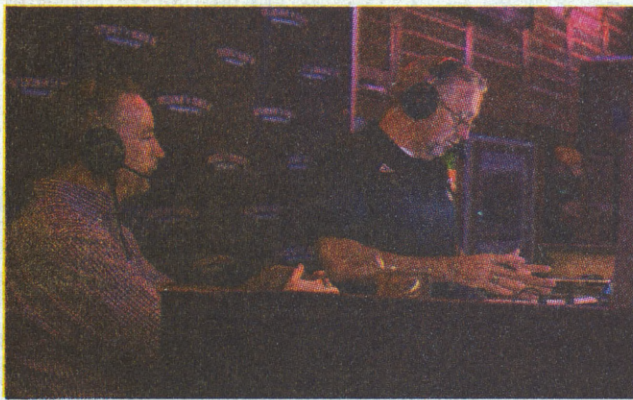


BASKETBALL



Tanner Garza — THE BATTALION

Radio host Dave South and men's basketball coach Billy Kennedy discuss this season's Aggie basketball team live on the air Monday evening at Wings 'N More.

## Blair, Kennedy discuss the state of their programs

By Brandon Wheeland

Texas A&M women's basketball head coach Gary Blair and men's basketball head coach Billy Kennedy returned to Wings 'N More Monday night for the latest installment of their radio shows.

Blair, joined on air by Steve Miller on 1620 AM, discussed the No. 11 Aggies recent 58-49 victory over the Ole Miss Rebels Sunday at Reed Arena and previewed the upcoming matchups with No. 16 Georgia and No. 1 South Carolina.

Joining Blair were junior guard Courtney Williams as well as senior forward Achiri Ade. Topics ranged from on-

court success, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, past giveaways as well as future promotions for the fans attending Reed Arena.

After the conclusion of Blair's one-hour segment, Kennedy joined Dave South for the men's basketball segment of the show.

Kennedy highlighted the recent success of the A&M squad, including a win over Mississippi State as well as a road victory in Baton Rouge against LSU for the first time since 1941.

The weekly radio program will skip its next show before returning to the usual University Drive location on Feb. 2.

## REVEILLE CONTINUED

forward."

After the university announced that Reveille VIII will retire at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year, a letter was sent out across the country to collie breeders, trainers and rescue organizations with the requirements for the next Texas A&M mascot.

According to this letter, the new mascot must be a mature female collie or dog with a collie-like appearance, medium to large size, approximately 1-1.5 years of age or older as

of March 1, 2015 and in good physical condition. Taking into account temperament, the letter also asked that candidates not be afraid of noise and portray a genuine affection for people of varying ages in one-on-one and large group settings.

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Chair of the Reveille IX Search Committee Tom Reber said the search was narrowed down from approximately 20 applicants by eliminating those that did not meet the required characteristics. The most common disqualifier was for individuals who submitted male dogs to

be the next Reveille, while other applicants were 4-5 years old, making them too old for consideration.

"The search will start to intensify this semester as the committee will start to vote for their favorite dogs and we will then have to decide which dogs to visit and then bring to campus to meet the committee so we can make final recommendations," Reber said.

The committee will be reviewing dogs from Houston, Ohio, Michigan and Minnesota, Reber said. He said the committee may have finalists as early as late February to the begin-

ning of March.

The possibility that a rescue dog will fit all the requirements and become the next Reveille is something that has stirred talk among current and former students.

"I am not opposed to [her being a rescue dog]," said Jacob Malek, junior industrial engineering major. "The starting place of Reveille isn't as important as the Aggie raising of her. As long as she is a properly trained dog, then all Aggies should be proud."

Reber said that he has heard from many students and former students

requesting a rescue dog be considered as the next Reveille.

"From the beginning, the committee was committed to finding the best dog in regards to the characteristics that we felt were very important for Reveille IX to have a successful career," Reber said. "If the best dog is also a rescue dog I think that would be a good thing."

Once the selection is made, Reveille IX will be introduced to the university community at the Corps Final Review and Reveille VIII will be cared for at the Stevenson Animal Life Care Center on campus.

## Prof's research featured in 'National Geographic'

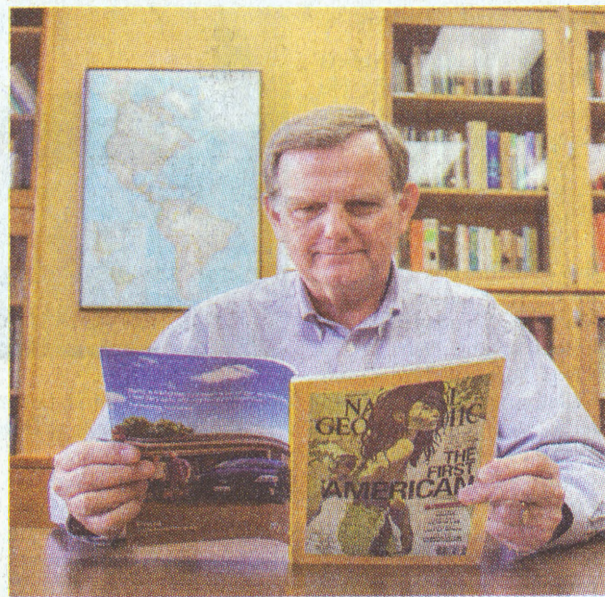
The discovery of human skeletal remains belonging to a teenage girl in a Yucatan cave changed what archeologists thought they knew about the first inhabitants of the Americas. As part of a National Geographic article explaining the skeleton of the young girl, which is 12,000-13,000 years old, anthropology professor Michael Waters was sought out to shed some light on the Western Hemisphere's earliest inhabitants. Katie Canales, life & arts editor, sat down with him to discuss his field research.

**THE BATTALION:** How does your work in the field continue your current focus on the first inhabitants of the Americas?

WATERS: Where we gather our data to make our interpretations is by going out into the field, so we need to go locate sites that have evidence of the first Americans, which isn't always easy. Sometimes you have to do surveys, look around and depend on people to tell you if they find things. And then actually get out into the field and test and excavate those sites. Because it's from the excavations of sites every summer that we get stone tools and the bones and material for radiocarbon dating that we can then determine the age of the archeological site and the artifacts we find there and then compare them to other sites. So eventually as soon as you start doing this enough and other people are working in the field, too, then you can compare what you find to what they find and you can put together a large picture of what it looked like at the beginning of the Pleistocene [the last ice age].

**THE BATTALION:** The site that you are known to work on, the Friedkin site in Central Texas, shows the earliest signs of habitation in the Western Hemisphere. Are there other sites in this region that have similarly early findings?

WATERS: It's one of the earliest sites in North America and South America, in the Americas for sure. It's dated until about 15,000 years ago. But there are sites, like in Wisconsin there's a site, that dates 14,800 years ago, and we're working on a site in Florida that dates 14,400 years ago and we worked at other sites that are 14,000, 14,200 years



Shelby Knowles — THE BATTALION

Anthropology professor Michael Waters is part of a research team that conducts field exploration to expand on current knowledge of the Americas' earliest inhabitants.

old. So they're kind of all in the same ballpark, the 14,000-15,000 year range. And prior to investigating those early sites, there was a ruling idea that the first people to have come to the Americas were known as Clovis and they had these large lancelet spear points and it was thought that they came through the Ice Free Corridor and very quickly populated North America and then moved all the way within a thousand years to the southern tip of South America. And those Clovis sites date roughly to around 13,000 years ago, the oldest ones. But what we're finding at the Friedkin site is evidence of people being here 2,000 years before Clovis, 15,000 years before Clovis, 1,800 years before Clovis. And so it's showing that there were people here before Clovis and it's probably from these early people that Clovis developed.

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