

# THE BATTALION

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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Bryan awards pay raise to police training officers**

Bryan Police Chief Ken Burton said field training officers have a difficult job within the police force and now the City of Bryan is listening to Burton.

The city agreed on a 100 percent raise for the training officers last week that will bring their pay to \$20 per hour of training.

Burton said the department did a report on the wages of field training officers throughout Texas and found that Bryan was significantly underpaying its officials.

**Architects begin planning for new exposition center**

Planning for the Brazos County Exposition Center is underway.

The \$18.5 million facility was narrowly approved by Brazos County voters last November. Brazos County Commissioners will hold a public hearing to determine what facilities would best serve the communities involved.

The architect for the center has already included a 6,000-seat arena, livestock stables and facilities for automobile shows.

"People will be able to talk with our architect about what they would like to see us accommodate in the new facility," said County Judge Al Jones.

**PUBLIC EYE**

**West Campus Parking Garage and passageway project estimate \$39.9 million**

**TODAY**

**AGGIELIFE**

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**Make room for Mayer**

• John Mayer talks about his new release

**SPORTS**

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**A&M survives again, 24-21**

• Farmer helps Aggies squeak by Cyclones

**OPINION**

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**Speeding toward a bad policy**

• City of Houston should not lower speed limit to 55

**WEATHER**

**TODAY**

HIGH 75° F  
LOW 45° F

**TOMORROW**

HIGH 77° F  
LOW 49° F

FORECASTS COURTESY OF www.weathermanted.com

## Top 10 percent may become top 25 for some

### Regents consider extending automatic admission to more incoming freshmen

By SOMMER BUNCE  
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M officials are considering automatic admission for the top 25 percent of students from economically disadvantaged high schools.

The plan, which was presented to the A&M Board of Regents Friday, could potentially increase minority enrollment without violating the mandate of the 1996 Hopwood decision, which prohibits public universities from considering race during admissions. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the decision earlier this year.

In a previous meeting, the Board asked A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen to explore ways to increase ethnic diversity at A&M.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) identified 253 economically disadvantaged schools, mostly in rural and inner-city areas of the state, that A&M considers target schools, said Joe Estrada, assistant provost for enrollment.

"They need our attention," Estrada said. "Applications for admission from those target schools have been small or have been none at all."

The retention rate for students from target schools, despite concerns that

such students may not be as academically prepared, has proven to be higher than those from non-target schools, Estrada said. In a preliminary study, Estrada found that overall retention from freshman to sophomore years was 90 percent for students from target schools, compared to 89 percent of non-target students. The trend continued in ethnic breakdowns, Estrada said, with higher retention for students from the TEA-identified areas.

"What this says is that if we get the students here on campus, they're going to stay," Estrada said. "If we were worrying

See REGENTS on page 2.

**Undergraduate Resident Tuition & Fees (yearly)**

**TOP 5 OF THE BIG 12**

RANK	INSTITUTION	COST
1	BAYLOR	\$13,304
2	MISSOURI	\$4,887
TAMU (if fee approved for incoming students) \$4,622		
3	UT-AUSTIN	\$3,766
4	TAMU Current Students	\$3,722
5	NEBRASKA	\$3,522

Source: Office of the President CHAD MALLAM • THE BATTALION

### Stabbed



GUY ROGERS • THE BATTALION

Christopher Hall, singer for alternative band Stabbing Westward, performs at Reed Arena Sunday. The act was the final performance of a

six-band fundraiser concert for designated-driver program Caring Aggies R Protecting Over Our Lives (CARPOOL).

## Like father, like son

### Baker: Bush faces his father's problems

By ROB PHILLIPS  
THE BATTALION

With America embroiled in a military conflict and attempting to stitch together an international coalition that includes Arab nations, President George W. Bush faces many of the same challenges his father confronted in the Gulf War crisis, former Secretary of State James Baker said in a speech at Texas A&M Friday.

"In an ironic twist of history, President George W. Bush has done what his father did — assemble an international coalition to fight a common enemy, this time terrorism," Baker said.

Baker's speech, titled "Diplomacy and Coalition Building in the Gulf War — Lessons Learned," discussed the United States' military and diplomatic success under the leadership of former President George Bush and Baker's duties as secretary of state during that period. Baker cited similarities between father and son in their response to America's two most recent foreign policy crises.

Similar to America's war on terrorism, Baker said the Gulf War was a fight against a foreign enemy posing a threat to the world and a war in which an international coalition was needed to be successful. In response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, America's two diplomatic goals were to avoid further war if possible and to prepare for war if necessary. Former President Bush called for complete withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait but saw force as a last resort.

"If we had prepared for war without trying first to avoid that war, we would never have been able to build a strong coalition that we ultimately were able to form," Baker said.

Much like President George W. Bush's efforts to deal with the Taliban, Baker said the elder Bush believed support from the United Nations was necessary to "isolate Saddam Hussein as a

rogue standing against the entire civilized world and not just against the United States."

Baker said he began traveling across the world "with a tin cup in hand," enlisting the help of other countries and closing deals the president had negotiated. Hussein was negotiating with Arab countries as well, offering bribes and calling the conflict a holy war between Islam and the West. The United States is now experiencing the same difficulty from Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida, Baker said.

"It's a lot easier to generate support against the West or the United States of America if we're out there without having a broad-based coalition that ended up containing Arab countries," Baker said. "That task was made easy by the rightness of our cause."

Baker said the United States made a mistake by not clamping down on Hussein after the war, but he was emphatic in stating that "we absolutely did not" end the war prematurely.

"Measured by its own terms, our Gulf War diplomacy was a success," Baker said. "It created the coalition that in turn won the war and achieved the objectives that President Bush first outlined only seven months before."

Baker said he sees President George W. Bush's task as easier than his father's in one sense, but possibly more difficult in another. Unlike the Gulf War, President Bush has widespread domestic support at the moment, but keeping the coalition together over a longer period than the seven-month Gulf crisis may be difficult, Baker said.

Baker also said that in the Gulf War, the United States had a clear enemy and objective: expulsion of Iraq from Kuwait. The war on terrorism involves a system of elusive international terrorists spread across dozens of countries, Baker said.

"Today, like his father, our current president, Number 43, knows what to do and he is doing it," Baker said.

## United Airlines CEO resigns

CHICAGO (AP) — United Airlines chief executive James Goodwin resigned Sunday, saying it was time "for a new leader to guide the organization" which has struggled financially and laid off a fifth of its workforce since Sept. 11.

The company's board of directors unanimously elected John W. Creighton as Goodwin's replacement.

Creighton, who has been a member of UAL's board of directors since 1998, he served as president and chief executive officer of Weyerhaeuser Company from 1991 through 1997.

"Our immediate goal is to restore United's financial stability," Creighton said in a statement. "We intend to work hand-in-hand with our employees and unions to accomplish this task."

Goodwin's resignation came two weeks ago after a letter he wrote to employees was made public. In it, he predicted the troubled airline could perish unless its fortunes were reversed. Two unions representing United employees have called for Goodwin's resignation.

Union leaders accused Goodwin of panicking customers and workers unjustifiably with the letter. They claimed his remarks

were made to get contracted employees to agree to lower wages, gain negotiating leverage or get more government assistance.

In a statement released Sunday, Goodwin said he was "proud to have contributed to the tremendous growth of United during my 34 years. ... United is a great company and it is the right time for a new leader to guide the organization through the challenges that lie ahead."

United already was in deep trouble before Sept. 11, suffering severely from the downturn in business travel, which it depends on more heavily than other airlines. Adding to its woes were the highest costs of any major U.S. carrier, including steep labor expenses.

The airline has laid off about 20,000 of its 100,000 employees since the attacks caused a dropoff in air travel. It also is trimming its daily schedule to 1,654 flights as of Oct. 31, down about 30 percent since the attacks.

The Elk Grove Village, Ill.-based airline lost more than \$700 million in the first half of the year — including as much as \$116 million from the failed merger with US Airways which Goodwin proposed last year.

United was surpassed by American Airlines this year as the biggest U.S. airline.



GUY ROGERS • THE BATTALION

James Baker III, 61st secretary of state, spoke Friday at the George Bush Presidential Library Complex. Baker served as Bush's secretary of state.