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### Fish



### Party

Continued from page 1

radier, he said. The organizers said they are sincerely sorry it came across the way of University said it did.

"The way it came across was not the way any of us meant," McInnis said.

Walton Hall Director Shannon Ensom said she and the Walton residential advisors had "no idea" the event was planned.

"We didn't plan it, we didn't condone it, and our staff has denounced the event," she said.

Ensom also said the Walton staff has delivered letters of apology to all Walton residents and that organizers have already publicly apologized and cancelled the event.

The entire staff and several Walton residents will be participating in the freedom march on Jan. 20, the day the University has set aside to mark the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., she said.

"We know this is serious, but we feel like we've been nipped at the bud," she said.

Residents of the hall said the party was a regular Walton Hall get-together off campus.

"I didn't realize it was a deal. I had never heard of the (problem) before," said Brandon Cassidy, a sophomore industrial distribution major and Walton Hall resident.

Cassidy said the party is an annual event he attended every year.

Everyone dressed up at the party, including African Americans, he said.

"People were wearing klan and even dressed up as klan members," he said, referring to the Ku Klux Klan. "I didn't know there was a problem with it (the party)."

Former student and party leader Arouna "Boo" Davies was a Walton resident until his graduation in December 2002.

"Something must have been misconstrued," Davies said. "They treated me like a brother."

### Celebration

Continued from page 1

involved," Fleming said.

The City of College Station will also hold events to honor MLK Jr. Day with the theme "Dream Deferred Revisited," said Kelley Cole, College Station communication and marketing manager.

The festivities will be held at the Lincoln Center on Jan. 17, Cole said.

Dr. Felecia Scott, director of Multicultural Services at A&M, will be the featured guest speaker and A&M's Voices of Progress and the St. Paul Baptist Church's Mens Choir, Marshall, Texas will provide music, Cole said.

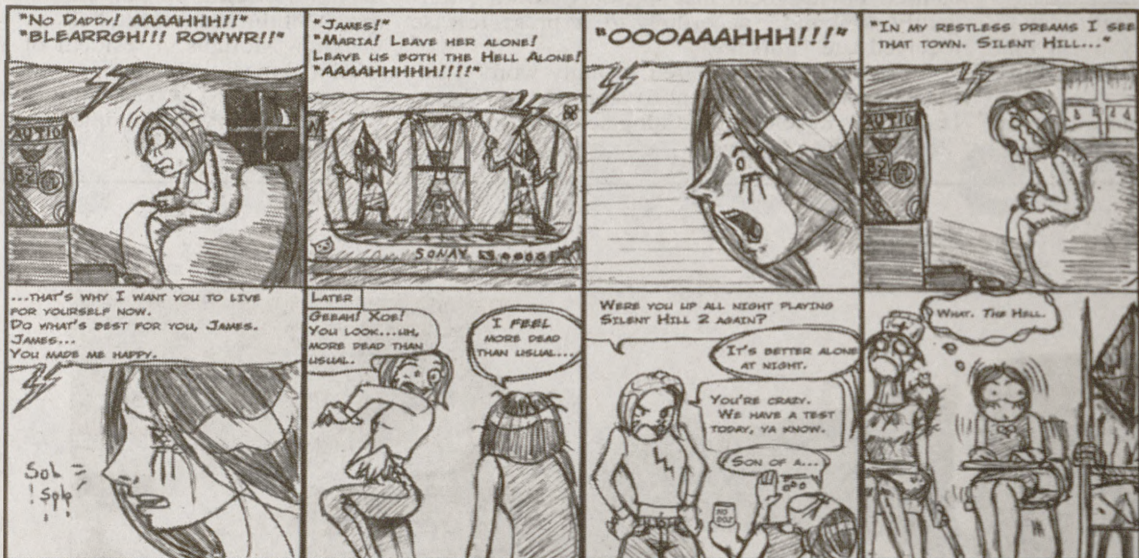
She said the events are free to the public.

### Clarification

In the page one story "Homeland security an A&M priority" on Jan. 16, The Battalion's Dr. Paul Carlton Jr. was a retired Air Force Lieutenant. Carlton is a retired Air Force Lieutenant General and former surgeon general of the Air Force.

### CUBE OF XOE

By C.J.



### Graves

Continued from page 1

scheduled Chancellor Graves into it."

In January 2001, Graves was diagnosed with a rare form of soft-tissue sarcoma in his abdomen. In September of the same year, doctors discovered the cancer had spread to his lungs.

Since then, Graves has received chemotherapy, radiation and a new experimental

drug, thrombopoietin, to battle the disease.

In December 2002 Graves said that the cancerous nodules on his lungs were still growing at a slow rate, while the tumor in his abdomen that had caused the original problem was under control.

Graves will spend a week at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston recovering from the surgery and will return to College Station for an additional two to three weeks before returning to work, Wright said.

### Parking

Continued from page 1

With a new resident hall parking lot opening in February and some shuffling of student and faculty lots, Texas A&M's Transportation Services hopes to ease the campus parking frenzy by providing more spaces for residents and commuters.

A major complaint from Northside residents is the lack of student parking on that side, said Debbie Hoffmann, assistant director for Transportation Services.

A new resident parking lot next to Clements Hall, located off Wellborn Road on Northside, is projected to open Feb. 17 with 353 spaces available to students with red parking permits, Hoffmann said.

A small portion of the new lot will overlap Parking Area (PA) 30, another resident lot. A new road is also being built that will connect the lot to Wellborn Road, Hoffmann said.

"Constructing it as part of the new lot allowed us to maximize the number of parking spaces we can offer and to provide another access point from Wellborn Road to ease traffic congestion near Albritton Tower," she said.

Construction of the new lot cost \$823,000, said Kenny Kimball, associate director for Transportation Services.

Inclement weather pushed back the original completion date of December 2002, Hoffmann said.

In addition to PA 33, Transportation Services plans to change the permit designations of two other parking areas to provide more space for yellow and blue permit users.

PA 39, located behind Cain Hall, will change from a red to a yellow permit lot when the Clements project is complete. The change makes 160 spaces available on Main Campus for faculty and staff, Hoffmann said.

Parking Area 97, located on West Campus, will shift from a

red and blue permit lot to a strictly blue lot, she said.

Hoffmann said the changes will not displace student parking.

"It is actually a winning situation for all customers," she said.

The new resident lot and the shifting of permit designations adds 81 spaces for resident parking, Hoffmann said.

There are no plans to build more resident lots on campus, said Doug Williams, assistant director for Transportation Services.

In addition, parking in the Reed Arena lot, which is a blue permit lot during the day, is now prohibited from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m. Transportation Services wants to avoid forcing students to move their vehicles because of campus events at the arena, Hoffmann said.

"When the West Campus Garage is completed, parking for most arena events will be accommodated within the new facility," she said. "Then, there may be more flexibility in assigning the surface lots in the area."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

With Gov. Rick Perry and others vowing not to raise taxes, lawmakers may not even want to take a peek at a new report that says the state is losing out on \$22.4 billion a year because of sales tax exemptions.

The Senate Finance Committee

report details exemptions on items such as manufacturing materials, medicine and fuel.

The report says Texas could generate about \$2.4 billion a year in revenue by repealing some exemptions. Not taxing some services such as construction

labor will cost the state about \$9.9 billion over the next biennium, the report said.

The report could be tempting to lawmakers. Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said that the current \$114 billion budget is expected to be \$1.8 billion short.

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