



Angelou to spend 'evening' with A&M

By Aerin Toussaint
THE BATTALION

Maya Angelou's works have a general appeal to college students because her writing style draws readers in, said Jeff Stumpo, a graduate student in English and the founder of Javashock. "The best authors are not completely concrete," Stumpo said. "They don't just lay all the facts out there."

Angelou will speak about her past experiences and talk about some of her works Friday at Rudder Auditorium as part of "An Evening with Maya Angelou." Doors will open at 4 p.m. and Angelou will present at 4:30 p.m.

The event is free and seats are available on a

first-come, first-served basis, Stumpo said.

MSC Diversity, a part of Memorial Student Center Council that is committed to promoting diversity through programming, is responsible for bringing Angelou to A&M, said Leviathan Winn, a sophomore accounting major and director of "An Evening with Maya Angelou."

"We feel that with our diversity initiatives here at A&M she will help people understand and appreciate the differences in others," Winn said. "You can't claim to have diversity unless you have a wide array of perspectives on different issues on your campus."

Angelou is an educator, historian, best-selling author, actress, playwright, civil-rights activist, producer and director. She has received honorary

doctorate degrees from several universities, and became the second poet in U.S. history to have the honor of reciting original work at a presidential inauguration when she spoke at former President Bill Clinton's inauguration ceremony in January 1993, Winn said.

"She brings a very unique oral and written communication style to a broad audience," Winn said. "We hope students will come hear her speak."

Angelou was originally scheduled to visit A&M on Feb. 28, but inclement weather forced her to cancel her appearance, said Luke Altendorf, senior associate director of the MSC Diversity.

Angelou is one of the most famous black authors and humanitarians, Altendorf said. She is most well-known for the literary and film works she has done.

An Evening With Maya Angelou



4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 23
Rudder Auditorium

Doors open at 4 p.m.
Admission is free

- No tickets are required for the event
- For more information, call the Memorial Student Center at 845-1515

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SOURCE: MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER DIVERSITY

Week aimed to create campus 'UniDiversity'

By Elizabeth Knapp
THE BATTALION

Diversity on Texas A&M's campus will not happen all at once, said Yakut Gazi, founder of the International Graduate Student Association.

"If there is going to be a change at A&M, it is going to happen now," Gazi said. "We have to work together to create an environment where everyone respects each other."

The pursuit of that change begins Monday with UniDiversity Week. Geared at promoting diversity on campus, the week will feature many events including movies, discussions, concerts and poetry readings to aid students in the creation of a more diverse environment. This year is the first time a full week is being devoted to diversity on campus. Last year, only a day of different activities was held, Gazi said.

"Based on experience that we got from UniDiversity Day, we tried to target students and create events that would pull students in," Gazi said. "With a week, if somebody can't make it one day, they can make it the next."

UniDiversity Week's host, the IGSA, is the first non-departmental organization on the graduate student council that allows international students to have a

voice, Gazi said.

"We figure that if groups go separately, nothing will change, so we got together and formed IGSA," Gazi said.

The week will kick off with a presentation by James Anderson, vice president and associate provost for institutional assessment and diversity, at a reception Monday at 4 p.m. in the Faculty Club and will conclude on Saturday with a UniDiversity Day celebration.

"Events such as the UniDiversity Week bring us closer together as one big Aggie family," said Julio Jana, president of the International Student Association. "It strives for a more welcoming and diverse campus for all."

Chris Moore, a senior political science major and president of the German Club, said anything to promote different types of culture is beneficial.

"Diversity in all aspects is a very important component of growing to more understand the world around us, and I feel a little disheartened that A&M does not have a more diverse student body," Moore said. "I think a lot of people are missing out."

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Board of Regents begin search for new chancellor

By Sonia Moghe
THE BATTALION

Lowry Mays, chairman of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, announced in a teleconference Friday that the board will begin an immediate search to fill the position of system chancellor.

"I ask each of you (regents) to be available," Mays said. "It is extremely important that we find someone to fill the position before the next legislative proceeding."

Benton Cocanougher, former dean of the Lowry Mays Business School, is currently serving as the interim chancellor after Howard Graves, chancellor of four years, retired in September 2003 and died of cancer shortly thereafter.

Cocanougher was not in attendance at Friday's meeting and, when contacted, he said would not make any comments regarding the search or if he was going to pursue the position.

Mays said the regents want to complete the search by the beginning of 2005. Other university systems, such as the University of Texas System Board of Regents, have hired independent consulting firms to aid in the search for their chancellors.

The search committee will be made up of all nine members of the Board, said Bob Wright, director of communications for the system.

Whoopstock '04



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Genafe' Martinez, a senior education major, danced as Simpson Drill Field on Saturday. Ballet Folklorico

Ballet Folklorico Celestial showcased traditional Celestial will present "Fiesta Mexicana" at Rudder Theater on May 1 at 6 p.m.

Parents' Weekend 2004 deemed 'great experience' by families

By Jason Hanselka
THE BATTALION

Sunshine and camaraderie inundated the Texas A&M campus this weekend as thousands of students and their parents participated in Parents' Weekend 2004.

"It's great to see all the parents come together and help out the University," said Susan Bayliss, Orange County Texas Aggie Moms' Club member. "They're helping out not just their Aggies, but all Aggies."

Bayliss, whose son and daughter currently attend A&M, said she enjoys participating in Parents' Weekend.

"It's a great experience, especially for us parents," Bayliss said. "They (students) make us feel welcome and a part of things."

Created in 1919, Parents' Weekend was originally an open house for mothers who worried about their sons at school and wanted to help them through their underclassman years. Formerly it has been called Mother's Day, Mother and Dad's Day, Parent Appreciation and Open House.

Highlights of Parents' Weekend included the Aggie Moms' Boutique, Midnight Yell Practice, Bevo Burn Barbecue, Aggie baseball and the Maroon and White football game.

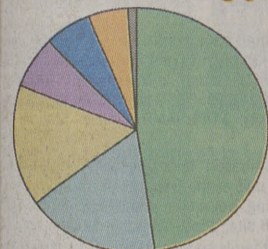
Dennis Zuehlke said he and his wife enjoyed attending Midnight Yell Practice with their daughter Alycia, a junior agricultural journalism major.

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THE BATTALION Online Weekly Poll

Last Week's Results:

"What's stressing you out the most right now?"



- 48% School work
- 17% Financial matters
- 16% Your future
- 7% Relationships
- 6% Reality shows
- 5% Summer jobs
- 1% Your car

This Week's Poll:

"How often do you think students plagiarize for projects?"

Take this poll at: www.thebatt.com

GRACIE ARENAS • THE BATTALION

First Yell to feature Bill Cosby

By Carrie Pierce
THE BATTALION

Comedian and actor Bill Cosby's performances bridge the gap between students and former students of Texas

A&M, making him one of the funniest comedians of all time, said Ryan Bishop, junior business major and head yell leader-elect.

Cosby will perform at A&M Sept. 10 as part of the 6th annual First Yell. First Yell, a weekend of entertainment and football, which started in 1999, has featured comedians such as Bill Engvall, Jeff Foxworthy, Mark Curry and Martin Short, along with local stu-

dent performers.

The show is held at Reed Arena the Friday night before the first yell practice at Kyle Field. A&M's First Yell is the single biggest entertainment and comedy event of its type on a college campus, Bishop said.

"The purpose was to have an event that goes around the first home football game to welcome the new students and old students back for the new school year," said Rusty Thompson, yell leader adviser.

This year, First Yell will coincide

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See Cosby on page 2A

First Yell 2004 featuring comedian Bill Cosby

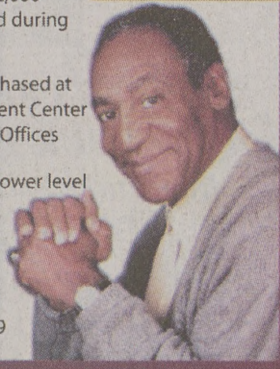
September 10, 2004
Reed Arena

Student tickets on sale now through Friday and 2,000 tickets are being sold during the pre-sale.

• Tickets can be purchased at the Memorial Student Center or Reed Arena Box Offices

• Tickets are \$10 for lower level and \$20 for upper level seats

• Tickets for the general public will go on sale August 9



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SOURCE: [HTTP://YELL.TAMU.EDU](http://yell.tamu.edu)