



Sport clubs add Tae Kwon Do

By Erin Price
THE BATTALION

Members of the Texas A&M Tae Kwon Do club were jumping for joy when they heard the news that they had been added to the Texas A&M Sport Club Association last spring. The Tae Kwon Do club had finally gotten its wish.

"Everyone was really surprised," said Steve Ostrander, president of the Tae Kwon Do club and senior agricultural development major. "All of our hard work finally paid off." Ostrander said the club had been making

presentations to SCA for the past three years and that he was glad that this was finally its time to be accepted. Angela Shimek, the club's secretary, jump-started the process by contacting the SCA, Ostrander said.

"Being a recognized sport club is going to provide us with a bit more funding and exposure," Ostrander said. "No one really knows how well we do at competitions."

The Tae Kwon Do club has been nationally ranked in the top three every year since 1998, Ostrander said. The team was also the national champion in 2001 and most recently placed third at nationals last year in

Seattle, Wash.

Jason Boyle, assistant director of SCA, said that for a club to be admitted into SCA, it must be recognized by A&M as an organization for at least one year and also have a governing body.

"The Tae Kwon Do club showed good team work," Boyle said. "They were also about teaching the sport to others, and that was one of the things we liked about them."

Boyle said the benefits of being in SCA were that a club has scheduling priorities for

A&M TAE KWON DO CLUB

The A&M Tae Kwon Do Club has been added to the Texas A&M Sports Club Association.

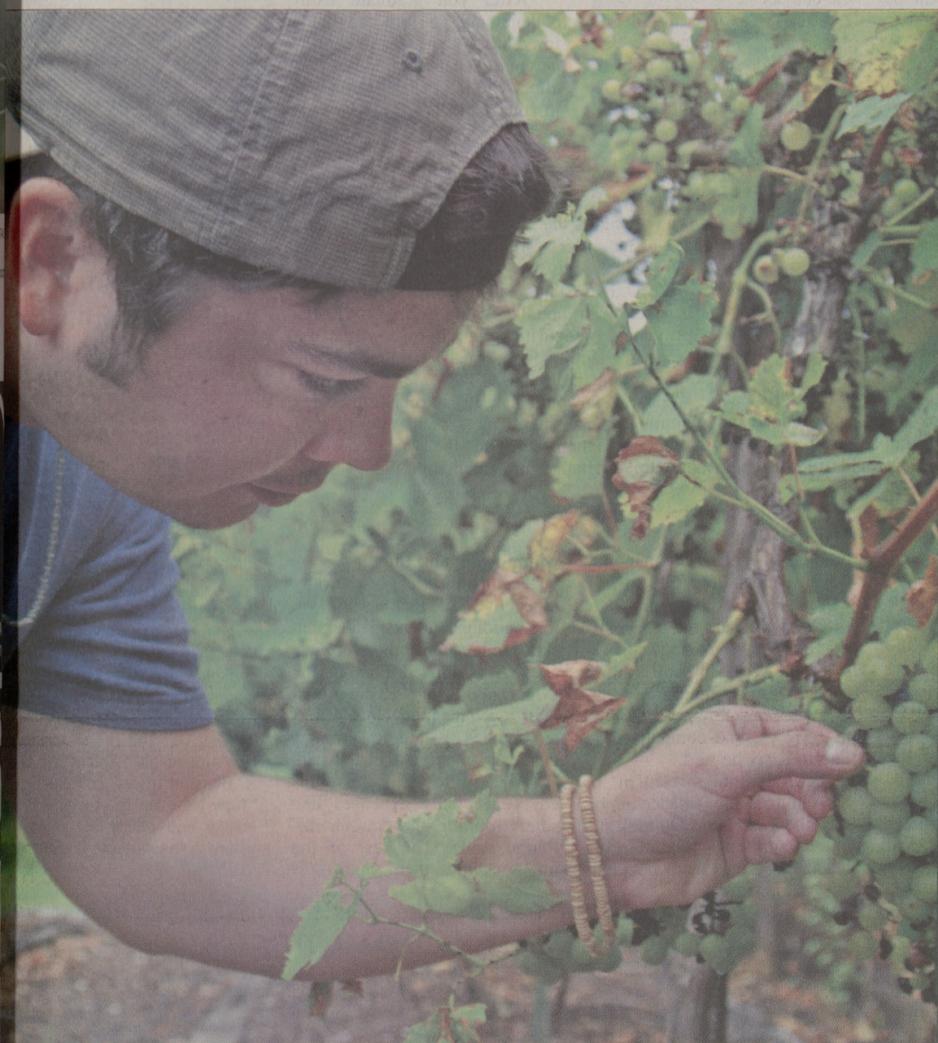


- The club had applied to the Sports Club Association for the last three years
- The club has been admitted on a probationary basis, after one year they will be eligible for financial benefits.
- The club has been nationally ranked in the top three since 1998
- In 2001, the club was named national champions

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PHOTO COURTESY OF: TAE KWON DO CLUB
SOURCE: STEVE OSTRANDER, PRESIDENT, TAE KWON DO CLUB

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Through the grapevine



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Senior management major Kyle Miller examines the grapes in the Horticulture Gardens Wednesday afternoon. The Horticulture Gardens are located on Hensel Street in College Station and are open to the public.

Agriculture leadership program announces 25 new members

By Shawn C. Millender
THE BATTALION

The Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership program, a two-year course in leadership developed by the Texas Cooperative Extension agency, recently announced the 25 members of its ninth class.

"Given the critical issues facing agriculture today, there is a need to provide intensive leadership development experiences for a promising new generation of leaders," said TALL Director Jim Mazurkiewitz. "The TALL program increases knowledge and understanding of agriculture and related industries in the context of today's complex economic, political and societal systems."

Industry leaders from every facet

of agriculture compete for one of 25 slots, which are available only every other year.

"We hope that we mirror the ag industry from the farm gate to the plate," Mazurkiewitz said.

Since the beginning of TALL in 1988, 210 graduates have completed the program. This year's class will hear more than 300 speakers and meet more than 3,000 industry leaders, Mazurkiewitz said. They will travel to Mexico, Washington, D.C., New York and Brazil.

Mazurkiewitz said one of the main benefits of the course is the network that will become available to participants.

"Relationships are key to furthering

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The Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Program is a two-year course in leadership developed by the Texas Cooperative Extension Agency.

- Agricultural industry leaders vie for admission to only one of 25 slots
- Applicants are admitted to the program once every other year
- The program focuses on leadership development and networking within the agricultural community

ANDREW BURLESON • THE BATTALION
SOURCE: JIM MAZURKIEWITZ, TALL DIRECTOR

'Landmark settlement' Store that sold gun will pay shot officers

By Jennifer Bundy
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — A judge approved a landmark \$1 million settlement Wednesday between two New Jersey police officers and the store that sold the gun used to shoot them.

Police officers David Lemongello and Kenneth McGuire of Orange, N.J., were shot with a Sturm, Ruger 9mm handgun in January 2001. Both were disabled and have retired. Their attacker, Shuntez Everett, was killed in a gunbattle with them.

The settlement between the officers and the Will Co., which operated Will's Jewelry and Loan in South Charleston, was approved by Kanawha County Circuit Judge Irene Berger.

The shop sold the gun and 11 others in July 2000 in a "straw sale," in which someone without a criminal record buys guns and turns them over to someone else. The store later contacted federal agents and cooperated in an undercover sting.

"This is the first case in which a gun dealer will pay damages, has paid damages for facilitating the gun trafficking in this way," said Dennis Hanigan, an attorney for the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence. The center and Charleston attorney Scott Segal are co-counsel for the police officers.

Segal said the settlement "shows gun retailers they have to be careful about

who they sell their guns to and under what circumstances."

Lawrence Keane, an attorney for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms industry, said there have been other settlements of cases against gun stores by people who were shot, but he did not know if any of those cases involved a "straw sale."

The gun used to shoot the officers was bought by Tammi Lea Songer of South Charleston, who turned the guns over to James Gray, a convicted felon who could not buy guns. Gray sold them to convicted felons, including Everett. Songer and Gray spent time in prison for their roles.

An attorney for the store, Michael Folio, said the shop is not admitting liability or that it did not follow industry standards, but settled because "it was a decision we found to be in the best interest of all parties."

"It was a tragedy what happened to the officers. It was a tragedy these people bought the guns by lying and deceiving and deceiving Will Company to begin with."

The gun retail industry has voluntary standards about gun sales, including how to be wary of straw sales, Segal said.

"The message is, if you didn't follow the standards as a retailer or a wholesaler, you are going to wind up having to pay money for your conduct," Segal said.

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— Scott Segal
co-counsel for the officers

U.S. offers N. Korea security for giving up nuclear program

By Audra Ang
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — U.S. negotiators presented the first detailed American proposal Wednesday on resolving the standoff with North Korea, offering the North energy aid and a security guarantee in exchange for dismantling its nuclear program.

The proposal is meant to break an impasse in talks that began their third round after earlier negotiations brought no progress on Washington's demand for the North to scrap its nuclear program.

The step-by-step plan would begin with Pyongyang freezing its nuclear program for a three-month period to prepare for dismantling, during which it would list all nuclear activities and allow monitoring of its facilities, U.S. officials said.

North Korea made its own six-point proposal under which it would freeze the operations of facilities at Yongbyong, its main nuclear complex, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported, citing officials at

the conference.

The freeze would allow for inspections, but the Kyodo report did not say if the North's plans included a commitment to dismantle the nuclear facilities as the American plan seeks.

Earlier, the North's envoy at the talks, Vice Foreign Minister Kim Gye Gwan, said earlier that Pyongyang was willing to renounce nuclear weapons in exchange for aid and an end to Washington's "hostile policy."

The two proposals were put forward during the opening session of the talks at a Chinese government guesthouse, grouping delegates from the United States, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, Russia and the host, China.

The U.S. plan involves "a practical series of steps to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of North Korea's nuclear program," White House press secretary Scott McClellan

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A&M medical students receive Scott & White Scholarships

By James Twine
THE BATTALION

Two Texas A&M graduates currently attending the College of Medicine of the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center have received Scott & White Medicine Scholarships to aid in their studies.

"The scholarship is awarded to those who demonstrate high academic achievement, com-

mitment to community service and the need for financial assistance," said Scott Clark, manager of marketing communications for Scott & White.

Kit Lim and Chris Kneip, fourth-year medical students, and Monty Shah and Jedidiah Gisel, third-year medical students, were awarded the \$2,000 scholarships by Dr. John Starr, professor of medicine at the A&M System Health Science Center College of Medicine in Temple, on June 16.

Kneip received his bachelor's degree in exercise physiology from A&M and said he intends to pursue a career in orthopedic surgery.

Kneip worked in cardiac rehabilitation at Scott & White for a year and a half before attending medical school.

Gisel earned a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering at A&M and participated in a mentorship program at A&M's Lowry Mays College of Business where he studied health care

improvement research.

Clark said Scott & White awards the scholarships in medicine to four students each year, and has been doing so for the past five years to recognize outstanding achievements made by medical students.

Scott and White is a multi-specialty group practice in the United States, and was established to provide personalized comprehensive health care enhanced by medical education and research.