

THE BATTALION

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COMEBACK KIDS



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Terrence Murphy catches a pass in the first half. Murphy completed 61 yards on the play before getting tackled by Oklahoma defensive back Derrick Strait. Murphy added two touchdowns to the Aggies' 30-26 win over the Sooners.



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

True freshman Reggie McNeal looks to escape the Oklahoma defense after a scramble. McNeal registered 89 yards rushing and connected 191 passing in the Aggies' stunning victory over the top-ranked Sooners.

Aggies win 30-26 over top ranked OU

By Troy Miller
THE BATTALION

The unranked Texas A&M football team beat The Associated Press' No. 1 University of Oklahoma on Saturday, dashing the Sooners' hope of a national championship and setting A&M up for a possible bowl game.

The win was the Aggies' sixth of the season, making them bowl-eligible with two games remaining.

Aggie true freshman quarterback Reggie McNeal did what proven signal-callers Chris Simms, quarterback for the University of Texas Longhorns and Seneca Wallace, quarterback for the Iowa State Cyclones could not do — beat No. 1 Oklahoma.

McNeal led A&M (6-4, 3-3) to a 30-26 win over the Sooners (8-1, 4-1) in front of 84,036 fans at a raucous Kyle Field.

McNeal completed eight of

13 passes for 191 yards and four touchdowns. He also rushed for 89 yards on 16 carries to lead the Aggie rushing attack.

"I thought (McNeal) came in and created some plays on his own," said assistant head coach and offensive play-caller Kevin Sumlin. "He showed a tremendous amount of poise for a freshman."

Aggie sophomore Terrence Murphy led all receivers in the game with 128 yards on five receptions and two touchdowns, the last coming with 1:51 left in the third quarter to put the Aggies up for good, 27-23.

McNeal threw a 40-yard pass to a wide-open Murphy in the middle of the end zone for the score.

"We knew all week that there would be chances for us to go down the field on them based on the coverage that they play," said McNeal who threw touchdowns

of 61, 40, 17 and 40 yards. "I really knew that we would have a chance to throw deep on them."

McNeal was able to connect deep because of hitch-and-go plays called by Sumlin. McNeal's pump fakes and play-action plays were enough to make the Oklahoma secondary bite, which allowed Aggie receivers to become wide open.

McNeal replaced sophomore quarterback Dustin Long on the Aggies' fourth drive of the game. Long had thrown three completions on nine attempts for 28 yards and one interception when McNeal entered the ballgame.

"(Putting McNeal in the game) was just something I wanted to do," said A&M head coach R.C. Slocum. "Reggie's poise was impressive. I can't say I was surprised. I thought all

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JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Fans congratulate running back Joe Weber after the game on Saturday. Weber rushed for 83 yards against the Oklahoma Sooners.

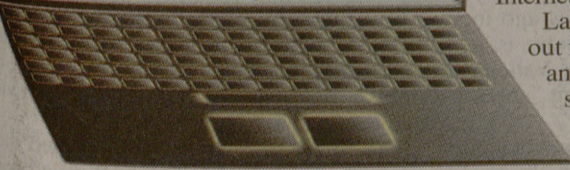
Laptops Now Available

• Wireless Internet access is now available at the West Campus Library and the Medical Sciences Center.

• 18 laptops now available for checkout from the Sterling C. Evans Library and Evans Library Annex.

Laptops are for Internet use only.

• 58 new wired ports are available in the Evans Library and Library Annex.



TRAVIS SWENSON • THE BATTALION

Laptops extend wireless Web access

By Sarah Darr
THE BATTALION

The wireless network at Texas A&M has expanded to include areas on West Campus and with 18 new laptops available for check-out, students have more Internet options at their fingertips.

Laptops are available for check-out from Sterling C. Evans Library and the Evans Library Annex, said Charles Gilrey, associate university librarian for advanced studies.

Students will only have

access to the Internet while using the laptops and must keep the computers in the same building they checked them out from, said Willis Marti, associate director for networking of Computing and Information Services (CIS). Students should use the laptops to look through the stacks while they are around the books, not to type a paper, Marti said. Those who want to use other programs can visit an on-campus computer center.

"Hopefully this will make things more convenient for (students)," Marti said.

The laptops' memories will be erased between each use to ensure user privacy, Gilrey said. Each file used by a student will be deleted and reinstalled so that privacy issues will not keep students from using the laptops, Gilrey said.

"Privacy issues are a high concern for us," he said.

Students will need to provide their own disks.

Wireless access is available at the West Campus Library and the Medical Sciences Library, but students must bring their own laptop to use, Gilrey said. Although laptops cannot be

checked out for use yet at the Medical Sciences Library, they will be available next month, said Joe Williams, education services librarian.

The wireless network at the Medical Sciences Library covers both floors of the library to make it convenient for the students, Williams said.

"We want to provide more mobility and this will allow students to stay connected to the library network while they are browsing," Williams said.

To use the network, students will

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Vietnam survivors remember fallen soldiers on Veteran's Day

BUSHNELL, Fla. (AP) — Three gray-haired men point their military rifles skyward and squeeze off shots that echo through the soaring oak trees of the Withlacoochee State Forest.

Two other members of the volunteer honor guard ceremoniously fold an American flag and snap to a salute during taps. They stand by as the casket bearing yet another military veteran is wheeled off for burial in the vast Florida National Cemetery.

The men have time only for some small talk before the next casket and next group of mourners arrives. Then they'll do it all over again. And again. And again.

At six special shelters on the cemetery grounds, 60 miles north of Tampa in Sumter County, full military funerals are often happening simultaneously, all day long. They

are conducted at a rate of about 30 every weekday. On Tuesday, the day after Veterans Day, more than 40 are scheduled.

More often than ever, the caskets hold World War II veterans, who are now dying at the rate of nearly 1,000 a day in America, according to federal estimates.

"Sometimes it gets to you," says Al Williams, 74, a veteran of World War II and the Korean War whose honor guard does as many as five funerals a day. "I've lost a lot of friends."

The constant activity at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs cemetery is a grim reminder of just how fast an entire generation is disappearing. And because so many veterans spend their retirements in Florida, the cemetery in Bushnell is filling up rapidly with the familiar white grave markers.

Census figures in 2000 showed that World War II veterans living in Florida died at a rate of about 50 a day during the 1990s, thinning their numbers by almost 27 percent. They used to make up the bulk of the membership in the Disabled American Veterans in Florida; now they account for just 40 percent.

"It's sad that a lot of history is not going to be here in the next 15 or 20 years," says John Heufel, chaplain of the Dade City Veterans of Foreign Wars post.

Around the nation, funeral services for veterans are performed by military personnel, veterans' groups or a mix. At a minimum, eligible veterans are due a flag presentation and taps from military representatives. Eleven national cemeteries out of 120 have their own volunteer honor guard, according to the Veterans Administration.



RANDAL FORD • THE BATTALION

Sharon Taylor of Coppell, Texas reflects by the Brazos Valley Veterans Memorial off Highway 30 in College Station. The names of Taylor's father and aunt are engraved in the memorial.