

THE BATTALION

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Reporter, U.S. soldier shot in Iraq

By Jim Krane
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The point-blank shooting of an unarmed British reporter on a Baghdad street and a grenade attack on a U.N. compound raised concern Sunday that Iraq's worsening insurgency — until now targeting only coalition troops and Iraqis accused of U.S. collaboration — will spread to Westerners in general.

On Sunday, an assailant shot and critically wounded a U.S. soldier waiting to buy a soft drink at Baghdad University, firing once from close range in the third such assault in nine days. The style was coldly similar to the

killing of the young British freelance cameraman, who was shot in the head outside a Baghdad museum on Saturday.

U.S. troops on patrol in Baghdad and other areas have been attacked several times a day, and Iraqi police and civilians perceived to be working with the occupying forces also have been targeted. In the most serious such attack, a bomb blast in the western town of Ramadi killed seven Iraqi police recruits as they graduated from a U.S.-taught training course on Saturday. Dozens more were injured.

U.S. Army Maj. William Thurmond said it was too early to tell whether a pattern was emerging that would suggest insurgents

are targeting foreign civilians, but he said such a strategy could thwart news gathering and humanitarian relief efforts.

"Hopefully they're isolated events and we won't have to face them in the future," Thurmond said. "It might work to the advantage of someone who's trying to fight the coalition."

The killing of the television cameraman, 24-year-old Richard Wild, occurred around midday, while the victim was carrying no apparent sign that he was a reporter.

Wild, who arrived in the country two weeks ago aiming to be a war correspondent, was killed by a single pistol shot fired into the base of his skull from close

range, colleagues said. The assailant fled into the crowd and was not apprehended.

An assailant with a pistol shot and critically injured a U.S. soldier in the neck on June 27 as he shopped on a Baghdad street.

On Saturday, insurgents fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the U.N.'s International Organization for Migration office in Mosul, 240 miles northwest of Baghdad. The grenade slammed into a wall and damaged several cars, said Hamid Abdel-Jabar, a spokesman for the U.N. special representative in Iraq.

"There's no place for that in any civilized part of the world,"

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LEN VAUGHN • KRT CAMPUS

Soldiers guard the campus of Iraq's Baghdad University, where a U.S. soldier was critically wounded Sunday. The campus was evacuated.

Hospital releases Kiel after shooting

HOUSTON (AP) — A former Texas A&M football player who was shot during an attempted carjacking is out of a Houston hospital.



KIEL

Terrence Kiel, 22, was shot three times — once in his ankle, once in his knee and once around his stomach — but none of the injuries were serious and he was released from Ben Taub General Hospital on Sunday, said officials at the medical facility.

He was in his 1983 Buick Park Avenue at a southwest Houston mall parking lot Friday afternoon when he was approached by a man in his late teens or early 20s, according to police.

After saying something to Kiel, the unidentified suspect fired his weapon and then took off. The suspect has not been arrested.

Kiel, who was a safety at A&M, was drafted in the second round by the San Diego Chargers in April's NFL draft.

"He's expected to make a full recovery and have no serious problems," said Martha Kiel, Terrence's grandmother. "The Lord was watching over him."

He received honorable mention in the 2002 Associated Press All-Big 12 team.

The taste of summer



JOSHUA HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Six-year-old Julia, whose parents asked that her last name not be published, cradles a partially devoured frozen custard ice cream cone in front of Shake's on

Sunday evening. Shake's employees prepare the ice cream with the aid of a double ice cream freezer that freezes the cream in less than one minute.

Boundary discussion heating up

By Kelley Shannon
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — In the last round, Democrats in the Texas House battled a congressional redistricting bill by fleeing to Oklahoma. They aren't divulging what they'll do when the House fight resumes Monday.

"Show up and find out," Rep. Jim Dunning of Waco, leader of the House Democratic Caucus, said before the July Fourth weekend arrived.

It's certain to get nasty.

That's been the tone for the past week, since a special legislative session for congressional redistricting began.

The GOP is gunning for a grip on the 32-member Texas delegation in Congress. Democrats currently hold a 17-15 advantage, but Republicans — urged on by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Sugar Land — say existing congressional boundaries don't allow for the election of Congress members who reflect the state's increasingly GOP voting patterns.

"We just want lines that are more fair than they are now," said state Rep. Mike Krusee, an Austin area Republican on the House Redistricting Committee.

On Saturday, in a mostly party line vote, the panel approved a plan that supporters say could allow for the election of as many as 21 Republicans from Texas to Congress. The proposal now moves to the full House, where the GOP is in control, 88-62.

The Calendars Committee on Sunday set House floor debate for Monday.

Calendars Chair Beverly Woolley, a Houston Republican, said she expects a tense

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Internet2 links Texas schools, universities

By Sarah Szuminski
THE BATTALION

Yankee great Yogi Berra is reputed to have once said about a New York restaurant, "No one goes there anymore; it's too crowded."

This is how Daniel A. Updegrave, vice president for information technology at The University of Texas-Austin, illustrated communication concerns about the Internet and explained the need for universities to communicate through a new, members-only communications program called Internet2. It is a high-speed system that is only available to subscribing members. The "backbone" network that connects users is called Abilene.

Now, through a joint project including Texas A&M, UT, The University of Texas-San Antonio and UT Health Science Center in San Antonio, initial funding has been provided to make the Abilene network available to all public and private K-12 schools and institutions of higher education in Texas.

"We felt that it was important to make this capability available to our

campuses at the earliest possible date," said Dr. Richard E. Ewing, vice president for research at A&M. "We are excited about continuing to work with the institutions in Texas to improve educational access to information."

The system was created in 1996 by a group of approximately 30 leading American research universities to meet this need, Updegrave said.

"It seems to be the natural 'next step' in the evolution of educational networking in Texas," he said.

According to the Internet2 Web site, the network will allow users to share equipment and research, access digital libraries and interact with virtual environments along with its many other possible uses.

"Internet2 applications enable collaboration among people and interactive access to resources and information in a way not possible on today's Internet," according to the Web site.

Until recently, all 220 participating schools, including 15 from Texas, were each required to pay a \$25,000 yearly fee, Updegrave said. Under the new

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Counter will chart vehicle traffic

By Megan Orton
THE BATTALION

A new traffic counter aimed at gathering traffic information in the College Station area was installed on University Drive and will begin running as soon as possible, transportation officials said.

Jennifer Bearden, Bryan-College Station Metro Planning Organization transportation planner, said MPO has been working on installing the counter for a year and a half and it was installed May 1.

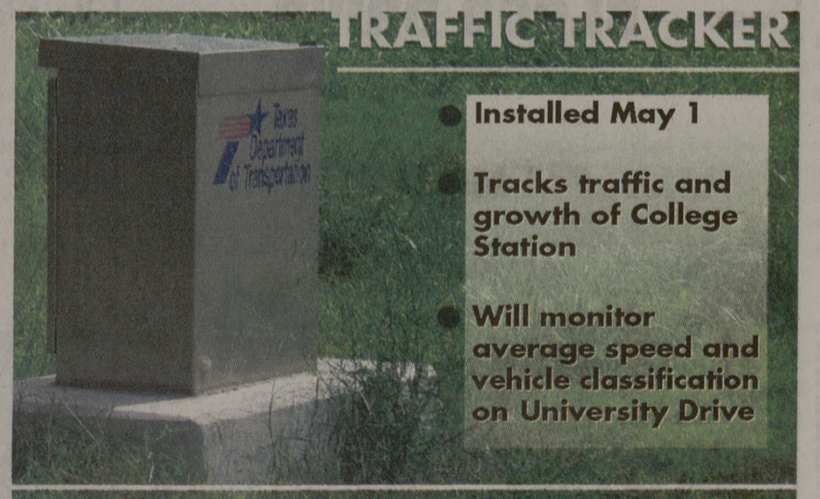
One of the main benefits of the counter is access to year-round traffic information, Bearden said.

"Not only does it track traffic, but also the growth of College Station," she said.

The MPO contracted the counter with the Texas Department of Transportation in March 2002. Bearden said the counter will be used to monitor average speed and vehicle classification and is located on University Drive across from the Chimney Hill Best Western Hotel.

"University Drive was chosen because it is considered the main thoroughfare through College Station," Bearden said.

This is the same kind of counter that has been used to measure traffic



TERESA WEAVER & RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION

SOURCE: B-CS METRO PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- ### TRAFFIC TRACKER
- Installed May 1
 - Tracks traffic and growth of College Station
 - Will monitor average speed and vehicle classification on University Drive

patterns throughout the state for a long time, said Bob Colwell, TxDOT's Bryan-College Station representative.

The data from the counter is transmitted from a ground device to a box that compiles the information, he said.

"The counter is actually run the width of the roadway and stapled down, and when a vehicle's front tires hit, the device actually adds the count to the total number of cars traveling University that day," Colwell said.

This information helps in the planning stages of city traffic routes, and

can help predict how many vehicles will be crossing that road in 10 or 20 years, Colwell said.

He said the counter is a crucial factor when determining if the road is wide enough and safe enough for traffic to pass through.

Although the counters measure speed, it is not associated with the College Station Police Department and no citations are issued because of it. Bearden said BCSMPO is waiting until power and phone lines in the area are improved before setting it up.