

TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL WALK-ON / 12TH MAN Informational Meeting

DATE: Monday, September 3, 2001

TIME: 3:45 PM

WHERE: The Auditorium - West Side of
Kyle Field

- * MANDATORY ATTENDANCE
- * MUST BE ENROLLED IN 12 HOURS
AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE STATION
- * MUST HAVE STARTED COLLEGE NO
EARLIER THAN THE FALL OF '99

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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!

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(in Culpepper Plaza next to the Bagel Station)
Mon-Fri: 10am-7pm - Sat: 10am-4pm

AggieLife

Page 4B

THE BATTALION

Wednesday, August 22, 2001

Major, major, anywhere a major?

Students may have trouble deciding on majors, some change majors several times in college

By MELISSA SOROLA-BILANO
THE BATTALION

The fourth time is a charm. At least that is what Summer Wiese, a junior environmental design major, thinks, because this year marks the fourth time Wiese has changed majors.

Entering A&M as a civil engineering major, Wiese later decided it was not the right major for her.

Wiese then entered general studies and later business administration but was not satisfied with those majors either.

"I didn't like business; it just wasn't interesting," Wiese said.

While fulfilling her visual and performing arts credit, Wiese took an environmental design class and realized she wanted to be an environmental design major.

Wiese did some research about the major by talking to advisors and professors about career opportunities and is now happy with her major.

Many students who are unsure of a major enter the general studies program. There, they can complete 60 hours before committing to a major.

Sean Smith, advisor in the general academics program, helps students figure out what majors interest them.

Smith said students should think about what type of lifestyle they want to live when deciding on a major.

"I think that in order to find a major, it is sometimes easier to first decide on the big picture or the future in order to help focus on the smaller picture or the present," Smith said.

For those who are undecided, Smith recommends experiencing different majors through elective classes.

"That way, once you decide on a major, those courses will more than likely count for your newly chosen major," Smith said.

The economy and job trends also can

influence one's choice of major, Smith said. While abilities and skills are an important factor, Smith said he would not steer someone away from a particular major because of perceived capabilities.

"I do, on the other hand, try and convey some of the difficulties they may encounter," Smith said.

Along with the general academics advi-

"I think that in order to find a major, it is sometimes easier to first decide on the big picture or the future in order to help focus on the smaller picture or the present."

— Sean Smith
General Academics Adviser

sors, there are career advisors with Student Counseling Services (SCS) who can help in the process.

Michele White Amerson, career services coordinator for SCS, helps students identify what their interests, skills and life goals are in what is called an interest inventory.

"We then take that information and see what majors are compatible," Amerson said.

Amerson also suggests conducting informational interviews with someone in a field they are interested in. During the interview, the student should ask about the person what they do in a typical day and what their major was in college.

Internships also can help students who are

undecided on a major because they lack experience in the occupation and do not know whether or not they would like to pursue a career, Amerson said.

SCS also offers workshops on interests and possible careers. "Career Quest," "Choosing a Major," "What You Are" and "Career Exploration Group" are a few workshops offered during the semester.

Online resources also are available. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has a website, The Occupational Outlook Handbook.

The Website offers details about various careers such as job demand and salary, as well as what majors are needed for those industries.

Another service offered by SCS is through the Academic and Career Educator (ACE) Program is a program designed to help students in different majors.

Betty Milburn, associate director of the ACE program, said ACE is a volunteer program designed to aid in the process of deciding on a major.

ACE volunteers can help students with resources offered by SCS and talk to them about what they need to consider when deciding.

Milburn said the volunteers are given information about their own major and they can give a student's perspective on the major.

"We try to recruit a variety of majors to help students decide on a major," Milburn said.

ACE volunteers also make referrals to advisors and specific departments where students can get more information about their majors.

"ACE volunteers are most helpful in helping to find resources," Milburn said.

Even though Wiese found the process frustrating at times, overall she said it has been a good experience.

"I think it has been good for me to experience different things and I know that I am now in the right major now," Wiese said.



Engineering
Architecture
History
Business
English

DIANA SUAREZ • THE BATTALION



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