

# The road less traveled

## Students commute long distances to attend school

BY BRIAN FLEMING  
The Battalion

It is six o'clock on Sunday evening, and junior economics major Adam Brownfield sets out on another 200-mile journey back to school.

For almost two years now, Brownfield has spent countless weekends and the occasional weeknight in Dallas hard at work while simultaneously attending Texas A&M.

"A&M is a good school, and I don't mind it at all," he said.

Brownfield said he chose to drive from Dallas to College Station nearly every weekend for a number of reasons.

"I make very good money helping my dad around his office," he said. "Plus they pay for my gas, so all it really takes is about six hours out of my weekend to drive to and from college and home."

Brownfield said he even has gone home during the week to tend to other matters.

"There have been times when maybe I forgot something or just wanted to go home," he said. "So usually I do, and it seems to work out just fine."

Brownfield said his commuting to school has not been without some problems.

"There have been so many times I have stopped halfway and rested or had car troubles," he said. "And the weather is not always too kind, either."

Brownfield said at one point last semester, inclement weather caused his normally three-and-a-half hour drive to be almost seven hours.

"I drove about 40 [mph] the entire way, and it took forever," he said. "I made it just in time for my two o'clock class."

Financial compensation is an important reason for commuters between school and work for Robin Nester, a senior horticulture and floriculture major.

"I have worked as a floral designer at a grocery store in the Woodlands for going on five years now," she said.

# Monumental

Name of Customer

AGGIE / JOE

From

BROWNSVILLE

To

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Carrier	Flight	Class	Date	Departure Time
CO	1439Y		12NOV	827P

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KIMBER HUFF/THE BATTALION

Nester said she does not regret traveling to school.

"It has given me a lot of great work experience," she said. "Mainly because it has to do with my major, and I really enjoy the job."

Nester said she does pay a price for traveling too much.

"Over the past few years, I have missed a lot of the 'college experience,'" she said. "Like parties, most of the football games and a lot of what goes on around my apartment and with my friends, as well."

Despite the setbacks, Nester said she would not have it any other way.

"I really don't mind one bit," Nester said. "I do what I have to do, and I need to make money, so it has to be done."

Brownfield said he has missed out on some of the college experience.

"One weekend I came home to find my roommate had one of the

biggest parties, I think, ever," Brownfield said. "When I talked to him later, he told me there were about 100 people there and it was really cool."

"I really regretted not being there but I guess there is a price you have to pay."

Christy West, a junior at Blinn College who is participating in the emergency medical technician program, said the quality of education at Blinn is worth the drive.

"I drive from Cypress every Tuesday and Thursday," she said. "The program here is one of the best in the state, and since I want a good job, I think it is worth every mile."

West said the drive does not seem so bad after doing it for over a year.

"At first I was not sure if it was going to work," West said. "But when you do it a few times, you start to notice landmarks and hous-

es and such. This usually makes it seem shorter."

West said the time of day is important to her because it determines how she feels.

"I usually drive early in the morning, and since I am a morning person, I love it," West said. "Afternoons seem to take longer though, and after a long day, it seems even worse."

Brownfield said music helps him to pass the time commuting.

"The radio makes it seem a lot shorter to me," he said. "I figure in three hours, I can listen to five or six CDs and soon, I'm there."

Nester said over the years she has met other people who do the same as her.

"I have met people who live and work in Austin, Houston and even Dallas," Nester said.

"There are a lot more people than one might think who do work away from College Station."

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

#### Royal family chastised for hunting expedition

LONDON (AP) — A royal hunting trip over the weekend is raising the dander of a British animal-rights group.

The League Against Cruel Sports is accusing Prince Charles of using his teen-aged son and heir to the throne, Prince William, to "make a political statement" against a possible ban on hunting by Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labor Party government.

William, 17, joined some 200 riders in pursuit of a fox Saturday at the Duke of Beaufort's Hunt, near Charles' country estate west of London.

"He [Charles] is clearly trying to intimidate

members of Parliament into shelving a ban because he enjoys fox hunting," league chair John Hooper said.

Yesterday, some 20,000 people demonstrated in the southwest England city of Exeter against a hunting ban, and generally protesting economic problems in rural areas.

#### David Lee Roth sues former personal manager

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former Van Halen frontman David Lee Roth is suing his former personal manager over a Website where fans can buy the singer's memorabilia.

The lawsuit was filed Friday in Los Angeles against Edmund Anderson, who worked with Roth for about 10 years, Roth's attorney Jeff Benice said Saturday.

"The suit was filed as a result of Roth attempting to clean up the bootlegging and piracy of his image off the Internet," Benice said.

The 45-year-old rock star initially allowed Anderson to sell Van Halen T-shirts, tour posters and other items and agreed to let him set up a Website to help with sales. But in February, around the same time Anderson stopped working for the singer, Roth told him to shut down the Website, Benice said.

Anderson did, but apparently reestablished the site, Benice said. He says damages exceed \$100,000.



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Econ 203 Chun	Part I Tue Nov 2 10pm-1am	Part II Wed Nov 3 10pm-1am		

Tickets go on sale Sunday at 9:00 PM.

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Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.

CAMAC Aggiland Picture Wed. Nov. 3, 1999 7:00pm

## Pre-Law Society

### Young Lawyers Association

Tues., November 2  
7 p.m. 108 Harrington

Questions?  
847-8938

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MSC

## Arts Awareness Week

Nov 1st-5th

### TODAY'S EVENTS

Literary Arts  
**World's Longest Poem**  
10am-2pm @ Rudder Fountain

Film Society  
**Texas Film Festival Screenings**  
11am-1pm @ MSC 216A

OPAS  
**Broadway Karaoke**  
11am-1pm @ Rumors

Town Hall  
**Live**  
8pm @ Rudder Auditorium

Cepheid Variable  
**Brian Stelfreeze**  
7pm @ Rumors

Daily events listed in the Battalion  
for more information call MSC OPAS @ 845-1661