

**Washer Pitching Tournament**  
 Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Trinity Baptist Church  
 1070 N Harvey Mitchell Parkway  
 (FM 2818 Next to Jane Long Middle School)

Registration begins at 9 a.m.      \$5 Entry Fee  
 Tournament starts at 10 a.m.

Trophies will be awarded

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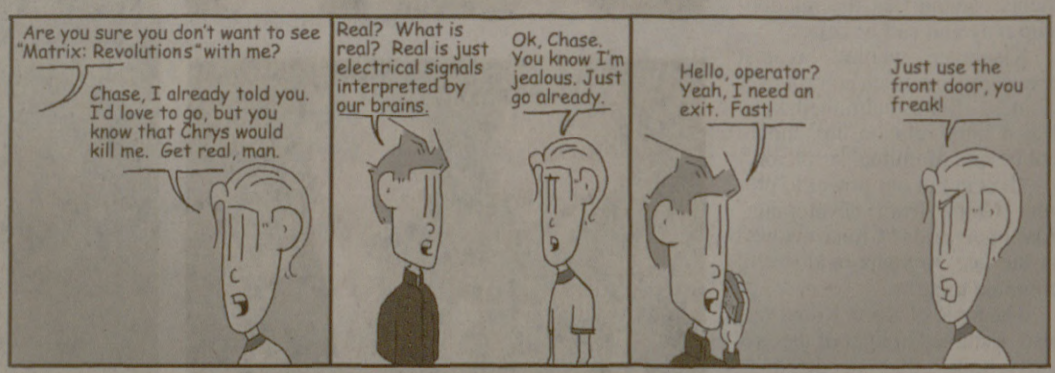
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**THE BATTALION**  
 Sommer Hamilton, Editor in Chief

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Traffic

Continued from page 1A

not have run it in front of him. "I felt like he was just looking to give me a ticket no matter what for his quota," Hicks said. But Woodward said ticket quotas are outlawed in Texas. Though cities must quote how many citations they expect in an issue when applying for the STEP grant money, they must base it on a statistical formula of the number of vehicles compared to citations, Woodward said.

"We have to issue a certain amount of citations to keep the site, but we don't want to keep the site," Woodward said. "That means that we're getting rid of problems."

STEP funds more money for sites in the area that have a high volume of traffic and a high accident rate.

"If we can't prevent the accident from occurring, we work to prevent the severity of accidents and injuries," Woodward said. "In those major intersections when you have people that run red lights on a continual basis many more accidents occur."

In Bryan and College Station, arrests and citations resulting from STEP grants rose from 4,586 in 2002 to 5,006 in 2003, according to fiscal year statistical documents. The cities' grant applications show that they set goals for such increases.

"Our goal for offering those grants is reduction of accidents by the enforcement of specific violations that are statistically proven to add to the severity of accidents," said College Station Police Lt. Mike Matthews. "We are much more likely to be injured if you aren't wearing your seat belt, speeding or carelessly moving through intersections."

College Station, which has a high percentage of young drivers largely due to Texas A&M, distributes more tickets overall each year compared with Bryan. The city's municipal court processes around 50,000 cases annually, while Bryan's handles between 15,000 and 20,000.

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