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Band members past and present mingle at reunion

□ This year is the first time in the band's history that a father daughter team will play together.

By Melissa Keerins
THE BATTALION

The Texas Aggie Band Association is expecting several hundred former band members this weekend for its annual reunion.

Band members, both active and former, will meet today and Saturday at the College Station Ramada Inn, the E.V. Adams Band Hall, Duncan Dining Hall and the game at Kyle Field.

Maj. Jay Brewer, associate director of the Aggie Band and Class of '81, will be directing the reunion band in the Kyle Field stands at Saturday's A&M-Tulsa football game.

Because last year was the band's 100th year, the reunion band marched on the field during the half-time performance. However, the band will not march this year, Brewer said.

"We don't want to wear it out," he said. "It was a special occasion, and now it is time to let the new Aggie Band members have Kyle Field."

Brewer also said the decision not to march is not related to the collapse of a for-

mer band member during a half-time performance last year.

"That would be the very reason we would march again, because the Aggie Band never gives up," he said.

Dr. Donald Powell, president of the Aggie Band Association and Class of '56, said the reunion gives the former band members the chance to meet new members and celebrate the beginning of the band's second 100 years.

"This reunion is a gathering to step off into a new century," Powell said. "It is also a time to come back and welcome the fish into the association."

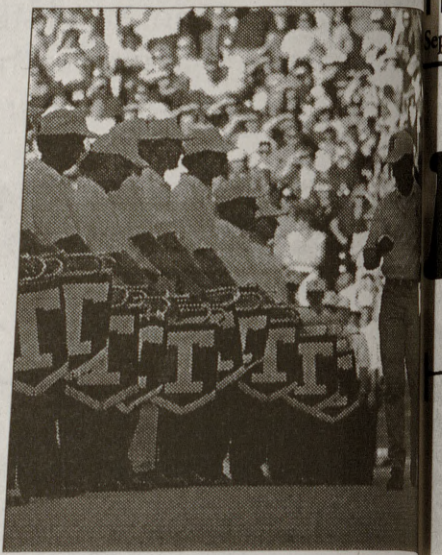
The reunion allows for many father and son teams to play in the band together, Powell said, and this year will be the first time in the band's history that a father and daughter team will play together.

Dr. Larry Lippke, president-elect of the Aggie Band Association and Class of '69, said a video of the Aggie Band's first 100 years will be shown Friday, and the Aggieband Orchestra will play during a social gathering.

After Saturday's game, the band will be having a hamburger party in Duncan Dining Hall, followed by a business meeting to elect officers.

Cadet Maj. Jonathan Luikens, Aggie Band head drum major and a senior geography major, said he would probably attend some of the reunion activities this weekend.

"It's good to meet all the old Ags, because



Former band members at the 1994 reunion.

they have great stories to tell," Luikens said. Luikens said he is looking forward to seeing some Class of '95 recent graduates. "They are considered part of the former members, and I would like to see them, too," he said.

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Task force tries to solve traffic problem for football fans

□ Additional shuttle buses and cross walks will be implemented for Saturday's game to save time and aggravation for spectators.

By Courtney Walker
THE BATTALION

Traffic Management Task Force officials will change the shuttle bus system to decrease traffic congestion before and after Saturday's football game at Kyle Field.

The task force created the shuttle bus system and devised alternate exits from the stadium to remedy traffic problems that frequently occur during home football games. The shuttle buses and exits were used at the Sept. 2 football game for the first time.

Denise Fischer, public information officer for the Texas Department of Transportation, said there was improvement in the traffic at the first home football game, but additional changes could be made.

Beginning with this Saturday's game, four additional shuttle buses from the Brazos Transit system will be available for football spectators to use.

Margie Lucas, Brazos Valley Transit associate administrator for marketing, said this will bring the total number of shuttle buses to 10 or 12.

Buses will run two hours before and after the game. Bus stops include six local hotels and two park and ride stations at Bryan and A&M Consolidated high schools.

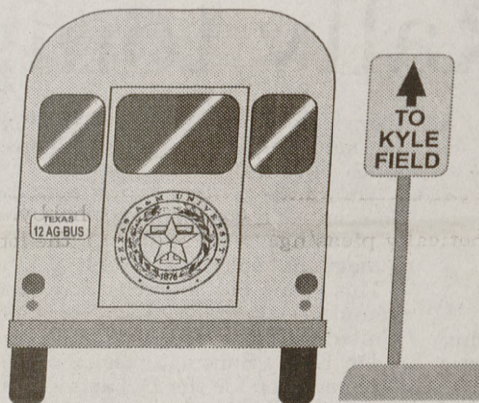
Along with the shortage of buses, task force members also found that buses had

trouble returning to Kyle field to pick up additional passengers.

"It was like a salmon swimming upstream," Fischer said. "The buses were trying to get back while everyone else was trying to leave."

Barricades will be set up on Joe Routt Blvd. while shuttle buses are loading and unloading passengers.

Elmer Schneider, University Police Department associate director, said the barricades will provide patrons with easier access to the buses because there will not be the hindrance of motor vehicles on the streets while passengers are trying to load or unload the bus.



The alternate route for people who normally leave from Joe Routt is Olsen Road. Barricades will be removed after the buses clear. "The movement should be faster since we

will have buses taking more people at one time and less outside traffic to fight through," Lucas said

"We will have buses taking more people at one time and less outside traffic to fight through."

— Margie Lucas
Brazos Valley Transit associate administrator for marketing

An additional pedestrian crosswalk will be created between Wellborn Road and Parking Area 62 (Lot A).

Schneider said this strategy should save people time because they will not have to form long lines to cross the street.

"With the volume of pedestrians coming out of the stadium at the last game, we thought this would work best," he said.

Task force members are also trying to contact railroad officials to reschedule train traffic through West Campus so they do not run immediately following football games. After the first game, a train came through around 7 p.m., Fischer said, and that held up traffic.

Traffic signals at George Bush Drive and FM 2818, Agronomy Road and University Drive, and University Drive and Texas Avenue will be reset to allow drivers heading away from Kyle Field more time between red lights.

Fischer said the task force will continue meeting after each home football game to assess the traffic management plan and improve the system for future home games.

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