

THE BATTALION

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Finishing up



JOHN LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Junior theatre major Keith Neagle adds finishing touches on a set design piece for Neil Simon's *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. The production will run April 18, 19 and 25 through the 28th.

Andersen senior auditor to plead guilty

WASHINGTON (AP) — A senior Arthur Andersen auditor was charged Tuesday with a single criminal obstruction charge, and has agreed to plead guilty to thwarting the government's investigation into the collapse of Enron Corp., people familiar with the matter said Tuesday.

The precise charge against David B. Duncan, who was fired in January shortly after Andersen acknowledged massive shredding of Enron documents, was outlined in court papers filed Tuesday in federal court in Houston. It said Duncan did "knowingly, intentionally and corruptly persuade and attempt to persuade other persons ... to withhold records, documents and other objects from an official proceeding, namely an investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission."

Duncan was expected to appear later Tuesday in federal court in Houston. Obstruction charges can carry fines and up to 10 years in prison, but it was unclear whether the Justice Department would recommend any particular punishment as part of Duncan's expected guilty plea.

The charge against Duncan said the shredding took place between Oct. 23 and Nov. 9. The SEC notified Andersen on Nov. 8 that it would issue a subpoena for documents related to Andersen's work on Enron.

Duncan also has agreed to cooperate with prosecutors pursuing obstruction charges against Andersen and in the broader investigation of the collapse of Enron, people familiar with the matter said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Duncan's attorney, Robert Giuffra, said late Monday that he had no comment on his client's decision to plead guilty, which was initially reported by *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*.

"As we have said from the outset, Mr. Duncan is continuing to cooperate with the government's investigation of this matter," Giuffra told *The Associated Press*.

A grand jury indicted Andersen on March 7 on a single count of obstructing justice, accusing the firm of destroying "tons of paper" at offices worldwide and deleting enormous numbers of computer files on its audits of Enron.

At times, the government said, the shredding was so fast-paced that employees worked overtime and shredding machines could not keep pace. The indictment was unsealed March 14, and Andersen has pleaded innocent.

Court documents also have disclosed that a second grand jury was

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Bolivian president honored

By Melissa Sullivan
THE BATTALION

The first Aggie head of state, Jorge Quiroga Ramirez, Class of 1981, returned to Aggieland for the first time since becoming president of Bolivia last year.

Quiroga visited campus Tuesday to receive the Texas A&M Outstanding International Alumnus Award and sign agricultural agreements with the University.

Quiroga said the George Bush School of Government and Public Service is the most notable addition to the University since his graduation.

"The (Bush) School has a lot to it, and I think Bush Sr. was the best president and I'm glad he picked this University for his library. We have room for another, two is enough, we are not greedy," Quiroga said, referring to the University's efforts to get President George W. Bush's Presidential library.

Quiroga said South America has made headway despite the poor economy in the last two years. He said his country's relations with Texas A&M have helped.

"Bolivia has a good judiciary system, a solid democracy, an abundance of natural gas resources, making it the largest in Latin America," he said. "We have good prospects. As long as we keep Aggies involved, we will do well."

Through the years, Quiroga has maintained ties with Texas A&M through the Bolivian A&M club. He also spoke at the University's commencement in 1998.

Quiroga formally began his presidency last August when President Hugo Banzer resigned because of poor health. However, his presidency will end this year because the Bolivian Constitution prohibits a president from serving two consecutive terms. He will be able to run for office again in 2007. Quiroga said he will be able to spend more time with his family when his term ends.

"My wife likes that," he said. "Also, my

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JOHN LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Bolivian President Jorge Quiroga Ramirez (center), Class of 1981, talks with others while walking across campus Tuesday afternoon.

Carter defeats Wareing

By Rolando Garcia
THE BATTALION

Bolstered by a larger-than-expected turnout in Williamson County, John Carter scored an upset in the District 31 Republican primary runoff Tuesday, soundly defeating Peter Wareing.

With all precincts reporting, Carter received 13,137 votes (57 percent) and Wareing got 9,961 votes (43 percent). Carter, a former state district judge in Williamson County, rallied supporters in the Austin suburbs to win four to one in his home county.

"The people looked at this race and decided they wanted someone who's lived and worked here to represent them," Carter said.

Wareing, a Houston businessman who moved to the district to run for Congress, spent more than a \$1 million, according to campaign finance reports filed in March, while Carter spent \$200,000.

"[Carter's] turnout in Williamson was incredible, it was just too big a hill to overcome," Wareing said.

Wareing also attributed his loss to Carter's advertisements attacking him for being a carpet-bagger and closet liberal, citing Wareing's long history of contributing to Democrats. Wareing said he would support Carter in the general election against Democrat David Bagley.

Most of the Republican Party establishment in Brazos County, including GOP chairman David Kent and state Rep. Fred Brown, supported Wareing, but unlike the March 12 primary, voter turnout in Williamson surpassed turnout in Brazos. Brown said he was concerned that Brazos County might be at a disadvantage if represented by a congressman whose political base lies elsewhere in the district.

"We don't have a local representative," Brown said.

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Director to be named for Aggie Band

By Marianne Hudson
THE BATTALION

The Aggie Band will have a new director by June, University officials said.

The search advisory committee, chaired by Bill Kibler, associate vice president for the Department of Student Affairs, is reviewing the applications of 10 people who applied for the position and will select three or four this week to interview. Col. Ray Toler, the only permanent director of the Aggie Band in its 107-year history, announced his retirement last fall.

Kibler said applicants were asked to submit CDs, videos or programs from events they had conducted. They also were required to have a master's degree in music. The committee will select the applicants based on their musical and military background. Kibler said most of the applicants have experience with

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College Students & Alcohol Abuse

- 1,400 deaths
- 500,000 injuries
- 70,000 sexual assaults

Source: Task Force on College Drinking

CHAD MALLAM • THE BATTALION

Study may change views on drinking

WASHINGTON (AP) — A study showing 1,400 college students are killed each year in alcohol-related accidents should change the views of people who see drinking on campus as little more than a rite of passage, researchers and university officials said Tuesday.

The federally appointed task force that issued the report plans to distribute the study to college presidents, along with findings about which anti-drinking strategies work and which do not.

General campaigns warning of the dangers of alcohol have

not been effective, researchers said. They said it is better to teach students to resist peer pressure, show them how alcohol may interfere with academic goals and strictly enforce minimum age laws.

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Only the young survive?

'Survivor' for children unhealthy and unnatural

WEATHER TODAY

HIGH 80° F
LOW 58° F

THURSDAY

HIGH 80° F
LOW 58° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.collegeweather.com