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SECTION!!

at the Volunteer Opportunities Fair.

NEWS The Battalion I 2.12.15



Volunteer fair aims to staff local projects

By Katie Fuller

Aggies browsed options to get plugged in to local volunteer organizations Wednesday.

The Student Activities Leadership and Service Center Spring Volunteer Opportunities Fair hosted 36 different companies and had about 60 students visit per hour. The event was much larger than in the previous three years, said Susan Miculka, an administrative coordinator in Student Activities.

Miculka said the idea behind the volunteer fair was to bring local organizations on campus so students have the opportunity to see what volunteer opportunities are available in Bryan-College Station.

"The primary purpose of the fair is to have the students interact with agencies in the local community so that while they are living and studying in College

Station they can go to those agencies on a regular basis," Miculka said. "We don't want to have them drive out of town to volunteer — there is so much need in this area.

Many groups jumped at the chance to spread the word about their organizations, said Trevor Riek, civil engineering junior and representative for Habitat for Humanity.

"We heard it was a great opportunity to represent our organization, talk about different service opportunities and get to know other service organizations in the area," Riek said. "We can spread awareness and get more people to volunteer with us.

Grace Cantu, psychology senior and representative of the Brazos Valley Boys and Girls Club, said this year had a good turnout, with many people interested in signing up for new organizations.

"I see a lot of people interested and it is great to see people reaching out, try-ing to give back to their community," Cantu said.

Jeffery Shelton, history junior, said he was at the fair to learn about new opportunities and was excited to see such a variety of organizations.

"They brought a lot of different volunteer organizations," Shelton said. "It's not just children, it's not just pets, it's everything. There is even stuff I have never heard of."

Miculka said volunteering gves students an example of how to demonstrate the core values of Texas A&M.

"Selfless service is one of our core values, and it is very important for students to have that opportunity to figure out what is available in the local area so that they can find something that they are interested in," Miculka said.



Thomas Russell toured campus labs earlier this month and discussed ways A&M research might contribute to the Army's technological edge.

ARMY RESEARCH

CONTINUED

from Texas A&M to study at Army labs while Texas A&M hosts Army researchers here in College Station. Lagoudas said the partnership presents a great opportunity not only for Texas A&M faculty members but for students, who will have opportunities to spend time with ARL. This partnership has been in the works for about a year, Lagoudas said, but the paperwork was only finalized a few months ago.

"They were very receptive to us because they hold A&M in high regards as a strong research university with strong engineering programs," Lagoudas said.
The director of ARL, Thomas Rus-

sell, visited College Station last week to plan future research projects and inspect A&M's facilities. Narasimha Reddy, assistant agency director for national and global initiatives for TEES, organized Russell's visit. Reddy said Russell and ARL came to see if they could interest faculty in their research interests and if collaboration was possible. Reddy said the four main areas of Army research were discussed: information and sensing, maneuvers, lethality and protection

Although some non-ARL personnel have been allowed into ARL labs in the past, Open Campus will streamline the process and make it much more accessible. Reddy said Open Campus will

also open up Army facilities to researchers who previously had no chance to study there.

"Even new and international faculty, non-citizens, can go and work with them on projects of interest," Reddy

Moble Benedict, an assistant professor in aerospace engineering who worked closely with ARL as a graduate student, is not a U.S. citizen but is a permanent resident. Benedict said it was difficult to work with the Army, who funded his graduate research, because of his lack of citizenship, but that Open Campus should help facilitate similar relationships in the future.

"It's free exchange of information and we can take advantage of all the facilities they have, which was not possible before," Benedict said.

The ARL-Texas A&M partnership will also allow researchers to see the real-world applications of their work, Lagoudas said.

'It would allow our faculty and students to find relevance for some of the work they are doing, because they get exposed to what is important for the Army," Lagoudas said.

Lagoudas also said this partnership could make Texas A&M faculty members more competitive when seeking funding from the Army for future projects, and will help draw new researchers and students to Texas A&M.

"Having that visibility at the national level will only help us," Lagoudas said.

M. BASKETBALL

CONTINUED

further foul trouble.

Roberson committed his fourth personal foul with 12:02 left. And when A&M needed Jones the most, the junior post picked up his fourth foul at around the sevenminute mark.

"We didn't handle the adversity well," Aggie head coach Billy Kennedy said. "In the beginning when House was out in the first half, it hurt us. Jalen [was in] foul trouble, Kourtney [was in] foul trouble. We did a poor job of handling the adversity, and Georgia played extremely well. They did a really good job of running [their] offense, and played as a disciplined, veteran basketball team."

Georgia (16-7, 7-4 SEC) went on an 8-0 run around the time Jones picked up his fourth foul, rallied by a Taylor Echols 3-pointer from the left corner with 7:40 left.

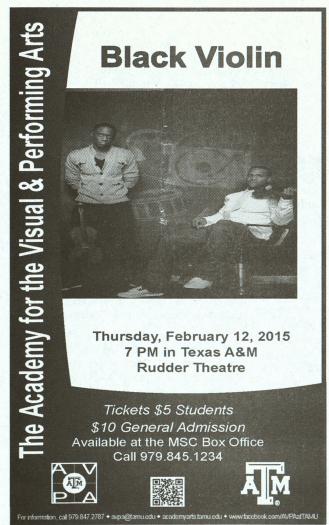
A&M's last pushing effort came in the closing couple minutes when Caruso cut it to four with a 3-pointer. However, Gaines answered right back with a 3-point dagger to seal the deal with 43 seconds left.

Gaines was among three Bulldogs with double-digits, leading the pack with 15. He shot 6-for-12 from the field despite ending the game with four fouls.

Kennedy said although it was a tough loss, there are still plenty of games left to play.

"We didn't play well enough to win," Kennedy said. "It's a lot of inexperience, and it's not the end of the world ... We've got to play better. Georgia was better than us. You can't take anything away from them. We didn't do what we needed to do in some areas."

The three-game homestand for the Aggies will resume at 5:30 p.m. Saturday against the Florida





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THE BATTALION is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. Offices are in Suite L400 of the Memorial Student Center

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in Student Media, a ur.it of the Division of Student Affairs. Newsroom phone: 979-845-3315; E-mail: editor@thebatt.com; website: http:// www.thebatt.com.

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