

# THE BATTALION

Vol. 93 No. 69 (6 pages)

1893 - A Century of Service to Texas A&M - 1993

Monday, December 6, 1993

## Weekend rap-up

### Violence, gun fire continue in Israel

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank - A Jewish settler fired at an Arab taxi Saturday, critically wounding a Palestinian passenger as violence continued unabated in the runup to the scheduled start of Palestinian autonomy.

A Palestinian couple sitting on the veranda of their nearby home were hit by shrapnel and lightly injured, the army said.

Palestinian witnesses said the settler fired from behind a makeshift road barricade as the taxi was retreating to avoid confrontation with settlers.

Settlers denied there was a roadblock. They claimed one settler fired from the side of the road after the taxi tried to strike him and others.

The suspected shooter, a resident of the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba, was detained for questioning, the army said.

### Mammograms not needed, group says

WASHINGTON - The National Cancer Institute is no longer encouraging routine mammograms for women in their 40s, saying there's no evidence the examinations significantly curb breast cancer deaths in that age group.

The institute announced its position Friday, citing studies that show routine mammograms can detect breast cancer early enough to reduce the death rate for women over age 50.

But it said research doesn't show where routine mammography, generally once every one or two years, led to a similar drop in breast cancer mortality rates among women aged 40 to 49.

The cancer institute's decision has no legal effect but is likely to influence individual decisions on when to start getting routine mammograms.

### Astronauts repair Hubble telescope

SPACE CENTER, Houston - Endeavour's astronauts snatched the Hubble Space Telescope from orbit Sunday to bring it aboard the shuttle for an overhaul.

Commander Richard Covey, a four-time shuttle flier and former combat pilot, steered Endeavour to within 35 feet of the telescope as the two craft zoomed around the world at 17,500 mph.

Swiss astronaut Claude Nicollier slowly reached out with Endeavour's robot arm and grabbed the 43-foot-long, 25,000-pound Hubble. The next step involved anchoring the telescope onto a turntable stand in the cargo bay.

"Endeavour has a firm handshake with Mr. Hubble's telescope," Covey said.

### Rats blamed for noises in morgue

SAN ANTONIO - Strange footsteps, unexplained voices and other odd occurrences have new residents in the remodeled county morgue wondering if the past tenants forgot to pack up everything.

But Bexar County Medical Examiner Vincent DiMaio says the strange noises are just big, noisy rats.

"It's rats up where the air conditioning is, that's all, but ghosts make a better story," he said with a laugh.

Personal Bond Program director Joe Delgado said his employees have heard voices when they worked alone in the building.

DiMaio's rat explanation has done little to soothe their nerve.

Some edgy workers say they'd rather have ghosts in the workplace.

-The Associated Press

## Food Services review to examine operations

By Kim McGuire

THE BATTALION

The pending review of the Department of Food Services will not examine past specific personnel matters despite speculations the review was to investigate the reassignments of the department's three top-ranking officials.

Interim President Dr. E. Dean Gage said the intent of the review is to examine the department's overall operation and use the analysis as means of directing future operation.

"The review will allow an independent management team to come in, examine the department and make rec-

ommendations for the future," Gage said. "It is all part of a University-wide continuous improvement program."

At the Student Senate meeting last Wednesday, the Senate passed a bill supporting the University's decision to

investigate past controversial personnel matters, in specific, the reassignments of Lloyd Smith, former director, Col. James Moore, assistant director and George Nedbalek, former business manager.

During a previous interview with The Battalion, Dr. Richard Floyd, interim director of Food Services, said Smith had been reassigned as special assistant to Robert Smith, vice president of finance and administration and Nedbalek had been reassigned to a position in the Physical Plant.

Floyd said Moore, however, remains assistant director

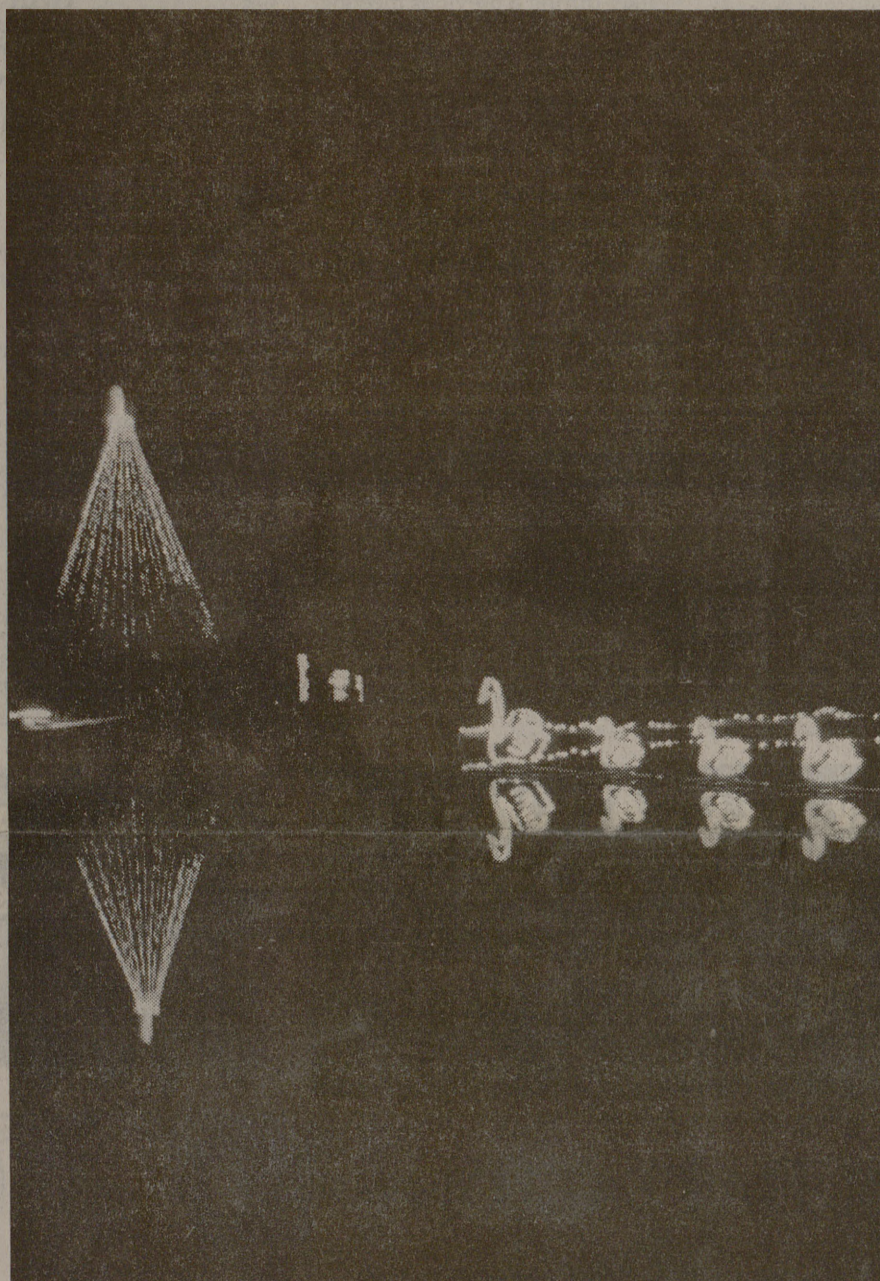
See Editorial . . . . . Page 5

conduct a review of Food Services. However, there was some confusion among the senators about the intent of the review.

Some of the senators speculated the review would in-

See Review/Page 2

### Christmas in the Park



Tim Moog/The Battalion

Christmas in the Park is a display of lights at College Station's Central Park every night through the holidays. The event is co-sponsored by the City of College Station and the law firm Waltman and Associates.

### KANM applies for FCC license

By Jacqueline Mason

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University's student radio station, KANM/99.9 FM Cable, is seeking to gain full station status but is running into limitations by the Federal Communications Commission.

"We are trying to become a full, non-commercial FM radio station," said KANM Station Manager Jeffrey Hughes.

The alternative music station that programs everything from punk to cajun music can only be accessed through the local cable service.

As a result, if a person does not subscribe to the cable system, they cannot pick up the signal. If a person does have cable, however, the station can be accessed free of charge.

Currently, more than 100 KANM staff members program 78 shows to an audience of about 500, a figure Hughes is seeking to increase.

The station hopes to reach more listeners by broadcasting directly on FM radio, not cable, Hughes said.

KAMU-FM Station Manager Larry Jackson said in order to broadcast on FM radio, KANM must first obtain a license from the FCC.

"It's a complicated bureaucracy," he said. "But it is necessary for the FCC to assure stations will operate on public airwaves successfully and responsibly."

Jackson said determining whether an all-student radio station with a high turnover rate will operate successfully on the radio is difficult.

See KANM/Page 6

### Brady Bill controversy hits B/CS community

By Geneen Pipher

THE BATTALION

Although debate over the Brady Bill ended Tuesday on Capitol Hill, when President Clinton signed the bill into law, the issue has stirred debate at Texas A&M University campus and in the community.

The law, which goes into effect in 90 days, will require a five-day waiting period and background check on handgun buyers. The bill was named for James Brady, the White House press secretary who was seriously wounded and left permanently disabled after the 1981 assassination attempt against former President Ronald Reagan.

Dr. Bryan Jones, political science professor, said the Brady Bill is a step forward and something the United States has needed for a long time.

"The idea back in the Dark Ages, when people first started working on this, was to try to limit the access of felons and other unstable people to the easy purchase of handguns," Jones said. "This bill is long overdue."

Jones said the effects of the bill will not be remarkable, but it will bring the United States one step closer to a safer society.

"I think the effects of the bill will be psychological," he said. "This is going to show everyone that the National Rifle Association and other gun lobbyists are just paper tigers, and that they are going to lose time and time again when the pressure is on."

Mark Overstreet, a researcher for the NRA, said supporters of the Brady Bill did not win a complete victory because of numerous compromises they were forced to make to get the bill passed.

"The Brady law currently contains a waiting period," Overstreet said. "We are against that."

"As they get their criminal history records on line, and in a certain level of

readiness, they will be able to get into the instant check system, which we have supported from the outset," he said.

Overstreet said he was also concerned the Brady Bill infringes on a citizen's constitutionally guaranteed right to bear arms.

"The Brady Bill originally proposed a waiting period, and nothing more, period," he said. "Of course, we oppose the waiting period because there was never any data out there to support the idea that waiting for the sake of waiting would contribute to public safety."

"We also had concerns about the Constitution, the fact that if you delay the exercise of a constitutionally guaranteed right, you are in a sense denying it."

Kim Hill, A&M political science professor, said the Brady Bill in no way compromises the right to bear arms as it has been interpreted by the Supreme Court.

"My understanding of the appropriate interpretation of the right to bear arms does not have anything to do with an individual's right to keep guns," Hill said. "The interpretation by the Supreme Court is that it is a collective right, hence, the Brady Bill is irrelevant and doesn't infringe on the right as guaranteed by the Constitution."

Jones said the Brady Bill is simply a step in the right direction. More restrictive gun control laws are needed, he said.

"We're now the place people are afraid to come to," he said. "With the tourist murders in Florida, we're getting a reputation worldwide."

"It is time to take steps to curb the violence, and control of ammunition is an important thing we could do to ratchet down on violence in today's society."

Overstreet said Brady supporters have only won a battle, and the ultimate victory will come to pro-gun supporters within five years after the instant background checks have been put into place and waiting periods have been abolished.

### HELPING FELLOW AGGIES

### Emergency care team volunteers provide aid at campus activities

By Jennifer Kiley

THE BATTALION

Volunteers on the Texas A&M Emergency care team are ready at a moment's notice when emergency medical care is required at campus activities.

Care team members set up aid stations and provide emergency care and Basic Life Support at football games, swim meets and Corps events.

Kate Hughes, vice president of the team, coordinates all care team assignments - obtaining information about the events, deciding how many people to send and with what equipment, assigning people to work and assigning medics to the stations.

The team has to be ready for the unexpected, Hughes said.

"Sometimes you have to be flexible

and move the aid station," she said. "We've even had to move stations at Bonfire cut because people have dropped trees in the middle of what was serving as our aid station."

Volunteers are trained to deal with a variety of injuries and illnesses, Hughes said. The injuries and illnesses volunteers can expect depend on the event and the weather.

"Football games early in the season with afternoon kickoffs are our worst nightmare," she said. "We can count on dozens, if not hundreds of heat patients. Due to the large number of people at football games, we get a wide variety of emergencies."

Care team members have been called for everything from minor cuts to life-threatening emergencies such as cardiac arrest, Hughes said.

See Care Team/Page 2

### Student leaders to play Santa Claus to benefit the United Way

By Jan Higginbotham

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University students will have an opportunity this week to give their Christmas wish list to Santa Claus with a little help from the United Way Pack, a student organization on campus.

The United Way "elves" have arranged to have several Santas on hand today, tomorrow, and Wednesday in the MSC Flagroom for students to sit on their laps and have a picture taken with the jolly fellows.

Felicia Miller, United Way member, said a number of student leaders have agreed to play Santa Claus, including Mark Rollins, Brian

Walker, and Trent Ashby.

Miller said a few mystery Santas will take part as well.

Students will be able to spend a few minutes with Santa and have a Polaroid picture taken for three dollars.

"The people that are doing this are not only going to enjoy it, but they are going to benefit a very worthy cause," Miller said.

All of the money raised from this week's project will be part of a donation that the campus organization will give to the United Way at the end of the spring semester in the name of Texas A&M.

The United Way Pack has an overall goal of

See Santa/Page 6

### Inside

#### SPORTS

• Notre Dame to return to Cotton Bowl

• Lady Aggies win basketball tournament

Page 3

#### OPINION

• Guest column: Are Americans ready to exchange gun rights for safety?

Page 5

TEXAS LOTTERY

TEXAS LOTTO

• Saturday's winning Texas Lotto numbers: 9, 31, 36, 38, 41, 47