

Texas A&M University — Celebrating 125 Years

# THE BATTALION

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

**American flags flying, nation's supply short**

(AP) — In the agonizing hours since terrorists stole thousands of lives and Americans' sense of security, one notion has been reinforced as never before: Americans have a deep-rooted, if sometimes dormant, sense of pride and patriotism. And then there's Old Glory.

As Wednesday's search and rescue effort continued amid the smoldering debris of the World Trade Center, workers said one symbol of survival helped them keep going: A flag had been planted in the rubble, "just to let them know that America's not dead," said firefighter Ronald Coyne. From the Midwest to Cajun Country, specialty shops, hardware stores, Kmart and Wal-Mart were selling out of flags.

Three were raised outside the North Dakota home of retired policeman Craig Sjoberg. Peggy Ross, a sales clerk at an Albany, N.Y., jewelry store, put them inside the windows of her shop. In Bountiful, Utah, Boy Scouts helped hang them outside of homes.

"I wish I had a truckload," said Barby Fryer, manager of the Kmart in Schenectady, N.Y., which had sold out of flags by late Wednesday morning.

Battalion readers can use the American flag on page 10 of today's newspaper to show their support.

## PUBLIC EYE

**Students enrolled in Blinn TEAM program**

**362**

## TODAY

### AGGIELIFE

**Page 3**

**Kicking off for a good cause**

• Portion of proceeds from Ag Kickoff go to Red Cross

## SPORTS

**Page 5**

**Aggies look to NFL after success at A&M**

## OPINION

**Page 9**

**Is it still child's play?**

• Danny Amonte's parents pushed their son too far

## WEATHER

**TODAY**

HIGH 92° F  
LOW 68° F

**TOMORROW**

HIGH 92° F  
LOW 68° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.weathermanted.com

# A DAY OF PRAYER

## Bush condemns attacks as first war of the 21st century

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush called the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington "the first war of the 21st century" on Thursday and his administration labeled fugitive Osama bin Laden a prime suspect. The United States promised to wage all-out retaliation against those responsible and any regime that protects them. Action could take weeks or months rather than days, a senior administration official indicated.

As part of the effort, the United States urged Pakistan to close its border with neighboring Afghanistan, where bin Laden operates, and to cut off funding for terrorist groups. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the United States also asked Pakistan for permission to fly over its territory in the event of military action.

The nation's capital remained tense two days after the attacks that leveled the World Trade Center and severely damaged the Pentagon.

Close-in Washington Reagan National Airport remained closed, indefinitely. And authorities closed all three New York area airports just hours after allowing them to reopen.

Vice President Dick Cheney was working in the security of Camp David as a precaution, administration officials said. The Secret Service widened the protective buffer around the White House and Air Force jets patrolled the skies over major U.S. cities.

The White House canceled its tour for Friday, and the Lincoln Memorial and Jefferson Memorial also were closed after being briefly reopened.

In another sign of security concerns, the Capitol was evacuated in the middle of a Senate vote Thursday evening because of a bomb threat. Members were allowed to return when bomb-sniffing dogs did not find explosives.

Meanwhile, U.S. investigators worked to identify terrorist collaborators and explored the possibility that some individuals involved in Tuesday's plots may still be at large, four U.S. officials speaking on the condition of anonymity told The Associated Press. Fresh intelligence suggested a continuing threat, the officials added.

Tears welling in his eyes, Bush spoke earlier of a need to win the battle against terrorism.

"I'm a loving guy. And I am also someone, however, who's got a job to do and I intend to do it. And this is a terrible moment,"

See WASHINGTON on page 2.

## United we stand



STUART VILLANUEVA • THE BATTALION

## Aggies unite in Peace Walk

By CHRISTINA HOFFMAN  
THE BATTALION

In the aftermath of Tuesday's terrorist attacks on the United States, Aggies united in a Peace Walk Thursday to show patriotism and support for the victims' families.

Schuyler Houser, student body president and a senior industrial engineering major, said the walk was one way for Aggies to get together and show support for the rescue workers and each other.

"We have all felt shock, fear, helplessness and anger. We can trust in our leaders, we can pray, and most importantly, we can create peace in our own community," Houser said. "Anger doesn't have a place in our community."

Archana Ramaswamy, International Student Association president and a senior accounting major, encouraged students to overlook their differences and to support each other.

"We can't forget that no matter where we're from, all the 45,000 students at



AP PHOTO • CHARLES KRUPA

**Top:** A&M students of many faiths and ethnicities, including the Muslim Students Association, march across campus in memory of the victims of Tuesday's terrorist attacks during a peace march Thursday afternoon. **Bottom:** With the Statue of Liberty standing in New York Harbor, smoke rises from lower Manhattan following the destruction of buildings at the World Trade Center in New York Wednesday. Two hijacked commercial jetliners crashed into the center's towers causing them to collapse.

Texas A&M are united by one simple fact — we are all part of a larger family, the great Aggie family," Ramaswamy said. "The goal of this walk is to show the entire nation that we walk as Aggies undivided by culture, color, or race, but united by our ideals and values."

Ramaswamy said approximately 3,500 international students, from

more than 110 different countries, attend A&M.

The Peace Walk began after Ramaswamy's speech. Houser, Ramaswamy, Oni Blair, executive director of education exploration in the Memorial Student Center (MSC) and a

See PEACE on page 7.

## Maroon is out, fans to sport USA colors

By ROLANDO GARCIA  
THE BATTALION

An email circulating throughout the Texas A&M community is asking Aggies at the Sept. 22 football game against Oklahoma State to wear red, white and blue instead of maroon to show support for America in the wake of Tuesday's terrorist attacks.

Organizers of the effort will be selling red, white and blue T-shirts next week and proceeds will be donated to funds established for the families of New York City firefighters and police officers killed in the World Trade Center collapse.

Originating from a discussion forum on TexAgs.com, the suggestion quickly spread as recipients forwarded the message to others.

"By now, I think everybody's gotten the email at least a dozen times," said Eric Bethea, an organizer of the project and a junior finance major. "The response has been overwhelming, people really want this to succeed."

The email asks fans in the first deck to wear blue, white in the second deck and red in the third deck.

See GAME on page 7.

## A&M experts analyze attack

By NONI SRIDHARA  
THE BATTALION

"Stunned", "numbed" and "confused" were the words Dr. Maggie Olona used to describe the feelings and emotions of many Aggies in the wake of Tuesday's terrorist attacks.

Olona, director of Student Counseling Service, was among a group of expert panelists who addressed students at a campus forum Thursday on issues concerning the World Trade Center-Pentagon attack.

Other members of the group included Col. Joseph R. Cerami (r), a lecturer in national security and strategy at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service; Dr. Julian E. Gaspar, director of the Center for International

Business Studies at A&M; Dr. John E. Guido, director of law enforcement and security at the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center; and Dr. Christopher Sprecher, professor of political science.

Cerami discussed the security aspect of the attacks.

"This is not only a call for leadership, but also a call for statesmanship as far as national security strategy is concerned," Cerami said. "Internally, we've had problems coordinating our efforts in the post-Cold War era."

Cerami said there are four major dimensions that need to be coordinated: the military, economics, diplomacy, and information.

"Our homeland defense will now organize vertically and

See EXPERTS on page 2.

## Albritton will toll for tragedy

In response to President George W. Bush's call for a "day of remembrance and prayer," the Albritton Bell Tower will play patriotic songs and religious hymns every hour starting at 7 a. m. today. The bell carillon will also toll four times, beginning at 7:45 a.m. for the first plane that crashed into the World Trade Center; 8:03 a.m. when the second plane crashed into the World Trade Center; 8:43 a.m., when the third plane crashed into the Pentagon and again at 9:10 a.m., when the fourth plane crashed in Pennsylvania. All times are the central time zone equivalent to the east coast events Tuesday. All Faiths Chapel will be open to the public all day.