

# Campus

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THE BATTALION

Friday, November 16, 2001

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**Fish** by R. DeLuna

WHAT THE-?? IS THAT GUY RUNNING ON THE TRACK WITH NO SHOES ON?

YA KNOW, THEY MAKE RUNNING SHOES FOR THAT. I KNOW HE'S GOTTA HAVE SOME. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY BOTHERS ME?

PEOPLE ALREADY THINK EVERYONE AT A&M IS A COUNTRY BUMPKIN WITHOUT SOME FARM BOY PERPETUATING THE MYTH!

I MEAN, YOU GUYS WOULD TELL ME IF I EVER DID SOMETHING LIKE THAT, RIGHT? MOO

**MANUMATION** MATT

I HEARD YOU PULLED TICKETS TO THE A&M/TECH BASKETBALL GAME.

HECK YEAH!

WHY? COACH BOBBY KNIGHT IS COMIN' DOW, AND THAT'S THE MOST ACTION A&M BASKETBALL HAS EVER SEEN!

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Bonfire fund still accepting donations**

An endowment fund established before the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse to provide a self-sustaining source of money for future Bonfires currently is dormant but still accepting gifts.

A&M Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. J. Malon Southerland said the fund, managed by the A&M Foundation, has about \$300,000. The original goal was a \$1-million endowment, Southerland said, but since the collapse, active fundraising has been on hold. Those wishing to make a donation may write a check to the A&M Foundation with "Bonfire Endowment Fund" in the memo line.

A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen is expected to decide in January whether there will be a Bonfire next year. Recently, Bowen said the \$1.5-million price tag of Bonfire 2002 may be too costly and may force the University to end the tradition. If Bonfire is held next year, the University will pay for it from its reserve fund, Bowen said, but other sources of funding will have to be found for future Bonfires.

If Bowen approves Bonfire 2002, Southerland said he would likely begin a fundraising campaign for the endowment fund. About 5 percent of an endowment fund's principle is spent, Southerland said.

**FAMILIES**

*Continued from Page 1*

three lawsuits in progress against several University administrators who some families say are liable for the deaths.

"I still don't think ignoring [the collapse] will make it go away," Kerlee said.

The family of 1997 graduate and 1999 Aggie Bonfire victim Christopher Breen filed suit against University administrators in October, claiming Chris Breen and 11 other Aggies died on University ground doing something for the University's students, wanting someone to "take responsibility," said Breen attorney Steve DeWolf.

When Sean Breen, Christopher Breen's brother, heard the University was not going to hold a memorial event on Nov. 18, he said he was more than disappointed.

"I've given up trying to figure out why the University does what it does," he said.

Both the Breens and Kerlees said they will have personal memorials.

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For more information, contact your NSEP campus representative  
Kathleen Murray (kmurray@ipomail.tamu.edu)

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**OFF CAMPUS** *Continued from Page 1*

Nobody was ever allowed to go off on their own, and a single person has been taken through classes to teach proper cut and wiring practices.

"Except, unlike in other people, paid attention learned," he said.

Jackson said leaders take on the traditional title of "boss."

"Those with experience building took on the leadership roles," he said. "I was all helping each other."

Those who planned the stack, along with friends and families, were the only individuals to watch the logs burn.

Houser expressed concern for student safety and lack of opportunity for students to participate in the traditional role of Aggie Bonfire campus unity.

"It's not an event that like it's open to A&M students the Aggies' community," he said. "I really can't understand what this group's motivation is to tell people about it but then not invite them to make me nervous that they would open themselves to a situation that could harm students."

Dr. Malon J. Southerland, vice president for student affairs, said A&M administrators did not confirm the validity of off-campus Bonfire.

"We have not received any from a student or a staff member about a bonfire," Southerland said. "You have heard from a student about a bonfire, but really respond to that."

Jackson said the clanking stack is still representative of Bonfires that have burned traditionally the night before a football game against the University of Texas-Austin.

"I don't know the definition of a renegade fire, but this was built by all Aggie Jackson said. "Just because off campus doesn't mean an Aggie Bonfire."

**THE BATTALION**

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