

## Man kills Prairie View student, self

BY CYRA GATLING  
AND JP BEATO  
The Battalion

Kristen Tarver, a 22-year-old senior architecture major, was shot and killed by Gary Burroughs, Tuesday on the Prairie View A&M University campus.

Burroughs, who was not a student at Prairie View, committed suicide afterward by shooting himself in the head.

Police Chief Rayford Stevens from the Prairie View Campus Police Department said Burroughs shot Tarver while she was fleeing from his vehicle.

"We do believe she tried to run away from the vehicle, and he shot her in the leg while she was running," Stevens said.

He continued to shoot her several times while she was lying on the ground, Stevens said.

The exact number of shots has not been confirmed.

Two witnesses to the shooting, August Provost, a freshman architecture major, and Derek Dawson, a sophomore criminal justice major, said Burroughs pursued Tarver after he shot her in the leg and continued to shoot her as he paced around her in a circle.

Burroughs then proceeded to shoot into a crowd of people who began to run and drop to the ground, Dawson and Provost said.

Stevens said an officer arrived at the scene and tried to get Burroughs to put his gun down.

He put the weapon underneath his chin and shot himself in the officer's presence.

Provost and Dawson said Burroughs pulled the gun's trigger four times before it finally fired on the fifth attempt.

Police are still investigating motives behind this tragedy as well as the relationship between Tarver and Burroughs, Stevens said.

According to reports from student witnesses, Tarver and Burroughs may have been dating and were going through a break-up.

"As far as I know, there has not been an incident like this in the past," Stevens said.

Currently, the campus climate is in mourning, and students are gathering to unite and say prayers for the victims and their families.

There was a gathering at 5 p.m. at a fountain in the center of the Prairie View campus.

The University plans to meet with students Wednesday afternoon.

"Kristen was a good student and a good person," said Marshall Brown, a professor in the school of architecture.

"The students, faculty and staff are all sad about [the incident], and hopefully things will be back to normal soon."

There are two roses that rest were Tarver was shot.



(L) Samuel Allen, a senior psychology major at Prairie View A&M University, is comforted by Johnny Williams, a senior theater arts major, Tuesday evening at Prairie View A&M University. A man and a woman were fatally shot Tuesday afternoon in a parking lot in what authorities believe was a murder-suicide. (Right-top) Students bow their heads in prayer by the water fountain, (second right top) Shana Miller comforts Jasmine Organ, a sophomore chemical engineering student, (third right top) students mourn by the water fountain, (right bottom) a lone bouquet of flowers mark the spot where the man and woman were fatally shot.



JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

## Students concerned about ending early registration

BY ROLANDO GARCIA  
The Battalion

A proposal before the Academic Operations Committee (AOC) would end student worker early registration but allow other groups to keep the privilege, said Donald Carter, Texas A&M registrar and AOC member.

Carter revealed the terms of the proposal at a forum Wednesday evening an AOC panel explained the reasoning behind their decision and answered students' questions.

In the proposal, which the AOC will consider at its meeting

today, athletes and students with disabilities would keep their early registration status, but honors students, who are currently in the first group to register, would only register before their respective classes, Carter said.

A grandfather clause will allow all student workers who registered early this spring to continue doing so.

"This is a question of fairness and equity to all undergraduate students," Carter said.

The AOC subcommittee appointed to study the issue decided that honors students and athletes

have special needs that justify early registration, Carter added.

"These athletes are recruited by the University to play sports, and for them to schedule their classes so they can work out and participate as a team is important," Carter said.

Carter also dismissed the argument that without early registration, student workers would have difficulty finding classes that fit their work schedule.

"We had student workers before there was early registration, and there was no problem then," Carter said.

The AOC decided to revisit the

issue after several groups, such as yell leaders, resident hall advisors, and the Aggie Dance Team, asked for early registration status.

"We had to come to some policy for who would be allowed to register early," Carter said.

"The advantage of preregistration disappears as the pool gets larger."

Carter added that students who abuse the system by registering early and then dropping their job was not a factor in the committee's recommendations.

However, AOC member Kriss Boyd was quoted in an April 18 ar-

icle of *The Battalion* that such abuse was one of the main problems with the current system.

James Mickler, an organizer of the event and a senior English major, said he was not convinced by the AOC's presentation.

"Students don't work because it's fun; they do it because they have to make ends meet, and early registration just levels the playing field against other students who don't have to juggle school and work," Mickler said.

Mickler, expressed similar concerns as other students who attended the forum, said without early

registration, student workers might not be able to schedule large blocks of time during the day to work.

"I don't understand why athletes, who already have it easier with free tutors and other perks, and honors students, take precedence over the needs of working class students," Mickler said. "All we have is this small perk, and they want to take it away from us."

Mickler added he was disappointed by the low turnout at the meeting, especially by the absence of Student Body President Forrest Lane, who was scheduled to attend.

"I don't think SGA (Student Government Association) is effectively representing the students on this issue. I think most students are opposed to this, except for maybe a couple student senators," Mickler said, referring to two SGA representatives on the AOC panel.

Carter emphasized that any AOC recommendations will not become policy until ratified by the Faculty Senate and administration, which is unlikely to happen until next fall.

"This is a long way from being resolved, and they will be opportunities for the students to voice their opinions," Carter said.

## Peer reviewers begin analyzing report

BY ANNA BISHOP AND  
STUART HUTSON  
The Battalion

The men who are charged with the task of insuring that the investigation into the cause of the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse is performed thoroughly and accurately will arrive in College Station today to begin their work.

The six engineers from around the nation were chosen as "peer reviewers," of the Special Commission on the 1999 Aggie Bonfire report.

The reviewers tasks will be to make certain that the methods and analysis undertaken by the firms performing the bonfire investigation were "rigorous and robust," said Leo Linbeck Jr., chairperson of the Special Commission on the 1999 Bonfire.

"Their job is basically to make sure that there were no gaps or holes in our logic,"

Linbeck said. "Sometimes when you work as closely to a subject matter as the commission has to bonfire, it is difficult to see some of your own mistakes."

Linbeck added that he foresees no problems which will arise from the peer review process which would delay the Commission's

## AGGIE BONFIRE

May 2 deadline to release their final reports.

"The final report has not been assembled and finalized as of yet, but the reviewers will be working with the report in the context of a work in progress," Linbeck said. "They will go right to work, and we are expecting them to be finished sometime around Monday."

The six engineers are John W. Fowler, an independent engineering and construction consultant; German Gurfinkel, a professor of civil

engineering at the University of Illinois; Monte L. Phillips, a professor of civil engineering at the University of North Dakota; and Jim D. Weithorn, John D. Stewart and David L. Teasdale from Haag Engineering Company, a company which specializes in the analysis of structural failure and damage.

Fowler graduated from Clemson University in 1948 with a degree in civil engineering. His professional career has encompassed a wide variety of complex and diversified projects from both an engineering and construction standpoint.

Fowler was employed by the Tidewater Construction Company for 29 years. He was also assigned a special, four-year assignment at the site of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel as Project

See REVIEWERS on Page 10.

## New Website offers Internet auctions to B-CS community

BY ANNA BISHOP  
The Battalion

In the present age of high technology, one can find most anything accessible through the simple click of a mouse. Collegiate Trading Company (CTC), an Aggie-owned and operated Internet company, wants to take the concept of convenience one step further.

Aggietrade.com is an Aggie-based Website which functions much like other computer auction and trading sites, such as Ebay.com.

Senior bioenvironmental science major and Aggietrade.com user Chris Rial said he would like to see this particular Internet trading site spread

within the Aggie community.

"Aggietrade.com is so easy to use — it is very accessible and self-explanatory. I have already received several bids on an item which I posted on the site," Rial said.

"I am optimistic that others will learn of the wonders of Aggietrade and spread the word."

Registration to Aggietrade.com is free of charge and incentives are given to those who choose to register. A 20-percent discount to Inspirations in Post Oak Mall or a free drink at Zapatos Cantina encourages participation in the Website.

Once registered, users have the opportunity to sell items at a set price or

place them on the auction block.

With the closing of the spring semester, the operator of the site said that now is an opportune time for students to sell textbooks, look for a roommate or sublease for the summer.

"Selling textbooks on the Website expedites reuse and cuts expenditures," Rial said. "Many times, students lose money through the traditional method of reselling texts to a bookstore."

Junior agriculture business major and Aggietrade.com user Cory Scott said he is hooked on the new Aggie-based site.

"I sold a bike on the site last week," Scott said. "I like Aggietrade.com because it is all local. If I want to buy a car, then there is no driving to Dallas involved."

The operator of the site said that shipping and handling costs are minimal, due to the locality of its users.

"The best thing about Aggietrade is that it is free," said Charlie Sutherland, a freshman electrical engineering major. Upon registration, a user agreement ensures the appropriateness of items being auctioned and/or sold. Users are then sent a password which ultimately unlocks the door to the wide world of buying and selling.

"I see the future of Aggietrade.com as very bright. With a little spreading of positive, personal experience through buying and trading, I see it growing more and more," Sutherland said.



RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

**INSIDE**

Sports

- Rice steams Aggies, 7-5

Page 7

**Aggielife**

- Student Internships.

Page 3

**Opinion**

- Phantom is a DVD Menace

Page 11

**Batt Radio**

- Listen to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on disaster preparedness.

**Batt Online**

- Check out *The Battalion* online at [battalion.tamu.edu](http://battalion.tamu.edu)