

AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

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When the game's away...

When the Aggie football team plays out of town, students get creative

By Nishat Fatima
THE BATTALION

Erin Wiedower may be a loyal fan of Aggie football, but that doesn't mean she is at a loss for things to do when the Aggies play out of town.

"A lot of people tend to think that when there isn't a football game, Aggieland has nothing else to do," said Wiedower, a freshman wildlife and fisheries science major. "Once you live in College Station, you know that's not true at all."

On weekends when the Aggie football team has an away game, students can enjoy alternative ways to spend their two days off from school. While most weekend activities may revolve around football, some people prefer plans with a little more variety.

"The matter of finding out what's going on where can be difficult sometimes, but it's definitely worth it," Wiedower said. "I went to the Kappa Comedy Jam recently, and it was great."

Going to the movie theater is tops on a lot of peoples' to-do lists for weekend fun.

"I love watching movies on the weekends because they reduce my stress and help me relax," Wiedower said. "A good movie can almost have a therapeutic affect when you are in college, because it can briefly make you forget academics."

Sometimes when funds are short, Wiedower said she opts for the cheap alternative to the theater and rents a movie to watch at home.

"A lot of times, I get together with my friends and we go pick up a movie or two from Blockbuster," Wiedower said. "It saves all of us money, and it is more comfortable to watch a movie at your place or at a friend's rather than go to the theater. It also gives us a chance to catch up with the movies that we may have missed seeing at the cinema."

Marcus Adam James, a sophomore agricultural business major, said even when there is an away game, he still watches Aggie football.

"I have a house in Bryan, and I invite a lot of my friends over to watch the game," James said. "We also like to go to Wings 'n' More and watch the game there, because they have great

food and a great atmosphere."

James said he loves to sleep late on the weekends when there is an away game.

"I don't get much sleep during the week," he said. "You can relax and take your time to get up and watch the game at your own convenience."

Besides watching the game with friends and sleeping, James said there is plenty of nightlife in College Station to keep his weekends interesting.

"There are always live concerts going on at Northgate. They are always a lot of fun and the prices are very reasonable," James said. "Sometimes when it gets late and everything closes up, I tend to loiter around campus with

my friends and jump in the ponds and fountains. It's actually a lot of fun and it's absolutely free."

For Saima Baig, a senior environmental biology major, the open weekend is a time to catch up on activities she misses during the week. The Student Recreation Center and the mall are some of the places she visits during weekends of an away game.

"I relish the free time I get on the weekends because I love going to the Rec Center, but can't find time to during the week," she said. "I also like to play sports like badminton with my friends. It's great stress relief and I can also get a good work out."

Baig said the mall can provide a welcome release.

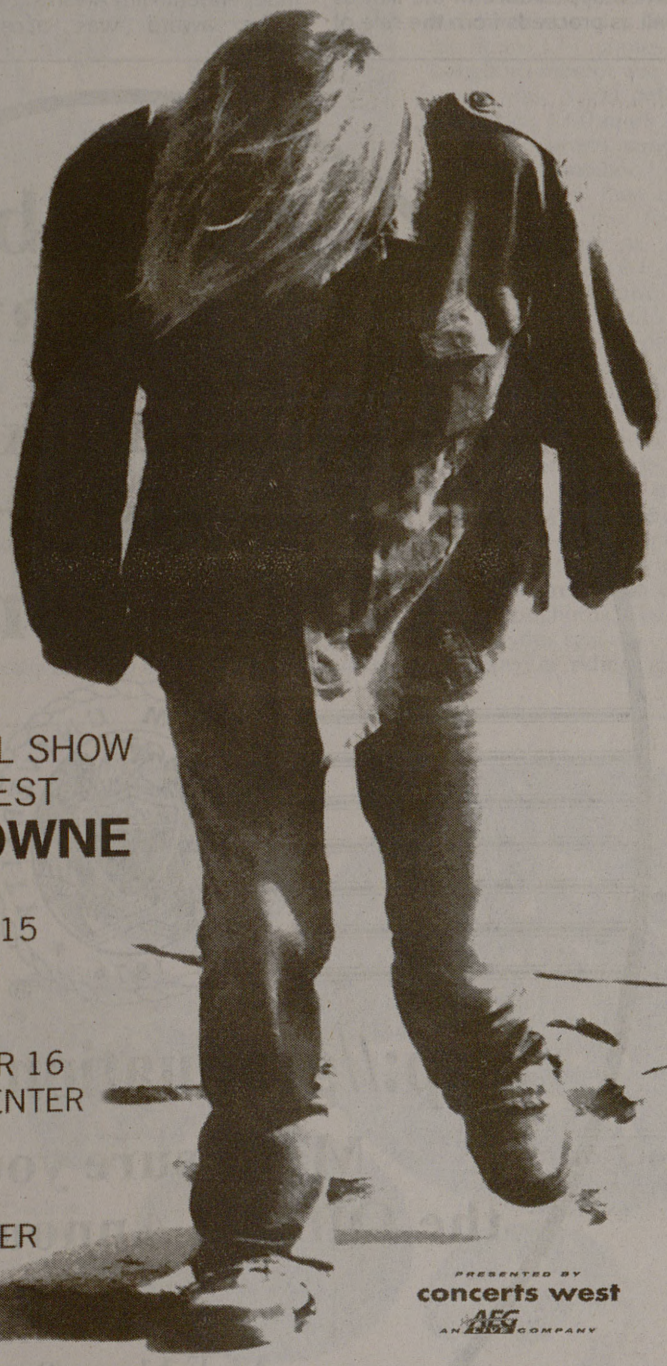
"I know it sounds old, but going to the mall and shopping, browsing and just hanging out can be a lot of fun," she said. "On a lot of occasions, hours pass by before my friends and I had realized what time it was."

Wiedower said even though she likes organized outings when she gets together with her friends on the weekends, the spontaneous and random plans are the best kind. "Sometimes the best thing to do is to get together with your friends and just see what happens," she said. "It's great when you are spending time with a gang of your pals, and you don't know what will happen next or what to expect."



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