



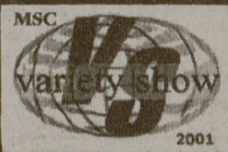
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## OSU

Continued from Page 1

Aggies remembered the 10 victims of the crash.

"There was a moment of silence before the basketball game today," Bowen said. "There are flags for the Big 12 Conference schools hung around Reed Arena. The OSU banner in Reed was lowered with a black band on it as a tribute to the people who were lost."

Bowen said there will be a memorial service later this week, and he is considering sending a delegation.

Dr. J. Malon Southerland, vice president for student affairs, said condolences will continue to be sent to OSU officials.

"We certainly regret this tragedy and know how hard it hits them," Southerland said.

Texas A&M administrators are not the only ones expressing their sympathy to OSU. The A&M Student Government Association (SGA) will also send condolences on behalf of the student body.

"We are sending flowers to OSU first thing Monday morning, and Student Body President Forrest Lane will draft a letter on behalf of the student body to express our sincere well

wishes," said Rob Ferguson, executive vice president of student government and a senior political science major. "We are definitely thinking of them and will do everything we can to help them through this."

In October 2000, A&M participated in the Big 12 Student Government Conference, which was hosted by OSU. Ferguson said student government members from both schools discussed many common issues and interests.

Now OSU and A&M students share a common sense of grief as well, because both student bodies have been involved in a major tragedy, Ferguson said.

"In November 1999, our campus faced such a terrible tragedy," he said. "For three very visible students and others on that plane to die, words can't express the sympathy that should go out to OSU."

Lane, a senior political science major, said he feels the need to return the respect paid by OSU to A&M during the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse.

"The loss of any student is difficult because it affects so many students around them," Lane said. "Certainly our thoughts and prayers are with them, and I hope they know that."

## QUAKE

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The earthquake's epicenter was located near Bhuj, in the Kutch district of India. Mukherji said 500 people are feared dead in her hometown of Ahmedabad, and officials said the death toll could rise as more bodies are dug from collapsed buildings in different parts of the city.

"Bhuj has been the most affected, with 15,000 deaths reported from there," Mukherji said. "In Anjar, 400 schoolchildren remain trapped under a building, with hope receding by the hour even as their cries for help and water fade away."

She said pleas for money and supplies were received from groups and non-government organizations working in Saurashtra and Kutch.

"A temporary Website has been set up to handle queries and carry

up-to-the-minute news and press reports at [www.growthcircle.com](http://www.growthcircle.com)," Mukherji said.

"The objective of this site is to also connect individuals who can volunteer time, money or supplies directly to the [non-government organizations] that need them most."

Thousands of homes have been destroyed, leaving many homeless. Conditions are so bad that many residents have left their homes and are camping out on the highways waiting for help to arrive.

Indian students across the campus, country and world are trying to reach out to anyone who can help.

"We've been in touch with the [Center for Environmental and Technology] and the schools on campus in Ahmedabad, Gujarat — alma mater and second home for some of us," Mukherji said. "Most of the students there left for Bhuj last night, where the real help is needed."

## CHEATING

Continued from Page 1

one give to students in 1997 will measure the students' self-reported and anonymous instances of cheating. The faculty will also take a survey, aimed at uncovering their perceptions of cheating.

In the survey, 14 kinds of cheating are defined, ranging from working with others on an assignment to cheating on tests or writing papers for others.

In 1997, 57 percent of Aggies reported cheating on a test, and 61 percent admitted to plagiarism at some point in their academic career. The same survey reported that only one student did not know the Aggie Code of Honor.

"A&M has serious problems here," Kibler said.

He said A&M does not have a large public interest in academic honesty, and it is not stressed to students enough.

Schools that have the lowest rates of cheating are campuses with strong honor codes, Kibler said. In most cases, the process of promoting academic integrity starts with the admission process itself every student admitted to the University of Virginia is sent a video emphasizing the importance of not cheating, he said.

On campuses with the lowest rates of cheating, professors make it clear the first day of classes that cheating is unacceptable, Kibler said.

"Those campuses that pay the most attention to those issues are the most successful," Kibler said. "They make a point to get their message across, and students there are very aware of the importance of honor and integrity. I think that would make all the difference at A&M."

The assessment committee will take the results of this spring semester's survey — which Kibler does not expect to be significantly different than the 1997 poll — and prepare a recommendation for the administration, faculty and students.

"The only way we can be successful in seeing the numbers [of admitted cheaters] go down is if it becomes a campus-wide effort," Kibler said. "It's not that this is an insurmountable problem. By taking this on as a campus, we can probably do some good things."

## News in Brief Bus driver dies, causes accident

ROSE LAKE, Idaho (AP) — The driver of a bus carrying 33 high school athletes, cheerleaders and two coaches slumped over and died, sending the bus careening off the road and into several trees.

Twelve students were treated and released from hospitals after the Saturday morning accident.

Troy Schueller, a wrestling coach at Kellogg High School in northern Idaho, suffered a broken jaw, broken teeth and a broken leg.

The driver was identified as George Wild, 63, of Osburn. He likely suffered a stroke or heart attack, Idaho State Police said.

The passengers were traveling to a wrestling tournament.

## Texas jury orders manufacturer to pay \$80 million

ALICE, Texas (AP) — A jury has ordered the manufacturer of a tire sealant product to pay \$80 million to a Texas couple that was injured while changing a tire in 1998.

Melissa Elizondo, 20, and Robert Perez, 21, were injured in an explosion as Perez was attempting to fix a flat tire with the Tracdo product, called Patch-A-Flat.

Elizondo, who lost vision in her right eye and also suffered serious leg injuries, was awarded \$60 million and Perez, who suffered fractured and burned hands that have prevented him from returning to his job on an oil rig, was awarded \$20 million by the jury in the 79th District Court in Jim Wells County.

"I really wanted the product off the market," Perez said after the verdict was read. "They changed our lives forever, and now they have to pay."

Patch-A-Flat seals the inside of a tire while inflating it.

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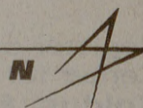
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