

# Parents of the Year 2004-2005

Applications are currently available online <http://parentsweekend.tamu.edu>. They are due Friday Feb 20, 2004 by 5:00 pm in the SGA cube at 127 Koldus Building.

Questions? Contact Libby Whitehead at 324-5377  
Parents' Weekend Committee

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Call, e-mail or fax Julie for list of accompaniments & reservations

Entree selections must be made by 5 p.m. the Monday before the Valentine Dinner

Table Seating at 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

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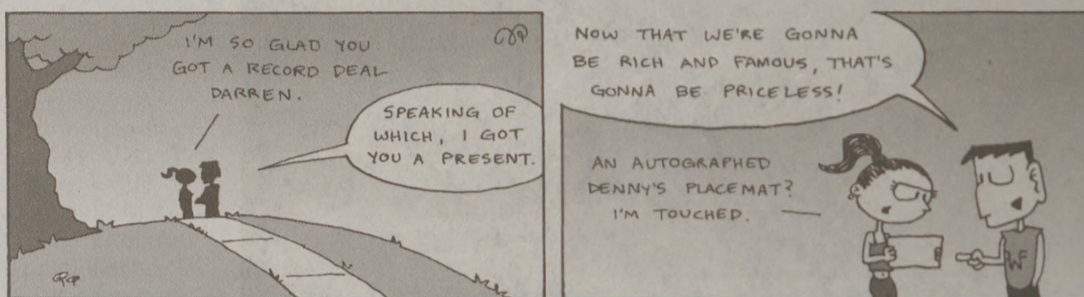
## FISH

BY R. DELUNA



## NOISE & POLLUTION

BY JOSH DARWIN



## DUNNBOYZ

by Will Lloyd



## Bush

Continued from page 1

Democrats derided Bush for shortchanging social programs, pursuing tax cuts largely helping the rich and producing an unyielding stream of huge budget shortfalls.

"The president clearly does not understand the economic, social and security challenges that our nation faces today," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a leading presidential contender.

"Today the President released a budget that deepens the deficits that his policies have helped to create," said Rep. John Spratt, D-S.C., of the House Budget Committee.

If Bush's deficit and spending projections come true, the government will borrow 22 percent of what it spends this year and 15 percent next year. His plan sets aside \$178 billion next year just for paying interest on its debt.

Bush provided few details on how he would halve deficits, other

than broad references to economic growth and spending restraint.

His budget assumes the one-third of the budget Congress writes every year — the rest is automatically paid benefits like Social Security — will grow by a total of 3.7 percent over the next five years. That figure is so low lawmakers are unlikely to heed it.

Bush also proposed \$1.1 trillion in tax cuts over the next decade, mostly to renew expiring reductions for individuals and businesses but also reworked plans to encourage saving.

Bolten, the budget chief, said Bush wants to eliminate 65 programs for a savings of \$4.9 billion and cut 63 others. Congress has ignored such proposals before.

Though Bush proposed an overall 3 percent education increase — a figure Democrats say is too skimpy — 38 programs slated for extinction were in the Education Department. They included a \$35 million arts in education program, school counseling and Even Start for improving poor children's reading skills.

Programs Bush would cut include water projects, rural conservation, aid to state and local law enforcement agencies, the Amtrak passenger railroad, and federal prisons, which would drop from \$4.76 billion to \$4.71 billion.

The president's budget is a proposal that triggers work on spending legislation by Congress, which is controlled by Republicans.

The year is likely to be fractious because of divisions between conservative GOP lawmakers who want even deeper cuts in spending and deficits, and moderates wary of slashing too deeply, especially while seeking re-election.

Conservative unease intensified by the budget's upward re-estimate — by one-third — of the 10-year cost of the newly enacted Medicare overhaul to \$534 billion.

"This budget is a step in the right direction and I am hopeful that working with other members of Congress we can do even more," said conservative Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas.

# Fort Hood soldiers killed in Iraq

FORT HOOD, Texas (AP) — Three soldiers stationed at Fort Hood were killed over the weekend when their vehicle struck a homemade explosive device near the northern Iraq city of Kirkuk, the Defense Department reported Monday.

The soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division were identified as Sgt. Eliu Miersandoval, 27, of San Clemente, Calif.; Cpl. Juan Cabral Banuelos, 25, of Emporia, Kan.; and Pfc. Holly McGeogh, 19, of Taylor, Mich.

All three were light-truck mechanics assigned to the Company A, 4th Forward Support Battalion, officials at Fort Hood said. Their vehicle hit the improvised mine while traveling as part of a convoy about 27 miles south of Kirkuk.

Dan Hassett, a Fort Hood spokesman, said Monday that another soldier from the post near Killeen was killed Sunday in a separate incident, but that person's identity has not been released.

About 20,000 troops from Fort Hood are scheduled to return home from Iraq this

spring, while some 20,000 other soldiers from the post are preparing to be deployed.

Counting the yet-unnamed casualty, 54 soldiers from Fort Hood have been killed in Iraq since the war started nearly a year ago, Hassett said.

Miersandoval, born in Mexico, joined the Army in 1998 and spent nearly all of his military career at Fort Hood.

Cabral's cousin, Marisol Gomez, said her cousin was a native of Geres, Mexico. She said her cousin spent most of his childhood in Riverdale, Utah, and moved to Emporia with his family as a teenager.

She said her cousin was a popular student in high school who dreamed of enlisting in the Army after graduation. He became an Army mechanic and was stationed in Fort Hood before he was deployed to Iraq.

"When he was in high school that was one of his goals to finish high school and graduate and go to the Army when he graduated," Gomez said. "He said he liked it there (in the Army). It

was difficult but he liked it. He liked what he was doing."

Gomez said he will be buried in Utah, where most of his family lives.

She said the soldier's death is extremely painful because in just a few weeks he would have been reunited with his wife and two small children.

Cabral's wife, Anita Cabral, 24, told the Standard-Examiner of Ogden, Utah, that she met her husband-to-be when she was a young child. The pair married in September 1998, a few months after Cabral enlisted.

"He was proud of his boys, proud of his family ... I'm going to go back to Utah and raise my boys like he wanted me to," Anita Cabral said. The boys 7 years and 18 months old.

Anita Cabral said her husband loved to tinker, especially on his 1963 Chevrolet Impala Super Sport. That love of cars helped make him a light-truck mechanic in the military.

McGeogh became a soldier in 2002 and was assigned to Fort Hood last March.

## Fire

Continued from page 1

neath the wall into the store. "In the middle of the store there was about an inch of water and all the boxes on the floor were wet," she said.

Love said the mall opened time for the kid's fair Saturday morning, and things went "without a hitch."

Love said in the future carpets will need to be replaced and there may be some issues, but everything is back to normal.

"In the grand scheme of things everything is in shape," Love said.

## Program

Continued from page 1

Ryan Adams, a sophomore kinesiology major, said he reads national newspapers because it gives him a better understanding of what's going on outside of Bryan-College Station.

"I think this free program is a good idea," Adams said. "Money is probably something that holds people back from reading the paper."

The 270 schools that did this trial run now have permanently instituted Diem said.

According to the Today Web site, many universities are involved in the program, including University of Texas at Austin, Texas Christian University, Texas Tech University and The University of North Texas.

If students at A&M like the program and it is picked up by the SGA, it will figure out how to find funding for the program, Josefy said.

## Candidates

Continued from page 1

Dot Snyder said she will address the educational issues that plague the United States in her presidential campaign. Snyder said she will address the school board, Snyder implemented a plan that ended the school's promotion policy in Waco.

Snyder said President George W. Bush used her social promotion policy. Snyder said she is the best candidate to beat Ed Edwards because she has run against Edwards previously in the Congressional District 11.

"I think of long-term issues and how to bring them to bear in the forefront."

— Dave Morris, District 17 candidate

Justices Felipe Reyna and Lynn Kendrick are running against each other for justice on the 10th Court of Appeals.

Reyna appealed to his childhood, where he rose from being a janitor in the 10th Court and now running for justice to preside in the same room once swept.

Kendrick said she has experience to fulfill the justice. She has spent the five years as a justice, while Reyna has not tried a case more than 21 years.

The Brazos County Republican Club will meet next month.



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# THE BATTALION

Elizabeth N. Webb, Editor in Chief

The Battalion (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods). Texas A&M University, Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX 77840. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, Texas A&M University, 1111 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-1111.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Media, a unit of the Department of Journalism. News offices are in 014 Reed McDonald Building, phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2647; E-mail: [news@thebattalion.net](mailto:news@thebattalion.net); Web site: <http://www.thebattalion.net>

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Subscriptions: A part of the Student Services Fee entitles each Texas A&M student to pick up a single copy of The Battalion. First copy free, additional copies 25¢. Mail subscriptions are \$60 per school year, \$30 per semester or spring semester, \$17.50 for the summer or \$10 a month. To charge by Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express, call 845-2611.