

# AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

Page 3 • Tuesday, November 5, 2001

## 30K and counting

### Student organization CARPOOL celebrates providing its 30,000th ride

By Denise Schoppe  
THE BATTALION

For the past three years, CARPOOL (Caring Aggies 'R' Protecting Over Our Lives) has provided safe transportation for thousands of students. Now it has something new to celebrate – its 30,000th ride last Thursday, Oct. 31.

Rachel Hollon, one of the CARPOOL members who provided the 30,000th ride, said the ride marked a milestone for the organization.

"We were screaming and honking," said Hollon, a junior journalism major. "Our heads felt like they were about to explode."

Hollon said unique circumstances created the milestone ride.

"The funny story about the ride is that it literally went from one person to two people," Hollon said. "The boyfriend decided he wanted to go with the girl (who called CARPOOL to give her a ride). Then, the girl forgot her keys in the bar so we had to wait, like, ten minutes for her."

Hollon said she and her CARPOOL partner, Derek Clark, a junior industrial distribution major, were feeling impatient about the wait because they wanted to be the ones to give the 30,000th ride.

"Had it not been for her forgetting the keys, we'd have never reached that number," Hollon said.

Clark said the celebration continued even after he and Hollon had safely driven the passengers to their destination.

"When we came in (to the CARPOOL headquarters) other CARPOOL members threw confetti on us and gave us a pin," Clark said. "I think (the pin) was supposed to be for a 30th birthday, but they made it say '30K' instead."

Greg Stanley, CARPOOL director and a senior biomedical engineering major, said reaching the 30,000th ride has boosted morale within the entire organization.

"Our (members) do a good job, but this gives us motivation to keep going," Stanley said. "We can just keep heading into the future knowing that people are using our service."

Stanley said the organization has set a goal to provide 40,000 rides by the end of the Spring 2003 semester.

Stanley said CARPOOL will be working with the industrial engineering department in the spring to improve the organization's speed and efficiency in providing rides.



ALISSA HOLIMON • THE BATTALION

CARPOOL celebrates its 30,000th call after a countdown at its headquarters Thursday, Oct. 31. CARPOOL joined other "safe ride" organizations – including the Watchdogs, the STRIPES and SWAT for the first semi-annual Safe Ride Programs United Conference on Nov. 1 and 2.

"A lot of people cancel a ride because they've been waiting a long time," Stanley said. "Ultimately, we just try to get there as fast as we can to make sure they don't need to get a different ride."

Stanley said that during away games, some of CARPOOL's best patrons are from out of town.

"People who come to support their team will see the 'hershels' (CARPOOL members) out walking around Northgate and they'll be like, 'What are ya'll doing?' because no one wears a

bright green T-shirt to a bar," Stanley said. "They think it's a great thing and they are usually the best tippers."

In addition to providing thousands of rides, CARPOOL has influenced other college campuses to start their own "safe ride" organizations. On Nov. 1 and 2, spin-off organizations of CARPOOL – including Watchdogs (from the University of Georgia), STRIPES (from the University of Missouri) and SWAT (from Southwest Texas University) – joined CARPOOL

for the first semi-annual Safe Ride Programs United Conference.

"It's really weird meeting all these people (from different 'safe ride' organizations)," said Ben Tisdale, executive director of Watchdogs. "It's like a parallel universe, because we have the same personalities."

Clark said the similarities extend to the organizations.

"(The other 'safe ride' organizations are the same as us. They love to help others out."

#### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

#### The Osbournes to host music awards show live on ABC

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Osbournes may have to stay on their toes when Ozzy Osbourne and his family host the 30th annual American Music Awards.

The three-hour special is scheduled to air live on ABC, starting at 8 p.m. EST Jan. 13.

"I can't wait to see what Ozzy and the rest of the family have in store for us, and I know the ABC-TV censor is already having dreams, or should I say nightmares, about their live ad-libs," executive producer Dick Clark said Monday.

The heavy-metal icon, his wife, Sharon, and two of their three children are notorious for their pro-



OSBOURNE

fanity-laced misadventures on the reality show "The Osbournes." The second season of the MTV series begins Nov. 26.

The American Music Awards are given based on votes from the public in 21 categories, including favorite male and female artist, favorite soundtrack and Internet artist of the year.

#### O'Donnell defends entrepreneur Martha Stewart in stock scandal

RADNOR, Pa. (AP) — Rosie O'Donnell said that if she still had her talk show, she would use it as a forum to defend Martha Stewart.

"I'd be singing Martha Stewart a love song every day. I want every housewife in America to band together and refuse to let them tear down one of the most successful female entrepreneurs in our country's history," she says.

O'Donnell said her fans shouldn't worry about her because she gave up her show and magazine.

"I had to let go to remember why I started doing this," O'Donnell says in the Nov. 9 issue of TV Guide. "The deification was pretty intense. You lose your perspective."

O'Donnell's next endeavor is producing the musical "Taboo" on Broadway. The show is about the life of Boy George.

#### First Lady celebrates birthday and 25th wedding anniversary

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (AP) — There may be no worse timing for a political spouse than to have an early November birthday — that annual day in the sun is guaranteed to be overshadowed by the need to hustle for votes on Election Day. This year,

Laura Bush may have it worst of all.

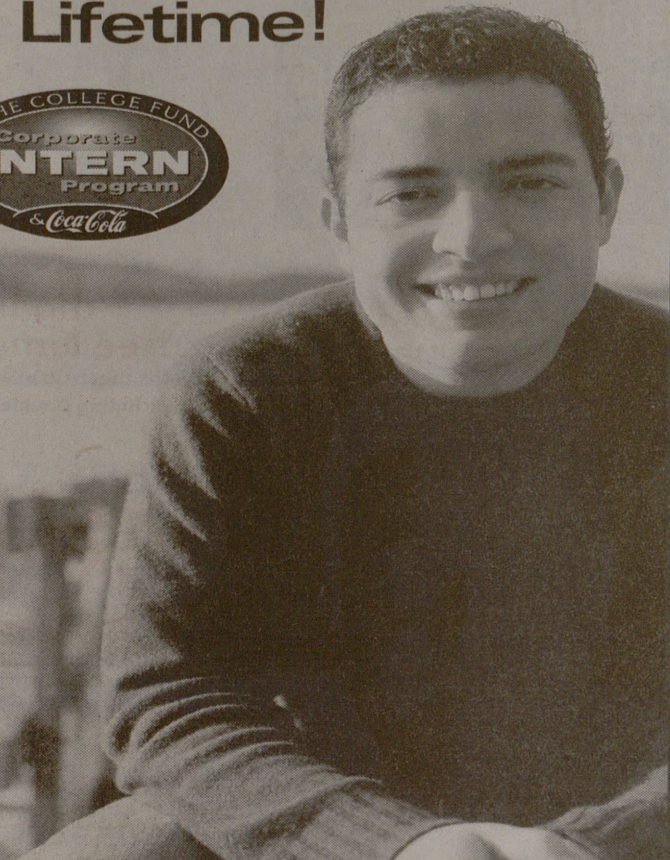
The first lady turned 56 on Monday, one day ahead of Tuesday's voting. And her 25th wedding anniversary with President Bush falls on Election Day.

With so much of her husband's attention riveted toward the outcome of the midterm elections, there's not much time left for special observances.

Over the weekend, the couple kept separate campaign schedules. They finally merged their itineraries Sunday evening in South Dakota — where the president, 56, beamed at her from the podium and informed his audience that his wife would be a year older the next day.

"I thought it would be wise to hook up with Laura the day before her birthday," Bush said, prompting hearty laughter and a spirited rendition of "Happy Birthday" from the crowd.

## Money for College, Experience of a Lifetime!



- a \$10,000 scholarship (based on successful internship performance)
- a \$2,500 monthly based internship salary
- housing accommodations in Atlanta
- round-trip transportation to and from Atlanta (point of origin and return; international travel will not be provided)
- local transportation to and from your internship site
- applicants must meet all eligibility requirements

For more program details:

Toll free: 1-866-671-7237

[www.uncf.org](http://www.uncf.org)

[www.coca-colaoncampus.com](http://www.coca-colaoncampus.com)

**Application Deadline: December 16, 2002**

© 2002 The Coca-Cola Company. "Coca-Cola" is a registered trademark of The Coca-Cola Company. UNCF's name and logo are registered servicemarks of the United Negro College Fund, Inc.

## Bryan STUDENT SPECIAL!

Golf Course

Present your student I.D. and receive a **Greenfee** and cart for just \$15.75. Must present this ad.

206 West Villa Maria • 823-0126

This offer is good after 2:00 p.m. on Monday thru Thursday.

Student rates available on weekends after 10:00 a.m.



American Golf Corporation

## South Africa

Study Abroad in one of the most diverse & attractive tourist destinations in Africa!

Informational Meetings:

Wed, Nov. 6, 12 noon-1 pm  
Friday, Nov. 8, 12 noon-1 pm

Animal Industries Bldg.  
Annex, ANIN 103 A



Open to all Majors - Limited Spaces Available!

Join Dr. Urs Kreuter as he takes you from Kreuger National Park, to Lake St. Lucia, to Pietermaritzburg, all while earning 6 hours TAMU credit in RLEM and RENR!

Study Abroad Office • 845-0544 • <http://studyabroad.tamu.edu>