

THE BATTALION

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

UT-Tyler paper under fire

By Emily Peters
THE BATTALION

In the past three years, the University of Texas-Tyler's student newspaper, *The Patriot*, has evolved into an award-winning, investigative bimonthly newspaper under faculty adviser Vanessa Curry. But the paper now faces a First Amendment battle over the administration's decision to replace Curry and create a new student media policy lacking student involvement.

Since Curry became adviser three years ago, student reporters have frustrated administration by aggressively seeking and acquiring public information — including faculty salaries and campus crime reports — information readily available to A&M students online.

A *Patriot* editorial by student Jenna McClure last semester suggested that a regent's generous donation to the campus bell tower could have been better spent elsewhere. After that, McClure said, the administration became increasingly annoyed with *The Patriot*, stopped sending the paper to alumni and started making public information difficult to acquire.

"I taught them to keep after it until they could get the information they need to write a good, balanced story," Curry said. "They are finding their feet, they are finding their voice, they are finding their right to this information."

UT-Tyler administration has declined to comment on why

See **Paper** on page 6A

Rubber duckies



JOHN LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Sophomore speech communication major **Eric Lee** rounds up rubber ducks gone astray in Rudder Fountain Thursday. MSC OPAS held its 9th annual Duckrace which awarded season tickets and gift certificates.

Student crashes into A&M bus

By Christina Hoffman
THE BATTALION

A Texas A&M student was released from College Station Medical Center with minor injuries Thursday after having a seizure while driving his Ford Bronco, taking him through parts of the A&M golf course and across George Bush Drive three times.

Keith Krueger, a senior chemical engineering major, was traveling eastbound on George Bush Drive Wednesday around 12:15 p.m. when the seizure began. He lost control of his car and eventually hit a Texas A&M off-campus bus, with 12 students and a driver aboard, traveling on the Aggeland route. The bus was waiting at the stoplight at the intersection of George Bush Drive and Anderson Street, heading to campus. Another bus, also on the Aggeland route, was waiting at the same intersection to head southbound onto Anderson.

Krueger first swerved right on George Bush toward the A&M golf course, then swerved around heading southbound toward Anderson, nearly hitting the Aggeland bus that was about to turn. The Bronco went up on a curb and across the Anderson intersection, where it hit a light post, propelling the vehicle back toward the golf course. Krueger then drove onto the

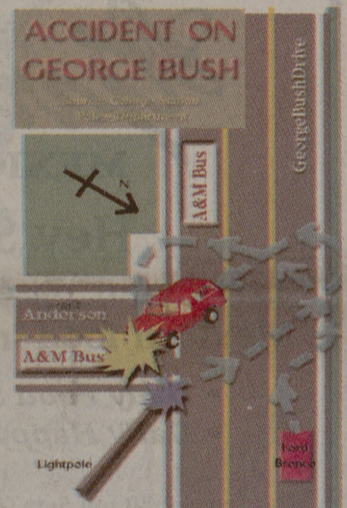
golf course, circled back around again, headed southbound on George Bush Drive and finally hit the bus sitting at the Anderson traffic light.

"He basically went in a huge circle, driving across George Bush twice," said Lt. Ron Sigler, the public information officer with the College Station Police Department.

Krueger was treated for minor injuries at the College Station Medical Center and released, Sigler said. None of the students on the bus were injured.

Brad Porter, a junior wildlife and fisheries major, was sitting in the third row on the bus that was struck. When

See **Wreck** on page 6A



ADRIAN CALCANEANO • THE BATTALION

Verveer shares Holocaust experiences

By Melissa McKeon
THE BATTALION

At the age of two, Chaja Verveer was taken from her family and sent to Westerbork Transit camp, the first of three concentration camps where she would spend the next two years of her life. Verveer, a child Holocaust survivor, spoke Thursday about her experiences before, during and after the Holocaust.

Her visit is part of the Hillel Foundation's Holocaust Remembrance Week.

Verveer was first sent to Westerbork transit camp, then by rail to Bergen-Belsen and finally to Terezin concentration camp, where she remained until liberation. Verveer said she has few memories of the experience, and relies on help from an older brother and other children she was captured with to tell her family's story.

"Anti-semitism is alive and well. It is hidden under

a veneer and comes out whenever it has the opportunity. Anti-semitism is on the rise again. There were places and times when people thought it could not happen there," she said. "and it did."

Verveer's family was traditionally from Holland and considered themselves Dutch Jews. They moved briefly to Palestine, but returned to Holland in 1938.

See **Holocaust** on page 5A



ALISSA HOLLIMON • THE BATTALION
Holocaust survivor **Chaja Verveer**.

Med students land jobs at high rate

By Tanya Nading
THE BATTALION

All 65 graduates for the Class of 2002 at the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine have been matched by the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) to teaching hospitals nationwide for their residency, center officials said.

In one of the highest percent-

ages the center has seen, 56.9 percent, or 37 graduates, will be placed in primary care facilities with 13 graduates specializing in pediatrics.

The numbers for 2002 have increased from the previous year's. Only 44 percent (28 graduates) last semester were placed in a primary care facility with five placed in pediatrics.

The NRMP is the primary system that matches applicants

See **Students** on page 2A

Whoopstock celebrates 10th year

By Jessica Watkins
THE BATTALION

A crowd of 3,000 is expected to converge on Simpson Drill Field Saturday for the 10th annual Whoopstock Unity Festival, being held in conjunction with this year's Parents' Weekend.

Whoopstock began in 1993 when the Ku Klux Klan planned a rally in College Station, believing Texas A&M and its surrounding communities would be receptive to its message. To combat the rally, the Department of Multicultural Service planned a festival with alternative events to promote unity on campus.

See **Whoopstock** on page 2A

Iuzzini encourages academic, out-of-class balance

By Elizabeth Kline
THE BATTALION

Jon Iuzzini, a native New Yorker, moved to Texas in 1996 to attend Texas A&M graduate school and since then has impacted both psychology students and faculty at Texas A&M.

Iuzzini grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. and has a bachelor's degree in psychology from State University of New York-Albany. He completed his master's degree in 1998 and plans to finish his

doctorate in the next year. Iuzzini said he hopes to become a social psychology professor.

"I don't know specifically where I want to teach," he said. "I do want to be somewhere that places value on both research and teaching."

Iuzzini said he chose social psychology as his specialty because it gives him



IUZZINI

the opportunity to impact lives.

"When I was an undergrad, I knew I wanted to go into a field where I could help people, and in this field, we do research to tackle social problems," he said. "Our ability to do that is the most important part."

Iuzzini teaches several psychology courses, including psychology of stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination, a class he designed for junior and senior psychology majors. He said he encourages students to find a balance between academic success and out-of-

class experiences.

"College is more than succeeding in terms of grades," he said. "Students confront long-standing ideals and values and educate themselves on all sides of issues. A college education is about getting all the information before settling on a set of beliefs."

At 29, Iuzzini is only a few years older than most of his students. He said being young helps him interact on the

See **Iuzzini** on page 6A

INSIDE

Opinion Pg. 7B

Is it gonna be me?

'NSync's Lance Bass has no place in space

WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH
84° F

LOW
62° F

SATURDAY

HIGH
84° F

LOW
62° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF
www.collegeweather.com