

**Final game today**  
Houston meets the Knicks at home in Game 7 of the NBA Championship **Page 4**



**Frank Stanford** —  
"We do need heroes, but the sad truth is there are no heroes except for Superman." **Page 5**



**Weather**  
Thursday and Friday, partly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the 90s, lows near 70.  
— National Weather Service

# THE BATTALION WEDNESDAY

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"Serving Texas A&M since 1893"

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Tobacco company misleads FDA

WASHINGTON (AP) — A major company secretly developed tobacco with double the usual nicotine, pumped it into "light" cigarettes last year and then misled federal investigators about it, the government charged Tuesday.

Food and Drug Commissioner David Kessler stopped short of using the word "lie," but said Brown & Williamson Tobacco Co. denied breeding any such tobacco until Friday, when it learned that the FDA had uncovered its genetically altered tobacco plant called Y-1.

"That sounds like a pretty deceptive way or misleading way of answering the question," said Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif.

### Congress, Disney argue over new park

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress shouldn't try to keep Mickey, Goofy and Pluto from coming to Virginia, senators said Tuesday, although critics contend a \$650 million "Disney's America" theme park west of the capital threatens a nearby Civil War battlefield.

"The U.S. Senate has no business refereeing ... every Mickey Mouse dispute around the country," said Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colo., apologizing for the pun.

Mark Pacala, general manager of "Disney's America," pledged to "go the extra mile" to minimize the impact of the park on nearby communities and the Manassas National Battlefield, one of the most historic of the Civil War.

### Officials campaign to prevent SIDS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Health officials want to change the way American babies sleep in the hope of saving thousands from sudden infant death syndrome.

At least 2,000 infants' lives could be saved annually in the United States if babies were always put to sleep on their backs or sides and not on their stomachs, said Dr. Duane Alexander, director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Alexander said Tuesday that's the message the federal government and some private agencies hope to relay to parents, baby sitters and day-care workers in a national campaign to change the way baby sleeps.

Alexander said research in the United States and in several other nations has shown that up to half of the fatalities from sudden infant death syndrome may be related to how a baby is put to bed.

"Traditionally, American parents have placed their babies on their stomachs to sleep," said Alexander. "It is a goal of this campaign to reverse this practice and to have nearly all babies sleeping on their back and side."

### Nation focuses on domestic violence

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The arrest of O.J. Simpson for allegedly killing his ex-wife — a woman he once beat so severely she sought hospital care for split lips, head bruises and a black eye — has focused new attention on America's dirty little secret of violence against women.

From California to the nation's capital, hotlines for abused women have been deluged since the June 12 slayings of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

"There's a lot of talking going on right now about domestic violence," said Stacey Kabat, co-producer of the 1993 Oscar-winning documentary "Defending Our Lives."

"Hopefully it will force people to confront the myths — one is that it's not that bad," said Kabat, who also works with a Boston group called Battered Women Fighting Back. "We have clergy who say, 'Pray and try to work it out.' We have law enforcement officials who walk (men) around the block, calm them down and then leave."

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# A&M under scrutiny

## Community speculates on impact of negative publicity

By Jan Higginbotham  
THE BATTALION

The recent negative publicity that has plagued Texas A&M has created mixed opinions throughout the University and the state, and officials are speculating whether the publicity will directly affect students.

Dr. William Mobley, A&M System chancellor, said he believes A&M's strengths are more important to students than any negative publicity.

"A number of these issues aren't affecting student life," he said. "Students ultimately judge the quality of what they get out of Texas A&M. The quality of the school is still very positive."

Mobley said he is optimistic about A&M's future.

"Every organization has its problems," he said. "This institution is fundamentally strong, and I think that will show."

A&M has come under fire in the last year because of investigations by the Brazos County District Attorney and the Texas Rangers for misconduct. The misconduct charge centers on the fact that two Board of Regents secretaries were in-

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— State Rep. Steve Ogden



dicted on charges of record tampering.

Questions have also arisen concerning the privatization of certain campus operations.

Other controversies that have continued to plague the University are a chemistry professor's efforts to turn mercury into gold and recent NCAA sanctions placed on the A&M football team.

"The important thing is to get these problems solved and move on."

State Rep. Steve Ogden said the publicity is not likely to affect students.

"I don't think the publicity has affected the fact that A&M is a good place to get an education," he said. "What attracts

people to A&M hasn't changed in spite of the negative publicity."

Ogden said if the publicity continues, it could become a factor in the recruitment of faculty and administrators.

It should not be a major factor in A&M's search for a new System chancellor, he said.

"In some cases, it might attract some applicants who are interested in helping the University move forward," he said.

Andy Welch, director of information services for State Comptroller John Sharp, said he believes A&M's attention from the media could have varying effects on students.

"In a general sense, I think anybody would agree anything

that has even the perception of detracting from the quality of education an institution provides is detrimental, even to students," he said. "It doesn't matter whether it's a local school district where there are allegations of cheating or if it's allegations at a major university."

He said A&M students might not be affected, though, because of the school's reputation.

"A&M is still such an outstanding institution," he said. "A student who knows about A&M knows it's a quality university."

John Black, student association president at the University of Texas at Austin, said situations like this can be very harmful to a school and a student body.

"I think it's pretty clear that it undermines people's perceptions of a university," Black said. "Whenever an institution is exposed to embarrassing or awkward situations, it can be devastating."

Black said negative publicity can play a factor in a student's college choice.

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### Bad PR could affect System funding

By Jan Higginbotham  
THE BATTALION

Concern is rising over the possibility of whether or not recent problems within the Texas A&M System could be a factor in the upcoming legislative session.

State Rep. Steve Ogden said it is too early to determine whether or not the problems will have any effect.

"Probably the impacts will not be too great unless there is more bad news," he said. "If the district attorney hands out more indictments, it could affect the new legislature."

The Texas Legislature will begin its new session in January and will decide how much money will be allotted to state universities.

Andy Welch, director of information services for the Office of the State Comptroller, said the upcoming session will be one of the toughest obstacles A&M's administration will face.

"The administration needs to be able to show that their problems are behind them," Welch said. "In my experience with state government, I've seen organizations and agencies that have faced a tougher time in the legislature, but it's too early to tell."

## RELIVING THE GOOD 'OL TIMES

### Former students return to campus, participate in Aggie Hostel '94

By Amanda Fowle  
THE BATTALION

Former Texas A&M students, 65 and over, are experiencing life as students once again this week as part of Aggie Hostel '94.

Aggie Hostel, hosted by the Association of Former Students, gives former students and their spouses the opportunity to visit A&M and compare today's college life with their own experiences years ago.

The 82 Aggie Hostel participants attend classes during the day on topics including health care reform, Texas cultures, the building of the presidential library and A&M athletics.

The former students also experience life outside of the classroom through evening activities such as visiting the Dixie Chicken or attending the Texas Music Festival Chamber Music Concert.

Bob Lynch, Class of '48, compared the Dixie Chicken to Ed Hardlickers, a popular student hangout when he was a student.

The Aggie Hostel participants will attend a Ring Dance Thursday night, and they will reenact graduation Friday.

They are living in Eppright

Please see **Hostel**, Page 6



Jennie Mayer/The Battalion

Former Texas A&M students over the age of 65 meet at the Chickie during Aggie Hostel Week sponsored by the Former

Students Association. These students (featured above) met to remember the times they enjoyed outside the classroom.

## A&M's cooling unit repaired

### Officials say cool water shortage alleviated

By Sara Israwi  
THE BATTALION

The shortage of cold water to cool the buildings on the main campus should no longer be a problem, but Texas A&M officials are still encouraging the University community to conserve energy.

Earlier this week Texas A&M could not produce enough cold water for campus air conditioners. University officials warned students, faculty and staff that A&M faced a shortage of cool water, which could cause the air conditioning on campus to fail.

Al Bexter, manager of utilities, said A&M employees worked all day and night to repair one of the larger water cooling units.

"It should be back on line," he said. "The

problems should be alleviated, and the operation should be back to normal now."

Bexter said one of the largest cooling units and several small units failed. Each year the University's demand for cool water for air conditioners becomes greater, he said.

Joe Sugg, director of Physical Plant, said the cooling problem is only affecting the main campus. And this summer is the first time in four years that there has been a problem with the cooling units.

"What has happened here is we've received premature failure in one of our chiller systems at the main plant and premature cooling at the cooling tower," he said. "We were posturing to improve the system, but we weren't fast enough."

Sugg said the amount of cold water is usually not a problem.

"On a day-to-day basis we have enough cool water where this will not happen, but not when

Please see **Water**, Page 6

### Fay claims innocence

## American teen returns home

SINGAPORE (AP) — Looking pale and thin but sounding cheerful, American teen-ager Michael Fay emerged from prison Tuesday protesting his innocence of the vandalism that got him flogged.

He said he shook hands with the official who caned him last month as a matter of pride.

The 19-year-old claimed his interrogators slapped him and pulled his hair to bully him into falsely confessing that he sprayed paint on cars last autumn with other foreign teen-agers. But he said he was in good health, and his father said Fay survived his lashing and imprisonment better than he had expected.

As Fay prepared to fly home

Wednesday after 83 days in prison, his Jewish heritage moved into the foreground. Among his strongest supporters were Israeli human rights campaigners, and he repaid the favor by giving his only interview to Israel radio.

"I was smacked in the face. My hair was pulled. I was actually pulled out of my chair by the hair. I was hit on the head with one of the officer's knuckles," he said in the telephone interview.

Fay said other youths swept up with him in a police anti-vandalism drive "were also tortured and some were tortured worse than me."

Singapore authorities denied police abused Fay.