

## Weekend rap-up

### Only 4 at U.N. security meeting

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The first meeting of the U.N.-sponsored Security Advisory Committee wasn't exactly a roaring success Saturday. Only four Somalis showed up.

No one came to speak for either Gen. Mohamed Farrah Aidid or Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the two warlords who have divided up Mogadishu. Just two of Somalia's 15 factions were represented.

The United Nations had hoped the session would be the first step toward restoring security in the capital, the scene of pitched factional battles early this week and sporadic fighting since then.

Helicopters dropped tens of thousands of leaflets over Mogadishu on Saturday to urge people to put away their weapons. A U.N. official said confiscations of openly carried weapons were to begin as early as Sunday.

### River Phoenix dead at 23

LOS ANGELES — River Phoenix, whose natural intensity as a youthful star of the 1986 film "Stand by Me" launched a career, collapsed outside actor Johnny Depp's Sunset Strip nightclub early Sunday and died. He was 23.

Friends reported that Phoenix was "acting strange" as he left the Viper Room in West Hollywood about 1 a.m., said sheriff's Deputy Diane Hecht.

Paramedics were called when the actor collapsed and he was rushed to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He was pronounced dead at 1:51 a.m.

"At this time the cause of death is under investigation. The exact cause will be determined at autopsy by the coroner," Hecht said.

The autopsy will probably be performed Monday, she said.

### Vet beheads rats in space dissection

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Columbia's veterinarian chopped the heads off six rats Saturday and performed the world's first animal dissections in space, hailed by NASA as a scientific triumph.

For the hapless, history-making rats, the end came in a second or less.

Martin Fettman, America's first veterinarian in space, used a miniature guillotine to decapitate the rodents. No anesthesia was used so the organs and tissue would be free of chemicals.

Everything from brains to blood to bones was preserved for post flight study by scientists around the world. Fettman and astronaut-physician M. Rhea Seddon had to work fast; the extremely delicate inner ears, for instance, had to be removed within two minutes of the animals' deaths.

### Fort Worth police release drug video

FORT WORTH — Police say a controversial videotape is intended to illustrate drug activity in southeast Fort Worth — not to smear critics of a fatal police shooting.

The 10-minute video shows purported drug activity at two locations. It is one of several tapes used in the city's anti-crime Weed and Seed program.

"The videotape ... shows some of the most dramatic drug dealing that you or anyone else would hope to want to see," Police Chief Thomas Windham said.

The video, taken last December, was shown Oct. 14 to a group of local ministers. The showing was more than a week after a group of southeast Fort Worth residents demanded a civilian review board to investigate the killing in September of Eric Spencer.

—The Associated Press

## Top food service employees lose jobs

The Associated Press

Four Texas A&M University employees have been reassigned or fired after objecting to a vice president's efforts to bring a private contractor on campus, according to workers and school memos.

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The director, assistant director and business manager of A&M's Department of Food Services, which oversees one of the world's largest dining halls, were included last week

in the changes in the past six weeks, the Associated Press reported Saturday.

Another employee, a student working in the school's microcomputer center, says he was fired from his campus job for speaking out.

Retired Army Col. James Moore, who had served as assistant director of food services for six and a half years before learning of his reassignment a month ago, criticized the action.

"All I want is my job back," said Moore, 67, a recipient of the Silver Plate, which is awarded by the International Food Service Manufacturer's Association. It is considered the most prestigious operator award in the food service in-

dustry.

"Right now, they have me stuffed in an office where I have to ask permission before I can go anywhere," he said.

The Federation of Texas A&M University Mothers' Club, which solicits money for student scholarships, also has raised concerns.

"We are going to keep watching because if we are going to privatize, the administration is going to have to show us that someone from the outside is better than what we've already got," said A&M Mother's Club president Margaret Freeman.

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## Disabled Aggies reaching goals

### Freshman Gilstrap finds acceptance from fellow Aggies

By Mary Kujawa

THE BATTALION

An accident may have derailed Bodie Gilstrap, a freshman at Texas A&M, from his dream of attending the University, but it definitely did not put him on the sidelines.

In the summer of 1989, Gilstrap was a typical 16-year-old youth who was looking forward to his junior year at Eldorado High School. He was doing day work on ranches in Schleicher County in west Texas where he lived with his mother and father.

However, Gilstrap's life was changed forever on the morning of July 29, 1989. While on his way to work, Gilstrap was involved in a one-car accident in which his pickup rolled over on him.

At the local hospital in San Angelo, he was diagnosed as having broken vertebrae and a damaged spinal cord. For Gilstrap, this meant paralyzation from the neck down and dependence on a ventilator to help him breathe.

Gilstrap was transferred to the Dallas Rehabilitation Institute where he spent the next eight months. While at the Rehabilitation Institute, Gilstrap continued his high school education.

Upon his return home, Gilstrap finished high school and graduated with his original class where he was ranked 19th in a class of 41 students.

Gilstrap thought his dream of attending A&M was over, but teachers at EHS were not going to let him give up on his dream. Maureen Hodges, a counselor at the high school, began the process of getting Gilstrap to A&M.

Gilstrap applied to A&M and took the ACT in the summer of 1991. In the fall, he began correspondence courses in order to complete freshman entrance requirements. Gilstrap was admitted to A&M for the first summer session of 1992.

"It took awhile, but I finally got here," he said. "I thought it was over, but my mom and dad and friends helped me out."

Even though his dream of coming to A&M had come true, it was still hard for Gilstrap to leave home.

"My mom was pretty worried for a while," Gilstrap said. "It was hard for me too, being away from home."

Gilstrap also was concerned about being accepted by other Aggies.

"I was worried about that when I came here, but everybody is real friendly," he said.

Gilstrap gets around campus in a 'Sip and Puff' wheelchair. The wheelchair, which has a ventilator strapped to the back of the chair, is controlled by air demands. Gilstrap puts in commands with either sips or puffs into a tube.

After his acceptance to A&M, Gilstrap contacted the Office of Support Services for Students With Disabilities. Support Services helps students with disabilities learn skills necessary to become responsible and self-reliant, and to participate in the whole range of college life.

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Lauren Donohue/THE BATTALION

Freshman **Bodie Gilstrap** overcame his obstacles to reach his goal of attending Texas A&M. Gilstrap was paralyzed after a car accident in 1989.

## Group to help disabled students get increased campus accessibility

By Kim McGuire

THE BATTALION

Students with disabilities are organizing efforts to increase accessibility to events on campus through a newly formed committee.

The Program Access Advisory Committee consists of A&M students, faculty and staff and is attempting to help organizations that are planning events make them accessible to students with disabilities.

Gail Walters, coordinator of handicap and veteran services and committee chair, said the group addresses the concerns of all students with disabilities, not just students in wheelchairs.

"If an organization is sponsoring an event on campus, they need to look at all possibilities," Walters said. "If a hearing impaired person is attending, they should have an interpreter. Also, if a person using crutches is attending, they should think about safety."

The committee is currently trying to make Bonfire more accessible to people in wheelchairs.

Jeff Klouda, vice president of Networks, an organization of students with disabilities, said the closest person in a wheelchair can get to Bonfire is one of the

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## Faculty, students gather to honor Koldus in naming of building

By Carrie Miura

THE BATTALION

Faculty, staff, students and family paid tribute Saturday to the former vice president for student services Dr. John J. Koldus, dedicating the Student Services Building in his name.

Fred McClure, '75-'76 Texas A&M student body president, said Koldus touched many lives throughout his 20 years serving the University. Koldus was more than just a friend to more than 100,000 Aggies, he was an important asset to the students and to the University, he said.



Koldus

"John Koldus is a man who tirelessly gave of himself, so that the student life of each of every student would be unique and it would be filled to the brim of that intangible thing called Aggie Spirit," McClure said.

"John Koldus knew it was his responsibility to deal with things that matter in the daily lives of Aggies," he said. "No wish was so small that it would not garner his undivided attention, no wish was so large that it would cause him to shrink from his responsibilities."

Koldus said it was a tremendous honor to be selected to have a building on campus named after him.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think that

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## Stomach disease sends Reveille to emergency room

By Mark Smith

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M's mascot Reveille underwent emergency surgery Sunday after she developed a rare stomach condition and is currently in the intensive care unit (ICU) at the Texas A&M Animal Clinic.

She will stay in the ICU for two to four days with a condition called gastric dilation volvulus, or a twisted stomach.

Mascot Cpl. Jim Lively noticed Reveille pacing around nervously at 2:30 a.m. yesterday morning.

"It is rare for Rev to be up that early in the morning," Lively said. "I could tell she was uncomfortable and she was vomiting."

Lively took Reveille outside, but she continued to vomit. Lively then called the clinic. He described Reveille's condition to John Shelby, a student worker at the clinic, who told Lively to monitor her condition and to report back if the vomiting persisted.

Reveille's condition did not change and Lively and Greg Riels, commander of company E-2, took her to the clinic.

"When she arrived she looked good for a dog with her disease," said Dr. Martina Altschaul, veterinary clinical associate.

The doctors at the clinic examined Reveille and found that her belly was sore on the left side. A routine blood sample was taken followed by abdominal X-rays. The X-rays showed some dilation in the stomach.

"The only option to take was surgery," Altschaul said. "She did well during the whole operation."

Dr. Phil Hobson, head of soft tissue surgery for the animal clinic, performed the surgery, and the dog emerged from the operation at 8:30 a.m.

Riels said Reveille's condition was caught just in time.

"The doctors said we were very lucky Jim (Lively) noticed as early as he did," Riels said. "We brought her in at the outer edge of the time needed to treat her."

The first 24-36 hours after the operation are the most critical because a twisted stomach cuts off the blood circulation to parts of the body. There is a chance Reveille could go into shock because of blood deficiency to those areas. However, Altschaul said, it is too soon to tell how she will be.

A procedure called gastropexy, in which portions of Reveille's stomach were sewn to the body wall to prevent any recurrence of the twisting, also was performed after her stomach was straightened.

Doctors do not know exactly what causes the disease, but it is only found in large deep-chested dogs.

A hereditary connection may be possible, Altschaul said, because Reveille's brother died from the same condition.

Riels said he hoped that Reveille's condition would not affect the plans for her retirement ceremony during the half-time of the Texas A&M-University of Louisville football game on Nov. 13.

If possible, Riels said, Reveille V will be on the field for the A&M-University of Texas football game and, if the Aggies win the Southwest Conference, at the Cotton Bowl. Reveille VI will take her place if she is unable to participate.

## Inside

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- Soccer team crushes U.T.

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### OPINION

- Scroggs: Mother uses canvas to express grief over son's death

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### WEATHER

- Monday: mostly sunny, highs in 60s, lows in 40s
- Tuesday: becoming warmer, highs in 70s

### TEXAS LOTTO

- Saturday's winning Texas Lotto numbers: 1, 6, 8, 10, 12, 23