

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY WEEK
September 20 - 24, 2004

ESSAY COMPETITION:

"What do you feel are the benefits of having an Aggie code of honor?
How does it affect academic honesty on our campus?"

Are you an Undergraduate Student, Graduate Student or Faculty Member?
Are you a creative writer?
Would you like to compete for a cash prize of \$500.00?

If you answered yes to at least one of the questions listed above please get involved in the Texas A&M University Academic Integrity Week Essay Competition.

The essay competition is open to all undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty members. No member of Class Councils will be permitted to participate in the essay competition or ask another member of the University to submit their essay for them.

Guidelines:

- We are asking submitters to write no more than one page or 500 word essay, which ever comes first.
- Creativity is encouraged, but all submitters should keep their creativity to one page (aka, nothing bigger than an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper).
- The three categories (undergraduate, graduate, and faculty) will be judged separately.
- All contestants must turn in the essays by Wednesday September 22, 2004 by 5:00 pm in the Class Center (Room 288 in the MSC located next to the Student Programs Office) on the 2nd floor of the MSC.
- Submitters will place their name, phone, category, and email at the top of the paper.
- A box will be placed on the main counter marking where contestants should turn in their entry.
- All submitters must be present at the Texas A&M University Planning Committee Reception on Friday, September 20, 2004 when the winners of the individual categories will be announced.
- The winner of each category will have their essay placed in the Battalion.

NOTE:

A reviewing committee composed of 3 members of Class Councils and 3 committee members from the Texas A&M University honor council will choose the best essays in each category and submit the names to Dr. Nicole Bradford.

NEWS

THE BATTALION

Monday, September 20, 2004

Aggie

Continued from page 1

Marines into combat," said friend and classmate John 'Doc' Holiday. "He was just doing his job. He wasn't a hero or medal seeker or anything special; just doing what he was over there to do."

For 28 years, no one would know where Matocha was — except for one man. In 1996, Nguyen Van Loc, a soldier with the People's Army of Vietnam during the war, told officials he had buried the body of an American soldier on Dong Ma Mountain in 1968. Little did Van Loc know he was about to affect the lives of numerous people thousands of miles away.

"We owe him (Van Loc) all our gratitude that he didn't keep that information to himself," Eiben said. It took excavation teams multiple attempts to find the body, but in March, the team finally had success: Matocha was coming home.

"It was heartbreaking when I found out that he was killed in 1968," Holiday said. "And when I found out he was coming home, it was a big hit on my heart again. Made an old man cry."

On Saturday, Matocha received his long-overdue military burial. Smithville's population grew by almost 1,000 people as many came from around the country to honor the fallen soldier's homecoming. Friends and family packed the recreation center, while many others who couldn't find a seat in the main area of the building sat in adjacent rooms to hear the eulogy.

Many had not known him, such as Houston police officer Greg Fremin. After reading news reports about the event, Fremin realized he had been wearing a missing in action/prisoner of war bracelet bearing Matocha's name for the past 17 years.

"It was so amazing to find that out," Fremin said. "It was very emotional for me to give up the bracelet that I've had for 17 years to his sister."

Gordon Seablom, a former Marine, read of Matocha's arrival and knew exactly how Matocha's family felt — his brother is missing in action after 34 years.

"I got a chance to shake hands with the relatives, tell them I care for them and understand all their feelings," he said. "It's not closure for me yet because my brother is still missing, but it was very helpful emotionally."

As Matocha's casket sat waiting to be placed in its final resting place, "Amazing Grace" was played on a set of bagpipes. As the song belted into the hot Texas air, many stood at attention under the shade of new trees while current and former soldiers saluted. Tears streamed down the faces of many, including Eiben, who clutched her perfectly folded American flag.

"Tremendous is not quite the word," she said. "This is a significant expression of how people don't forget, especially Marines and Aggies."

Shortly after the funeral, Matocha's seven young siblings gathered for one last photo as everyone moved away from the picture, but from the smiles and glimmers in their eyes, it was easy to tell that Smithville's soldier Aggie and big brother, was finally home again.

Fire

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Nearly two and a half pages of the report were blacked out at the request of the Brazos County District Attorney's Office, who is still conducting an investigation.

A majority of the omitted report included the investigator's interview with Todd Hubacek, a Texas A&M maintenance employee. Also omitted is the conclusion of College Station Fire Department Findings.

Gates said he is waiting for the conclusion of the district attorney's investigation for the task force to begin looking into University Apartments resident concerns.

"I'm looking forward to getting the go-ahead from the district attorney so we can have a task force take a look at maintenance and communication issues relating to University Apartments," Gates said.

Gates said he hasn't heard anything about litigation against the University.

Gates said the head of A&M-Galveston is staying in touch

with Saquib Ejaz, whose family was in the apartment when the explosion occurred. Ejaz's daughter, 4-year-old Lamiya Zahin, and his mother, Rabeya Chaudhury, died as a result of injuries sustained in the explosion. Ejaz's wife, Lufthansa Kanta, sustained injuries, but has been released from the hospital and Ejaz's father, Ejaz Chaudhury, remained in serious condition as of last Tuesday in a hospital in Galveston, according to The Eagle.

Rahul Ribeiro, University Apartments Committee Council president, said he was surprised by how much damage investigators found in the piping.

"We expected a few leaks in the piping, but there is one hole that is one foot long," Ribeiro said. "The damage they've discovered is pretty extensive and even though we knew there was damage, it was pretty surprising."

Prakash Krishnan, the former president of UACC, said the findings in the report were not surprising, but that some residents are angered that the extensive amount of damage could go

unnoticed for so long by University Apartments management.

"(Apartment management) said, 'Everything is fine.' It was the picture they were giving us, but the fact is, now we have this blast, and all the subsequent findings, we know that preventive maintenance is not happening, and if it was, a blast would not have happened," Krishnan said.

He said many residents are concerned that the problem within the apartment complex could have been ignored because the housing is considered inexpensive and populated by international students.

"And if residents feel they have been discriminated against, you cannot blame us," he said. "It's legally not right to say 'be diligent,' but that's what people feel like. Why was this not done seriously?"

Krishnan said residents will meet with A&M administration on Thursday. He said he hopes the administration will be able to answer residents' questions about how the Saquib family will be compensated.

Academic Integrity Week

We must forge a partnership of student and faculty, administrators and staff, with the aim of making the Aggie Code of Honor the core value of our university and in our personal lives. This is an Aggie tradition dating from our earliest days that we must strengthen, a fire we must rekindle in our own hearts.

Texas A&M, President Robert Gates, Constitution 2002



September 20-24, 2004

AGGIE VALUES:
BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF INTEGRITY

- Monday, September 20, 2004
Kick-Off Ceremony with President Gates and Macarena Hernandez
Memorial Student Center 292
1:00 - 3:00
- Monday, September 20, 2004
Faculty Kick-Off
Faculty Club located in Rudder Tower 11th floor
3:30 - 5:00
- Tuesday, September 21, 2004
Leadership and Ethics - Doing the Right Thing!
113 Kleberg
5:00 - 6:30
- Tuesday, September 21, 2004
"The Power of One" - Movie Preview/Review
Memorial Student Center 292
7:00 - 10:00
- Wednesday, September 22, 2004
Leadership and Integrity On and Off the Court
Featuring Coach Richard "Digger" Phelps with guest Billy Gillespie
Memorial Student Center 292
11:00 - 12:00
- Wednesday, September 22, 2004
Book Review, *A Cheating Culture*, with author David Callahan
Memorial Student Center 292
3:00 - 5:00
- Thursday, September 23, 2004
Writing a Thesis or Dissertation: Technical and Ethical Considerations
Memorial Student Center 292
10:00 - 12:00
- Thursday, September 23, 2004
Rigsby Round-Up: Why Integrity?
Memorial Student Center 292
3:00 - 5:00
- Friday, September 24, 2004
"Student/Faculty Panel: A Personal Perspective of Academic Integrity"
Moderated by: Dr. Dean Bresciani,
Vice President for Student Affairs
Memorial Student Center 292
10:00 - 11:30
- Friday, September 24, 2004
Planning Committee Reception
Writing Contest Winner will be announced during reception
Stark Gallery
3:00 - 5:00

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Macarena Hernandez



Macarena Hernandez is the Rio Grande Valley Bureau Chief for the San Antonio Express-News. Hernandez was born in Roma, Texas and raised in La Joya, Texas. She graduated from Baylor University in 1996 and earned her master's degree in journalism from the University of California at Berkeley in 1998.

Hernandez has written for the *The New York Times*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Washington Post* and the *Los Angeles Times*. She has also written for national magazines and her work has been anthologized in college textbooks and readers. Hernandez made international headlines in the summer of 2003 after discovering that a *New York Times* staff writer had plagiarized one of her stories. That discovery led to that reporter's resignation, as well as an internal investigation at *The New York Times* that culminated in the resignations of the paper's top two editors. As a result of Hernandez's discovery, the journalism world reviewed its ethical practices and standards.

Richard "Digger" Phelps

Richard "Digger" Phelps is one of the most celebrated coaches in collegiate history. During his twenty years as head coach at Notre Dame, he won more games than any coach in the history of Notre Dame basketball. Currently, he is an in-studio game analyst for ESPN college basketball broadcasts.

College basketball studio/game analyst Richard "Digger" Phelps, who enjoyed two successful decades as Notre Dame's head coach, joined ESPN as a college basketball studio and game analyst in November 1993. He works in the studio each Monday and Tuesday, and calls select games. He also teams up with Dick Vitale to provide studio and on-site analysis during Championship Week, the NCAA Tournament and Final Four.



Dr. Enrique Rigsby

Rick Rigsby is considered one of the most dynamic speakers in America. As President and CEO of Impact World Group, and as Founder of Impact Family Ministries, Dr. Rigsby inspires audiences with electrifying presentations that encourage and challenge people of all ages.

Dr. Rigsby holds a faculty appointment in the Department of Speech Communication at Texas A&M University. Additionally, he is special assistant to head football coach Dennis Franchione where he serves as the Aggies' Chaplain.

The former television news reporter holds additional appointments with Texas A&M's Center for Executive Development, and the Program in Presidential Rhetoric affiliated with the George Bush School of Government.

Dr. David Callahan

David Callahan has written extensively about ethics, business, and public policy. He is author of six books, including *The Cheating Culture: Why More Americans Are Doing Wrong to Get Ahead*. This provocative look at ethics in America has been featured on numerous television and radio programs, including the *CBS Early Show*, the *Dennis Miller Show*, *Fox and Friends*, *Lou Dobbs Tonight* on CNN, and C-SPAN's Book TV. Reviews and feature stories on *The Cheating Culture* have appeared in over 100 newspapers and magazines. David was profiled in the *New York Times Public Lives* column in June 2004.

