

# The Battalion

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"Serving Texas A&M Since 1893"

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## Notice

The next issue of The Battalion will be published on Aug. 26. Normal publication will resume on Aug. 31.

## Serbs force Muslims out of homeland

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Some 300 women, old men and children walked through a no-man's land to reach the battle-scarred capital Wednesday after being forced from their homes by Serb militiamen.

The refugees said the Serbs drove them by bus from Rogatica, 52 miles east of Sarajevo, early in the day, and forced them to walk most of the last five miles between Serb and Bosnian government-held lands.

"They told me to get out and crawl," said Bajro Misic, who lost his legs in an

accident 10 years ago and arrived in Sarajevo with one artificial limb.

He raised his hands to reveal palms bloodied from crawling along the mountain road.

The refugees arrived just before curfew Wednesday night as mortars began pounding Sarajevo. The Muslim-led government has been battling for most of a week to break the Serb encirclement of the city. It has failed so far.

Over a million Bosnians have fled their homes in the fighting that pits Serb nationalists against the mostly Croat and

Muslim forces of the Bosnian government. Many of the refugees were forced out in "cleansing" campaigns intended to create ethnically homogenous areas. Most of these accusations have centered on the Serbs.

The Rogatica refugees, fed at a bombed-out school and then taken to a relief center, said they had been held for up to two months at a school in their hometown.

The refugees said they generally were well-treated there, but Misic said Sakib Gagula, a friend who helped him get

around, had been shot at point-blank range by the Serbs.

"They pointed the gun and pulled the trigger," said Misic. Others confirmed the account.

On Wednesday, the Serbs entered the school and ordered the people to leave, with no explanation, they said. Hajrija Latovic, a Muslim woman, said a soldier hit her in the ribs with his rifle butt.

Accounts of ethnic cleansing and of concentration camps allegedly run by some groups led acting U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger to call

Wednesday for a war crimes investigation for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The United States also sought an urgent meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

The leader of Bosnia's Serbs denied his forces were operating concentration camps, and invited international agencies to see for themselves.

The Muslim-led Bosnian government also invited the United Nations, Red Cross and journalists to inspect its prisoner-of-war camps.

## Stabbing victim recovering

### Student attacked behind Northgate

Julie Chelkowski  
The Battalion

Chad Owen Dickson, a 24-year-old Texas A&M veterinary medical student, is in stable condition after being stabbed early Tuesday morning.

Dickson was injured in the parking lot behind the Dixie Chicken after an argument broke out among three men.

According to a College Station Police report, a white male and a Hispanic male were arguing with the victim, when the white male took a handgun from his truck and pointed it at the victim. After the victim backed away, the suspect put the gun down and the two engaged in a fist fight.

Witnesses reported that during the fight, the Hispanic male approached the victim and stabbed him several times.

Dickson was transported to St. Joseph Hospital where he was treated for two stab wounds in his abdomen and two lacerations on his right arm. One of the wounds was reported to be eight inches long.

Lt. A.W. Onstott of the College Station Police Department said the suspects were identified as Tony Compion and Curtis Breedlove.

**"It (the stabbing) was an incident where a person was confronted by a jerk. When you have 3,000 people in one area and one looking for trouble, it's hard to find that one."**

—Richard Bennis, manager of Duddley's Draw

The two suspects involved in the incident have been arrested and charged with aggravated assault.

Compion was charged with the actual stabbing of Dickson while Breedlove allegedly brandished a loaded 9mm semi-automatic pistol.

The argument started because of comments directed towards a woman Dickson was with, Onstott said.

This past year, the University Police Department and the CSPD have combined forces to patrol the Northgate area.

Richard Bennis, the manager of Duddley's Draw, said with the help of UPD and CSPD, assaults in the area are not common.

"This is the safest place to be," he said. "It (the stabbing) was an incident where a person was confronted by a jerk. When you have 3,000 people in one area and one looking for trouble, it's hard to find that one."

This is the second stabbing in College Station this week. The College Station Police reported that Michael Blakeley of Caldwell was stabbed in the abdomen Sunday night by a white male in the Wolf Creek Recreation Center parking lot after an apparent argument. Blakeley was admitted to Humana Hospital and released Tuesday.

The two stabbings are an unusually high number of assaults for this time of year, Onstott said. But with the change of season, these numbers may soon increase.

"This is pretty rare," he said. "It (the summer) has been real slow, but it's starting to pick up since people have been moving back to College Station."



DARRIN HILL/The Battalion

## Home court improvement

Construction workers from Trinity Floor Company from Dallas begin work on the new floor of G. Rollie White Coliseum on Wednesday.

## NASA takes rest, rethinks project

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Atlantis' astronauts reeled out a satellite on a thin cord Tuesday in a risky experiment never before performed in space. But the 12 1/2-mile cord jammed at about 850 feet, and the crew gave up for the night.

"We're going to do some discussion here about where we want to go from here," Mission Control told the crew.

Mission Control told the astronauts to get some rest for another attempt at mid-morning on Wednesday; some of the seven crew members had been up for 20 hours.

Four crew members went to the bed; the rest kept watch on the satellite, left flying above the shuttle at the end of 843 feet of cord.

NASA extended the mission to an eighth day, to Saturday, because of trouble with the cord and a delay in releasing another satellite over the weekend.

The astronauts were supposed to unreel the half-ton Italian satellite on a 12 1/2-mile, wire-and-fiber tether as thick as a shoelace. Scientists expected the tether, when fully extended, to generate up to 5,000 volts of electricity as it swept through Earth's magnetic field during a planned 30-hour

test. But the cord unwound in fits and starts, and after three attempts, the astronauts had managed to reel out the satellite no more than 843 feet.

Mission Control said the problem could be a snag on the reel.

Twice during the attempt to unreel the spacecraft, the satellite swung over the shuttle on its cord.

But commander Loren Shriver fired the shuttle's jets to steady the tether and satellite and avert the possibility of an out-of-control satellite wrapping its cord around the shuttle.

## Protests in South Africa call for change in government

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — Nelson Mandela led 100,000 cheering black marchers to the seat of white power Wednesday in one of the biggest demonstrations ever to demand an end to President F.W. de Klerk's government.

The African National Congress also staged rallies in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and other cities as part of its mass action campaign. Police arrested more than 600 protesters, most for occupying government buildings.

The demonstrations were the latest in a series of ANC protests calling for the removal of the government. But De Klerk, whose position seems unshaken, has said that only negotiations, not mass protest, will resolve the country's political crisis.

Still, the huge turnout will help buttress the ANC's claim to represent the majority of South Africans. The march came after a two-day strike in

which some 4 million black workers stayed home to demand an interim government by the end of the year.

"The campaign for peace and democracy must become a tidal wave," Mandela told the roaring crowd in Pretoria. "An interim government of national unity is an urgent and critical step."

"De Klerk must go! De Klerk must go!" the crowd chanted. Some government and opposition leaders hope the ANC, boosted by the success of its protests, will be ready to return to the talks, saying it has a new mandate from the people. Mandela has indicated talks could resume within weeks.

"I look forward to the day when Mr. Mandela will once again see me in my office," De Klerk told reporters later. "He needn't speak to me from the lower part of the Union Building. There's an open door here."

## Pilotfish fight for A&M enrollment

By Tanya Williams  
The Battalion

Just as upperclassmen at Texas A&M are fretting over upcoming finals and looking forward to the end of the second summer session, a special group of freshmen join them in their relief of the end of summer.

Provisional freshmen, or Pilotfish, are finishing their summer just as all summer school students are, but they are not attending just to get a jump on class hours, but rather to assure that they will be allowed to enroll as Aggies in the fall.

Provisional freshmen, students who have applied and been accepted to Texas A&M under a provisional agreement, must enroll in nine to 12 class hours during the summer before their freshman year and maintain a GPR of 2.0 with no failing grades in order to gain full admittance to A&M in the fall.

The courses they take are core curricu-

### Navigators help provisional freshmen overcome mandatory summer school courses, enroll for fall

lum courses such as the required History 105 and 106 courses, as well as English and Political Science courses.

"These courses are a lot more difficult," said Kim Henry. "A lot more in-depth."

Henry, who will be an accounting major in the fall, credits some of her success in the provisional program to the Pilotfish program organized by the Aggie Orientation Leader Program and the Department of Student Affairs.

The Orientation Leader program assigned a number of Orientation Leaders, or Pilotfish Navigators, to a group of eight to nine pilotfish to help them navigate the friendly, but sometimes dangerous waters of Texas A&M academics.

Cris Matoon, a senior finance and accounting major and a Navigator, took his

responsibility as a navigator very seriously.

"I felt it was my responsibility to do whatever it took to help the pilotfish succeed at Texas A&M both academically and socially," Matoon said.

The summer began with Navigators just answering questions and organizing social outings such as bowling, Matoon said. Soon students realized that there was more to college than a social standing.

"Soon students realized that they needed to buckle down," Matoon said.

To deal with students' worries about their academics, Navigators organized study sessions for eight different subjects as well as test and note-taking help sessions. Matoon even went to class with students to help them learn the proper way to take notes.

## L.A. police face federal charges

### Officers receive civil rights indictments

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Federal civil rights charges have been leveled against the four policemen whose acquittals on most state charges in the beating of motorist Rodney King led to deadly riots.

Indictments handed down late Tuesday and unsealed Wednesday charged officers Laurence Powell, Timothy Wind and Theodore Briseno with aiding and abetting each other in beating, stomping and kicking King under color of law.

The fourth defendant, Sgt. Stacey Koon, was charged with failing to prevent an unlawful assault by the officers under his command.

U.S. Attorney Lourdes Baird said prosecutors will not allege that the beating was racially motivated, although the defendants are white and King is black.

"As far as a racial motivation, that is not part of these charges and we are not making that allegation," Baird said.

She said the right that is alleged to have been violated is the right of all citizens to be free of unreasonable assault by police officers "regardless of race or sex."

King was "very emotional and to a certain extent overwhelmed with the moment" as he watched the announcement on television, said his attorney, Steven Lerman.

Attorneys for Briseno, Wind and Koon didn't immediately return calls seeking comment.

"I'm not real happy about it," Powell said of his indictment. "I didn't do anything wrong. I can't believe they're doing this to me again."

The indictments capped three months of grand jury hearings launched shortly after the April 29 verdicts in the officers' state trial set off rioting so severe that National Guardsmen were sent in. The riots caused millions in damage and 52 people were killed.

President Bush denounced the state jury's decision. Baird maintained there was no political pressure to return indictments before the presidential election and said she never discussed the case with the White House.

The state trial was moved from Los Angeles County to suburban and predominantly white Simi Valley in adjoining Ventura County. Baird said she expects no such shift of location in the federal trial. The federal district draws on seven counties for its jury pool.

She said the investigation was continuing but declined to say if additional indictments were ex-

## Riot victims question food stamp delay

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite President Bush's declaration of a disaster after the

Los Angeles riots, more than 20,000 needy residents had to wait more than a month for emergency food stamps because the Agriculture Department

decided they could get by without the aid. Some are still waiting.

Bush declared Los Angeles a disaster area on May 2, after four days of the worst civil disturbances in the nation's history. The declaration was followed by promises of aid from a number of federal agencies.

The Agriculture Department responded quickly with tons of free food. But local officials said there were long lines, not enough free food to fill the need, and emergency food stamps were still necessary.

Applicants for those food stamps said they were unable to obtain fresh food, milk and baby formula because of the fires, looting, power outages and lost income from disrupted jobs.

Los Angeles County's request for them was rejected May 8 by Sharon Levinson, the Western regional administrator of USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, which runs the food stamp program. Levinson wrote to the county that it had failed to demonstrate the need for the stamps.

Navigators also put together a study group phone list of 45 to 50 students so that other pilotfish may be easily contacted.

"The study sessions helped promote unity and naturally broke down lines," Matoon said. "They (the sessions) built friendships."

All pilotfish did not choose to participate in the program, but instead decided to tackle A&M alone, Matoon said. Also all that participated in the programs did not make it through the summer.

"I had one student call today," Matoon said. "To say she was going home and would try to transfer into A&M at a later date."

One of the provisional freshmen that is remaining to enroll in A&M says she has made it through a difficult but fun summer and she looks forward to the fall at A&M.

"The atmosphere at A&M is so laid-back," Cynthia Palmer, a Chemical Engineering major said. "I like it."