## xtended family

Through tragedy, Texas A&M students realize close ties extend beyond campus

The effects of this event have been felt all over the

BY BRIAN FLEMING

ohn Donne once wrote, "Any man's death diminshes me, because I am involved in mankind." In the wake of Thursday's tragedy, many throughout the mmunity and beyond have felt the same as the loss friends, family and loved ones became known. Reacns have been of fear, grief and unity, not only between low Aggies, but with students from afar as well. Eddie Saucedo, a sophomore management major,

id his reaction to these events were ones that contind to change as the day unfolded.

"Early that morning, when I first heard of what hapned, it was just a shock," he said. "It sank in pretty JP BEATO/The quick, however. Then it was just of concern.

Since he was involved with Bonfire this year, t of the collapse of Saucedo said one of his immediate concerns were

for the collapse of Sauceuo Salu One of this of the collapse of Sauceuo Salu One of this of the collapse of Sauceuo Salu One of this of the collapse of the co le have contacted came so concerned for the others because I knew

andles from outsile Saucedo said from that point on, the tragedy became

nity, but there is not harder and harder to handle.
r candles, so we in "It was all very chaotic," Saucedo said. "That enough by Thursd morning and all day, I just wanted to do something ey said the issue to help out but despite what I could do, I just had to the entire Wasuch a helpless feeling.

Saucedo said his participation in the rescue effort ey can to make helped to take his mind off of the tragedy.

"As I helped move logs, the hard work and my own

hope helped me to take my mind off of what happened and support has et hope helped me to take my mind off of what happened as everyone came together," Saucedo said. "But the Texas borders.

Wheat of Seattless

Throughout the day, many relied on media coverage

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through Bank of Asito keep them up to date on what was happening. Anne onations will go skeep them up to date on what was happening. Anne onations will go skeep them up to date on what was happening. Anne norial fund. jor, said as she watched the media coverage, it became account can be an harder and harder to handle.

Rivals.com under "At first, when I turned on the news, I had such a Memorial Fund. In feeling of denial. And as the day went on, it just became make donations so sad. I hoped that with every log they moved, everythe mail or at any sone would come out alive."

Sikorski said her feelings can not compare to what

To Rhodes, Bank of others might feel.

To officer, said done "I have just been so sad about all of this," Sikorski g made from acrossidi. "I just cannot imagine how all of the victims and their families feel. My heart goes out to all of them." Leslie Eschbach, a senior psychology major, said af-

from Idaho, he stronged at the news she was shocked. "I looked at the television as soon as I saw the screen, count was sured my knees buckled and I just dropped to the floor.

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world and in a number of ways.

In Italy, at the Santa Chaira Study Center, Aggies be-

gan to hear the news. Eschbach said with her sister there, she has heard of the reactions from students and members of the Euro-

pean community "From what I have heard, people over there were crying and mourning the loss," Eschbach said. "The

news did not travel as fast but I heard from my sister later that day. She said no one overseas can believe that this happened. With the interests of their fellow Texans and friends

at heart, students at universities across the state have sent their deepest sympathies. Martida Sealy, a sophomore advertising major at

Southern Methodist University, said for the past two days, their campus has been very somber.

'Shock is the main thing people here feel," she said. "It really is an eye opening experience since nothing that tragic has happened here in a long time that I know of." Sealy said for many at SMU, there was concern

"I know a lot of people here went to high school with some of the victims and for them, I know this has just been tragic

Amber Rademacher, a sophomore general studies major at the University of Texas, said she has friends at A&M and was immediately concerned.

"I watched the news trying to see if there was anyone I knew," she said.

Unfortunately, she later learned she knew one of

Later on that day, I was on my computer when my friend sent me an instant message," she said. "She told me Bryan McClain was one of the students who died and I just started to cry. Even though I had not seen him in a while, we were friends in high school, and I was just so shocked.

Rademacher said the mood within the Longhorn community has been somber.

Here at U.T, everyone is so concerned," Rademacher said. "All over campus for the last two days everyone has been so sad and respectful. People have been quiet, usually just whispering and walking with their heads down.

Antera Drake, a junior radio, television and film major at UT, said of the many things the University has done out of respect, there are a few notable acts which demonstrate the school's concern for the Aggies.

'People have shown tremendous respect by wearing



CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION A&M students gather at the perimeter set up by investigators to remember those who died when stack fell.

ribbons and on our paper, *The Daily Texan*, there was great coverage as well." versities is nothing to really be taken seriously," Drake said. "It is only about football, basketball and other great coverage as well. Sealy said at SMU, The Daily Campus coverage was

respectful as well. Despite this week's game, students of UT have expressed their regard and respect which goes beyond a

Drake said incidents such as this prove how insignif-

icant something like rivalry can be.

sports, not human lives

Rademacher said during this week's much anticipated event, the Longhorns are less concerned with a rivalry as they will be mourning right alongside

"No one here seems to even care about the game now," he said. "Instead of a rivalry, I know at Kyle Field, "This just proves that relations between the two uni- we will all come together and unite as friends."



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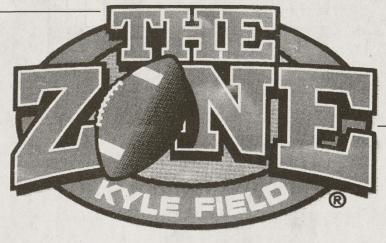
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