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### STATE & LOCAL

THE BATTALION

Wednesday, November 24, 1

#### Aggies Over Texas to parachute into Kyle Field



Over Texas will skydive into Texas A&M and the University Kyle Field carrying six footballs of Texas football teams.

Seven members from Aggies for the 100th face-off between

By James Bernsen

THE BATTALION

the footballs for the Texas A&M-University of Texas game will fly in excess of 100 m.p.h. before the kickoff on Thursday; but it won't be because

of Corey Pullig or Shea Morenz. Seven skydivers from Aggies Over Texas will parachute into Kyle Field carrying the six foot-balls that will be used in the game. The game is the 100th meeting between the Texas and A&M football teams.

Mary Haskett, part owner and chief instructor of Aggies Over Texas, said the athletic department contacted the company and requested the jump as part of the celebration for the 100th anniversary of the A&M-Texas game.
"We jumped once before in

the 'Hurricane Bowl' (in 1988), she said. "We've also jumped into Olsen Field in the past, but not recently. We've never done anything as big as this though."
Hanspeter Schaub, a graduate

student in aerospace engineering and one of the divers, said the jump will be very difficult because it is a night jump and there is often much turbulence in places like Kyle Field.

"We're supposed to land into the wind, but there is heavy turbulence, and if you look at the flags, it's coming from every direction," he said. "You have to be very good at accuracy and very careful of the wind."

The amount of experience of

the jumpers varies, from the least experienced jumper with 500 jumps, to Steven Haskett, part owner of Aggies Over Texas who has around 3,500 jumps.

The divers hope to jump from 4,000 feet, depending on the weather and clouds, but they can

jump from 2,000 feet, Schaubsaid "Strong winds, gusty winds, clouds or rain could make us have to cancel it," he said, "but hope fully the weather will be good."

Haskett said the skydivers will be landing within 15 seconds of each other in the center of the field.

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"Visually it's going to be very exciting," she said. "They will attempt to land near the football that's painted on the field, but it's hard to be that precise." Aggies Over Texas was found-

ed in 1983 and provides training for skydivers from the Brazos Valley as well as sponsoring and competing in competitions.

Haskett said the group also has jumped into local schools and made presentations on skydiving.

Aggies Over Texas is not affil ated with the Texas A&M Skydiving Club, but many members are in both organizations, including all the divers parachuting into Kyle Field.

The divers are: Schaub; Brian Epperson, class of '86; Steven Haskett, class of '86; Ernie Kirkham, senior lecturer in health and kinesiology; Jim Lee, a Ph.D student in mechanical engineering; Dwight McArthur, class of '85 and Jon Yonke, a junior business analysis major.

#### Spirit of Aggieland transforms Longhorn-ex into Aggie fan

By Jacqueline Mason

This year, one Aggie fan will be attending his 60th consecutive game.

He's been to every game for the past five years from Baton Rouge to the Meadowlands. And what's even more amazing - he's a

former University of Texas football player. Dan Petty, a commercial real estate professional for Wilcox Realty Group, Inc., in Dallas, said he began following the Aggies when his son, Kent, started playing football for

He soon realized that the spirit of the 12th man is something unique, he said.

"There are just some places that have it when teams play," he said. "And I think the record at Kyle Field supports that."

Petty said the games were a priority and

he even used vacation time to travel to the

"I just made time for it," he said.

Petty said he is so intent on following games because he wants to support his children in whatever activities they choose. This support is a family tradition, he said.

My father, he attended every game I played in from junior high through college,

Petty did the same for his son and his

daughter, Adrienne.

Adrienne Petty, a junior elementary edu-cation major at Blinn, said she was a little sur-prised that her father became an Aggie fan afer playing for U.T

When her brother came to Texas A&M, the whole family became Aggie fans despite the fact her and her bother grew up supporting the Longhorns, she said.

Kent Petty, who is now a corporate real es-

tate broker for Cawley and Associates in E las, said although he grew up being a Texa fan. But when it came time for him to choo a college, A&M Head Football Coach R. C Slocum steered him toward A&M.

'I liked him, I took a visit down there, an that's about all it took for me," he said. That is about all it took for his father, too.

Petty has attended 60 consecutive A&M games up to the Aggie-Oklahoma University game this fall, also

Although Kent finished his football career with the Aggies in 1992 and graduated from A&M in 1993, his family has not abandoned

the Aggies. And they would certainly not miss the Texas A&M-University of Texas game com-

ing up Thursday, Dan Petty said.

"The rivalry is there, the history and tradition are there," he said.

And most assuredly, he will be too.

### No local alcohol ban in parks, lawmakers say

The Associated Press

AUSTIN - Several lawmakers and a member of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission said Tuesday they don't think cities and counties have the authority to ban alcoholic beverage consumption in parks.

But representatives of local governments defended their power to impose such prohibitions, calling them important to residents' health and safety.

'We regulate where and how fast people may drive. We regu-

late where they may smoke. We regulate where the people of Texas may swim in the Gulf We even regulate where people may raise chickens and horses, said Galveston Mayor Barbara

"Please allow us to continue to regulate where people may consume alcohol," she said.

She said Galveston officials planned to continue enforcing their ban.

Any move the commission could make to help clarify the matter - such as asking for a

state attorney general's opinion

a Harris County resident's lawsuit challenging the ban there, said TABC member Neal Manne of Houston.

Manne said he doesn't think local governments have the power to impose park bans on alcohol, but he thinks cities should

be given that authority. Manne said he asked for Tuesday's discussion on the matter because questions have

been raised on the bans, imposed by "many, many, many" local governments.

A bill in this year's legislative this as a problem."

session to specifically give loca governments the power to bar alcohol in parks didn't pass.

Some lawmakers said the would try again in the 1995 re ular legislative session an asked the commission to what it can to help local govern ments in the meantime.

"If there is a way that you ca help us through this interior then we will make it airtight when we come back in 1995 said Rep. Patricia Gray, D-Galv ston. "I don't think that there is city in this state that is not facing



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1994 GGIELAND

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