

**EXCLUSIVE**

## THE AGGIE ENQUIRER

# Battman spotted in Aggieland



### Caped crusader and trusty companion seen delivering Battalions

By Nikki Hopkins  
THE BATTALION

**H**oly rolling newspapers, Aggies, the caped wonder and his trusty sidekick have been delivering newspapers on the Quad.

Two "Battmen," freshmen from Corps of Cadet Company K-1, jump into telephone booths every weekday morning and change into their secret disguises so they can deliver The Battalion to every Corps member in their company.

OK, so they change in their dorm rooms instead of telephone booths, but the capes and Battmask are authentic.

The two Batt heroes run through the Quad with capes flying, pushing a shopping cart filled with the morning's Battalion issue announcing themselves by yelling, "Make way for the Battmobile!"

The freshman cadets pick up their company Battalions at dorm Q on the Quad and ride down to the K-1 dormitory.

David Kemp, a junior business administration major, said every company in the Corps sends two freshmen to collect the newspaper and bring it to their dorm.

Kemp said his company is the only one that has their freshmen dress up for the part.

"It's a great tradition — one of the most motivational traditions we have," Kemp said. "The Battfish get to run around and act crazy and have fun. It's like a carry over from Fish Camp."

Kemp, one of this year's junior yell leaders, said the freshmen must serve The Battalion to the upperclassmen.

"They have to bring us our Batt," Kemp said. "Not that we're lazy or anything, but it's a good tradition. Why stop it?"

Kemp said the tradition of dressing up as the comic book hero started this year.

Peter Downing, a freshman bioengineering major, said his stepmother made the "Battcape" the freshmen wear when delivering the papers.

"The seniors said it would be good bull if we could do something fun when we got the Batts," Downing said.

Kerry Brown, a freshman language major who is also in K-1, said being a Battfish is a blast.

"The guy who pushes the cart is Battman," Brown said. "He has to yell the *Batman* theme from the top of his lungs."

Brown said the Battman wears a cape and the Battmask while the other Battman wears a bonfire pot and rides inside the grocery cart.

"There's a guy named Fish Desorrow Golden who dresses up as the Brown Hornet instead," said Brown. "He wears a brown service cover (helmet) and a Lone Ranger mask."

Brown said the freshmen volunteer for the job and have fun doing it.

"I crashed once when Mr. Manias, a senior, told us it would be real funny if we jumped out the door and down the stairs with the Battmobile," Brown said. "Well, we flew out the door and fell down the stairs with the cart. We busted hard in front of everybody on the Quad. It was so embarrassing."



Joel Taylor (back) and William Bosch pick up The Battalion for delivery.

## Stafford to close doors, reopen as Dixie Theater

By Michael Landauer  
THE BATTALION

**W**hen 3rd Floor Cantina manager Willie Bennett looks outside his office window in downtown Bryan, he sometimes daydreams about seeing one huge party on the street between the club he manages and the back doors of the Stafford Opera House.

He said he envisions people eating crawfish, someone operating a tamale stand and a guy playing guitar with a hat at his feet collecting spare change.

"I think downtown Bryan could become this area's 6th street," he said. "It would become the place to go."

Bennett now has the opportunity to have a greater role in his vision with the recent plans for him and his partner, John Williams, to take over the lease of the Stafford Opera House. He said the current owner's lease runs out after April, and he and Williams were offered the chance to expand.

Williams said some fine-tunings of the arrangement are still being worked out with building owner Ronnie Monroe, but it is "a done deal."

Bennett said they need the extra venue because they are running out of nights to book bands that will keep the music diverse.

The Stafford Opera House will close its doors after Daveed plays there April 29.

The new ownership will keep the club's doors closed for a month while they make improvements before opening the club and rename it The Dixie Theater.

Bennett said they plan to improve the sound system and add a liquor license and two more fully-operational bars. They will also add elevated, tiered seating to the sides and change the current bleacher style so people will have a place to rest their drinks.

Each club will still have their own style, Bennett said. The atmosphere at Stafford caters to those looking for a grunge-alternative club, and Bennett said he does not plan to change the type of bands the club books except to become more selective with hard-core bands.

"It lends itself to college-oriented bands," Bennett said

about Stafford. "But some of the more hard stuff may go."

Bennett said he wants to offer people a choice between two different styles of music every night. He said coordinating the schedules of the two clubs will be good for live music fans and for business.

"Now I'll be able to keep one club from hurting the other," he said.

He said he wants other clubs to move into downtown because having many clubs in one area, like 6th Street in Austin, creates a hot spot for nightlife and helps business.

In the meantime, Bennett said he is looking forward to the challenge of running both clubs and working on ideas to make 3rd Floor and the Dixie Theater work well together.

He said bands often play sets together when they play across the street from each other, and with dual ownership, he would like to see that happen more often.

He also said he plans to block off the street and have fans pay one cover charge to go to both clubs for special events.

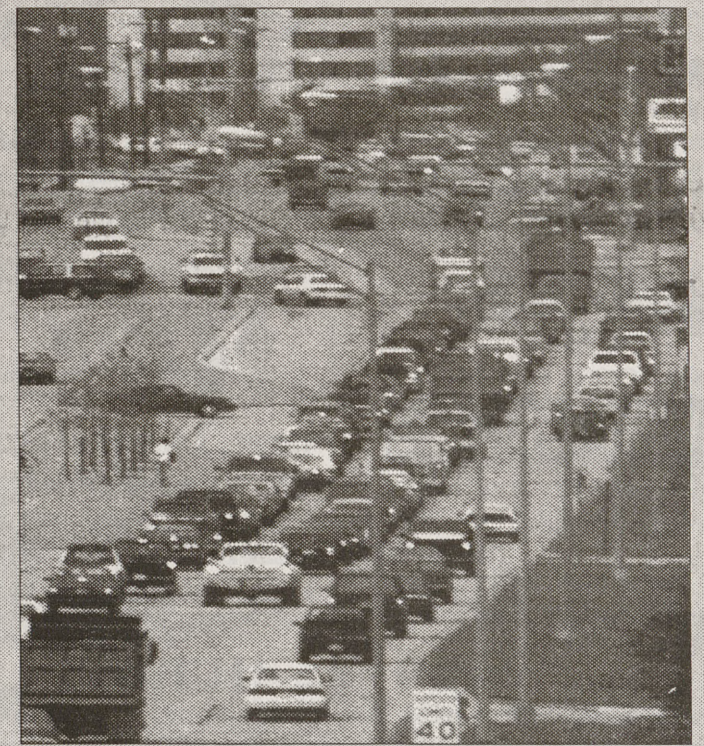
One such special event would be to book performers like Robert Earl Keen and Jack Ingram at the two clubs and sell one ticket for both shows, Bennett said.

"There's even some possibilities that we haven't even thought of yet," he said.



Roger Hsieh/The Battalion

## Environmental Fact of the Week



Roger Hsieh/The Battalion

Commuters waste enough gasoline in traffic jams every year to drive a car to the sun and back 300 times.

— 50 Simple Things Your Business Can Do To Save The Earth  
Fact courtesy of Joe Sanchez, Recycling Coordinator for Texas A&M's Physical Plant

### CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

Ph: 822-7525 Fax: 822-7401

#### HARD DRIVES

- Western Digital 1275MB IDE Hard Drive \$410
- Western Digital 1080MB IDE Hard Drive \$395
- Conner 850MB IDE Hard Drive, Fast ATA-2 \$290
- Western Digital 730MB IDE Hard Drive \$285
- Conner 540MB IDE Hard Drive \$235
- Seagate 420MB IDE Hard Drive \$190
- Maxtor 340MB IDE Hard Drive \$180

#### NETWORK ADAPTORS

- ASI 16-bit Ethernet Combo Card, RJ45 & BNC Connections \$45
- ASI 16-bit Ethernet Card, BNC connection \$45
- ASI 16-bit Ethernet Card, RJ45 connection \$45

#### MEMORY MODULES

- 1MB 30pin 70NS SIM Modules \$ 46
- 4MB 72pin 70ns SIM Modules \$166
- 8MB 72pin 70ns SIM Modules \$330
- 16MB 72pin 70ns SIM Modules \$550

#### CD-ROM DRIVES

- Mitsumi Quad Speed \$225
- Mitsumi Double Speed \$140

Free Installation!

Texas A&M Floriculture-Horticulture Society

presents

## Spring Plant Fair 1995

March 25th 8 am - 4 pm

Horticulture/Forest Sciences Building  
West Campus

### The Fair features:

Houseplants • Bedding plants • Shrubs • Antique roses  
Herbs • Hanging baskets • and more

Guest speakers will present lectures on such topics as organic gardening, herbs and vegetable gardening.

• FHS will sponsor a kid's room for the children •



## NO FOOLIN'

### WESTGATE IS OPEN SATURDAYS

OUR SATURDAYS MOVE FASTER,  
MORE CONVENIENTLY, AND PAY CASH.

BRING A SHORT STORY OR ONLY TWO PAGES OF HOMEWORK...  
SOMETHING LITTLE TO DO BECAUSE ON OUR SATURDAYS  
YOU'RE GONE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT - CASH IN HAND.

**Westgate Plasma Center**  
4223 Wellborn Rd. • 846-8855

MWF 8:00 - 3:00 • Tue & Thur 9:00 - 6:00

Beginning April 1st : Saturday 8:00 - 12:00