

# THE BATTALION

106 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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**Bryan Allan McClain**  
19  
San Antonio  
Freshman agriculture major

Bryan Allan McClain of San Antonio was one of 50 students in Dr. Dudley Smith's introduction to Agronomy class, but the Corps of Cadets member's quiet, polite and unassuming manner made him stand out, his professor said.

"He symbolized the dedication of a Corps member," Smith said. "He was always in uniform. He was always very neat. 'Yes sir, No sir.' All of that."

SEE **McCLAIN** ON PAGE 3.



**Lucas John Kimmel**  
19  
Corpus Christi  
Freshman biomedical science major

Lucas Kimmel was following in his older brother's footsteps when he decided to attend Texas A&M University and join the Corps of Cadets. He followed in the traditions of the school by helping build the annual Aggie bonfire.

This school year was the first one away from home for the freshman, who had just celebrated his birthday Sunday. A graduate of Tuloso-Midway High School in Corpus

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**Christopher Lee Heard**  
19  
Houston  
Sophomore petroleum engineering major

Chris Heard graduated last year from the Marine Military Academy in Harlingen, where he led by example, Col. Tom Hobbs said.

"He was an individual that everyone looked up to," Col. Hobbs, retired from the U.S. Marine Corps and director of institutional advancement at the academy, said. "He served as an outstanding example for others to follow. He was admired by a lot of

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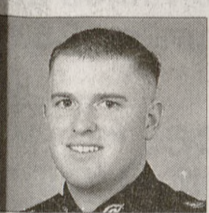
**Jamie Lynn Hand**  
19  
Henderson  
Sophomore environmental design major

Jamie Lynn Hand had been a cheerleader at Henderson High School in East Texas and was part-time teacher at Henderson High School.

"She was just a one-of-a-kind kid," Ray Deason, a neighbor and Jamie's principal at Northside Elementary School, said.

"She had an infectious smile for everyone." Deason has been a neighbor of the Hand family for 25 years. He saw Jamie

SEE **HAND** ON PAGE 3.



**Jeremy Richard Frampton**  
22  
Turlock, Calif.  
Senior psychology major

Jeremy Richard Frampton was a senior psychology major and a native of Turlock, Calif., he was a member of the Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets for four years. He was known for taking a leadership role in the annual Bonfire.

"I can never think of a time when Jeremy didn't approach something with a positive attitude," Turlock High School principal Rod Hollars, who was also Jeremy's football coach

SEE **FRAMPTON** ON PAGE 3.



**Christopher David Breen**  
25  
Austin  
Class of 1996

Christopher David Breen, who earned a degree in agriculture development in December 1997, returned to Texas A&M on Wednesday night to help construct the Aggie Bonfire.

Christopher, a former Brown Pot, was there to help select the next generation of construction bosses for the Bonfire.

"Chris was here as a former student and a former Bonfire participant," Dr. Chris Townsend, a professor of agriculture

SEE **BREEN** ON PAGE 3.

## One Tradition ... One School ... One Spirit ...



JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

Many Aggies have left their Aggie rings at the Bonfire site to honor the Aggies who died before they were able to receive their own.

## Twelve Remembered

BY RICHARD BRAY  
The Battalion

In the aftermath of the tragedy at the Bonfire site early Thursday morning, students and organizations on campus are helping members of the Aggie family cope with the tragedy. On Nov. 25, the date Bonfire was originally scheduled, Aggies will have an opportunity to show their respect for those who died in the accident during a sunset gathering at the Bonfire site.

Certain outfits in the Corps of Cadets are not wearing medals or cords on their uniforms, but instead are wearing black ribbons in remembrance of the fallen Aggies. The Corps chaplains are also offering spiritual counseling to any students who need it, but are focusing primarily on Cadets.

Jeremiah Ebeling, the chaplain for Company B-1 and a senior management major, said the chaplains have been performing a variety of services to help cadets in this difficult time. "The chaplains have been doing things ranging from Bible studies to just sitting down with cadets who need someone to talk to or someone to cry with," Ebeling said.

Official Bonfire shirts from the MSC have been revised as memorial shirts. The money will go to the families of the students who died in the accident. The sales are expected to generate between \$6,000 and \$8,000.

Beth Weems, the Class of '02 president and a sophomore biomedical science major, said there have been many changes made to both shirts that are sold commemorating Bonfire.

"The one that had '90th Anniversary' on the back has been changed to have a memorial ribbon on the sleeve and it says 'In Memory Of,'" Weems said. "The second one says 'Memorializing the Fallen; Interceding for the Injured, Uniting the Aggie Spirit, Fightin' Texas Aggie Bonfire 1999; May it remain with us always.'"

The shirts go on sale today in the MSC and the short-sleeved shirts cost \$10 and the long-sleeved shirts cost \$12.

The Association of Former Students and the Texas A&M Foundation have established two funds in honor of the 12 victims of the accident. The Association is managing a General Relief Fund for the families affected by the accident, and the Foundation is managing the Bonfire Memorial Fund. Foundation officials said they have been receiving donations from across the nation.

Donations can be sent to: Texas A&M Foundation, 401 George Bush Dr., College Station, Texas 77840. The Texas A&M Foundation can be reached at 1-800-392-3310 for more information.

The 12th Man Student Foundation is donating \$1,200 to

the Bonfire Memorial Fund and will send cards to the families of those who died.

The Aggie Mom's Club Federation, composed of 116 clubs with over 8,000 active moms reaching over 25,000 students, are coordinating memorials for Aggies throughout the state and are coordinating busing for funerals in Henderson and Carrollton.

The Resident Hall Association gave the FHK Complex three wreaths to place in the FHK quad as a memorial to the three FHK students lost in the accident. The hall also has placed roses on the doors of students who lost loved ones and have provided counseling in the A-1 Lounge. Resident Advisors placed maroon and white ribbons on the trees surrounding the complex and on the balcony railings.

Mike Guerra, the FHK Hall Council president and a sophomore biomedical engineering major, organized the busing for students to attend the funerals of the three FHK students who died in the accident.

Other students have responded by making the Bonfire site a memorial. The fencing surrounding the site has been covered with poems, ribbons, flowers, hats, 12th Man towels, Bible verses, Aggie rings and Bonfire pots. A message board was placed at the site Sunday morning for visitors to convey their feelings. White crosses have also been erected with the victims' names written in maroon.

Students can also express their concern by signing the posters the Student Government Association Office has provided in the MSC hallway. The posters will be given to the students in the hospital and the families of those who have passed away.

Samuel E. Murdock, a sophomore business administration major, summed it up best in describing how he feels about the reactions of his fellow Aggies to this tragedy.

"I've never felt so proud of my University as I do at this time," he said. "To see the unification of all Aggies, regardless of age, sex, religion or sexual orientation, just makes my heart swell with pride and my faith in the world strengthened. The friendship that unites us is beyond death and time."



**Tim Doran Kerlee Jr.**  
17  
Bartlett, Tenn.  
Sophomore mechanical engineering major

At Friday night's playoff football game at Germantown High School in Tennessee, Tim Doran Kerlee's former classmates took a moment to pray for the youth chosen the "most intelligent member of the senior class."

Tim, a first-year student who had enough credits to be classified as a sophomore, was badly injured in the Aggie Bonfire collapse and became the 12th person to die from the accident.

SEE **KERLEE** ON PAGE 3.



**Michael Stephen Ebanks**  
19  
Carrollton  
Freshman aerospace engineering major

Michael Stephen Ebanks, a freshman aerospace engineering major, had wanted to be an astronaut since he was old enough to know what one was, a family friend said.

He had a wide range of interests and talents necessary to tackle them successfully. He was on the golf team his freshman and sophomore years at Newman Smith High School dropping off the team

SEE **EBANKS** ON PAGE 3.



**Miranda Denise Adams**  
19  
Santa Fe  
Sophomore biomedical science major

Miranda Denise Adams, was a sophomore biomedical science major at Texas A&M.

"She really loved science classes," Melissa Blair, Adams' anatomy and physiology teacher at Santa Fe High School, said.

"She's fantastic, energetic, intelligent," Blair said. "I couldn't keep up with her. And, if I'd tried all the other students would have been left behind."

SEE **ADAMS** ON PAGE 3.



**Nathan Scott West**  
19  
Bellaire  
Sophomore oceanography major

Nathan Scott West spent every moment he could tinkering on his beige Volkswagen Beetle. He and his father, Richard, restored the old car, even putting in a new engine, neighbors in Bellaire, a bedroom community in Houston, said. "He and his dad worked on that old VW bug every chance he got. He was determined to get it running," neighbor Renee McCurry said. "A lot of kids get cars when they turn 16. But he worked for his,

SEE **WEST** ON PAGE 3.



**Jerry Don Self**  
20  
Arlington  
Junior engineering technology major

Jerry Don Self of Arlington was known during his years at Lamar High School for volunteering, showing his school spirit and being involved in student activities.

Jerry, a junior engineering major at Texas A&M University, graduated from Lamar in 1997. In addition to being on the student council his senior year, he was in the Spanish club, on the track team and on the varsity football team.

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**Chad Anthony Powell**  
19  
Keller  
Sophomore computer engineering major

When Chad Powell addressed the Keller High School graduating class last spring as valedictorian, he began by thanking his parents and family. In the process, he broke into tears.

"And then he found the poise to continue with a very inspiring speech to his fellow students," said Julie Zwahr, Keller's director of communications.

Friends, teachers and acquaintances

SEE **POWELL** ON PAGE 3.