

# THE BATTALION

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## UPD: \$120K in stolen campus goods recovered

By Melissa Sullivan  
THE BATTALION

More than \$120,000 worth of equipment taken from the KAMU-TV van and Rumours Cafe on June 6 and June 11 was recovered Tuesday night, said University Police Department Director Bob Wiatt.

UPD has identified a suspect who has admitted involvement in both burglaries.

Wiatt said a College Station resident called police Tuesday and said he

thought his son bought the equipment that was reported as stolen.

"A local good citizen advised us that all the property was at his residence and a friend of his son learned from The Batt article that it was stolen," Wiatt said.

The citizen's son contacted the suspect a week ago, because he and a friend wanted to start their own video studio, and told the suspect that he would be interested in buying the video equipment. The two boys went and looked at the equipment and bought it



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at a reduced price, Wiatt said.

Rod Zent, director of educational broadcast services at KAMU, said he was surprised things worked in their favor.

"I didn't expect to see (the equipment) again," he said.

Zent said he did not know the condition of the equipment or if it still worked properly, but he is glad it was recovered.

"(The truck) is a major part of our work," he said. "Our next project is A&M's graduation in August, and a lot of folks depend on that to see their kids graduate if they can't make it to Reed Arena."

Zent said KAMU may have to purchase new equipment for the graduation, but that will not be determined until a final analysis of the equipment is complete.

"They will probably tackle most of it (today)," he said.

KAMU employees discovered the

van was burglarized 48 hours after the last time it was driven, which was June 4. Wiatt said the suspect broke through the passenger side door and crawled through a small space to get to the back of the truck.

As of 3 p.m. Wednesday, UPD had not turned over any equipment to Rumours management, Wiatt said.

On June 11, someone knocked over a wall that separated the cafeteria and the entertainment area and took more than \$10,000 worth of equipment, including a 42-inch flat panel television.

## Governor calls special session

By Jim Vertuno  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry on Wednesday called the Texas Legislature back to the Capitol for a summer special session on congressional redistricting, reigniting the issue that sparked a bitterly partisan fight and a dramatic Democratic walkout in the House during the regular session.

The 30-day special session will begin June 30. It would be the state's first since then-Gov. Ann Richards, a Democrat, called one on public education in late 1992.

Perry announced the session in a letter to fellow Republicans Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Tom Craddick. The letter said the Legislature, not the federal courts, should be responsible for drawing voting districts. The current congressional district map was drafted by the courts after lawmakers failed to approve a plan in 2001.

The governor also said the session could be expanded to include other "important matters."

"The recently completed regular session clearly demonstrates that legislators — regardless of political party affiliation and philosophy — can work together to address issues important to Texans," the letter said. "I am confident that Democrats and Republicans can likewise work together to develop a map that is fair, compact and protects communities of interest."

Partisan bickering resurfaced within minutes of Perry's announcement; it started with the Republicans.

"We commend Governor Perry for showing courageous leadership by calling a special session and not allowing Democrats to continue to disenfranchise Texas voters," state Republican Party Chairwoman Susan Weddington said. "Democrats have stifled Texans' voices for their own political gain for too long."

Perry's move has been expected since more than 50 Democrats, dubbed the "Killer D's", fled to Oklahoma to kill a redistricting bill in May. Backed by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, the bill would have shifted the balance of power in the Texas delegation to the GOP.

U.S. Rep. Martin Frost, D-Arlington, whose district could be changed, accused Perry of spending the estimated \$1.7 million it costs to hold a special session to "become the most overtly partisan governor in Texas history."

"Is there nothing that Governor Perry won't sacrifice to do the partisan dirty work of Tom DeLay and the Republican National Committee?" Frost said.

DeLay has fought for congressional redistricting, arguing that results in state elections show that Texas should have more GOP representatives in Congress. The current split favors Democrats, 17-15.

The map under consideration when Democrats broke the House quorum required to conduct business would probably

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## Veterinary veteran A&M System's Carter led first vet forces into Afghanistan

By Megan Orton  
THE BATTALION

In the deserts of Afghanistan, Lt. Craig Carter's role was to ensure the safety of all the water and food eaten by soldiers, to facilitate mine and explosive detection efforts and to watch the health of working dogs.

Carter, head of the epidemiology and informatics department at the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratories, was recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal for leading the first veterinary forces into Afghanistan in January 2002.



"I accept this award on behalf of all my soldiers through whose blood and sweat accomplished all missions and made me look good," he said.

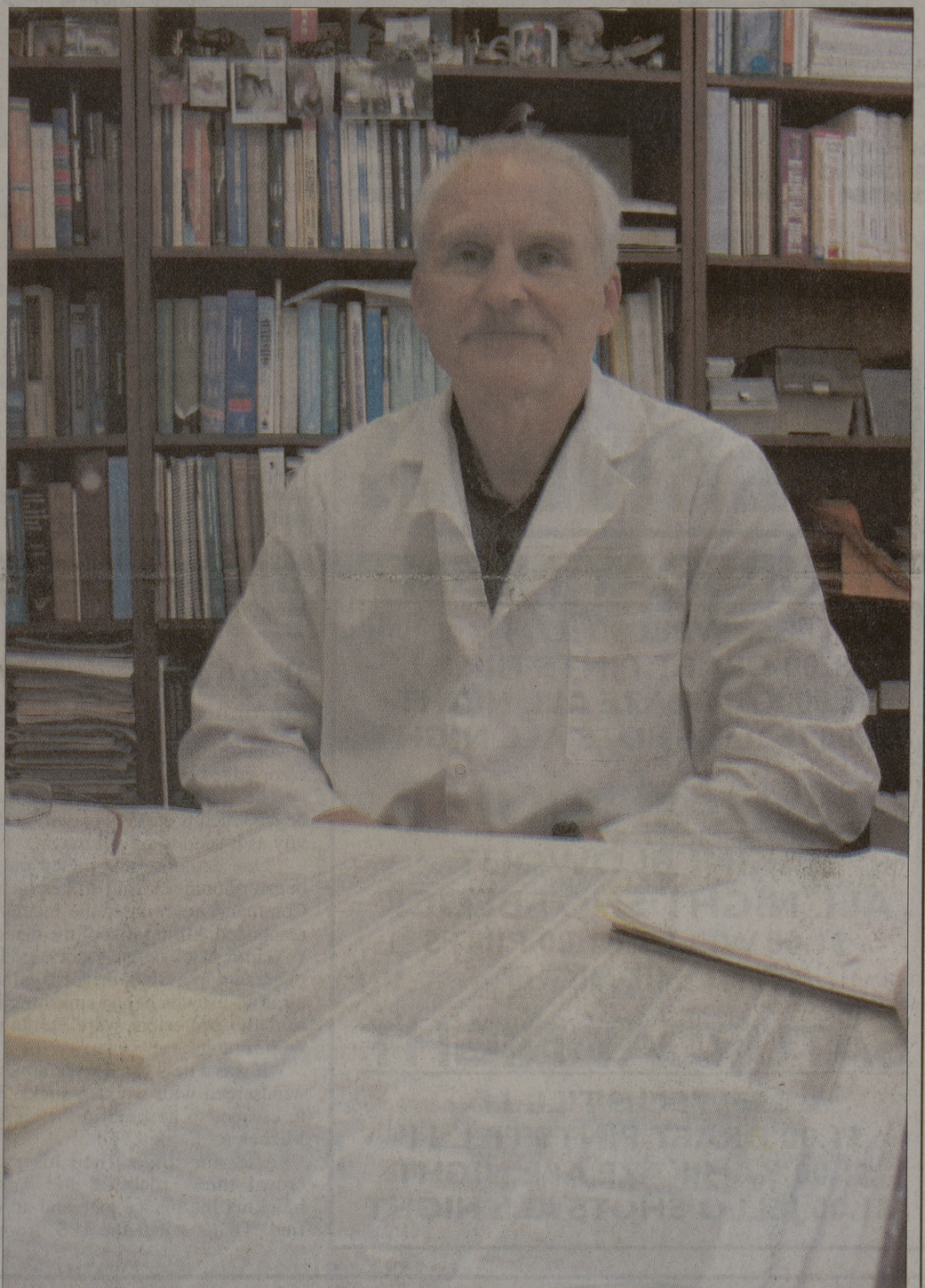
Carter is a member of the 994th Medical Detachment in Austin, which entered Afghanistan during Operation Anaconda. This mission, he said, was aimed at flushing remaining Taliban and al-Qaida fighters from the eastern mountains on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

Those dogs save untold numbers of human lives through their heroic efforts in combat environments, Carter said.

"As veterinarians, we work side-by-side with the military police, mine detection squads and explosive ordinance teams to ensure a safe environment for the deployed soldiers," he said.

The deployment of Carter's unit involved many missions like the one in Afghanistan and in surrounding countries in Southwest Asia and the Horn of Africa. These missions sometimes led the 994th Medical Detachment into dangerous conditions.

"Our deployment meant living in tents much of the time, enduring extremes of cold and heat as high as 135 degrees Fahrenheit, dust storms, dangerous snakes and insects, and the constant threat of hostile fire,"



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A lieutenant and a veterinarian, **Dr. Craig Carter** is head of epidemiology and informatics at the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory and a veteran of the 2002 Afghanistan mission.

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## Violence in Baghdad leaves 3 men dead

By Arthur Max  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — American troops killed two Iraqis on Wednesday after Saddam Hussein's former soldiers tossed stones during a protest outside the headquarters of the U.S.-led occupation leaders.

Hours later, an attacker gunned down a U.S. soldier, capping one of the most violent days in the capital since American forces quelled looting after the fall of Saddam's regime. The soldier and another who was wounded were guarding a propane gas distribution point.

The slain soldier was the second American fatality in Baghdad and the fourth across Iraq this week — a series of attacks that U.S. officials say

appear to be well-organized, not just random killings.

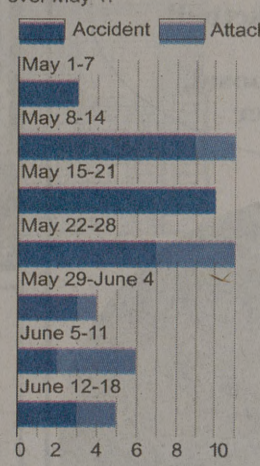
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Demonstrations have taken place regularly outside the archway leading to the compound of Saddam's former Republican Palace, now the political and military nerve center of the U.S. administration in Iraq. Past protests, usually by former soldiers and civil servants demanding new jobs or back

### Postwar death toll

Fifty U.S. servicemembers have been killed in accidents and attacks in Iraq since major combat was declared over May 1.



SOURCE: Associated Press AP

wages, have been largely peaceful.

On Wednesday, about 500 protesters confronted a line of 40 troops armed with

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## Gas to foot the bill for Qatar campus

By Natalie Younts  
THE BATTALION

All funding for Texas A&M's Qatar campus, scheduled to open in September, will be provided by the Qatar Foundation.

Dr. David Prior, executive vice president and provost, declined to comment on specific funding due to an agreement with the Qatar Foundation about the release of funding information, but he did say it will not affect the state of Texas.

His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of Qatar, started The Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.

The money that the Emir puts into the Foundation comes from the abundance of natural gas in the area, Prior said.

"The country of Qatar is one of the richest nations in the world in terms of natural resources. It has the third largest natural gas field in the world," he said. "The country and the Emir are extremely rich. (The

Qatar Foundation) is going to invest billions and billions of dollars in the new campus."

Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Consort of His Highness the Emir, serves as chairwoman of the Qatar Foundation and personally guides the organization's objectives and programs.

The Qatar campus is part of the venture known as Education City. The City will provide educational opportunities from kindergarten to post college graduate programs.

Already established in Qatar are

the Qatar Academy, The Social Development Center, The Learning Center, The Academic Bridge Program, Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts, the Weill Cornell Medical College and Rand Policy Institute.

The Qatar Foundation and North Carolina University ceased talks about establishing a North Carolina University branch in Qatar, because the parties couldn't agree on a price.

No one from the Qatar Foundation could be reached for comment.

**A&M Qatar Campus**

Money provided by Qatar Foundation

Does not cost the state of Texas anything

Money in foundation comes from natural gas

SOURCE: OFFICE OF THE PROVOST RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION