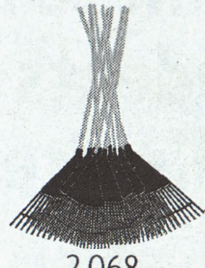


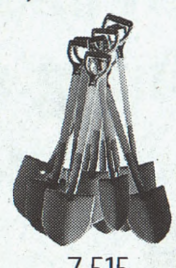
Total tools for Big Event: 18,000+

Leaf Rakes



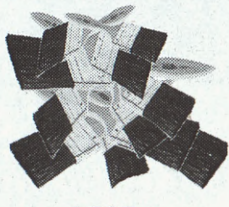
2,068

Spade Shovels



7,515

Paint Brushes



1,597

Gloves



1,612

Frederica Shih— THE BATTALION

BIG EVENT CONTINUED

Programs Director Mark Lutz said The Big Event has made every effort to notify participants of the change, using various channels to ensure at least one member of each group is aware of the new location. Additionally, people will be placed at Lot 100 to redirect those who show up at the wrong location.

"We've been trying to inform people of the change all throughout our recruiting," Lutz said. "We made sure to advertise that as much as possible, whether it be through word of mouth, organization speakers, maybe writing on classroom chalkboards. Every organization leader had to come to a meeting this week, so through that, every single group has someone who knows where the kickoff is going to be."

Killion said a huge factor in choosing Research Park was the large adjacent parking lot, which should be able to fit students traveling to campus for the kickoff ceremony. The lot can hold more than 3,000 vehicles, making it an ideal spot for current and future program growth. The kickoff will include free food from sponsors, musical enter-

tainment from Houston disk jockey OG Bobby Trill, and a speech by this year's nominated speaker, Scott Shafer. Shafer is a professor in the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences, and was chosen from over 40 nominations from the student body.

Lutz said this year Big Event wants to emphasize that the kickoff is a celebration.

"We went away from the normal folk band we've had for the past couple of years because we wanted the ceremony to be a little bit more of a celebration," Lutz said. "We're trying something new, and we think its going to be a lot of fun."

Lutz said that the ceremony provides a fun and social atmosphere meant to pump up those volunteering their day to help serve the Bryan-College Station community.

"Its a great way to start off the day. Free food, free coffee, and a lot of fun," Lutz said. "Its great time to meet up with your friends. The Big Event happens once a year. For some people it's even more of a social thing. We're there to say thank you to the students who are there to serve the community. We want to make it good time."

Saturday's ceremony will begin at 8 a.m.

A&M will battle for top spot in SEC

Aggies to face off Missouri Tigers this weekend

By Andre Perrard

▷ A&M baseball returns to Olsen Field this weekend to continue SEC competition against the Missouri Tigers.

The Aggies (25-1, 5-1 SEC) are off to the hottest start in the country. Their success propelled them to a No. 1 ranking in the polls this week, the second best start in school history. After losing its first game of the season last weekend, A&M rebounded with an 11-1 win over UTSA on Tuesday.

Missouri (19-7) comes into the game 5-1 in SEC play. The key player offensively for the Tigers is Josh Lester, who is batting .289 with 21 RBIs on the season. Brett Peel is also another player to look for in the game. Peel gives the Tigers position on the bases, as he has stolen 15 bases in 20 attempts this season.

A&M features eight players in its lineup who have each hit over 15 RBIs this season, led by Ronnie Gideon (21). As a team, the Aggies have hit 22 home runs this season, led by Logan Taylor (5).

On the mound, A&M leads the SEC with a 1.76 ERA, followed by the Tigers who enter with a 2.28 ERA this year. On Friday, junior Grayson Long will be on the hill for A&M. Long is 5-0 this season with a 2.08 ERA, tallying 43 strikeouts along the way. The Tigers will send Reggie McClain to the mound.



Cody Franklin — THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M baseball team gathers in the dugout to discuss tactics against Prairie View A&M.

Saturday will provide a new face starting on the mound for A&M. Kyle Simonds will move from bullpen buzz saw to making his first career start for the Aggies. Simonds has not allowed an earned run of any sort in the last 20.2 innings of work. He is 2-0 this season with a 0.00 ERA, while adding 18 strikeouts to his name. Missouri will send Tanner Houck to the hill.

Sunday, A&M junior Matt Kent

will make his seventh start this season. Kent is 5-0 with a 3.20 ERA on the year with 34 strikeouts. The Tigers will start Peter Fairbanks on the mound Sunday afternoon.

Texas A&M owns the all-time series against Missouri by a 47-32-1 mark, with A&M winning the last three meetings between the two programs. The series begins at 6:35 p.m. Friday night at Olsen Field.

Physics fair to draw thousands

Festival to feature Nobel Laureates, interactive experiments

By Bradley D'Souza

▷ Thousands will flock to the Mitchell Physics building for the annual Physics and Engineering Festival Saturday.

A collaboration between the Department of Physics and Astronomy and the Department of Aerospace

Engineering, the festival seeks to offer visitors a fun and interactive look into the world of physics.

"The Physics and Engineering Festival is a very special event. It's a unique blend of fun and science," Tatiana Erukhimova, physics professor and festival coordinator, said. "We try to reach out to all ages and all social groups. It is called a festival for a reason. Its is a celebration, not just an open house."

Now in its 12th year, Saturday's festival boasts lectures from world-renowned scientists such as astronaut Gregory Burchett and Nobel Laureates David Lee and Dudley Hershbach. However, the festival is renowned for the many interactive experiments spread throughout the Mitchell Physics Buildings.

MORE AT TX.AG/BATT23

Advertisement for Classifieds with a city skyline illustration.

Advertisement for Private Party Want Ads with a special rate offer.

Real Estate and Help Wanted section with various listings.

Large advertisement for The Big Event (March 28, 2015) including a crossword puzzle and a grid of numbers.

Answers to today's puzzles and other classified advertisements.