

MADD



BRIAN RUFF • THE BATTALION

Senior journalism major **James Andersen** hands out a T-shirt to College Station resident **April Wilson** outside of the Shoe Carnival in College Station. **Wilson** won the shirt after spinning a prize wheel set up by the Brazos Valley Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). The organization, along with Loupot's bookstore, provided free drinks and food to shoppers.

More time may be needed to settle on plan for WTC site

NEW YORK (AP) — Stung by criticism that the initial six proposals for redeveloping the World Trade Center are too commercial, the officials charged with rebuilding the site say they may extend the timeline for selecting a final plan.

"The goal is to get it right," Matthew Higgins, a spokesman for the Lower Manhattan Development Corp., said Sunday. "Now that we've received public input we have to evaluate how to refine the plans to better reflect what people hope to see in Lower Manhattan."

Many of the 4,000 people who attended a town hall meeting Saturday expressed dissatisfaction with the six plans released last week.

"They're getting too restrictive too soon," said Priya Matthew, of Harrison, N.J. "We're going to end up with something very mediocre."

Such comments echoed the views of critics in the architecture and design community.

"It is rather like taking the

downtown skyline of some average American burg and plopping it in one of the most prominent and symbolically important sites of our times," The Washington Post's architecture critic Benjamin Forgey.

Each plan for the 16-acre site includes a memorial to the victims of the Sept. 11 attack plus 11 million square feet of office space and 600,000 square feet each of retail and hotel space to replace the lost space.

Officials from the development corporation and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns the land, had earlier insisted that such intensive commercial development was dictated by the terms of the Port Authority's lease with developer Larry Silverstein and his partner, mall operator Westfield America.

But Port Authority Executive Director Joseph Seymour said Saturday that the agency would re-examine its agreement.

"Larry Silverstein has a leasehold interest on the site that

requires him to build what was there," Seymour said. "We all know that's impractical for many reasons. It means there has to be a negotiation, but now is not the time to do that."

Robert Yaro, the president of the Regional Plan Association, said, "I think we got a resounding sense that the Port Authority program has to go. ... I understand that they've got a lease, but we've got to work with them to renegotiate that lease."

The development corporation and the Port Authority had set a deadline of September for narrowing the six plans to three and a final deadline of December for choosing a single land-use plan. Those dates may now be pushed back.

"We have to see if that next phase of the timeline is realistic," said Louis Tomson, the president and executive director of the development corporation. "We have to make this work, and if it takes a month or two in a different direction, then it takes a month more, or two or three."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fire in Lima night club kills at least 25

LIMA, Peru (AP) — At least 25 people died and 100 were injured Saturday in a blaze started by bartenders who were doing tricks with fire at an upscale night club in Lima that was not licensed to operate. Customers fueled the fire by trying to put out the flames with their drinks.

A lion and tiger — part of a show that included live animals in cages — were also killed. The fire, coming just months after a far deadlier blaze that consumed a large part of the city,

prompted calls for a crackdown on businesses that disregard safety regulations, a common practice in Peru. As well as not having a permit, the disco violated several fire safety regulations.

The fire broke out about 3 a.m. in the Utopia, a multilevel night club in a shopping mall in the upscale district of Surco, in southeastern Lima. Witnesses said the club was packed at the time.

Six killed in crash

LONGVIEW, Texas (AP) — Six people were killed Sunday evening in an Interstate 20 accident involving a tractor-trailer rig and two other vehicles, a

Department of Public Safety dispatcher said.

The accident occurred about 6 p.m. on a stretch of I-20 near Longview in Gregg County, said John Pittmon, a DPS dispatcher in Tyler.

Pittmon said the six killed all were in the same vehicle.

No other information was immediately available. Pittmon said officers were still at the scene gathering details.

Traffic in both directions was being routed around the scene of the accident, Pittmon said.

At least 32 people have been killed this year in accidents along I-20, a major east-west artery across Texas.

Investigators probe link between pipe bomb blast, disappearance

DALLAS (AP) — Investigators are trying to determine if there is a link between a pipe bomb blast that injured the son of a Washington, D.C., businessman and the disappearance of the victims stepbrother, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The missing stepbrother, Prescott W. "Scott" Sigmund, 34, had been having financial problems and argued with his father over a large credit card bill, *The Dallas Morning News* reported.

Authorities have not declared Sigmund a suspect in the July 12 blast that critically injured Wright Sigmund, 21, and have theorized the bomb was meant for the victim's father, insurance broker Donald Sigmund.

The bomb detonated in the underground parking garage at Sigmund's company, Wolf &

Cohen Financial Services. Wright Sigmund remained in critical condition Sunday at a Washington, D.C., hospital.

Also Sunday, police reported that Scott Sigmund's black BMW was found at the Vienna, Va., Metro Station. Federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents were planning to examine it.

Family members in Dallas said he disappeared one day before he was to have taken a police polygraph. But they contend the stepbrothers had a good relationship.

Federal agents and local police removed a computer and boxes of documents from Scott Sigmund's Maryland home Wednesday, looking for letters or e-mails that might yield clues to his whereabouts.

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