

- Listen to KAMU 90.9 FM at 1:57 p.m. for details on College Station Independent School District removing three buses from service.
- Check out *The Battalion* online at battalion.tamu.edu.



• Longhorns not alone in the Big 12 South race
Aggies, Sooners should be worthy opponents to the vaunted, untested UT lineup



Weather:
Partly cloudy with a high of 103 and a low of 73.

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THE BATTALION

TUESDAY

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2 Sections
Section A - 8 pages
Section B - 6 pages

107 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Motorcycle and Explorer collide, killing one

By BRADY CREEL
The Battalion

An accident involving a motorcycle and a sport-utility vehicle occurred early Sunday morning, killing one and leaving another in the intensive care unit.

According to a release issued by the College Station Police Department (CSPD), Jonathan Hatfield, a Baylor University freshman, and Heath Davis, a Texas A&M freshman electrical engineering major, were riding a motorcycle southbound on

Marion Pugh Drive when it collided with a Ford Explorer driven by Scott Barrow, a sophomore at Texas A&M.

The release said Barrow was turning out of the driveway of Treehouse 2 Apartments when his Explorer and the motorcycle collided.

Davis and Hatfield were transported to College Station Medical Center. Hatfield was later pronounced dead by a doctor.

Davis is currently in stable condition, but he remains in intensive care. He has un-

dergone several surgeries, said Ann Goodman, associate director of student life.

"The [rehabilitation] process is going to be pretty lengthy."

— Ann Goodman
associate director of student life

"The [rehabilitation] process is going to be pretty lengthy," Goodman said.

The news release said Barrow fled from the scene on foot after the accident, but later agreed to meet with CSPD officers.

Barrow was not available for comment.

One of the first vehicles to arrive on the scene was a car on duty for Caring Aggies "R" Protecting Our Lives (CARPOOL). The CARPOOL car had picked up a passenger at Melrose Apartments and was driving down Marion Pugh when the dri-

vers saw the accident, said Brooke Mauritzen, one of the two CARPOOL volunteers and a junior biology major.

"It was kind of like a big dream," Mauritzen said.

Mauritzen said they arrived between 30 seconds and a minute after the accident occurred.

Mauritzen said her partner, Patrick Blocker, a senior management information

See ACCIDENT on Page 6B.

Campus activism



STUART VILLANUEVA/THE BATTALION

Unknown "chalkers" continue sidewalk chalk campaigns attacking the University for an anti-discrimination rule they believe to be too weak regarding the issue of sexual

orientation. This sign read "Why did Bowen lie?" in front of the Academic Building. To the side, another sign read "Fight 4 Gay/Lesbian rights."

Opponents to talk against 2000 bonfire

Kerlee's parents among speakers

By SOMMER BUNCE
The Battalion

Key figures in the Bonfire controversy are speaking to residence halls in support of President Dr. Ray M. Bowen's Bonfire decision. The Spence/Briggs Residence Hall Council will meet tonight with residents, student leaders and administration to discuss Bonfire issues.

At 8:30 p.m. in Corps Lounge A, Spence/Briggs residents will listen to speakers such as Tim and Janice Kerlee, parents of Bonfire collapse victim Tim Kerlee Jr.; head yell leader Ricky Wood and Rusty Thompson, assistant director of Student Programs for the Memorial Student Center.

The Kerlees met with a group of 50 Underwood residents Sunday night, said Underwood graduate hall director Jnanika Wijayarante. They plan to meet with students from Krueger on Wednesday.

The discussion will center on Texas A&M's policy and the decision to place Aggie Bonfire on a two-year moratorium, said Spence/Briggs graduate hall director Tricia Schwery. Bonfire is a University issue that students want — and need — to know more about, Schwery said.

Keep the Fire Burning (KTFB), a student group seeking to build an off-campus bonfire to burn in late Novem-

ber, has been the main opposition to Bowen's decision.

Once Bowen announced his decision, all students should have respected it, Tim Kerlee Sr. said.

"I am violently opposed to the off-campus bonfire," he said. "It's a slap in the face of the Aggie spirit, and it disrespects the unity of that spirit. This gives a black eye to the Aggies."

Kerlee intends to share his opinion with other Southside residence halls.

"The students ought to do what has been recommended," he said. "Just because some are taking their bats off the field and vowing to play elsewhere doesn't mean we can't follow the guidelines the University gave."

Schwery and the Spence/Briggs Hall Council accepted Kerlee Sr., Wood and Thompson's offer to speak during resident adviser training early this semester.

"As a University official, I feel a responsibility to inform our students, to bring in the key players so students can form their own opinion to choose whether or not to participate [in KTFB's off-campus bonfire proposal]," Schwery said. "I want [the residents] to get a more realistic perspective of Bonfire."

See SPEAKERS on Page 6B.

13 Aggies to be honored at Silver Taps today

By MAUREN KANE
The Battalion

Thirteen Aggies will be honored Tuesday night at one of the largest Silver Taps ever held on the Texas A&M campus, and the Aggie family will be there to remember them.

Christy French, the Silver Taps subchair on Traditions Council and a junior psychology major, said the first Silver Taps in the fall is usually the largest because it honors every Aggie who has died since April.

"This is a final tribute to fallen Aggies," French said. "It's a way for families to see how special their son or daughter is to A&M."

The first Silver Taps honored Lawrence Sullivan Ross, the president of Texas A&M College, in 1898. The only other non-student ever to be honored at a Silver Taps ceremony was Pinky Downs, class of 1906, who was "so influential and so loved by the students," according to French. Downs is also credited with creating the Gig 'Em tradition.

When the tradition of Silver Taps began, it was held immediately after a student's death, but as the student body continued to grow, the scheduling of the ceremony was changed. Since 1979, it has been held on the first Tuesday of each month, as needed.

Throughout the day Silver Taps is held, flags are flown at half-staff and the Corps of Cadets wears "midnights" — a more formal uniform — in respect for the Aggies being honored.

"The day of Taps, we put a card on the Silver Taps Memorial at the base of the flagpole by the Academic Building that mentions the student's name, major, class and hometown," French said. "That way campus knows who is being honored. Then the card is given to the family after Silver Taps."

At 10 p.m., the lights in the area around the Academic Plaza are extinguished, and

See SILVER TAPS on Page 6B.

Record-breaking heat boils down to fire hazards

This is part two of a five-part water series about the ongoing drought and how its impact can be felt locally and regionally.

By ROLANDO GARCIA
The Battalion

Daytime temperatures are expected to remain in the three-digit range for the next few days, the National Weather Service reports.

In its statement covering much of East Texas and the Brazos Valley, the National Weather Service reported a heat advisory would be in effect through Tuesday and predicted record-smashing temperatures in many areas.

This short-term forecast is in keeping with what has been an unusually hot summer throughout Texas, said John Nielsen-Gammon, the Texas state climatologist and a meteorology professor at Texas A&M.

"We have warm days in Texas every year at this time, but it takes two ingredients to make it really hot — subsidence and lack of rain," Nielsen-Gammon said.

Subsidence is the downward move-

ment of air, which causes the atmosphere to warm and clouds to evaporate, allowing more sunlight to reach the ground.

"Sunlight passes through the atmosphere to heat up the earth and other solar

id objects on its surface, so the ground gets hot and heats up the air. Our environment gets hot from the bottom up," Nielsen-Gammon said.

"The lack of rain, he added, dries the soil and heats the surface.

"Since it takes energy to evaporate water, if there's less water to be evaporated, more energy is available to heat up the ground," Nielsen-Gammon said.

The hot, dry summer has left cities throughout the state grappling with record temperatures. According to the National Weather Service, if forecasts through Thursday hold up, Austin will have 40 days of at least 100-degree heat this year, making it the city's hottest summer since 1925. In Dallas, temperatures have hit triple digits for 42 days, and the tally is still climbing.

The drought and scorching heat also have created an extreme fire hazard. Bart Humphreys, public information officer

See HEAT on Page 6B.

"We have warm days in Texas every year at this time, but it takes two ingredients to make it really hot — subsidence and lack of rain."

— John Nielsen-Gammon
Texas state climatologist and an A&M meteorology professor

SILVER TAPS

Courtney Elizabeth Brymer (Sociology major)
Joshua Davis Gray (Industrial Distribution major)
Abigail Marie Keatts (Biological Systems Engineering major)
Kerry Jason Kujawa (Mechanical Engineering major)
Rodney P. Laskowski (Business Administration major)
Jungki Min (Electrical Engineering grad student)
Terry Ramon Nichols (Agriculture and Life Sciences major)
Sunita Prasannan (General Studies major)
James Howland Ratterree (Fisheries Science grad student)
Amanda Clarice Rodriguez (Microbiology major)
Marcel Kelly Sucheston (Mathematics grad student)
Besty Meprathu Varughese (Electrical Engineering major)
Kevin Lawrence Wachsmann (Business Administration major)

The Silver Taps ceremony will be held tonight at 10:30 in front of the Academic Building. The ceremony is to honor those students who have passed away while enrolled.

RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

Summer Heat

- 112 Monday's high
- 103 Today's expected high
- 43 Days 100 degrees or more
- 12 Consecutive days 100 degrees

RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

OTS
TURE
Closeouts
OTS
VE. SOUTH
STATION
-6121

3 Pc
Bistro Se
\$99.99
Includes: Table
& Two Chairs

5 Pc
Dinette Se
\$159.99
Includes: Table
& Four Chairs

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