

# THE BATTALION



**AGGIELIFE:**  
Home on  
the ranch  
Page 3

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## Texas A&M affiliates with Folger Institute

By Suzy Green  
THE BATTALION

of the Folger Institute.

The affiliation will give A&M faculty and graduate students easier access to academic and educational programs at the institute, Lynch said.

The Folger Institute is sponsored by the Folger Shakespeare Library, the world's largest collection of Shakespeare's printed works. The library also has Renaissance books and manuscripts and serves as a museum that chronicles Shakespeare's life.

The institute's programs, usually led by prominent scholars, promote and encourage the use of the library's collection, said Steven Smith, associate dean for advancement and director of the Cushing Memorial Library and Archives.

Faculty and students from affiliated universities have priority for admittance to programs, do not have to pay individual program participation fees and are eligible for individual travel grants, Lynch said.

"We will attract and develop students and faculty of a much higher caliber because of our affiliation and the opportunities that affiliation will offer for research, learning and teaching," Smith said.

Working with the Folger Institute and with other participating scholars provides a way for projects to get polished before publishing or presenting, Lynch said.

"We're a crossroads where early modernists come together to meet and work out issues about

works in progress," Lynch said.

Melissa Martin, a senior journalism major and English minor is excited about the affiliation and thinks it will add to A&M's overall educational strength.

"The more resources accessible to the faculty and graduate students, the better equipped they will be to share their knowledge with other students," Martin said. "Being affiliated with such a renowned research facility is sure to strengthen the liberal arts department."

Participants are admitted individually to each program at the institute, Lynch said.

See Folger on page 2

Texas A&M will begin an affiliation in fall 2004 with the Folger Institute, a Washington, D.C., research center for advanced study in the humanities. The Folger Institute attracts scholars from across the country to its programs where participants use an extended literary collection to research humanistic topics while receiving feedback from others. "The Folger Institute is a Mecca in the United States for communities of like-minded scholars to meet and work together on projects about similar topics," said Kathleen Lynch, executive director

### Caution: work ahead



BRIAN WILLS • THE BATTALION

Pat Cruz fills a hole with dirt while working on Clark Street between the Memorial Student Center and Cain Hall. Cruz has been working on reconstructing the street for about a month, and plans to have it finished before the fall semester begins. The construction

on Clark Street is a part of a campus-wide revitalization project that includes renovations to the MSC, the new Jack E. Brown engineering building and the Bonfire Memorial, which are scheduled to be completed in the next couple of months.

## Identity theft a growing threat to consumers

By Chelsea Sledge  
THE BATTALION

Becoming a victim of an Internet hoax was the last thing on David Zantop's mind as he checked his e-mail one Saturday morning in February of 2004. He received an e-mail message informing him that his e-Bay user account had some problems that needed to be resolved or his account could be terminated.

"People always say they would never fall for something like this," Zantop, a senior animal science major said. "I'm telling you it looked real. They had copied and pasted the e-Bay logo on the e-mail and everything."

Without a second thought, Zantop followed the link to the Web site on the e-mail. There, he was prompted to enter his e-Bay user name and password. Like five million other Americans each year, Zantop had fallen prey to online identity theft.

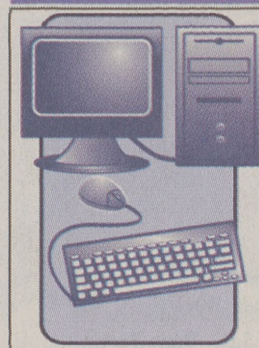
Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information, such as your name, Social Security number, credit card number or other identifying information without your permission. Each year, the cost of identity theft approaches \$48 billion, according to the Federal Trade Commission.

In addition to stolen or lost wallets, identity thieves can compile information from Internet records and hoaxes, stolen

See Theft on page 2

### IDENTITY CRISIS

Identity theft is a growing problem among American consumers. Here are some tips to prevent being victimized:



URLs that read "https:" instead of "http:" guarantee that information will be encrypted and safe

Never use debit cards for online purchases

Order a credit report twice a year

Memorize passwords

Never give out a Social Security number to identify yourself

Write state and federal legislators for stronger privacy protection

WILL LLOYD • THE BATTALION

SOURCE: A&M COMPUTING INFORMATION SERVICES

## Employment Services to relocate office

By Emily Guevara  
THE BATTALION

700 E. University Drive.

Parker said the previous "space did not fit our needs" and that the new location will better meet the needs of the services the office provides.

Irza said there were several needs Employment Services had in mind when looking for a location.

We were looking for a place "relatively close to the Texas Workforce Center and we are, and we wanted to be on the bus line and we are, so we'll be easy to find."

Irza said the requested location change went through the chain of command for approval.

"It involved going to the (Texas A&M University) System, bounced back to the purchasing department and then was signed off from the division of finance," she said.

Irza said the Employment Services office provides bilingual personnel, shows job seek-

ers how to find available jobs on computers, and helps them turn in their applications.

Pat Hurst, cash facility manager of Rumours Coffee House & Deli and Hullabaloo! Food Court, said, "I do recommend the human resources employment office quite often to people that are looking for a full-time or part-time position."

Hurst, who applied for her job at the office six years ago, said she does not believe moving the office will affect job seekers.

"I think if someone is seeking out a job they are going to find the location where they can find out about the positions," Hurst said.

The Employment Services office will open at the new site at 8 a.m. today.

Besides the new physical address, all contact information remains the same. Visit <http://hr.tamu.edu/employment> for employment information.

## Google announces public stock offering

By Matthew Fordahl  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Google announced plans Monday to sell about 5 million shares at up to \$135 each when it goes public as early as next month — giving the Internet search engine a total market value of as much as \$36 billion, on par with the likes of McDonald's and Sony.

It would be the eighth-largest initial public offering in history, bigger than most of the IPOs that took place during the dot-com craze of the 1990s.

The details of one of the most highly anticipated stock offerings in years were spelled out in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

An exact date for the IPO has not been set yet. But when it happens, you should fasten your seat belt and have oxygen nearby," said Barry Andall, portfolio manager of the First American Technology Fund at Bancorp Asset Management in Minneapolis.

Google stock, once issued, could rise — or fall — with frightening speed.

Unlike some of the hot stocks of the '90s, Google — a search engine widely used that its very name has become a verb meaning to "conduct an Internet background check on someone or something" — is a moneymaker. In the first six months of 2004, Google earned \$143 million, up from \$58 million from the same period last year.

Google plans to offer just 9 percent of its stock at a price range of \$88 to \$135 per share. At those prices, the company would have a market capitalization of between \$29 billion and \$36 billion.

The average in the S&P 500 is \$21.25 billion. Google rival Yahoo! has

### Largest initial public offerings

As much as \$3.3 billion in Google stock could be sold at the company's IPO, making it the eighth largest in U.S. history.

ISSUER	DATE	AMOUNT (IN BILLIONS)
AT&T Wireless Group	April 26, 2000	\$10.6
Kraft Foods Inc.	June 12, 2001	8.7
UPS	Nov. 9, 1999	5.5
Citigroup Inc.	July 1, 2002	4.6
Conoco	Oct. 21, 1998	4.4
Travelers Property Casualty Corp.	March 21, 2002	3.9
Agere Systems Inc.	March 27, 2001	3.6
Google	Expected 2004	3.3
Charter Communications Inc.	Nov. 8, 1999	3.2
Goldman Sachs Group Inc.	May 3, 1999	3.2

NOTE: Does not include over-allotments

SOURCE: Thomson Financial

AP

a market capitalization of nearly \$38 billion.

The company's plan calls for selling between \$2.66 billion and \$3.32 billion in stock in the initial public offering. However, the amount the company itself expects to raise is \$1.66 billion, because some of shares being offered are being sold by existing stockholders.

Once trading of the shares begins on the Nasdaq Stock Market, Google expects to have the ticker symbol GOOG.

While the IPO will be big, it is not expected to generate the kind of hysteria that surrounded tech offerings during the 1990s boom, when

See Google on page 2

## Report says Saddam writes poems in prison

By Robert Barr  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Saddam Hussein spends his time in solitary confinement tending a garden, writing poetry and reading the Quran, according to published reports Monday that described him as depressed and demoralized.

One of Saddam's poems is about George Bush, though it wasn't clear whether that referred to President Bush or his father, Saddam's foe in the 1991 Gulf War.

The Guardian newspaper in Britain and Newsday in New York quoted Bakhtiar Amin, the human rights minister in the new Iraqi government, who said he visited Saddam's cell on Saturday. Amin said he did not speak to the former Iraqi leader.

Bakhtiar said Saddam appeared "in good health and being kept in good conditions," but he "appeared demoralized and dejected," The Guardian reported.

Saddam's air-conditioned cell in a U.S. military prison is 10 feet wide and 13 feet long and contained a fold-up bed, a table and a single light bulb, Amin said. Saddam is not allowed to mix with other prisoners, and has no television, newspapers or radio.

"Mostly he reads the Quran today," Newsday quoted Amin as saying. "He feels more afraid for his life." Amin had little to report on Saddam's poetry. "One of the poems is about George Bush, but I had no time to read it," Amin said.

**"His apparent care for his surroundings is ironic when you think he was responsible for one of the biggest ecocides ..."**

— Bakhtiar Amin  
Iraqi human rights minister

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See Saddam on page 2