

THE BATTALION

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Wellborn Road will be closed part of Sunday

Wellborn Road at the intersection of Joe Routh and John Kimbrough Boulevards will be closed to through traffic part of the day Sunday, Sept. 23, according to a joint announcement by the Department of Parking, Traffic and Transportation Services (PTTS), the Texas Department of Transportation and the city of College Station.

The purpose of the closure is the removal of the pedestrian walkway—the "rainbow bridge"—that is constructed over Wellborn Road and the Union Pacific Railroad track at the intersection. The removal is part of the construction of an underground passage-way that will replace the walkway when completed.

Both Wellborn Road and the Union Pacific track will be closed from George Bush Drive to Old Main Drive at about 11:30 a.m. and will remain closed for an estimated four hours to accommodate the walkway removal. Officials encourage individuals traveling in this vicinity to avoid Wellborn Road.

PUBLIC EYE

Percent of Texas population under 18 years old for 2000

28.2

TODAY

AGGIELIFE

Page 1B

Know how to party — safely

• Tips on how to be safe when out in College Station

SPORTS

Page 3A

Ags open fall slate Saturday

• Softball to participate in Spring-Klein College Classic

OPINION

Page 7B

Mother nature or a mother's nature?

• Pro-Con: Senator's decision to adopt a child

WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 94° F
LOW 73° F

TOMORROW

HIGH 93° F
LOW 73° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.weathermanted.com

Attacks impact A&M-OSU game

T-shirts pulled from store racks, all benefits to aid tragedy victims

By ROLANDO GARCIA
THE BATTALION

Competition for the dollars of patriotic Aggies dissipated Wednesday as local clothing retailers deferred to the on-campus Red, White and Blue volunteers, even as the group temporarily ran out of its "Standing for America" T-shirts.

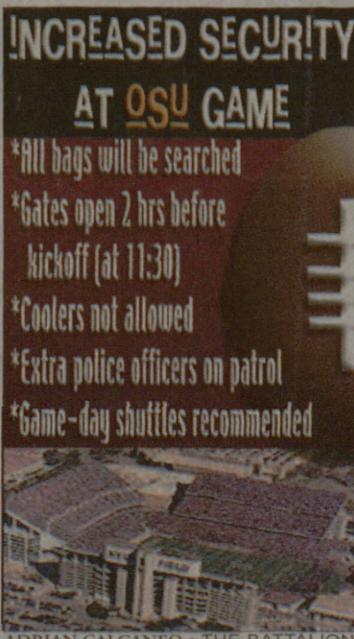
A group of students are urging fans to wear red, white and blue T-shirts to the football game Saturday, with the proceeds of the T-shirt sales going to help the families of firefighters and policemen killed during last week's terrorist attacks in New

York City and Washington, D.C. Fadi Kalouze, owner of AggieLand Outfitters and Inspirations, said he pulled his red, white and blue T-shirts from his store racks Wednesday to avoid competing with the Red, White and Blue Out effort. He also offered to let the student volunteers sell their shirts from his businesses, which are located in Post Oak Mall.

"As soon as I found out there was a student organization that was pushing this to raise money for charity, I stopped selling the T-shirts," Kalouze said.

Eric Bethea, a Red, White

See T-SHIRTS on page 6A.



UPD will increase officers, security at Kyle Field Saturday

By AMANDA SMITH
THE BATTALION

The terrorist attacks on America last week have led officials nationwide to improve security, even at Saturday's football game against Oklahoma State University, according to University Police Department (UPD) officials.

Bob Wiatt, the director of UPD, said there will be increased security measures taken at Saturday's game.

"We will have increased uniformed police and security officers," Wiatt said. "We are all on the lookout for any suspicious activity, although we anticipate

things will continue to run smoothly. Like all events throughout the country, there is that speculation and concern and so we are beefing up security."

Wiatt said he could not release the number of uniformed officers at the game, but said the increase will be measurable, with officers from UPD and Bryan and College Station police departments.

Game attendees will be allowed to carry in backpacks, but the contents of all bags carried in to the stadium will be checked. Coolers will not be allowed in the stadium.

See SECURITY on page 2A.

Reserves called to action

By SOMMER BUNCE
THE BATTALION

Several Texas A&M students have been called to duty in the U.S. armed forces, and more are expected to be placed on active duty in the wake of last week's terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C.

A "handful" of Corps of Cadets members belong to the armed forces special and reserve services, said Corps public relations officer Trevor Voelkel, a senior finance major. Some of those student reservists have been called to active duty, Voelkel said.

Junior biomedical sciences major Kevin Nail was placed on active standby last week and spent the weekend at his post at the Port of Houston United States Coast Guard. On Tuesday, Nail received orders to check out of college and report for active duty, his mother, Sandy, said.

"All we know is that he is defending the coast," Sandy Nail said. "When he enlisted, he told me, 'Oh mom, a war won't break out,' but you just can't predict when troops will be needed."

Sandy Nail believes her son was the first to withdraw from classes on Tuesday. She said he was sent to the registrar's office, and then to the dean of his college, and back and forth again before he was able to withdraw and receive promise of a partial refund.

"It was like they hadn't had to deal with someone being called to duty before," Sandy Nail said.

"Being called has really put a kink in his plans, but we hope he can go back at mid-semester."

Mark Weichold, associate provost for undergraduate programs, sent an email to faculty members telling them where to direct students called to duty. Students should withdraw through their department's dean's office, Weichold said, opting for either a "no-record drop" with a refund of tuition or opting to receive incompletes in each of their classes, allowing students to finish coursework the next semester they return to campus.

Both options allow for a certain amount of the optional fees such as residence hall rent, meal plans and football tickets to be returned to the student, depending on how long they attended classes or used their options during the semester, Weichold said.

"This call-up has already affected our campus with a number of our students having received their order to report for active duty," said a memorandum emailed by Director of Administrative Services Nancy Sawtelle. "This call-up will likely affect students at all ranks ... undergraduate, graduate and professional."

See RESERVES on page 8A.

Change for relief



Katie Serice, a freshman industrial studies major, drops change into collection buckets set up by the All-University League to raise money for the New York Relief Fund, in front of the Academic Building Wednesday.

Aggieland highlights, focuses on life after tragedy

By GISELLE WALLACE
THE BATTALION

The wait is over for those who ordered the 2001-2002 AggieLand, Texas A&M's yearbook, which will be available Friday.

"Horizons" is the inspiring theme for this year's AggieLand, highlighting life and hope for the future even after tragedy has taken place, said Jon Niven, the book's editor in chief and a senior journalism major.

"There will be a two-page layout distributed to the Bonfire anniversary and the Memorial Student Center's (MSC) anniversary," Niven said.

The AggieLand is the second-largest yearbook in the nation (the yearbook of the Naval Academy is the largest). In 1976, AggieLand was the largest yearbook in print history, containing 896 pages and weighing

10 pounds. That year, the AggieLand celebrated a century of A&M history.

"This is Texas A&M University's 99th edition of the AggieLand," said Tamara Adams, a junior economics major and editor in chief of the AggieLand. "The alumni of the school take great pride in purchasing the AggieLand every year."

The AggieLand portrays life at A&M in all its aspects by recording events that took place on and off campus for the year and by reporting incidents whether they were joyous or horrendous, Adams said.

"As a photographer, I take pride in capturing the images throughout the year of Aggie life, and it includes Greek life, sports, academics, Corps of Cadets and events such as concerts," said Carin Vadala, photo editor for the AggieLand and a senior wildlife and fisheries major.

The AggieLand is diverse in its nature,

covering every event that surfaces for the year; therefore, it takes numerous members to contribute to the yearbook with dedication and commitment, Niven said.

"It was a very trying year, but with the support of a great staff with fresh ideas and different perspectives about A&M, it has made the experience working on the AggieLand a good one," Niven said.

The AggieLand was nominated this year for the Pacemaker Award, the most prestigious yearbook honor in the nation.

"The overall appearance and layout of the book, including designs, photographs, etc. are reviewed to determine how good our yearbook is," Vadala said.

AggieLand yearbooks will be distributed starting Friday, Sept. 21, 2001, at the Reed McDonald Building from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tables will be displayed near room 015 in the basement.

Sikhism a target of anger

Blamed on mistaken identity

By MAUREEN KANE
THE BATTALION

Images of Osama bin Laden have become a familiar sight to many people around the world since last week's terrorist attacks on the United States. Photographed wearing a turban and long beard, bin Laden has come to symbolize terrorism for many people in the United States — but according to Dr. Chenan Singh, head of the electrical engineering department, this conception is wrong.

Singh said that men who are part of an Indian religion called Sikhism are becoming targets of retaliation for the attacks because they wear turbans and long beards that resemble those of bin Laden and other Muslims.

Sikhism is very different from Islam, and Sikhs disagree with the actions of bin Laden, he said.

"The ironic thing is that if you see (someone) wearing a turban or having a beard in the U.S.A. or western countries, he is almost for sure going to be a Sikh and not a Muslim," Singh said. "Muslims don't wear a turban outside of their native countries. Only Sikhs do because it is part of their religion."

Although he has not experienced any problems, Singh said he is aware that the threat of violence from individuals who are unaware of the difference between Sikhs and Muslims.

See SIKHS on page 8A.