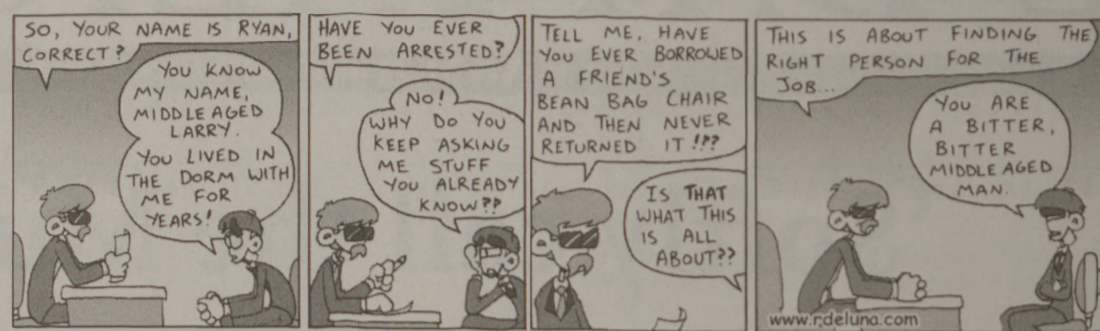


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Couple

Continued from page 1A

main reason the Baumanns were selected was their combined 83 years of teaching experience.

"Their daughter is very involved, which made them very involved as well," Whitehead said.

The Baumanns hosted three Fish Camps and several retreats for Hospitality at their ranch near Gause.

Eugene said the close proximity of Gause and College Station, along with the genuinely caring atmosphere he and his wife provide for students of all ages are, more than likely, big reasons why they won the award.

Janice Kerlee said there many perks for the Parents of the Year. Janice and her husband Timothy were Parents of the Year for 2003-04.

"Handing out Aggie rings was the highlight,"

Kerlee said. "Just a chance to be with Aggies more often is a wonderful honor."

Anna Palm, a senior communication major and member of the selection committee for Parents of the Year, said she was excited to be part of the committee that selected her parents as Parents of the Year in 1997-98.

The selection process begins in March when students nominate parents for the award, Whitehead said. There is an application that has to be completed along with three letters of recommendation. The selection committee consists of 45 students who narrow the field down to two couples for the Parents' Weekend awards ceremony.

Whitehead said that of the two couples, the Baumanns definitely had the majority of the vote.

Eugene said he felt undeserving of the award. "I have no idea what was on the other parents' resumes," Eugene said. "I feel that cooking meals and having our house open to students was not qualifying enough to win the award."

Exhibit

Continued from page 1A

Menarchik said Bush had a hand in what went into the exhibit.

"She was very helpful in the design and structure of the exhibit, and it displays her elegance over her lifetime," Menarchik said.

Even though the exhibit is only open until September, some items may become permanently displayed in the established exhibits of the museum, Burchfield said.

"We may plan to incorporate some of the things on display in the Barbara Bush exhibit into exhibits of the museum in the future," Burchfield said.

The Bush Library and Museum is open Monday to Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for Blinn and A&M students with student ID cards.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Referendum campaign heats up with appeals by Annan

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Campaigns on a U.N. plan to reunite Cyprus heated up Wednesday with former presidents addressing mass rallies of Greek Cypriots and police on the Turkish side of the island arresting 47 suspects who attacked supporters of the proposed union.

World officials stepped into the campaign as the United Nations, the United States and the European Parliament urged Cypriots to vote "Yes" in the separate referendums that will be held on the Turkish and Greek speaking sides of the island on Saturday.

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 Elizabeth N. Webb, Editor in Chief

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Ring

Continued from page 1A

collected close to McSpadden said.

Applications for interested were passed last fall, and applicants answered questions regarding their financial situation. "I wrote essays primarily to make sure one will be ring with pride," said Wolfshohl, director of mittee development. Change and a junior biological science major. A committee made up of faculty student leaders with Aggie rings make the choices, Wolfshohl said.

Wolfshohl said rings go around campus to anyone for any spare change.

"The founders said it should be earned and deserving Aggies graduate with a ring," he said.

Wolfshohl said the organization raised \$4,000 last year by collecting spare change.

Palmer said the Aggie represents all the things that happen to an Aggie in years of college, and he is blessed to finally be getting it.

"I broke down like a and just cried," Palmer said. "I felt so blessed; it was a gift from God is what it is."

Palmer said she thinks it is neat how her friends contributed to the fund, and they can feel a part of special day.

Scamrado said a total of 3,091 rings were ordered, not all of them are picked because some are mailed.

Scamrado said she has distributing rings for six years and special events said wedding proposals have place during that time.

She said her main concern is that everything is correct on rings, including the size of the inscription because she knows how important the rings are to the students.

Scamrado said several students, hoping to be fast in line to pick up their rings, were pitching tents and setting camp in front of the Williams Alumni Center.

At 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 7:15 a.m. Thursday, Scamrado said, there could be as many as 300 to 500 people waiting to receive numbered tickets.

Festivities will be between 2:30 p.m. and ring distribution will be between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Students are encouraged to take the Bonfire or Bonfire bus routes that stop in front of the building, Scamrado said.

Palmer said it is a day that all Aggies treasure and look back on the years to come.

"There is always something there to remind me of the Aggie spirit people," Palmer said.

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