



**SPORTS:**  
Aggie graduate takes gold  
Page 3

## 'Breadth of science'

### Texas A&M shows interest in taking over nuclear weapons lab in New Mexico

By Shawn C. Millender  
THE BATTALION

it was interested in taking over for the University of California, whose 10-year contract runs out October 1.

"A&M has had ties to Los Alamos for several years," Peddicord said. "A lot of our faculty have worked with the staff over there. We've had close ties for decades."

The lab, which receives \$2.2 billion in federal funding every year, holds

many research opportunities for A&M.

"Our primary interest is in the top-quality science going on at Los Alamos in many fields," Peddicord said. "The breadth of science is extremely broad and very high quality."

Since A&M expressed interest in the contract, other schools have joined the competition, most notably the University of Texas. Peddicord said he wel-

comes the chance to collaborate with UT on this project.

No official talks have taken place between A&M and UT, said Randa Safady, vice chancellor for external relations for the UT system, but it is a possibility.

"Texas A&M and UT institutions have done a lot of collaborative things on the academic side," Safady said. "Athletics is probably the only area

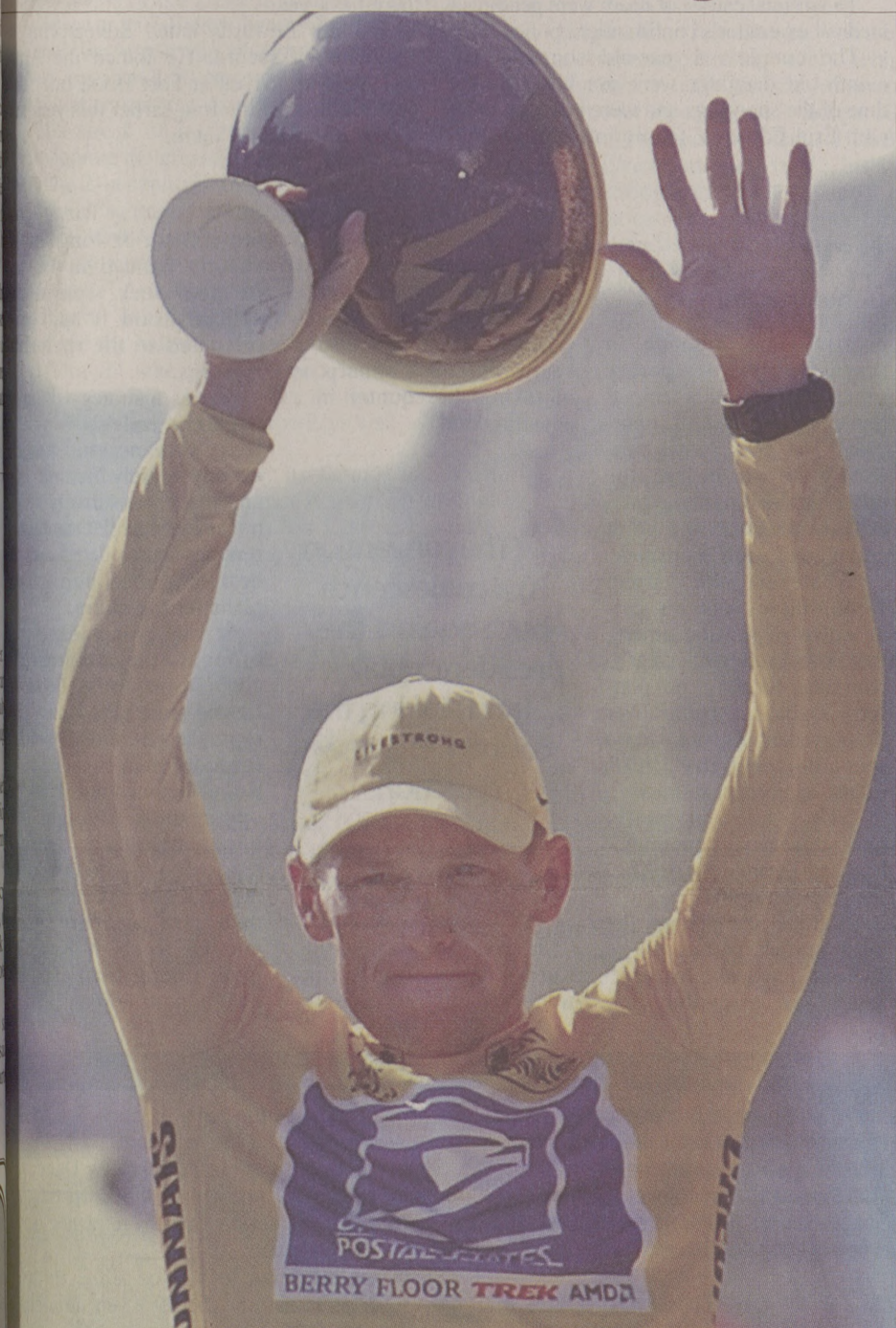
where we have never shared a team."

Peddicord said the best arrangement would be as part of a team, with private corporations handling managerial and security issues.

Security issues have plagued the lab at Los Alamos recently. CNN reported July 20 that the lab is under investigation by

See Science on page 2

## Tour de Armstrong



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Lance Armstrong of Austin celebrates his sixth straight Tour de France cycling race victory on the podium set on the Champs

Elysees avenue, after the final stage between Montereau and Paris on Sunday. See related story on page 3.

## Shell foundation donates money to build University lecture hall

By Kirk Ehlig  
THE BATTALION

Shell Oil Company Foundation is donating \$150,000 to the new \$38 million Jack E. Brown building located at the corner of Spence Street and University Drive, near Zachry.

This \$150,000 is going to fund a 50-seat lecture hall within the 205,000-square-foot Jack E. Brown building.

"The money helps in the construction of the building, especially toward the furnishing and implementation of the latest in instructional technology within its classroom," said Sara Lillehaugen, assistant director of development for the Texas A&M Foundation - Engineering.

Donors to the building will have an opportunity to have their name featured on the classroom or lab that they choose.

"From a recognition standpoint, naming a certain part of the building allows for pointed name recognition in a potentially high-traffic area of future potential Shell Chemical Engineering employees, allowing for a positive association between Shell and students' view of Shell's high level of commitment to Texas A&M and Chemical Engineering," Lillehaugen said.

Valerie Green, business administrator of the Chemical Engineering Department, said the building will also hold other types of classes depending on the size of the class.

Although the new building will be mainly used by the Chemical Engineering Department, other departments, including the Electrical Engineering Department, will have labs within the building.

Johan Zaayman, spokesman for Shell Oil Company, said the Shell donation was specific to the Chemical Engineering Department.

"Part of the Foundation's mission is to help provide educational opportunities that prepare students and faculty to meet the needs of the workplace," Zaayman said. "Consequently, we recognize the important role that chemical engineers play in the country's petrochemical industry and believe our donation will

### Shell Oil Weighs In

The Shell Oil Company Foundation is helping to fund construction of the new Jack E. Brown building.



- Shell will donate \$150,000
- The money will specifically fund a 50 seat lecture hall.
- The finished building will be 205,000 square feet
- The total cost of the building is \$38 million.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF: CHEWEB.TAMU.EDU  
SOURCE: SARA LILLEHAUGEN

See Shell on page 2

## Hiler to be honored at retirement for many contributions to A&M

By Lacy Ledford  
THE BATTALION

After 38 years of committed service to Texas A&M, Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Life Sciences Dean Edward A. Hiler is preparing for retirement.

Hiler's friends and colleagues will gather at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 9 at the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center of the George Bush Library Complex to celebrate Hiler's service and honor him and his upcoming retirement.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and program chair for the evening Chester Fehlis said the event will begin with a reception and be followed by dinner. There will also be speakers and special presentations recognizing Hiler's work at A&M.

"We'll recall some of his great contributions so that everyone will recognize the vast array of his accomplishments here," Fehlis said.

Fehlis said guests will include representatives of the University,

agencies, department heads, members of the College of Agriculture Development Council and vice chancellors who represent other universities in the System.



HILER

The master of ceremonies for the evening will be Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Leo Sayavedra.

"Our goal is to acknowledge the many contributions Dr. Hiler has made to the A&M System, the University itself, the students here and to those in the state of Texas," Fehlis said.

Hiler came to A&M after earning a doctorate degree from Ohio State University in 1996. He has taken on several positions in the College of Agriculture, including professor, department head, leader of the Agriculture Program, vice chancellor and dean.

"It is easy to describe why I

wanted to work at A&M," Hiler said. "First, I was very interested in teaching and working with students, and this place seemed very committed to that. Secondly, I noticed a 'can do' attitude at A&M and I still believe it's here."

Hiler said his reason for retiring is all about numbers.

"I've had 38 years at Texas A&M, 12 years in my current position and 65 years altogether," Hiler said. "I just think it's time for someone else to take over the position."

Hiler said he will not be retiring completely from the University, but is looking into work that will provide more flexibility.

Assistant to Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Life Sciences Tammy Landry has worked with Hiler for 15 years, and describes him as someone who cares tremendously about people.

"He always tries to bring people together," Landry said. "That is something he does so well."

See Hiler on page 2

## Kerry asks, 'Four more years of what?'

By David Espo  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — With 100 campaign days remaining, Sen. John Kerry sought votes in the quintessential battleground state of Ohio on Sunday while thousands of Democratic National Convention delegates converged on a citadel of liberalism to nominate him for the White House.

"Four more years of what?" Kerry responded pointedly to a group of President Bush's supporters who greeted him noisily at his appearance in Columbus.

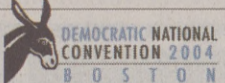
"Four more years of jobs being lost, four more years of the deficit growing bigger and bigger? Four more years of losing

our allies around the world? We know we can restore our alliances around the world and make America strong again," added the four-term Massachusetts senator, running even to slightly ahead of Bush in the pre-convention polls.

A few hundred miles away, security was an overarching concern at the first political convention in the post-9/11 era of terrorism.

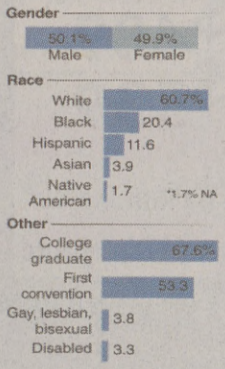
Camouflaged military police took up positions along elevated rail lines overlooking the Fleet Center, where 4,350 delegates will meet beginning Monday for four days of political pageantry.

A helicopter circled overhead as two groups of protesters marched



### Diverse delegates

A little more than half the delegates are attending their first convention and are equally divided among men and women.



SOURCES: Democratic National Committee; AP delegate survey

See Kerry on page 2

## Senator Cornyn visits Texas Municipal Fire Training School

By Brian D. Cain  
THE BATTALION

United States Sen. John Cornyn came to College Station Sunday to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Texas Municipal Fire Training School at a press conference in Reed Arena.

The school, which can often be recognized from campus by the large billows of smoke coming from its training field, was established by the Texas Legislature in 1930.

Cornyn said he came to the event to recognize the important role of firefighters as first

responders on the frontline of homeland security.

"The safety of our cities and towns is among my highest priorities, and the men and women who protect our hometowns need more support than ever," Cornyn said.

In emergency situations, firefighters are often the first emergency workers on the scene. They often arrive before even paramedics or police, as witnessed by the World Trade Center attack, which claimed the



CORNYN

lives of 343 firefighters.

The Municipal Fire Training School is one of the largest training programs in the country and is conducted by the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), a member of the Texas A&M University System.

According to a press release from TEEX, the firefighters are trained extensively at the Brayton Fire Training Field, the world's largest live-fueled fire training facility, and at a special area called Disaster City, which allows first responders to simulate different emergency scenarios.

The 75-year anniversary celebration will last for

several days, culminating with a public ceremony and demonstration on the Brayton Fire Training Field. The Wednesday celebration begins at 7:30 p.m. and will end with a fireworks display. The event will include children's activities.

According to a press release from Cornyn's office, the Senator has held roundtable discussions over the past year with first responders all over the state discussing local emergency preparedness in an effort to address security needs in Texas towns.

"I am committed to ensuring that Texas firefighters remain well trained and equipped," Cornyn said.