



Blix: Iraqis, world no safer than before war

By Rhiannon Meyers
THE BATTALION

Hans Blix, former U.N. chief weapons inspector, said that if viewed on a balance sheet, the negative effects of the war on Iraq would far outweigh the positive effects.

"On the negative side, there have been the loss of many lives and property, and the losses continue every day," he said.

Blix, who spoke Friday as part of the Wiley Lecture Series, told an audience of about 1,500 in Rudder Auditorium that the ousting of Saddam Hussein and his brutal regime, although a positive effect, is only part of the story. Blix cited the negative consequences of the war including huge,

unexpected economic costs, stimulated terrorism and the damaging of the U.N. Security Council's authority.

Blix was appointed as head of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission in 2002. He is currently the chairman of the newly-formed International Commission on Weapons of Mass Destruction. Blix, author of the recently released book titled "Disarming Iraq," said that he wrote his book to illustrate some of the little-known facts about the war with Iraq.

"I have been in the central part of the stage," Blix said. "I did see a great deal of what went on with the United Nations and what went on with the Iraqis, and I felt it

was my duty to report on that."

The audience applauded as Blix said in a question-and-answer period following the speech that he does not think that the Iraqis and the world are safer now than when Hussein was in power, citing a greater risk of terrorism in Iraq and worldwide.

"As for the Iraqis, I would imagine a vast majority of them are pleased and relieved that Saddam was ousted but at the same time they feel humiliated by the occupation," he said.

Blix said the U.S. troops who are now occupying Iraq must act as a helpful institution in order to secure democracy in Iraq.

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Former U.N. Chief Weapons Inspector Hans Blix spoke Friday to an audience of some 1,500 in Rudder Auditorium as part of the Wiley Lecture Series. Blix spoke about the war in Iraq and its negative consequences.

Angelou: Take advantage of college

By Sonia Moghe
THE BATTALION

With her colorful headdress and gray suit, Maya Angelou resembled the "rainbow in the clouds" that she preached, as she told students to take advantage of their opportunities in college and wove her message with song, poetry, stories and comedy.

"A rainbow in the clouds brightens your path," Angelou said.

Angelou, who drove from North Carolina to College Station in a bus because she dislikes riding in planes, presented her speech to a packed Rudder Auditorium Friday afternoon.

"We wanted to create an environment where there was no cost in which students could embrace a unique experience," said Leviathan Winn, a sophomore finance major and part of the Memorial Student Center Diversity, the group that sponsored the program.

The acclaimed poet, author and

civil rights activist, who recently celebrated her 76th birthday, said college students should take advantage of their time at a university because their ancestors have already paid for them to be there.

Angelou also encouraged students who are dissatisfied with their professors to become better students by showing more interest.

"Professors can become jaded," Angelou said. "A good student can make a jaded teacher great."

Angelou said she recently received her 56th honorary doctorate and that she can teach Spanish, French, Italian, theology and philosophy.

Angelou lectured with what she called a "blow-bite-blow" method; she sandwiched serious stories between comedy to get her message across.

On a serious note, she addressed the fact that she was raped as a child

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Playwright and poet Maya Angelou speaks to students in Rudder Theater Friday afternoon.

Angelou told students to take advantage of their education.

Archery program may get the axe

By Troy Miller
THE BATTALION

On the eve of the National Outdoor Championships, Texas A&M archery head coach Kathy Eissinger was notified that A&M Athletic Director Bill Byrne has plans to cut archery from its varsity status unless the team can find private funding.

"We are currently looking into other areas of sponsorship for the archery program," Byrne said. "If we are unsuccessful, we will move the program back to club status."

Sophomore archer Amanda Raffaelli said the news came as a shock.

"It's really hard to go into a national tournament when (A&M) says they're going to cut your team," Raffaelli said.

The news also comes on the heels of Eissinger deciding to leave A&M to move to Utah where her husband currently is employed.

"Eissinger has done a terrific

job with the program," Byrne said. "She has sacrificed her personal life for this program. It is her desire to join (her husband) at this time and I support that decision. With this decision, the timing is right to review our archery program."

Archery was added as a varsity sport five years ago, making A&M the third university in the nation to add the sport to varsity status.

"When we added archery and equestrian to varsity status, both sports were considered emerging sports for women and we hoped both would be added to the list of NCAA sponsored championships," Byrne said. "Both sports had done well on a club basis and so it made sense here at Texas A&M. Since that time, equestrian continues to expand while archery has remained with only Texas A&M, Columbia and James Madison as sponsors."

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Two students receive Marshall scholarship

By Aerin Toussaint
THE BATTALION

Next fall, two Texas A&M graduates will set foot on the University of Sussex campus in the United Kingdom to begin their graduate studies as part of the prestigious Marshall Scholarship.

Maya Weilundemo, a senior English major, and Josh Siepel, a senior genetics major, are two of only three Aggies ever selected as Marshall Scholars.

This is the first time A&M has had two Marshall Scholars in the same year, said Marcella Ellis, national scholarships coordinator in the office of honors programs and academic scholarships.

Ellis said the Marshall Scholarship is a highly competitive process that seeks to identify and advance future leaders who have strong ambition and an understanding of the world, current events and their place as scholars.

"They look for students who want to make a difference in their lives and have demonstrated that through their involvement and their activities within their organizations," Ellis said. "Josh and Maya both fit that description very broadly."

As co-founder and president of the campus Green Party, editor of undergraduate humanities journal AGORA and member of numerous other campus activities, Weilundemo displayed her passion for involvement.

Weilundemo said that even though school work is crucial to be successful, one must enjoy anything he becomes involved in.

"Academics are important, but what's more important is to be dedicated to your interests," Weilundemo said.

Weilundemo said she will study creative writing at the University of Sussex.

During his studies at A&M, Siepel was the Memorial Student Center Jordan Institute chair for two years, during which he helped begin service programs in the Dominican Republic and Honduras. Siepel was also in a capella singing group and MSC Town Hall.

"I think the best thing is to keep up a broad range of interests,

THE MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP

Two A&M students received the Marshall Scholarship, making this the first time two Aggies have won at the same time. Three Aggies have received it overall.

- The Marshall Scholarship was funded in 1953 to commemorate the Marshall Plan
- Approximately 40 American graduates receive the scholarship, allowing them to spend two years studying in the United Kingdom at the university of their choice
- Interested students must submit a preliminary application to the Honors Office

Will Lloyd • THE BATTALION

Source: MARCELLA ELLIS, NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR IN HONORS OFFICE

work on whatever it is you're passionate about your field," Siepel said. "Make yourself as well-rounded a person as possible and take advantage of all the things the University offers."

Siepel said he will study science and technology policy related to agricultural biotechnology during his time in the United Kingdom.

"To be given the opportunity to represent the United States and

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THE BATTALION Online Weekly Poll

This Week's Results:

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



37% Sometimes
28% Once or twice a semester
21% Most of the time
14% Never

Next Week's Poll:
"Do you think the parking situation on campus will be better next year?"

RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION

Parking registration delayed pending plan's approval

By Natalie Younts
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M Transportation Services' proposed student parking plan is in its final stages of approval, and discussions related to faculty and staff parking issues will follow, said H. Joseph Newton, dean of the College of Science.

Student Web permit registration was scheduled to begin April 19, but was delayed until further notice because the administrative approval process is taking longer than expected, Newton said.

Charles Sippial, vice president for adminis-

tration, said approval of the student plan is pending from the A&M Council of Deans, David B. Prior, executive vice president and provost, and A&M President Robert M. Gates.

Newton said Friday that the Council of Deans, which comprises of deans from each college, is expected to jointly approve the plan Monday.

"So far I have not heard any strong objections," Newton said. "I certainly had no strong objections to any of it."

The plan is based on lot-specific permits, online requests for the preferred lot and a guarantee that a student will find a spot in his assigned lot.

"We will eliminate all this hunting and

running around in circles for parking spaces," Sippial said.

After the plan receives final approval from Gates, students can log on to transportation.tamu.edu to request their top six lot choices beginning in the fall.

Newton and Sippial said they would like to see the plan implemented before students leave for summer vacation.

"We want to get the student piece so we can go ahead and make sure the students are squared away," Sippial said.

Newton said blue and red permits cause

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