

THE BATTALION

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Kennedy receives Bush award

By Sonia Moghe
THE BATTALION

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts accepted the George Bush Award for Excellence in Public Service at Texas A&M on Friday, despite a controversial and conservative atmosphere, and encouraged debate of political issues to ensure the strength of the nation.

Former President George Bush selected Kennedy to receive this award based on Kennedy's 41 years in the U.S. Senate, his contributions to Americans with disabilities, his strong leadership and his commitment to his beliefs, said Brent Scowcroft, president of the Board of Directors for the

George Bush Presidential Library Foundation. Scowcroft, who was also Bush's National Security Adviser, read the citation of the award at a private dinner ceremony in the Bush Presidential Library Museum Rotunda shortly after Kennedy's address in Rudder Auditorium.

"We are not here to celebrate a partisan ideology," Bush said. "But rather the steadfast public service of a seminal figure in the U.S. Senate — and by extension his remarkable family."

Kennedy was joined by several members of his family, including his wife Victoria, his children Kara, Edward, Caroline, Curran and Michael Allen, his niece Caroline and his sisters Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, Ethel Kennedy, Pat

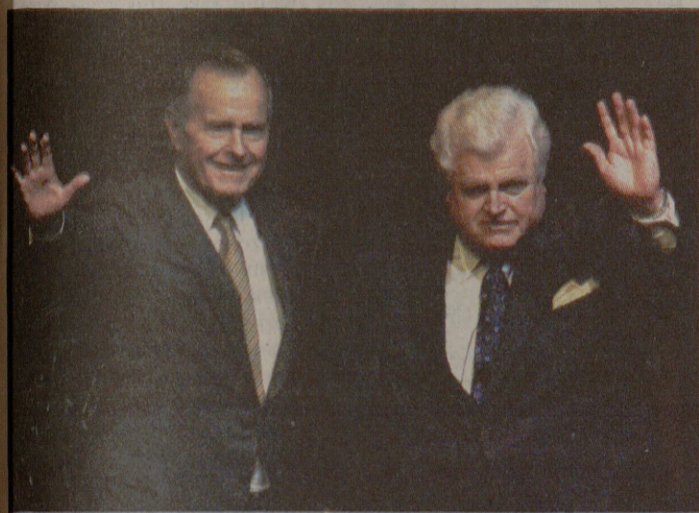
Lawford and Eunice Shriver.

"Having these family members here gives us a wonderful chance to salute all Kennedys, past and present, for their selfless service in uniform, their service in politics and their service as points of light, helping others," Bush said.

Bush and Kennedy focused on the similar ambitions and successes of their families as a common ground in which political differences were set aside. The two recognized the various achievements of their politically prominent families, asserting that the rivalry between them was merely a difference in political ideology.

Bush pointed out that degrading comments

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JP BEATO III • THE BATTALION

Sen. Ted Kennedy and former President George Bush shake hands after a speech given by Kennedy Friday in Rudder Auditorium. Kennedy is the third recipient of the George Bush Award for Excellence in Public Affairs.

Cavalry members begin testimonies

By Carrie Pierce
THE BATTALION

Friday marked the third day of testimony in the civil suit members of the Parsons Mounted Cavalry have brought against Texas A&M, and former Cavalry member Drake Prowse testified University documentation outlining the allegations against him were unclear.

The Parsons Mounted Cavalry students are seeking legal action to dismiss themselves of the hazing punishments they are receiving, which they deem to be unfair and illegal. The Cavalry was suspended in October 2002 by Lt. Gen. John Van Alstyne, the Corps of Cadets commandant, for alleged hazing violations. In April, disciplinary hearings were held for the students involved.

The first witness to provide testimony at the Brazos County Courthouse Friday was Charlotte Magruder, mother of senior A&M yell leader John Magruder. Magruder testified concerning her son, a member of Parsons Mounted Cavalry, said attorney Ronald Hole, representative for the student plaintiffs. John Magruder was part of the "second three," a group of the Cavalry's upperclassmen who discipline the sophomore members, Charlotte Magruder said.

"The pre-hearing was more of an inquisition, yet they found (Magruder) guilty," Hole said.

Prowse also testified Friday. He was the first student witness in the hearing. Prowse had not been a Cavalry member since the 2001-2002 school year, he said. At this time, a different commandant was in charge of the Corps.

Attorneys for the students said Prowse was alleged to have violated five University rules. The allegation documents did not include specifications pertaining to what part of these rules were violated or what year they were violated in, Prowse said.

"It just lists that I received violations," Prowse said.

A&M attorney Natalie Gray had indicated in opening statements that students should be able to identify any statements pertaining to them.

"It took me about an hour and a half to review what I was looking at. None of it seemed to pertain to me," Prowse said. "My prime concern was I didn't know what anything was based on."

Prowse said he had been out of the Cavalry when members received their violations, and there had been no circumstances he had been involved in. Punishments received could have put jobs and plans to become engaged and married on hold, said Prowse, who is scheduled to graduate in December.

The final witness called to testify Friday was Jacquie

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No joke



SHARON AESCHBACH • THE BATTALION

University of Oklahoma fans hold up signs supporting the No. 1 ranked Sooners during the Texas A&M v. OU football game held Saturday in Norman, Okla. The Sooners defeated the Aggies 77-0. See more coverage on page 5.

TS: Bikes must obey traffic laws

By Natalie Younts
THE BATTALION

Lindsay Mosley, a senior English major, collided head-on with another bicycle during the first semester of her freshman year.

"We didn't say a word to each other," Mosley said. "We just rode off. We were just embarrassed."

Although Mosley was not injured in the accident and did not report it, she has a friend who once broke her collarbone after her bicycle collided with an automobile.

Transportation Services Director Rodney Weis said he would like accidents such as these to be prevented by having bicyclists observe traffic laws, drive defensively, slow down and use common sense.

"I would hope that all motorists and pedestrians would drive, bike or walk Texas-friendly," Weis said.

Weis said the biggest bicycle-related problem he sees on campus is when bicycles traveling too fast on sidewalks or around heavy pedestrian

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BIKE SAFETY

Disobeying traffic laws can cause a biker to get fined up to \$500. Here are some tips to stay safe on campus:

- Follow the same rules as automobiles, such as stopping at stop signs.
- Drive at a safe speed.
- Use headlights at night.

RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION
SOURCE: TS/UPD

Spring semester class focuses on terrorism

By Dan Orth
THE BATTALION

Due to the attention on terrorism issues following the 9-11 terrorist attacks, the Department of Geography will again be offering a Geography of Terrorism class this spring.

The class will cover the regions and places of terror, tragedy and counter-terrorism.

It will also focus on the role terrorism plays in the world today, events following 9-11 and other terrorist acts before it.

Erik Prout, a visiting assistant professor, teaches the class. He said the class made an impact on the students who took it last spring.

"I received a very positive response from students about the class and it was something they said they needed to talk about," Prout said.

Jana Sheffield, a junior geography major, took the class last spring and said she enjoyed the discussions on terrorism.

"In our class, students led discussions on topics of terrorism, and I found class involvement very rewarding," Sheffield said.

The class is made up of half discussion and half lecture. Prout lectures on topics such as the motivations of people who commit suicide bombings and the possibility that increased globalization has led to more terrorism.

Sheffield believes taking the class will benefit her future career as well.

"I plan on going into the Air Force upon graduation, and this course gave me a useful background on terrorism and relevant issues," she said.

Prout said the class focuses on what terrorism means, and in lecture he works to help students better understand terrorism.

"My goal is to define terrorism and what it means. I work to get students thinking about it critically. I inform students of post-September 11 issues and I have them intensely read articles on the subject of terrorism," Prout said.

Kyler Arnold, a sophomore international studies major, said she would take a class on terrorism and said taking it would benefit her

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U.S. steps up military operations after recent attacks

By Slobodan Lekic
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Soldiers arrested 18 people in a deadly missile barrage last month that Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz narrowly escaped, officials said Sunday. U.S. warplanes bombed near a center of Iraqi resistance, and the military said it was intensifying the fight against insurgents after increasingly bloody attacks.

The U.S. command also announced the death of another soldier, killed late Saturday when his vehicle struck a land mine in Baghdad. A senior Iraqi official warned that mounting violence may delay steps toward a new constitution, considered a major condition for returning the country to full Iraqi rule.

Lt. Col. George Krivo, spokesman for the U.S. command, said the 18 suspects were arrested in Baghdad by the 1st Armored Division but gave no further details. The missile

attack Oct. 27 against the Al-Rasheed Hotel killed a U.S. colonel and injured 18 others.

Wolfowitz, one of the architects of the Iraq war, was staying in the hotel but escaped injury. The barrage was part of a series of escalated attacks over the past two weeks, including the downing of a Chinook helicopter Nov. 2 in Fallujah in which 16 soldiers were killed and 21 injured.

The downing of the Chinook and the crash Friday of a Black Hawk helicopter in Tikrit made the first week of November the bloodiest for American forces since President Bush declared an end to major combat May 1.

With the start of the holy month of Ramadan on Oct. 27 in Iraq, U.S. forces lifted curfews in Baghdad and Tikrit and scaled down nighttime raids to avoid angering ordinary Iraqis at a time of heightened religious

sentiment.

But after the wave of attacks that began around the start of Ramadan, the military now appears to be returning to a more robust operation.

"We have picked up the intensity of our offensive operations."

— Lt. Col. George Krivo
spokesman for U.S.
command

west," Krivo said, without giving details on the

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