

Texas A&M University — Celebrating 125 Years

THE BATTALION

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Family relationship symposium slated for Sept. 15

Texas A&M will host a symposium Sept. 15 that will focus on cultural constructions of the family and family relationships.

The symposium is titled, "The Ties That Bind, The Ties That Blind."

It will feature two keynote speakers followed by a moderated faculty discussion.

The keynote speakers will address the topics of "social melancholy and psychic space" and "queer norms."

The symposium is free and lunch is included. It will take place in Rudder 501.

Police investigate Dallas baby's death

DALLAS (AP) — Police are investigating the death of a baby who was shot while riding in a car with his parents early Sunday morning.

The baby, Miguel Angel Martinez, who was about 9 months old, was shot in the head. His father, Miguel Angel Martinez Sr., 19, had two gunshot wounds in the arm.

Police said the elder Martinez returned fire and then sped to the hospital.

About 10:30 a.m. Sunday police found a vehicle they believe may have been involved in the shooting.

PUBLIC EYE

Proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2001-2002 for the city of College Station
Operations: \$119,176,064
Capital projects: \$35,659,858

TODAY

AGGIELIFE

Page 3
Planes, trains and automobiles
 • Students have several options for traveling around campus

SPORTS

Page 5
Cardinal downs Aggies to win title
 • Stanford hands A&M first loss

OPINION

Page 9
A&M should keep cloning
 • Helps to inform society about pros and cons of cloning

WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 87° F
LOW 68° F

TOMORROW

HIGH 90° F
LOW 65° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.weathermanted.com

U.S. News: A&M ranks 48

By ROLANDO GARCIA
 THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University has joined the ranks of America's best universities in the 2002 edition of America's Best Colleges, published by U.S. News & World Report magazine.

The publication, which will be on newsstands today, shows A&M tied with the University of Texas-Austin (UT) and three other institutions at 48th among the 50 schools in the magazine's top tier of universities.

A&M and UT tied for No. 15, along with the University of California at Santa Barbara, among the best public universities. Last year, A&M was ranked 17th and UT 16th. A&M was also listed in the magazine's

"best values" category.

The overall national list is headed by Princeton. The only other Texas institution to be included on the list is Rice University, which is ranked 12th.

A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen said the rankings are another indication that the quality of the University's students and faculty, and programs are being more widely recognized nationally and internationally.

"We are obviously pleased to be included among the very best universities in this annual ranking that attracts considerable public interest," Bowen said.

The rankings indicate A&M is progressing with its Vision 2020 plan to propel the University into the ranks of the top 10 public universities by the

year 2020, Bowen said.

U.S. News also evaluated schools in specific areas of study, and A&M's Dwight Look College of Engineering tied with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the University of Minnesota as 17th best in undergraduate engineering programs. A&M ranked first in petroleum engineering, fourth in nuclear engineering, seventh in industrial engineering, 10th in civil engineering, 17th in computer science, 19th in chemical engineering, 20th in mechanical engineering and 21st in electrical engineering.

A&M's Lowry Mays College of Business tied with Arizona State, Case Western Reserve and Georgetown University as 26th among the nation's best business programs.



CHAD MALLAM • THE BATTALION

Got kolaches?



Spectators watch as Caitlin Johnson, 11, and Amanda Reynolds, 8, of Caldwell, stuff their mouths with kolaches at the Caldwell Kolache Festival in downtown Caldwell Saturday. Participants competed against each other and the clock to finish their kolaches. Trophies were awarded in divisions.

STUART VILLANUEVA • THE BATTALION

Bryan Municipal Court grants amnesty

By DANIEL BAGWELL
 THE BATTALION

The Bryan Municipal Court has granted an amnesty period for all outstanding warrants beginning today. If citizens with outstanding warrants pay their fines in full before Sept. 21 they will avoid paying a \$50-per-case warrant fee.

After Sept. 21, all citizens that have not paid their fines will be arrested as part of a "warrant roundup," city officials said.

There are currently 6,513 outstanding warrants which total more than \$1.67 million, Court Administrator Hilda Phariss said.

\$50 warrant fee waived if fines are paid in full

Citizens with outstanding warrants were sent letters on Aug. 29 informing them of the amnesty period.

"Some of these cases date as far back as 1995," Phariss said. "These warrants don't just go away. They're good for life."

The amnesty period is being used to reduce backlog cases for misdemeanor crimes, said Bryan Police Chief Ken Burton.

"A lot of cities take this approach," Burton

said. "The court knows that sometimes people don't have the money. So they are trying to be as understanding as possible."

When a citizen receives a citation he or she has 10 working days to pay the fine or to contest it in court. If the citizen makes no contact with the municipal court during this period, the citizen is given a Class C warrant status, which means that if the citizen is stopped by a patrolman, he will be subject to arrest and must pay a \$50 warrant fee in addition to his fine.

If the citizen cannot pay the fine or cannot

See AMNESTY on page 10.

Hurricane Erin passes close to Bermuda

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP) — Hurricane Erin roared toward Bermuda on Sunday, forcing the government to set up shelters and prepare for the worst on this wealthy island of posh resorts and sturdy homes.

But the first named hurricane of the 2001 Atlantic season was expected to pass 75 miles north-east of Bermuda late Sunday afternoon.

Eric Blake, a forecaster with the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami, said Bermuda would likely be spared heavy rains and hurricane force winds, but might have large swells on the northeastern coast.

"Most of the rain will stay offshore. They'll get some but it won't be in the extreme," Blake said.

Forecasters said Erin was strengthening and could become a Category 3 or major hurricane later Sunday. They projected earlier Erin would come within 15 miles of Bermuda, but its track shifted slightly.

It would likely spin out to sea, although the storm might pose a threat to Canadian waters in a few days, said Richard Pasch, a hurricane specialist with the National Hurricane Center.

At 11 a.m. EDT, Erin's

maximum sustained winds had reached nearly 105 mph. The hurricane was located about 125 miles east of Bermuda and was moving northwest at about 14 mph. Hurricane-force winds extended up to 45 miles from the storm's center, and tropical storm force winds extended outward up to 175 miles.

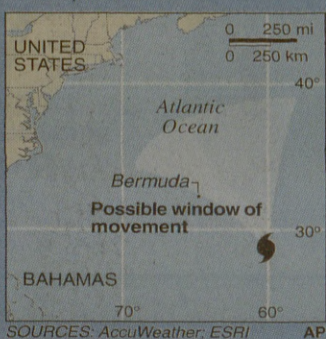
Buses and ferries were canceled for Sunday and Bermuda's 60,000 people were warned to stay off the roads to avoid being hit by debris and to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

Authorities also called out a

See ERIN on page 10.

Hurricane Erin

Position: 29.0 N, 60.1 W
 Moving: NNW 16 mph
 Sustained winds: 75 mph
 Wind gusts: 90 mph
 As of 5 p.m. EDT



Lib Arts debuts 2 new degrees

By MELISSA SULLIVAN
 THE BATTALION

The College of Liberal Arts debuted degree programs in music and telecommunications this semester.

The bachelor of arts in music offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of music with courses in composition, ethnomusicology, music history, music theory, music technology and performance.

The program in telecommunication and media studies, which offers a bachelor of arts and a bachelor of science, is designed to help students understand the social, historical, and conceptual impact of public communication based on electronic and digital communication systems and prepares undergraduates for careers in telecommunication and information industries.

"The initiative to add a music major was mainly driven from Vision 2020 and efforts to make the department of performing arts stronger," said Peter Lieuwen, interim head of the department of performing studies.

In the past, students have had the opportunity to take music courses and obtain a music minor.

The effort to make a music degree available at A&M started four years ago, Lieuwen said.

Currently, 10 students are classified as music majors for the fall. A projected 100 students are expected to be enrolled by 2006 with 60 enrolled in the bachelor of arts and 40 enrolled in the bachelor of science.

Six students are majoring in telecommunication and media studies for the fall.

One rapidly growing area of telecommunication technology jobs in Texas is education. The 1998 Texas Public School Technology Survey found that in the public school system alone, technology jobs have outstripped the number of qualified applicants. The rapidly expanding Internet provides many commercial telecommunication job opportunities.

"Having read the proposal, I agree that it is an important degree for the University. Given the burgeoning of the Internet and e-commerce, there will be a host of jobs that will call for students to have a substantive knowledge base regarding communication

See MAJORS on page 2.