

THE BATTALION

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

New Aggie Band drum majors chosen

By Marianne Hudson
THE BATTALION

New voices shouting "step off on Hullabaloo" will echo through Kyle Field next year as new drum majors lead the Aggie Band during halftime performances.

Alex Jones, a junior mechanical engineering major, was chosen Wednesday to serve as the head drum major for the 2002-2003 school year. The artillery and infantry drum majors are Brent Selzer, a junior biology

major, and Matthew Morrison, a junior recreation, park and tourism science major.

Dean Dominy, outgoing drum major and a senior biomedical science major, said the drum majors are responsible for leading the band into Kyle Field during halftime performances and setting the band's tempo and direction. The head drum major oversees the entire band.

Jones said he is prepared for the responsibilities he will have as drum major and wants to set a good example for other

band members.

"I remember back to my fish year and thinking of the extreme dedication the head drum major had to the band," he said. "Now, that's me."

Dominy said a selection committee consisting of freshmen, sophomores and junior cadets chose the new drum majors. Criteria such as the candidates' technical posture when holding the mace and their ability to confidently communicate and direct the band were considerations for selection. All junior band mem-

bers with a minimum grade point average of 2.3 were eligible to apply. Twelve cadets applied.

Dominy said he has confidence in the abilities of each of the three who were selected.

"They complement each other well," Dominy said. "As a team, they will be strong."

Dominy said tryouts began March 26. During preliminary rounds, candidates had to lead a mock drill on the band practice

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Major Alex Jones (right) was announced head drum major with Matt Morrison (middle) as infantry drum major and junior Brent Selzer as artillery drum major.

A&M prof works for diversity

By Sarah Szuminski
THE BATTALION

With cultural diversity an enduring, problematic issue confronting Texas A&M, Daniel Hernandez



HERNANDEZ

works with faculty, staff, students and community members to create a "culturally mobile environment."

Where individuals seek to understand the rationale others have behind their actions.

"Like working with very different people to bring cross cultures together," said Hernandez, A&M associate vice chancellor for community development.

"We have cultures (at A&M) that vary from A to Z."

Born to a family with seven children who all went to A&M, Hernandez was destined to be an Aggie. He graduated from A&M with a bachelor of arts in political science in 1973 and went on to earn a certificate in principal government and federal programs at St. Mary's University before attaining a degree from Georgetown University.

Hernandez describes his role at the University as working with institutions across A&M to them with organizations in the community. He does this through seminars and programs that teach the importance of cultural mobility and facilitating mediating and negotiating relationships. He said A&M has great potential for being inclusive and understanding different cultures because of the concept of the Aggie spirit is culturally mobile.

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Celebration



STUART VILLANEUVA • THE BATTALION

(From left) Tim Bailey, Bo Wilson, Scott Goble, Cardo Walthall and Jonathan Lusk celebrate the run-off election results Thursday night in front of the Academic building. Goble, Bailey and Lusk will join Wilson and Walthall as yell leaders next year.

Corps yell candidates sweep runoff elections

By Sarah Szuminski
THE BATTALION

Corps of Cadets nominees swept the runoff election for the three yell positions for grabs Thursday, marking the first time in three years that all five yell leaders are Corps members.

A large crowd of candidates, supporters and students once again gathered in anticipation at the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue Thursday night to hear the results of the student election runoffs.

Scott Goble narrowly defeated Matt Giese in the runoff for senior yell, receiving 4,215 votes (53 per-

cent) to Giese's 3,773 votes (47 percent). Goble described the win as "mindblowing."

"The candidates I ran against were the best," Goble, a junior philosophy major, said. "The victory was 100 percent due to my staff."

Giese, a junior marketing major, said he and his campaign team had tried their best but came up short.

"It's all about who gets out there and votes," he said.

Jonathan Lusk and Tim Bailey won the two junior yell spots in a 4-way runoff with Joe Holloway and Charlie Lima. Lusk got 4,859 votes (32 percent), Bailey won 4,268 votes (28 per-

cent). Holloway received 3,212 votes (21 percent) and Lima won 2,785 votes (18 percent).

"It's such a great honor and privilege," Lusk, a sophomore agricultural development major, said. "There's no way I'd be here without Jesus Christ, my personal Lord and savior."

Lusk said he would use the high profile position to set a positive example for others.

Lima, a sophomore sports management major, thanked supporters and said although he lost, he does not

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Chilifest safety a priority

By Christina Hoffman
THE BATTALION

Planners of the often raucous Chilifest country music festival say they are working closely with law enforcement officials to ensure greater security than in years past.

"The focus was to make Chilifest better this year, not bigger," said Chilifest organizer J.J. Trevino, a senior journalism major.

More than 30,000 country music lovers are expected to attend the festival this weekend, April 5-6, in Snook. Trevino said organizers have been coop-

"We will have enough enforcement to ensure a clean and safe event."

— Gene Barber
Burlison County Sheriff

erating with the Burlison County Sheriff's Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) since the early planning stages of the festival.

To augment law enforcement, Chilifest, Inc. hired Southwest Concert Security, a Houston-based agency specializing in concert and large event security.

"This is the biggest improvement of the year," Trevino said. "The agency has awesome credentials and has experience working major events."

The large crowds, heavy traffic and lawlessness at the festival prompted law enforcement officials to consider moving the event out of rural Snook to allow a larger and better-equipped agency to handle the event.

Burlison County Sheriff Gene Barber said working with Chilifest coordinators and adding other law

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Residence Life announces new hall rates

By Araceli V. Garcia
THE BATTALION

After months of deliberation, the Department of Residence Life announced the final residence hall rates for Fall 2002, citing an increase due to insufficient funds for upkeep and repairs in the halls.

According to the Department of Residence Life, rates increased \$95 for several of the modular style resident halls and Cain Hall, \$75 for the Commons style halls, \$57 for Fowler, Hughes, Keathley, McInnis and Schuhmacher halls, \$15 for Hotard Hall and \$54 for Briggs, Crocker, Davis-Gary, Kiest, Moore, Moses, Spence and Legett halls.

The average hall rate increased by 4.7 percent.

"The offset to this was that the money the University had to spend on summer renovations was roughly only \$6,000. The University is now having to play catch up," said Associate Director of Residence Life Gerald Smith.

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Student Senate proposes absence bill

By C.E. Walters
THE BATTALION

A bill was proposed to the Student Senate Wednesday that could dramatically change how Senate absences are documented.

The bill, if passed, would replace the current system of docking senators for missed events with a cumulative point system. The number of points needed would be determined by the Internal Affairs Committee, and senators would be reviewed at the middle and end of each semester.

Under the present system, senators are removed from their positions after four unexcused absences from general assemblies or committee meetings.

The proposed legislation would

allow the Internal Affairs Committee to lower the cap of needed points or award points to senators based on extenuating circumstances.

Carlton, a sophomore business major, said the new approach would be "designed to be flexible" and would replace a more passive, "stale system." The point system, Carlton added,

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WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 70° F
LOW 50° F

SATURDAY

HIGH 74° F
LOW 55° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.collegeweather.com