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The Texas A&M University Student Media Board is accepting applications for

Editor

THE BATTALION

- Including radio and online editions -
Spring 2003
(The spring editor will serve from Jan. 6 through May 9, 2003)

Qualifications for editor in chief of *The Battalion* are:

- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (4 if a graduate student) during the term of office (unless fewer credits are required to graduate);
- Have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio (3.00 if a graduate student) and at least a 2.00 grade point ratio (3.00 if a graduate student) in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester during the term of office. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (4 if a graduate student) must have been taken for that semester;
- Have completed JOUR 301 (Mass Communication, Law and Society), or equivalent;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on *The Battalion* or comparable daily college newspaper,
 - OR -
 - Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper,
 - OR -
 - Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II), and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Dell Bomnskie, Student Media business coordinator, in room 011A Reed McDonald Building. Deadline for submitting application: noon Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2002. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Media Board Meeting beginning at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 6, in room 221F Reed McDonald.

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Walk this way

Elephant Walk and Jr. E-Walk kick off today

By Lyndsey Sage
THE BATTALION

In 1922, after the Aggie football team lost its second game of the season, two 1926 Aggie Band freshmen walked out of Kyle Field playing a mournful funeral march. Hoping to break the losing streak "jinx," one by one, other Aggies joined in the march through campus. From that point forward, the two freshmen led the walk after every Aggie football game during the season.

The same freshmen abandoned their walk after that year; however, they decided to resume it one last time their senior year and led a group of seniors through campus as they recounted experiences at Texas A&M.

Eighty years later, the senior class of 2003 will participate in this tradition, known as Elephant Walk.

Sara Kusiak, a senior political science major and chair of Elephant Walk, said it is a time for the senior class to come together and remember their years at A&M.

"The purpose of Elephant Walk is for individuals to remember their time here and for the class to come together and remember things as a class," she said. "It is both personal and something to share as a class. It is amazing how much nostalgia will be in peoples' mind."

Kusiak, who has been planning the event in conjunction with the Jr. E-Walk coordinator since this summer, said this event is an awesome opportunity for the classes to come together and grow more solid in their Aggie Spirit.

The event will start at Law/Puryear Field in the morning with games and a catered lunch.

According to Kusiak, the biggest attractions of the morning events are the elephants that are driven in from a carnival company out of San Antonio. She said the same elephants have been used for at least the past 10 years.

"It's neat because we are able to take pictures with the same elephants that seniors took pictures with 10 years ago," said Kusiak.

Kusiak said the events are planned to give students a time to relax, eat and play.

"It's a time to hang out with friends and have a good time," she said. "It's a good way to wind down the semester."

After lunch, the senior class will go to Kyle Field where it will hear a speaker and have Yell Practice. At 2:03 p.m., the senior class will begin Elephant Walk. Traditionally, the seniors visit places around campus such as the Corp Quadrangle, Fish Pond and the Polo Fields.

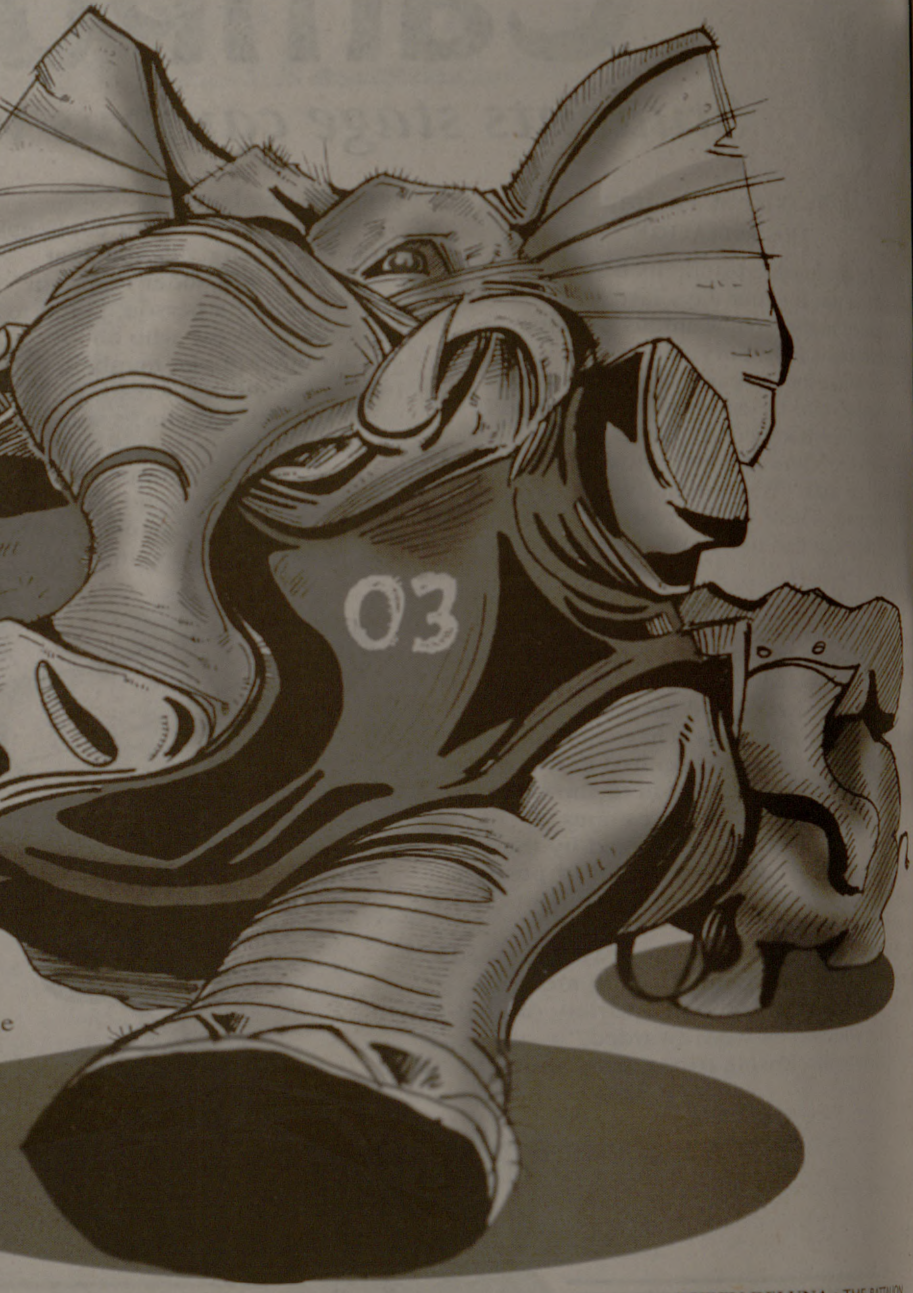
Meanwhile, Jr. E-Walk will step off from Law/Puryear Field at 2:04 and will end at Kyle Field.

Kusiak said Jr. E-Walk, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, is designed to segregate juniors from seniors during Elephant Walk.

Before Jr. E-Walk started, juniors would harass seniors during E-Walk by throwing things at them. Once the harassment progressed, the administration threatened to end Elephant Walk. The Senior Class Council, which coordinates the traditions, sponsored a "Keep it Clean" campaign and started Jr. E-Walk to occupy the juniors during Elephant Walk for the seniors.

Kusiak said Jr. E-Walk is focused more on the event and not the walk.

"I did Jr. E-Walk last year. It was about getting our class together for the first time," she said. "Elephant Walk has a com-



RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION

pletely different tone. It has two aspects to it: to be there with friends and a time for our class to come together one last time." According to Kusiak, the senior class officially "dies" at the end of the walk. The event is known as Elephant Walk because at the end of an elephant's life, it will wander from the herd in search of a place to die. This walk symbolically marks the end of the seniors' usefulness to the student body and serves as a time for juniors to look forward to the coming year when they become the leaders on campus.

Junior biology major Layne Sager said she is excited to participate in Jr. E-Walk because it puts her one step closer to her Aggie ring.

"I think it will be a good time to go out and have fun and not go to classes," Sager said. "I want to do it this year because next year I may be in vet school and won't be able to do Elephant Walk, which is one thing I would miss out on."

Sager said she looks forward to spending the afternoon with friends from her class.

For Chris Duncan, a junior political science major, the tradition aspect is one reason why he is participating in the event.

"For me, it's not necessarily a time to reminisce - that's more for seniors," he said. "It's more of a time to look forward to being a senior and the privileges that come with that."

Duncan said the Elephant Walk tradition is also about rekindling old friendships.

"I'm going with friends who I lived around and hung out with as a freshman," he said. "We haven't all been together since we lived in Aston."

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