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IN THE AFTERNOON!
Radio News
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THE BATTALION

campus and community news
1:57 p.m.
Monday through Friday

on **KAMU-FM 90.9**
College Station / Bryan

News

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THE BATTALION

Monday, December 3, 2001

LAYOFFS

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Gonzalez, a software developer at Enron and A&M Class of 1999.

Gonzalez said non-essential personnel, especially those not in the company's gas and power operations, will likely get the axe, and workers, caught off guard by Enron's bankruptcy, are scrambling to find other jobs.

"People are just in shock. Enron was one of the largest and most prosperous corporations in the country, and for it to default is pretty amazing," Gonzalez said. "A lot of people haven't even started working on a resume — they still can't believe this could happen."

Gonzalez and his wife settled in Houston when he was hired by Enron in May, lured

from Dallas by the company's generous compensation package.

"Enron was a badass company — the pay scale and benefits were top of the line," Gonzalez said.

Because of its need for engineering and business majors and because of its proximity to the University, Enron one of the most active and high-profile recruiters at A&M, said Daniel Orozco, assistant director of placement services at the Career Center.

"Enron has become a player in the energy business and they've come to campus with a splash and done a lot of recruiting here," Orozco said.

Its perceived selectivity and high salaries has made Enron a sought-after employer by students, Orozco said.

Enron's collapse, and the possible consequences for other energy companies such as Dynegy, could impact those seeking

employment in an energy industry that until now, been only marginally affected by the slowing economy, Orozco said.

Gonzalez said he started job hunting when Enron's prospects turned south a few weeks ago, and was hired by a small firm in Houston last week. He said he had hoped to make a career at Enron, but was lucky to have found another job in such a tight labor market.

"The pay and benefits can't compare to it's a job with a salary," he said.

Enron is a haven for A&M graduates, and many Aggies in the Houston area could be looking for work next week.

"Every time you walked into an elevator or into a meeting, you'd see an Aggie ring, and that's an automatic introduction — a great way to network and get to know people," Gonzalez said.

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For more information please contact Chris Carter at 845-1515

TEACHER

Continued from Page 1

Institute for School-University Partnerships released a survey of 17 Texas school districts that reported 1,200 Texas teaching positions were unfilled in the 2000-01 school year. A fourth of all teachers hired for the 2000-2001 school year, about 38,500, lacked full certification for their position.

Linda L. Glessner, director of Continuing Education for A&M, said there is a nationwide critical shortage of teachers in high-demand fields such as science and math.

"As the number of school-age students continues to increase, and as more teachers reach retirement age, there will be a greater need for teachers not only in Texas, but nationwide," Glessner said. "Nationally, 2.2 million teachers will be needed over the next decade."

The Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education grant will be shared by the College of Education, the College of Science, the Department of Biomedical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The College of Education and Region IV developed a proposal for the grant and formed a partnership to begin addressing teacher shortages in the state through non-traditional routes, Glessner said.

"This partnership was significantly enhanced as other colleges across campus joined in on the effort of addressing teacher shortages through alternative routes," Glessner said.

Glessner said the accelerated certification program includes a year-long internship under the direction of a mentor teacher.

"This is a very beneficial program because we have students who have a lot of science credits," Glessner said. "Thus, they have a strong background in one of our high-need subject areas."

The accelerated certification program was implemented on Oct. 30 with more than 17 students expressing an interest in the program, Glessner said.

"We currently offer the program to those students interested in secondary science and are working on several other content areas to include secondary mathematics, foreign language, bilingual, and special education," she said. "We anticipate that these additional content areas will be offered sometime over the next two years."

To qualify for the program, students must have completed or be in the final semester of completing a degree in a teaching field currently offered through the accelerated certification program. Prospective candidates must meet content-specific grade-point ratio requirements, overall degree requirements and pass a state examination in their teaching field.

Jane Close Conoley, dean of the College of Education, said the initiative shows a commitment to public teaching in the state.

"This program compliments our excellent traditional teacher preparation model by allowing us to meet the needs of not only current undergraduates seeking certification late in the college program, but also recent graduates, mid-career changers, non-certified para-professionals and retirees," she said.

ENRON

Continued from Page 1

our businesses, restore the confidence of our trading counterparties, and enhance our ability to pay our creditors," Lay said.

"From an operational standpoint, our energy business including our pipelines and utilities are conducting normal operations and will continue to do so," he said.

Jim McAuliffe, an analyst with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, said he was surprised Enron hadn't nailed down a debtor-in-possession financing before the announcement.

"That's going to be the real one. That comes well ahead of all unsecured creditors and secured creditors," he said.

The company said it plans to launch "substantial work force reductions," most in Houston where it's based. It didn't say how many workers would be affected. On Friday, Enron laid off 1,100 workers in California. The company employs more than 20,000 workers worldwide and 7,500 in Houston.

The bankruptcy filing has been expected by several analysts and stockholders, many of whom were stunned by the company's fall from grace.

MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican American Culture
presents...

Las Posadas



Monday, December 3, 2001

Procession starting @ Rudder Fountain: 6:30 pm

Reception @ Dr. Southerland's house: 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Join us in a Mexican tradition that recreates Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus.

A procession will start at Rudder fountain, and continue to Dr. Southerland's house, where there will be a reception with free food. Come join the fun!



for more information call Andrea Govea at 845-1515

Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.



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