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**Protests**

Continued from page 1

has long lived without a death penalty and managed all right. People need to know that we do not live in a vacuum."

Vollmar said awareness is the foremost goal of the organization.

"We recently moved from the corner of Texas and New Main so that we might be seen by a different group of people," she said. "At our last protest (the first one at the new location), I did see a lot of people rubbernecking. I could see parents reading the sign to their kids. If nothing else, we've started a dialogue in the community."

The protesters also feel the large amount of money spent on executing prisoners is an important aspect that needs to be considered.

"An important point that I think many people are not aware of is the economic aspect,"

Vollmer said. "It actually costs more for a person to be put to death than to spend life in prison."

The costs of appeals and legal fees are what drive the price up. According to the National Coalition Against the Death Penalty (NCADP), various government entities have estimated the total cost of death penalty cases at anywhere from \$1-3 million, while the total average cost of a life imprisonment is around \$500,000.

"Life without parole means at least 40 years behind bars," Hall said.

Vollmar also noted that the reactions of different demographics of the people driving by were interesting. She said minority individuals who honked were much more likely to give a thumbs-up signal than young, mostly male Caucasians.

The group will continue to protest until there is a moratorium on the death penalty, protesters said.

**FAC**

Continued from page 1

major and the original overseer of the FAC survey. Voelkel said the last meeting concerning the FAC was held during finals week in the spring, where the results were handed over to Coventry and various student leaders.

"The FAC is currently in the beginning stages, while trying to form an activity with the given constituents from all over the University," Coventry said.

He said the FAC and each scheduled activity will promote positive aspects of the Aggie Spirit,

"The recent Supreme Court decision is certainly a step in the right direction," Hall said. "Next, we will be looking for an end to juvenile executions, but we will make our stance known until there is a significant change in the system."

According to the protesters, progress was recently made when 168 prisoners had their death sentence removed after the Supreme Court handed down Ring v. Arizona on June 24.

These individuals had been sentenced by judges, but the Supreme Court decided the right to administer capital punishment should belong solely to juries.

This decision comes quickly after another landmark death penalty decision June 20. In Atkins v. Virginia, the Supreme Court ruled that it was no longer constitutional to execute mentally retarded prisoners, reversing the Penry v. Lynaugh decision of 1989.

connect generations of Aggies, and achieve three primary goals established by Coventry.

He wants to create and coordinate programming for the student body for the fall of 2002, serve as an umbrella organization to promote team work and communication among major campus programming bodies, and begin planning activities for the fall of 2003, Coventry said.

Currently, Coventry is trying to meet with student leaders to discuss the FAC's findings and tentative plans for this fall.

"As such, I need to restructure and continue with the FAC to complete the process initiated in the spring," he said.

**UCIC**

Continued from page 1

be enhanced by improving the image and the reality of Bryan-College Station and the University as welcoming places for all," Kochevar said.

Sarah Adam, a senior architecture major, thinks the UCIC would have a positive impact.

"I think what this group wants to do is great. We definitely need some communication between minorities and our community. The idea for the UCIC couldn't come at a better time," she said.

Community and University groups often work separately toward goals of eliminating dis-

crimination and encouraging an atmosphere of respect, Kochevar said. The UCIC wants to make it easier for diverse groups to work through a unified network.

"We're a very young group," Kochevar said. "We want to keep the door open. We want to put people together."

There is a need for improved communication between the community and the University regarding ongoing efforts, and successes and failures in this area.

"Communication should be open-ended to encourage new approaches to these problems," Kochevar said. "We hope the UCIC can identify problems and encourage joint projects

for community and University interaction."

The UCIC is currently accepting any ideas on ways that A&M and Bryan-College Station can work together to improve the community.

Early in Fall 2002, the UCIC will process all proposals by choosing to sponsor the project through the UCIC, matching the project with another University organization, or postponing the project until appropriate matches can be made.

Participating in the UCIC is an opportunity to have the university express that it is interested in making this area a good place to live for everyone, Kochevar said.

**Physics**

Continued from page 1

technology, but they have had the opportunity to do extensive testing of its capability," McIntyre said.

Usually, ground potential produced and then converted into useable energy by numerous transformers and capacitors in a pyramid-like energy structure. However, the machine that McIntyre's group has built relies on alternators.

"These alternators achieve the highest power density of any of the many devices used in technology of electric power conversion," McIntyre said.

Two motors will be attached to the front of the horizontal cylindrical structure. These run the 12 accelerators on the bottom, which in turn will be capped by transformers and then transferred out the columns on the side. Here magnets will direct the electron beam over a continuous flow of the wastewater.

"Because each stage delivers 75,000 volts, it only takes a dozen alternators to produce the necessary energy to break down the toxic chemicals," McIntyre said.

McIntyre started this project about two years ago, about the same time he discovered 10 years worth of extensive research done on the chemical aspects of the project by the University of North Carolina in Wilmington.

"Basically, the electron beam will ionize the water, producing virulent acids and caustic bases which in turn produce continuous reduction-oxidation reactions. After a certain amount of time, the large molecules will basically be chewed up and turned into methane, ethane, and carbon dioxide," he said.

McIntyre initially wanted to build this type of technology for food irradiation, but feels that current use is more needed at this time.

"Consumer needs are changing from year to year, but right now this is the way to go," he said.

The pride he has in this project is readily apparent, and his achievement is noteworthy in the field of physics.

"This machine will deliver the highest continuous power ever," McIntyre said.

**Funds**

Continued from page 1

lane highway, making it a safer and better way to connect Interstate 35, which extends to Waco. The committee is also discussing the possibility of eventually connecting Highway 6 with Interstate 45. Right now, areas Highway 6 are being turned into four lanes between College Station and Houston.

"We are proactive in securing our citizens," Silvia said.

Silvia said the City Council is concerned with secure surface transportation for the students who attend A&M, but there are many steps to go through before this project can be completed and he is not sure when the construction would be final.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**States determine effect of Supreme Court ruling on death sentences**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A Supreme Court decision that juries, rather than judges, must decide whether defendants should be sentenced to death has officials in nine states scrambling to determine the future of their sentencing laws — and of their death row inmates.

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Douglas Fuentes, Editor in Chief

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