

# THE BATT

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4th annual Odissi event showcases Indian culture *page 4*

Alison Bradshaw — THE BATTALION

## Reduce, reuse, lift off again

Space Exploration Technologies is working to develop a way to land and refurbish a rocket's first launch stage, which could make space exploration more affordable.

### New technology could make space travel more affordable

By Katie Fuller

The future of spaceflight might include reusable rocket components, if a private company's engineering gamble pays off. Space Exploration Technologies, or SpaceX, hopes to develop a way to land and refurbish a rocket's first launch stage. A January attempt came close to success, but a planned second attempt last Wednesday was scrubbed due to bad weather. Industry experts say the technology could make space operations much more affordable and would boost space operations, if the capability is proven.

January's attempt saw SpaceX's signature Falcon 9 rocket successfully deliver supplies to the International Space Station while its first stage attempt to land on a remote-controlled ocean barge. The rocket maneuvered itself to the target but crashed when it ran out of hydraulic fluid.

SPACE ON PG. 3

BASEBALL



First baseman Logan Nottebrok hits during Sunday's 6-1 win over Holy Cross that completed the weekend sweep.

Tim Lai — THE BATTALION

## Runs pour in as A&M starts hot with weekend Holy Cross sweep

Aggies score 41 runs in three games on opening weekend

By Andre Perrard

The Texas A&M baseball season had quite the start this weekend, sweeping Holy Cross and scoring 41 runs in the process.

Ronnie Gideon led the charge, ending the three-game sweep with 11 RBIs. He tallied just seven all of last year.

Game three mirrored the first two outings as the Aggies won 6-1 Sunday behind junior pitcher Matt Kent.

Kent pitched for seven innings, only allowing four hits and zero earned runs, while also recording three strikeouts.

"That's what he did to our hitters all fall long and through January and February," head coach Rob Childress said. "That's why he earned the right to be in our rotation. He certainly didn't disappoint today."

Turner Larkins and Andrew Vinson came on in relief to finish the Crusader attack. Vinson struck out two of the final three batters to seal the deal.

BASEBALL ON PG. 2

INTERNATIONAL

## Muslim group addresses ISIS, stigmas of Islam



Shelby Knowles — THE BATTALION

Senior Sana Rahman is one of the founders of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Student Association.

By Josh Hopkins

In response to the Islamic State group's continued actions in the Middle East, an event Monday will address radicalism and extremism in the Middle East.

Salman Munir, biology sophomore and president of Ahmadiyya Muslim Student Association, the group hosting the event, said "Stop the Crisis" aims to condemn the Islamic State

group's actions abroad and address the domestic issue of Islamophobia.

Munir said he wants to make clear that Muslims as a whole condemn the Islamic State group's actions, which have a negative effect on Muslims everywhere.

"Before ISIS really came into the picture you already had a lot of Islamophobia in the world," Munir said. "But now you see ISIS —

AMSA ON PG. 4

SOFTBALL

## A&M caps 4-win weekend with Sunday victory

By Milkyas Gashaw

Despite the strain of playing five games in three days, the A&M softball team continued to roll Sunday.

The No. 23 Texas A&M softball team (7-3) completed the Aggie Classic with a 4-1 record after a 2-1 victory Sunday over Missouri State.

Sunday's game followed doubleheaders on consecutive days for the Aggies, whose only loss came Saturday night in an extra-innings thriller against Penn State.

Sophomore April Ryan and freshman Tori Vidales continued their scorching play with Vidales hitting a double in the first inning to bring in Ryan. A deep shot to centerfield by junior Breanna Dozier brought in the final run for the Aggies.

Senior Rachel Fox continued her dominance on the mound with allowing one run and striking out seven in a complete-game effort.

Head coach Jo Evans said Fox displayed her dominance throughout the entire tournament.

"[Fox] threw a gem against Eastern Michigan," Evans said. "It was really a work of art. She threw 58 pitches in six innings, not once throwing more than 12 pitches in an inning. That's the goal as a

SOFTBALL ON PG. 2

## Student body president debate to be held Monday

Three candidates will hit on campus issues

By Sam King

On the campaign trail for student body president, candidates will face off in a debate Monday evening.

The three candidates will answer questions asked by moderator Matt Josefy, former A&M

student body president and Class of 2004, that have been submitted via Twitter and on an anonymous online form, said Emma Douglas, election commissioner and business sophomore. Candidates will also answer questions from one another.

Douglas said Josefy's experience is an asset to the debate.

"Mr. Josefy has significant experience with SGA and has moderated debates in the past," Doug-

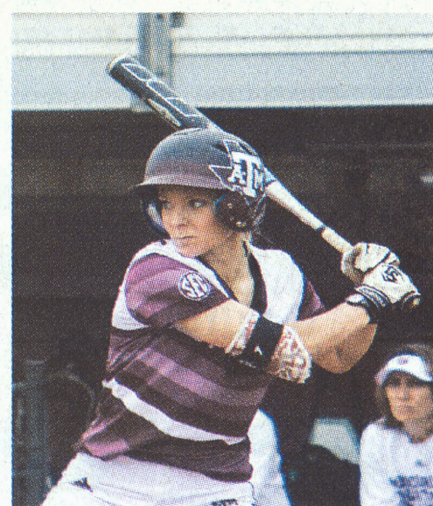
las said. "We are confident that the debate is in good hands with Mr. Josefy."

Hannah Wimberly, SGA public relations vice president, said the debates are a great way for the candidates to get in touch with the voting body and to clarify their platforms.

"The debate is going to be a great way for students to find out about the issues that their potential SBPs are passionate about,"

Wimberly said. "I hope that it will clarify for students that are undecided or wanting to know more about certain issues."

The debate will be at 7 p.m. Monday in the MSC's Flag Room. Voting for positions such as student body president, yell leader and student senator will be Thursday and Friday, and results will be announced Friday evening.



Tim Lai — THE BATTALION

Junior Cali Lanphear walked three times Sunday, scoring once in the 2-1 win.

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