

# THE BATTALION

107 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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## News in Brief

### State

#### Man admits on tape to killing CS woman

Kenneth Ray Kelly, a 27-year-old Bryan resident, has admitted to the murder by suffocation of 21-year-old Mandy Wollersheim at Willowick Apartments Sunday.

According to information from the College Station Police Department (CSPD), Kelly first came a suspect when his other approached them with information that Kelly had ordered Wollersheim and then used her keys to gain entrance and burglarize her place of employment, Harp's Bar in Bryan.

Police later arrested Kelly at the Casa Loma Motel and obtained a tape recording of him admitting to Wollersheim's murder. Kelly is believed to have known Wollersheim as a general acquaintance.

Kelly is currently being held at the Brazos County Jail and the investigation continues as detectives question additional witnesses.

#### 2-year-old dies after being left in hot automobile

DALLAS (AP) — A 2-year-old boy whose parents had forgotten he was in the family car has died because of the high temperatures, law officers said.

The unidentified child, who was pronounced dead Monday night at RHD Memorial Medical Center in Farmers Branch, had apparently been left in the vehicle in front of his family's home for several hours.

The Dallas Police Department's child abuse division will investigate the death. Family members told officers that they had forgotten the child was in the car.

An autopsy was under way at the Dallas County medical examiner's office. No ruling on the death has been issued yet.

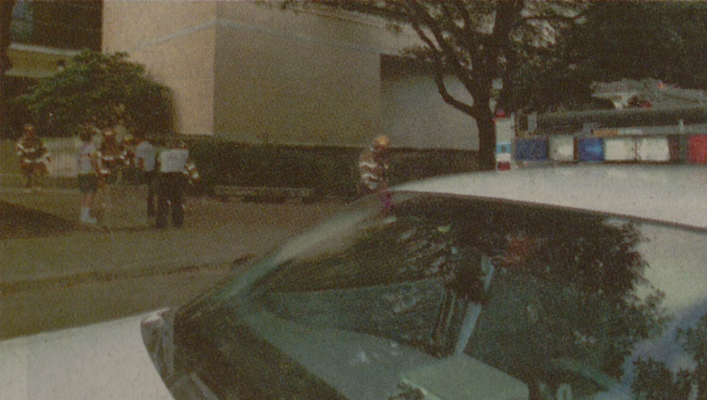
#### State to ban visitors from having paper money in prisons

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Visitors to Texas prisons can carry only cash into the institutions as of August to cut down on an influx of paper money in inmates' pockets, officials said.

The Texas prison system will prohibit visitors from carrying paper money because officials have seen an increase in paper money in cells and work areas. Prisoners are prohibited from using cash, which is typically used for illegal activities, said by Johnson, director of the state's Institutional Division.

Inmates and visitors are often caught passing bills mouth-to-mouth while kissing, prison officials said.

## Water main breaks, A/C fails



BERNARDO GARZA/THE BATTALION

The police and fire departments responded early Monday to a fire alarm at the Chemistry Building. No fire was found but a broken Physical Plant water main caused overheating to the building's air conditioning causing a haze.

### University employees allowed to leave

Stuart Hutson  
The Battalion

University employees were allowed to leave work early Monday because of a campus-wide air conditioning failure that reportedly caused some buildings to reach temperatures higher than 85 degrees.

A 8-foot break in a 12-inch water main crossing Agronomy Road near Raymond Stotzer Parkway resulted in the shutdown of the Physical Plant early Monday. The plant relies on steam produced from the water

supplied by the main to power, among other things, electric chillers that produce cold water for use by the campus's air conditioners, said Richard Williams, assistant vice president for the Physical Plant.

Williams said the "gusher" resulting from the 3:30 a.m. break lowered the water level in A&M's 40-foot tall, 2-million-gallon water tower at a rate of five feet every 15 minutes.

"I've never seen anything like it in my life," he said. "In my 10 years at A&M I've never seen a break this big."

Cold water began to be restored to A&M's air conditioners around noon, but Williams said the temperatures in most buildings did not begin to lessen until 2 p.m.

To prevent the temperatures from adversely affecting A&M workers, Vice President for Administration Charles Sippel released a memo at 11:30 a.m. stating that department heads may give employees the option to leave if their work environment

See A/C on Page 2.

## A&M researcher studying impact of the proposed Alaskan drilling

Robin Lewis  
The Battalion

The Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is among the most complete, undisturbed ecosystems on earth. Located on the northeastern tip of Alaska, it is rich with wildlife including 160 species of birds, 36 kinds of land mammals, nine marine mammal species and 36 types of fish.

It is also a hot topic of political debate today.

To meet the future energy needs of Americans, President Bush is searching for a plan to appease the energy shortage in America while preserving the wildlife in the ANWR.

To help with research on the impacts of drilling in this area, the National Academy

of Sciences, a nonprofit organization that provides advice to the federal government, has nominated a committee to evaluate how drilling will effect the citizens and wildlife in Alaska.

Mahlon "Chuck" Kennicutt II, director of the Geochemical and Environmental Research Center at Texas A&M, is a member of this committee. He will travel to Alaska and report on what has happened to the environment on the North Slope.

"Alaska has been the location where oil and gas have been discovered and produced for the last 30 years," Kennicutt said.

The committee has been asked to take information from past years and predict what continued drilling will do to the Alaskan environment 50 years into the future.

The committee will meet five times within a year and a half, with the ultimate outcome being a written report and evaluation on environmental issues in Alaska.

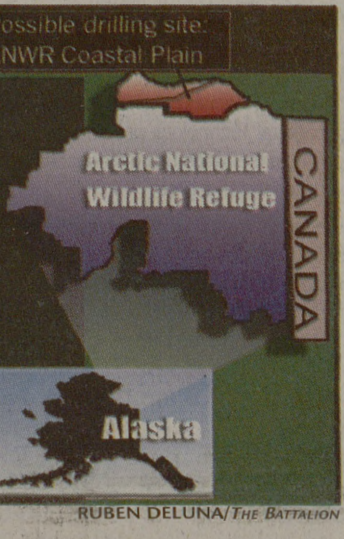
Kennicutt said the committee is composed of several people ranging from different areas in the United States to their field of expertise.

"I'm a contaminate chemist," he said, "so I was tasked with looking at all the literature on contamination on the North Slope."

As others evaluate their area of expertise, it will create a variety of information coming from several different areas, Kennicutt said.

During the committee's first visit to

See ALASKA on Page 2.



RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

### Mock tornado



ANDY HANCOCK/THE BATTALION

Area fire fighters attend to a victim of a mock tornado Monday afternoon in Kurten. All Brazos County volunteer fire fighters participated in the drill to prepare them for an actual tornado.

## Interest rate cut on loans

### Federally backed student loan rate to drop 6 percent

(AP) — Paying for college is about to get less expensive for students and families saddled by education loans.

Starting July 1, the interest rate on federally backed student loans will be reset to what's believed to be the lowest level since the student loan program began in the 1960s.

Interest on student loans will drop to 5.99 percent, down from the current 8.19 percent, the U.S. Education Department said Monday. Students start paying off the loans six months after leaving school and typically have 10 years to do it.

The rate for parents borrowing in their own names for a child's education will drop to 6.79 percent from 8.99 percent. Those loans are owed immediately, like credit card debt.

"This is the lowest rate in the history of the student loan program, lower than even the 7 percent in place when the student loan program began in 1965," said John E. Dean, lobbyist for the Consumer Bankers Association, whose members are the largest commercial banks in the student loan business.

The new rates apply to loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 1998. A borrower could also benefit from the lower rates by consolidating loans taken before then.

The federal government estimates the new rate will save the student borrower with a standard 10-year repayment plan about \$136 for every \$1,000 they owe.

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## Let the summer games begin

Shauna Lewis  
The Battalion

For some students, the summer brings a dull routine of kicking around the house watching endless television reruns, but for students like Shawn McAden, the only kicking summer brings is on a soccer field.

McAden is an intramural soccer captain and one of many students who have chosen to stay active by competing in A&M's summer intramurals program.

"You get to do stuff with your friends and be competitive with people," he said.

Stephanie West, assistant director of intramurals, said in-

### Intramurals provide Aggies with low-cost summer entertainment

tramurals are a relatively cheap and easy way for students to keep active during the summer. Prices for team sports range from \$10 to \$40 a team, and individual or dual sports are free with the exception of golf, which requires a green fee.

To compete in intramurals, West

said students need to fill out an entry card at the Member Services desk at the Rec Center, pick a division and league and pay the entry fee. Students will then receive a rules packet with pertinent information about playing that sport.

Students who wish to play a team sport but do

not already belong to a team may enter the Free Agents Program, which allows teams without enough members to pick up additional players.

Once the application deadline passes, a single elimination schedule for each sport will be filled out and posted at Member Services.

West said there are many benefits of intramural sports, including the opportunity to compete, socialize, learn a new sport and exercise.

She said some students join to meet other students and make friends, while others play on teams with their friends to

See GAMES on Page 2.

### Summer Intramurals

**Team Sports**

- 3-on-3 basketball
- Sand volleyball
- Softball
- Half-court indoor soccer
- Water basketball

**Individual and dual sports**

- Racquetball
- Golf
- Tennis

RUBEN DELUNA/THE BATTALION

## INSIDE

**Aggielife**

Texas offers a variety of festivals to battle summer blues

**Opinion**

Court decision on golfer Martin goes along with Disabilities Act

**Battalion News Radio:**  
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