

Texas A&M University — Celebrating 125 Years

# THE BATTALION

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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Bryan to purchase, auction LaSalle**

The city of Bryan is prepared to purchase the LaSalle Hotel at a foreclosure auction Tuesday.

According to *The Bryan-College Station Eagle*, the LaSalle will be auctioned off because the owner defaulted on a \$1.7 million loan from First National Bank.

Bryan Commerce and Development will operate the hotel until the city can sell the building. The city will provide a loan for Bryan Commerce and Development but has not stated the amount of the loan.

Bidding will begin at \$1.15 million.

**Letter carrier fired in mail dumping**

AMARILLO (AP) — A letter carrier has been fired after Amarillo police discovered undelivered mail in a street trash bin, a U.S. postal official said.

Amarillo police were called to the scene Wednesday after a witness saw someone dumping mail into the bin, Cpl. Jerry Neufeld said.

Police booked the mail into evidence before contacting postal inspectors.

The carrier's job was terminated as a result of an investigation.

He did disclose the man was a temporary employee and a recent hire.

**PUBLIC EYE**

**Total attendance at Saturday's game against McNeese State**  
**70,656**

**TODAY**  
**AGGIELIFE**

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**Living healthy**

• Programs available on campus to inform students about staying in shape

**SPORTS**

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**Crew salvages opener**  
• Defense gave offense time to recover, win, 38-24

**OPINION**

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**Fish vs. Farmers**

• Environmentalists are placing animals before humans

**WEATHER**

**TODAY**  
30% HIGH 96° F  
LOW 76° F

**TOMORROW**  
50% HIGH 92° F  
LOW 73° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.weathermanted.com

## Rowan decision expected tonight

By ROLANDO GARCIA  
THE BATTALION

The fate of Memorial Student Center (MSC) President Josh Rowan's position was decided Sunday night at a meeting of the MSC executive committee, although the committee's recommendation will not be made public, and Rowan will be informed of the decision tonight.

If the committee recommends Rowan's removal as MSC president, the

matter will go before the MSC Council Monday. Otherwise, the case is closed.

Dr. Bill Kibler, associate vice president for student affairs, investigated allegations of misconduct by Rowan, a senior agricultural development major, on a University-sponsored trip to Italy this summer and reported his findings to MSC Director James Reynolds last week.

A special committee headed by Kate Petree, MSC executive vice president for human resources and a senior mete-

orology major, held a closed meeting Thursday to review Kibler's report and question Rowan about allegations of alcohol abuse, drug use and inappropriate sexual advances during the two-week Champe Fitzhugh Jr. International Honors Leadership Seminar, an MSC-affiliated program.

Rowan said he was questioned by the committee for two hours. He denied the most serious allegations but acknowledged some irresponsible behavior.

"The drug allegation is totally untrue," Rowan said. "The allegations of inappropriate sexual advances are not true. I'll admit, that on two occasions, I had too much to drink."

Rowan also said he suggested to the committee that a reprimand would be the most appropriate response and offered to reimburse the MSC for his cost of the Fitzhugh trip and to speak to freshmen

See ROWAN on page 5.

## Ags slip by McNeese



### Second-half comeback led by A&M defense

By TRUE BROWN  
THE BATTALION

What the Texas A&M offense gave away, the Wrecking Crew regained.

In a night that saw the Aggies lose both a fumble and an interception returned for a touchdown, it was the defense that proved to be A&M's steadying hand.

The Wrecking Crew came up with all the key plays A&M would need to squeak away with a nail-biting, come-from-behind, 38-24 win over McNeese State Saturday night.

"This showed our guys what they are capable of doing," said A&M football head coach R.C. Slocum.

On the opening drive of the game, A&M looked to be in control, driving 58 yards to the McNeese 25-yard line in just six plays. Freshman running back Keith Joseph looked impressive in his debut drive, carrying three times for 26 yards.

Then on a 3rd-and-8 from the Cowboy 25-yard line, junior quarterback Mark Farris was hit by McNeese's Ryan Garrison and fumbled. Linebacker Brad Archie recovered the fumble for the Cowboys and returned it 55 yards for a touchdown and an unexpected advantage. It was the first of four A&M fumbles, although the Aggies recovered the other three.

The point after touchdown (PAT) failed, but the Cowboys gained an early 6-0 lead.

It would get worse before it got better for the Aggies.

See MCNEESE on page 7.

## UPD cracks down

### Tickets issued for trespassers on railroad property

By AMANDA SMITH  
THE BATTALION

Students who are found trespassing on railroad property or in the designated construction zones on West Campus will be fined, according to University Police Department (UPD) officials.

Bob Wiatt, UPD director, said the Texas A&M community has become concerned for students' safety.

"There is a big concern among all of us for students' safety," Wiatt said. "Students must begin using designated areas to cross, meaning the crosswalks. Violators will be prosecuted."

Fines for crossing into construction areas range from \$350 to \$450, and violators also are subject to arrest for trespassing, Wiatt said.

Trespassing on railroad property is punishable by a fine of up to \$110. Crosswalk violations are punishable by fine of up to \$65 per violation.

Wiatt said some students have been trying to cross Wellborn Road in front of oncoming cars.

"The students have to remember to punch the crosswalk buttons for traffic lights to stop on Wellborn," he said. "We have had students running across, trying to beat oncoming cars."

UPD has been deploying officers to patrol the intersections in and around the construction area, including intersection of Old Main and Wellborn Road.

Sgt. Betty Lemay, a member of the UPD crime prevention team, said students need to remain aware of the construction.

"It is a safety concern," Lemay said. "Our students are certainly intelligent enough to handle the situation."

In a letter posted on the Parking, Traffic and Transportation Services (PTTS) Website, officials said altering Parking Area (PA) 61 to include resident parking has prompted some students to try alternative, more dangerous routes.

"In monitoring these zones along Wellborn Road, officers have noticed students ignoring the safety barrier provided by fencing the area," officials said. "PTTS officials urge students who must cross Wellborn Road to travel to and from West Campus to respect the barriers around construction areas by not climbing over or under the fencing."

For more information on parking or construction areas on campus, call 862-PARK.

## McNeese honors victims with wreath

By EMILY HENDRICKSON  
THE BATTALION

Administrators and supporters of Texas A&M and McNeese State Universities gathered in front of the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue Saturday as the McNeese Cowboy Club laid a wreath of flowers in honor of the victims of the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse.

Larry Smith, director of the McNeese club, presented the wreath and called for a moment of silence as he read the names of the Bonfire collapse victims.

Smith said he made plans to lay the wreath when the Cowboy Club realized last year that McNeese would play A&M.

"I decided that we had to do something for A&M," he said.

The wreath was made of flowers with the MSU school colors,

yellow and blue, but the flowers also represent Texas.

"We decided on yellow roses, to represent the Yellow Rose of Texas, and bluebonnets for the state flower," Smith said.

Smith is also chairman of the flower fund for deceased Cowboy Club members, and wanted to extend that tradition at A&M.

"We got a super response from A&M about laying the wreath," Smith said. "After deciding to lay the wreath, it was only a matter of where to put it. In the end, Sul Ross seemed the best place for it."

Students and family members of the victims were present at the ceremony.

"It's a nice gesture of McNeese," said Janice Kerlee, mother of Bonfire victim Timothy Kerlee Jr. Cynthia Lawson, executive

See WREATH on page 2.



PHOTOS BY STUART VILLANUEVA • THE BATTALION  
Top: Texas A&M wide receiver Terrence Murphy outjumps two McNeese State defenders to pull down a 38-yard reception in the second quarter. The catch set up the Aggies' first touchdown, and A&M went on to win, 38-24. Above: Larry Smith, a member of the McNeese State Cowboy Club, reads the names of the victims of the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse in front of the Academic Building Saturday. The Cowboy Club, a booster club for McNeese State University, presented A&M with a memorial wreath on behalf of the McNeese State campus and alumni.

## GLBTA hosts, welcomes Aggies with Q-Camp

By MELISSA SULLIVAN  
THE BATTALION

Incoming gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Aggies had the opportunity to get acquainted at Q-Camp, held Aug. 23 in the Memorial Student Center.

"This gave incoming freshmen the chance to see what is available to them and give support for those who do not know any other options, and just let them know that there are

always different people to help," said Justin Anderson, president of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Aggies (GLBTA) and a senior psychology major.

"Also, we like to welcome students who don't feel welcome and let them know they are not alone. We hope they take the information they gain and use it to their advantage to meet new friends."

The two-hour camp consisted of activities in which members learned more about each

other and different departments on campus. The campers also received folders containing information on various student groups, churches, offices and services throughout Bryan-College Station.

"We did ice breakers and had everyone talk about themselves," Anderson said. "We also had different departments talk about how they could help out, as well as watch a

See Q-CAMP on page 2.