

## Issues concerning college students:

- The environment
- Juvenile justice
- Poverty
- Peace
- Violence

College students are more concerned with idealistic and social issues than older Americans. According to a report done at the National Youth Convention, these are the most relevant issues to young Americans.

RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

## Candidates not reaching young voters

By STEPHEN METCALF  
The Battalion

With elections a little more than a week away, candidates are scrambling to motivate people to support them at the polls. Despite the push, many college students, such as Elaine Liao, a senior accounting major, question whether candidates care about appealing to young people or even seek to address issues that concern them.

ifying experiences for young people.

"We never had to watch our country fight a long war, whereas older people have, and as a result they have a lot of patriotism and appreciation for their rights, which makes voting important to them," Allen said.

Liao said that many people do not believe they can make a difference.

"I think there are so many obstacles in the way

## ELECTION 2000

"They really are not trying to focus on appealing to our age group, to begin with," Liao said. "They don't think we matter because we live in this bubble and we don't keep informed. It's probably our own fault. I don't think that a lot of us go out and vote, and they try and appeal to the people they think will vote."

Voter apathy among people between the ages of 18 and 24 is significantly higher than that of other age groups. According to the Website [www.rockthevote.com](http://www.rockthevote.com), less than one in three people in the 18-to-24 age group will vote. In stark contrast, two out of three people between the ages of 65 and 74 will vote.

Chelsea Allen, a senior speech communication major, attributes the discrepancy to a lack of uni-

that it really doesn't matter if one person votes or not," Liao said. "Life will go on. Someone else will vote. I think that is the mentality many people have in college."

Jennifer Fitzgerald, also a senior accounting major, reiterated Liao's point.

"Older people have experience, and they know what they stand for," she said. "They consider their vote as meaning more. They realize how important it is to have a voice. Young people say they want a voice, but do we really take time to go vote or take time to know the issues?"

Fitzgerald and Liao also lamented the process of registering to vote.

"It is such a hassle," Fitzgerald said, "especially for college students who

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## KTFB calls off 2000 bonfire

By SOMMER BUNCE  
The Battalion

Keep The Fire Burning (KTFB) announced Friday that it will not build an off-campus bonfire in 2000.

Due to time restraints and problems with insurance the group decided not to follow through with its Nov. 22 bonfire plans.

KTFB could have proceeded with cut this weekend and finished in time for the planned burning of the stack, but that would have left "a lot of room for error," said KTFB board member Will Clark.

Texas A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen imposed a two-year moratorium on Aggie Bonfire in May after the Special Commission on the 1999 Aggie Bonfire released its report on

the Bonfire collapse. KTFB, which originally formed to oppose the abolition of Bonfire, announced in August plans for a student-built, off-campus bonfire.

KTFB cited the safety of its smaller-scaled design and promised strict enforcement of anti-alcohol and safety regulations at cut and stack sites. It continued its plans until the group was faced with insurance problems earlier this month, causing it to cancel plans for first cut.

Clark said Aggie Bonfire's bad safety record contributed to the difficulty in insuring the KTFB bonfire. He said that putting together an insurance plan to protect the student workers took longer than the group expected.

"The way the University has addressed safety issues in the past meant we had to prove everything we were planning [to the insurance companies]," Clark said. "Separating ourselves from the University [Bonfire] was really tough; their neglect for safety issues put a shadow on us. No matter how safe we went about it, insurance companies would look at [what was done at Aggie Bonfire in the past] and say, 'That could happen.'"

KTFB submitted detailed maps of the bonfire's location, safety manuals and carefully worded procedure plans to insurance companies for review. Insurers met with the group before consulting industry professionals to

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## Advocates question Lane's leadership

By SOMMER BUNCE & BRADY CREEL  
The Battalion

Members of Keep The Fire Burning (KTFB) made an appearance Sunday at an open forum intended for discussion of plans for Aggie Bonfire 2002 and questioned Student Body President Forrest Lane's accurate representation of the Texas A&M Student Body.

Questions focused on the Bonfire planning committee and regulations for the 2002 blaze. However, KTFB board member Will Clark led the inquiry in a different direction.

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## Aggies tame Wildcats



CHAD ADAMS/THE BATTALION

Cornelius Anthony puts the "hurt" on Kansas State tight end Brian Casey, during the game Saturday.

The Aggies went on to defeat K-State 26-10 in front of a crowd exceeding 80,000.

## Kursk sub divers find additional victims

SEVEROMORSK, Russia (AP) — Venturing further inside the sunken Kursk nuclear submarine, divers recovered more bodies Sunday from amid the jagged metal and silt that fill the wreck stuck in the Arctic depths.

The number and identity of the bodies remained unclear, Russian naval officials said, apparently because the remains were badly damaged.

All 118 men on the Kursk were killed after it was shattered by an explosion and crashed to the Barents Sea floor on Aug. 12. As the slow, solemn recovery work continued, a mourning ceremony for the Kursk submariners was held Sunday in the closed Russian military town of Severomorsk.

Remains of four Kursk sailors were recovered last week, and four caskets, draped with the white-and-blue flag of the Russian Navy, were carried atop armored personnel carriers into a sea-front square under a cold, clear sky. Taking off their hats, Russian sailors dropped to one knee in the snow that had fallen on the Arctic town. A long, low horn of farewell sounded from the warships bristling with antennas and cannons in the harbor.

## Class of '95 gift dedicated

By NOEL FREEMAN  
The Battalion

Aggies now have a permanent memorial to reflect the meaning and significance of one of the most hallowed Texas A&M traditions: Aggie Muster.

The Muster Memorial, designed by A&M professor of architecture Dr. Rodney C. Hill, is the gift of the Class of '95. It was formally presented

to A&M by Class of '95 agents Jennifer Watkins Blackmon and Matt Upton in a short, simple ceremony following the Texas A&M vs. Kansas State football game on Saturday. The memorial is west of the Academic Building, across the flower mound from the Silver Taps memorial, also designed by Hill.

The memorial, which stands about 7 feet tall, is

topped by a sculpture of two hands, one male and one female, each holding a candle, representing the exchange of light that occurs April 21 at Muster ceremonies around the world. The base of the memorial describes the history of Aggie Muster. Hill's son and daughter-in-law, both members of the Class of '91, served as models for the hands.

Shaffer Art Foundry of

Arlington, casted the sculpture from the form created by Hill. The base was created by Timeworks in College Station.

The gift was the end result of a campaign by the Class of '95 that raised approximately \$95,000. The class will use \$50,000 of those funds to create a Muster endowment.

"This gift reflects the

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"This is very hard. But I think it is necessary. Our children deserved this."

— Zoya Dudko  
Mother of victim

"This is very hard," said Zoya Dudko, whose 30-year-old son Sergei was among the crew. "But I think it is necessary. Our children deserved this."

The names and ranks of all 118 officers and sailors were read out, and Dudko burst into tears when she heard her son's name. A few steps away, the young widow of Lt. Dmitry Kolesnikov, Olga, looked out over the square, her eyes fixed on the sun hanging low over the horizon.

A note found in Kolesnikov's pocket when his body was recovered Wednesday told a horrifying story of 23 survivors gathering in the submarine's ninth compartment, hoping to get out through a jammed escape hatch.

Based on that note, Russian and Norwegian divers worked through Saturday night to cut a hole in the hull above the compartment at the stern of the submarine. But the thick rubber and steel would not yield, said Vadim Serga, a Northern Fleet spokesman in Severomorsk.

The divers were forced to enter through a hole they had cut earlier in the eighth compartment and grope their way along narrow passages into the ninth, he said. There, the divers found several more bodies.

## College Station train depot begins construction

Groundbreaking ceremony marks second phase for the building Aggie artist's gallery

By ELIZABETH RAINES  
The Battalion

A groundbreaking ceremony took place on Saturday, marking the second phase of construction of a replica of the College Station train depot. It will be used as a gallery by Benjamin Knox, self-described as the "Texas Aggie Artist."

"I am rebuilding the College Station train depot because it is such a unique landmark," Knox said. "I am excited to present it to Texas A&M and the city of College Station."

The train depot served as the primary mode of transportation to and from College Station for approximately 70 years. The depot received its name from train conduc-

tors announcing the stop at A&M as the "college station."

"I am excited to present it to Texas A&M and the city of College Station."

— Benjamin Knox  
Artist

"The depot held a special role in Aggie history and tradition until the use of the automobile replaced train travel as a more convenient mode of

transportation," said Kara Wilson-Anglin, executive director of the Benjamin Knox Gallery.

The city of College Station was chartered in 1938 and got its name from the depot. By 1958, the depot was no longer in use, and it was torn down in 1966.

"I remember catching the train at the depot when I was little," said Royce Hickman, president of the College Station Chamber of Commerce. "I am so proud of Benjamin for bringing it back."

The gallery will be located at 405 University Drive, directly across the street from Knox's current gallery. In June, Knox appealed to the College Station City Council to rezone the location for his new gallery. The city council



COURTESY OF BENJAMIN KNOX

Benjamin Knox's gallery is scheduled to open October 2, 2001. The gallery will be a replica of the old College Station train depot.

rezoned the land so Knox could build the new gallery there.

At a September signing appearance, Knox announced his plans for the depot replica and unveiled four new prints. Sales from the

print titled "The College Station" will help fund construction costs.

The opening of the new gallery is scheduled to coincide with A&M's 125th anniversary — Oct. 2, 2001.