

## The Other Education

### Students keep busy at A&M with more than 700 groups

By JANE HOLDEN  
THE BATTALION

It is the first day of a new semester. The hustle and bustle of preparation is simmering down as upperclassmen kick back into their familiar routine and freshmen finally have a chance to catch their breath. Students who have been anticipating today's busy schedule may find themselves asking, "What now?"

Certainly, academics, roommates and friends will compete for one's time. However, if students want to participate in the "other education" at Texas A&M, now is the time to get involved.

The Memorial Student Center will host Open House Sunday, and A&M's 700 clubs and organizations will give students an opportunity to peruse what A&M has to offer, ranging from the Students for a Free Tibet to the Aggie Wranglers.

Nathan Bowden, a senior environmental design major, found an interest in MSC Town Hall his freshman year. Now, a third-year member of the organization aimed at showcasing musical talent, Bowden describes it as his "comfortable niche."

"Town Hall is a microcosm of the University," Bowden said. "It is not like traditional Texas A&M. I have a lot of karma with everyone there, and it is a quick and easy way to plug into the pipeline of local live music."

Similar organizations are the Opera and Performing Arts Society, Visual Arts Society, Film Society and Cepheid Variable, a science-fiction, fantasy and horror club that sponsors sci-

ence fiction conventions and supports student film productions.

Other popular activities include academic organizations within colleges, political-interest organizations and sports-related clubs. There also is a diverse variety of cultural organizations and groups that welcome new Aggies to A&M.

Many freshmen recently have experienced the spirit-filled adventure of Fish Camp and recognize the positive affects of their counselors' efforts.

Mike Cook, a senior industrial distribution major, contributes his time to a similar organization, T-Camp.

"T-Camp is for students who transfer into Texas A&M from other schools," Cook said. "We teach them about our traditions and help them adjust to a new school of about 43,000 students."

Cook said he became involved with T-Camp to return the guidance he received there.

"As a counselor, I have met a lot of people with similar interests as myself," Cook said. "We end up spending a lot of time together, and you leave with friendships you didn't have before."

Andy Buchmann, a graduate student studying finance, is the co-founder of GUIDE, a new club that pairs freshmen with mentors to aid in the transition from high school to college life. Buchmann said he and his friends have had to work hard to create this organization.

"There were definitely challenges," Buchmann said. "But the University wasn't trying to set up walls to prevent us. They just wanted to help us be certain we knew what we were doing."

Buchmann said that it would have been nice to have started GUIDE earlier.

"I look back now and think there were so many opportunities I could have had and people I could have met," Buchmann said. "I would definitely recommend to the freshmen that they get involved in the University."

**MSC OPAS Meeting - 5:00 p.m.**  
Skating Club informational - 7:30  
**Howdy Camp & T-Camp**

**Opera Performing Arts Society**  
**Visual Arts Society**

**Intramural Tryouts - MSC 3:00 p.m.**  
**Greek Week at the courtyard**  
**GUIDE Interview**

**Basketball practice**  
**Fish Camp Reunion**

**College Orientation**  
**MSC Town Hall Expose'**

**Texas A&M Variety Show**  
**Academic Club Meeting**

**Film Society, Cepheid Variable**

CHAD MALLAM • THE BATTALION

Paid Advertisement

### Thinking people believe in God

The ancient Greeks believed in the mythical gods, but their greatest thinkers, Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle believed in One God. Consider how remarkable that is! They believed in One God because it is so reasonable.

Are you able to think for yourself? Are you interested in getting to know God? He loves all persons. He loves you and me. Almost 2000 years ago, he sent his son Jesus Christ into the world to die on the cross for our wrongdoings and sins and return to life through the miracle of the resurrection.

God's plan for each of us is that we turn away from our sins and believe in Christ. When we do this, God forgives us and gives us fellowship and eternal life with himself. You can become a Christian right now wherever you are. Tell God that you are sorry for your sins and that you here and now accept Christ as your Savior and Lord.

As soon as you have received Christ, you may be sure that he has forgiven you of every sin and has given you eternal life. You may be sure that God will lead you by his spirit in the way that is good and right. Make friends with other Christians. Meet with them for worship, prayer, and Bible study. Make a habit of reading the Bible. Start with the gospel of John. And may God bless you!

This message is sponsored by the Christian Information Council  
PO Box 3174, Temple, TX 76705

K2 Skates - Diamondback - Bicycle Accessories - Kona - Clothing - Apparel

2001 Year model bikes on closeout!

Visit us in our new location!

**NOW ACCEPTING AGGIE BUCKS!**

**LIFETIME FREE LABOR ADJUSTMENTS**  
with any new bicycle purchased

- 20% off all accessories day of purchase
- 10% off any future purchases
- Largest selection of in-line skate accessories
- Skateboard and accessories now in stock

303 Dominik Drive  
(979) 696-6551

Apple Tree, Dominik, Harvey, Texas Ave.

George Bush Dr.

K2 Skates - Diamondback - Bicycle Accessories - Kona - Clothing - Apparel

### Part-Time Jobs Available

We currently have challenging part-time positions available for customer support, inventory, hardware support and programming. We consider all types of majors and provide complete training, so don't miss this opportunity to visit UCS the MSC to see if you're the person we're looking for.

**Monday (8/27) - Friday (8/31)**  
138 MSC

This is a great opportunity to talk with some of our employees, fill out some paperwork, or just make an appointment to speak with us at a later date.

**We will have free snacks and beverages**

The rooms in the MSC can be reached by going to the hotel information desk in the MSC. We will be there between 9am and 4pm and we look forward to talking to you!

**UCS**

595-2609

[www.universalcomputersys.com](http://www.universalcomputersys.com)  
UCS hires non-tobacco users only  
E.O.E.

## Have you opened your account with Aggieland Credit Union?

YES ~ You may not be ready for class, but you have already passed your first test! Whoop!

- or -

NO ~ What are you thinking? Don't you know that Aggieland Credit Union was established to serve YOU! They are nonprofit, have great rates, excellent service, and convenient locations.

**They also offer:**

- FREE Checking with No Minimum Balance & Unlimited Check Writing!
- FREE VISA Check Card!
- FREE 24-hour Internet Banking with GTNet!
- FREE 24-hour Telephone Banking!
- and More!

# AGGIELAND CREDIT UNION

a branch of Greater TEXAS Federal Credit Union

201 Southwest Pkwy. E & 501 University Dr. W

NCUA [www.aggielandcu.org](http://www.aggielandcu.org) (979) 696-1440

Now selling!

Late model

## USED books

LARGEST INVENTORY OF NEW AND USED MODELS IN THE AREA!

Just check out this beauty-

**1999 ECONOMICS BOOK**

• ONE OWNER • LOW MILEAGE • LOOKS NEW

- YOU WON'T BELIEVE OUR LOW, LOW PRICE!

ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE!

**ROTHER'S BOOKSTORES**

907 Harvey Rd 303 College Ave 340 George Bush  
764-3969 268-6002 696-2111

[www.rothers.com](http://www.rothers.com)

GOT-USED