the Texas A&M of today.

Other colleges took notice of the changes A&M has undergone.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) modeled a new report, called "A 2020 Vision," on A&M's Vision 2020 plan. The goal of Vision 2020 is for A&M to be considered a top 10 national public university by 2020.

Two years ago, then-UNL Chancellor James Moeser came to College Station for the A&M-Nebraska football game, Wendler said. Moeser and A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen discussed beginning a program similar to A&M's Vision 2020 at UNL. The conversation resulted in Bowen's traveling to UNL to share A&M's success with UNL administrators.

"I think it was very helpful for UNL," Wendler said.

The *Omaha World-Herald* praised Vision 2020 earlier this year and reported that UNL turned to A&M as a model for avoiding problems with UNL's project, which to some seemed "unrealistic."

"It was a very fine com-

pliment to the whole group involved in Vision 2020," Wendler said. "It confirmed the process of a plan that was to be successful."

According to the *World-Herald*, UNL's report set a goal to reach premier status among public universities by 2019, the school's 150th anniversary.

Long-term planning processes such as Vision 2020 are not new to A&M. Long-term plans powered A&M's exponential growth from a small military college to the respected research University it is today.

Former University President Gen. James Earl Rudder created the first plan, "Aspirations Study," in the early 1960s.

The Aspirations Study was designed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the college.

The study set goals that drastically changed the face of A&M. Women were to be admitted on a "full and equal" basis, the Corps of Cadets became optional, graduate studies increased and the school's name was changed from Texas A&M College to Texas A&M University.

Wendler said the changes were a necessary step to save the University.

"(A&M) was literally dying on the vine," he said. "People didn't want to come here."

Rudder accomplished most of the planned changes. He originally wanted to change the name to Texas State University, and he pushed for a law school.

"The University was radically transformed in 10 years," Wendler said.

Only four years after the completion of the Aspirations Study, the "Target 2000" plan was created. Under Target 2000, A&M focused on building a capital campaigns fund and other fund-raising issues.

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## Bad news for the Bears



A&M's freshman forward Jesse King, goes up for a basket against Baylor's Terry Black Tuesday night in Reed Arena. The Aggies won 73-69 to break a nine-game losing streak.

### Men snap nine-game losing streak Tuesday

BY DOUG FUENTES

**The Battalion**

The Texas A&M men's basketball team finally flashed its potential Tuesday, and with it, brining an end to a losing streak.

The Aggies took advantage of Baylor miscues and used a balanced attack to hold off a late run by Baylor to post a 73-69 victory at Reed Arena.

The victory was the first for the Aggies (7-15, 1-9 in Big 12) in conference play, snapping the team's nine-game losing streak.

Five A&M players reached double digits in scoring, led by A&M freshman forward Nick Anderson, who had 14 points. Freshman forward Jesse King had 13, sophomore guard Bernard King had 11, and junior guard Andy Leatherman and freshman forward Nolan Butterfrass each chipped in 10 points.

"I felt like if we kept working in practice and playing hard, somewhere, something good would happen for us," said A&M men's basketball coach Melvin Watkins. "Baylor definitely put up a fight, but we were able to hold on."

The Aggies made the important plays down the stretch, as Baylor (14-6, 3-6) clawed back to make a game of it in the final minutes.

Baylor guard Terry Black pulled the Bears within three points with 47 seconds left when his dunk made it a 67-64 game.

The Bears then had a chance to pull closer as Black and Greg Davis had Bernard King trapped at mid-court.

But King was not flustered as he stepped through the double team and hit Jesse King under the basket with a pass.

He made the bucket and was fouled, giving the Aggies a 69-64 lead with 35 seconds left, shutting the door on Baylor's chances.

The assist was the ninth of the game for Bernard King, matching his season high.

"At times, we like to put Bernard at point because he's our best passer," Watkins said. "I think he sees the floor better than any of our kids. We do want to use him as a scorer, but today he assumed the role of making plays."

A&M was in position to win the game at the end thanks to a strong first-half performance.

The Aggies used their inside game, along with active defense, to put Baylor in a 36-23 halftime hole.

See BASKETBALL on Page 3B.

## Wolf Pen area to expand this summer

BY ROB MUNSON

**The Battalion**

Plans for new development projects in the College Station Wolf Pen Creek district could begin as early as Summer 2001.

Since 1988, a master plan for the Wolf Pen Creek area has been in place. The city of College Station established a tax increment finance district that directly benefits the Wolf Pen Creek Corridor, the land surrounding Wolf Pen

Creek and bordered by Texas Avenue, Earl Rudder Freeway, Harvey Road and Colgate Circle.

As an increment tax district, the Wolf Pen Creek region receives all taxes from all commercial developments in the area adjacent to the creek. These tax revenues go directly into a fund for improving Wolf Pen Creek.

Phase I of the Wolf Pen Creek Master Plan was the construction of the Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater. Phase II will

be an extension of George Bush Drive East across Harvey Road to Dartmouth Street, a complete rechanneling of the creek, and new hiking and biking trails.

Currently, George Bush Drive ends at Harvey Road. When the road is extended, an arched bridge will be constructed over the creek.

The planned recreation trails will run along Wolf Pen Creek's banks from Texas Avenue to Earl Rudder Freeway. In addition, parking lots will be con-

structed near the corner of Holleman Drive and Dartmouth Street. Lamps will be placed along the trails to create safer conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.

The third component of Phase II, a drainage renovation, will be integral to the project as a whole, said Mark Smith, College Station public works director.

Smith said erosion and poor drainage have caused problems along the creek

See WOLF PEN on Page 2A.

YEAR	BIKES REPORTED STOLEN
1997-1998	257
1998-1999	374
1999-2000	303

KATIE EASTERLING/THE BATTALION

## Bicycle theft continuing problem on campus

BY AMANDA SMITH

**The Battalion**

Bicycle theft continues to alarm crime prevention officials on the Texas A&M campus, where some students ride their bikes on their commute to and from classes.

Bob Wiatt, University Police Department (UPD) director, said the crime-prevention unit tries to reduce bicycle theft every semester.

"It seems like they are ripping off bikes right and left," Wiatt said. "When we do recover bikes, we often do not know who they belong to."

During the 1999-2000 fiscal year, 303 bikes were reported stolen on campus, compared with 374 bikes in the 1998-99 fiscal year and 257 bikes in the 1997-98 fiscal year.

"It seems like they are ripping off bikes left and right."

—Bob Wiatt  
UPD director

Bert Kretzschmar, a UPD crime prevention specialist, said

UPD will engrave students' driver's license numbers on their bikes, so that bikes may be positively identified if stolen.

"Any police officer in the country can run a driver's license and tell who the owner is," Kretzschmar said. "UPD will have bike-engraving days at the MSC by Rudder Fountain periodically throughout the semester. If a par-

ticular organization or group wishes, UPD will make special arrangements to accommodate them. It's a free service."

Students can reduce the risk of having their bikes stolen by purchasing locks called U-bolt locks, Kretzschmar said.

"Most bike thefts are thefts of

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