

**The Girls of Aggieland** **Now 50% Off**

Visit us on the web to check out xtra pics and calendar info. Buy discreetly On-line

[www.girlsofaggieland.com](http://www.girlsofaggieland.com)

**ΠΣΑ Pi Sigma Alpha**

**TAMU Pi Sigma Alpha Day**  
 Wed., Feb. 19, 2003  
 Allen Building, Political Science Department

12-5 p.m.: Open House, Atrium  
 5-6:30 p.m.: Welcoming Ceremony, Room 2115,  
 Dr. Charles A. Johnson, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts  
 Keynote Speaker  
 6:30-7:30 p.m.: Reception <Room 2115>

## Former military officers support affirmative action

By Dee-Ann Durbin  
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some of the nation's best known retired military officers and former top Pentagon officials will file a Supreme Court brief supporting affirmative action admissions at the University of Michigan.

Former Army undersecretary Joe Reeder, announcing the legal action, said Monday that service academies and ROTC programs need affirmative action to maintain a highly diversified officer corps.

"It is absolutely essential to our fighting force," Reeder said. "You can't get there yet without taking race into consideration."

More than two dozen officials will support the brief including Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, the commander in the first Persian Gulf War; Adm. William Crowe, Gen. Hugh Shelton and Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, all former chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Gen. Anthony Zinni, former head of the U.S. Central Command.

Tuesday is the deadline for briefs in the Michigan case, which will be argued before the Supreme Court on April 1.

The University of Michigan expects more than 60 briefs will be filed to support its affirmative action admissions policies.

So far, 15 briefs have been

filed by opponents of the university's policies, which consider minority status as a factor in deciding which students to pick.

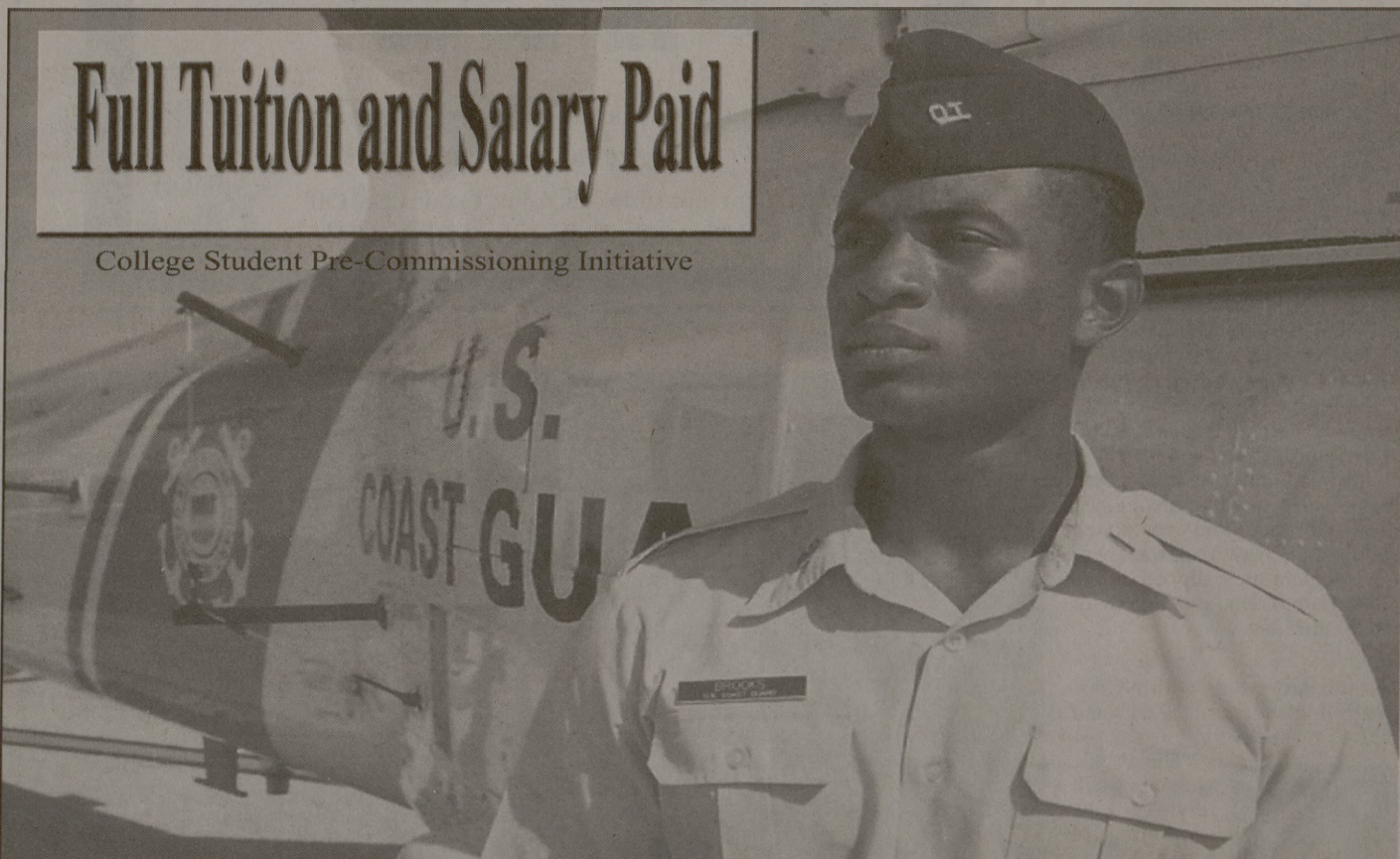
President Bush said on Jan. 15 that he supports diversity in higher education, but that Michigan's program "unfairly rewards or penalizes students based solely on their race."

Applicants for Michigan's undergraduate classes are scored by points, with minorities or some poor applicants receiving a boost of 20 points on a scale of 150. At the law school, admissions officers use a looser formula that tries to ensure each class has a "critical mass" of about 10 percent or 12 percent minority enrollment.

The administration says the point system is skewed toward minorities, noting that a perfect SAT score is worth just 12 points, and an outstanding essay gets three points.

Reeder, an attorney, said "Nothing that the president has done or said speaks to the cohesiveness of the fighting force."

Many large companies have also broken with Bush on the affirmative action case, including General Motors Corp., Microsoft, Steelcase, Procter & Gamble, Intel and Banc One. Those companies have filed supporting briefs. More than 100 U.S. House Democrats filed a supporting brief Feb. 13.



## Full Tuition and Salary Paid

College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative

Let the U.S. Coast Guard help you achieve your goals. By enrolling in this program you'll train to become a commissioned officer, while the Coast Guard pays for your college tuition. In the Coast Guard you'll use your special training to enforce the law, protect property and even save lives. Call to find out about the exciting opportunities waiting for you in the Coast Guard.

**Benefits** ♦ No more student loans ♦ No more part-time jobs ♦ Receive up to \$2,000.00 monthly salary ♦ FULL TUITION PAID ♦ Books and fees paid ♦ Free travel ♦ Free dental/medical care ♦ Optional life insurance coverage ♦ Summer employment ♦ 30 days paid vacation

**Eligibility** ♦ US Citizen ♦ Maintain 2.5 GPA ♦ Must have completed 60 college credits ♦ SAT 1000 or ACT 23 ♦ Age 20-26 upon graduating from college ♦ Be a sophomore or junior in a 4-year college program ♦ Attend an approved college or university

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 28th

Call 1-877-NOW-USCG ext 1788 or visit us on the web at [gocoastguard.com](http://gocoastguard.com).



## Muslim rebels set demands to resume peace talks

By Jim Gomez  
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines — Muslim guerrillas said Monday they will not resume formal peace talks with the Philippine government later this month and demanded the withdrawal of troops who overran their southern strongholds.

More than 2,000 government soldiers last week captured a vast stronghold of the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front, where the military claimed kidnapers, bombers and outlaws had taken refuge. The weeklong fighting left more than 160 people dead and up to 51,000 civilians displaced.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who has sought to resume peace talks with the guerrillas later this month in Malaysia, said the offensive was not directed against the rebels but against criminals, including the Pentagon gang, a notorious kidnap group on a U.S. terrorist list.

The rebels, who have been waging a bloody separatist war in the south for three decades, deny they were harboring criminals, saying the military offensive was aimed at weakening them into accepting a peace deal. They also accused the military of violating a cease-fire accord, which outlined ways of peacefully settling their problems.

Rebel Vice Chairman Al Haj Murad said in a statement the guerrillas will not return to the peace talks until they are convinced of the government's "sincerity and commitment to the peace process."

Rebel spokesman Eid Kabalu said soldiers occupying insurgent strongholds straddling North Cotabato and Maguindanao provinces should withdraw as a sign of goodwill.

"All that we want could be expressed in one word — sincerity," Kabalu said by telephone. "How would they manifest that? Pull out, disengage and stop firing. Otherwise, the talks would be an exercise in futility."

Murad said the guerrillas also want a guarantee that political decisions made by Arroyo would bind the military.

# Give Your Ticket The Finger™

[www.DefensiveDriving.com](http://www.DefensiveDriving.com)  
 The Easiest, Most Convenient Way To Dismiss Your Traffic Ticket.

Why suffer through tedious defensive driving classes, lame comedians or long lines at video stores when you can go online and click your traffic ticket away on the Internet . . . any time, anywhere. And at only \$40.00, you can't afford not to take DefensiveDriving.com. Here's why:

- **CONVENIENCE**  
 Just log on from any computer with Internet access, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So you're in the driver's seat.
- **FLEXIBILITY**  
 Finish the course in as little as 6 hours or up to 90 days, even in 10-minute intervals. You choose.
- **RATED #1 IN TEXAS**  
 Get your official Texas Certificate of Completion from Texas' original, most trusted online defensive driving course.
- **STATE & COURT APPROVED**  
 DefensiveDriving.com is approved by the Texas Education Agency, and is accepted by all courts in Texas.
- **LOWER INSURANCE RATES**  
 Most insurance companies will lower your auto insurance rates with your completion of DefensiveDriving.com.



Got A Ticket? Just Click It!™

## Aggie Hostess Informational

When: Wed., Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Time: 8:30  
 Where: Rudder 601

Come learn about what it takes to be an Aggie Hostess and pick up an application to **try-out!**

"Recruiting the finest for the future of Aggie Football"

ST  
 Resi  
 It's one of  
 at Texas  
 lived on  
 yet few peo  
 have often d  
 organization  
 The name  
 heard-of org  
 Association.  
 its members  
 rently living  
 purpose to in  
 and helping  
 lately, RHA  
 with unimpo  
 projecting a



Gar  
 Mar  
 olo  
 stu  
 American C  
 are suing K  
 School Dist  
 for its failur  
 posal to for  
 Alliance, ac  
 York Times  
 has been sit  
 since Octob  
 anteing stu  
 club if other  
 exist at the  
 The ACL  
 is violating  
 Amendmen  
 the school c  
 mate or rati  
 club from f  
 The Equ  
 states "scho  
 to students  
 ing if the ba  
 tent of the s  
 applies to a  
 federal mor  
 non-curricu  
 according to  
 gay, lesbian  
 advocacy gr  
 Bible club  
 related to th  
 allow a GS  
 Accordi  
 some paren  
 Klein, do n  
 because it v  
 quality and j  
 homosexua  
 This sam  
 homophob  
 ACLU laws  
 High Schoo  
 The New Yo  
 Superintend  
 allowed a C  
 ened with le  
 began meet  
 English tea  
 as their spo  
 Some co  
 protesting,  
 Caphart ba  
 at the schoo  
 the GSA. A