

# THE BATTALION

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## Police standoff ends peacefully after 11 hours

By Dallas Shipp  
THE BATTALION

A standoff between a 23-year-old Bryan woman and police ended peacefully Wednesday night after 11 hours of negotiations.

Jennifer Hawkins barricaded herself inside her apartment around 10 a.m. Wednesday. Police said Hawkins possessed at least two rifles, two handguns and a knife inside the apartment. The amount of ammunition she possessed was not known by police, but they did believe she had access to various munitions.

Lt. Wayland Rawls of the Bryan Police Department was the incident commander and said all police personnel worked together toward the ending.

"In the end, everything came together and all the units worked as they were supposed to," Rawls said. "Negotiators were able to make contact with the female and negotiate a safe exit from her apartment where she was taken into custody."

Despite being taken into custody, no charges had been filed against Hawkins, Rawls said. She was taken to St. Joseph Regional Health Center for evaluations.

"She's been taken into custody for her well-being so she can have some mental evaluations to determine whether or not she is a danger to herself or others."

City of Bryan spokesman Jay Socol said the standoff began when Hawkins' boyfriend called Bryan police just before 10 a.m. According to Socol, the two had

been in a turbulent relationship and were having problems.

"It was a deteriorating relationship and it apparently led up to today's events," Socol said.

Socol said that whatever happened, Hawkins' boyfriend felt threatened and immediately left the couple's residence and phoned the police.

"He didn't have a shirt on, I don't think he had his keys, he left and immediately contacted Bryan police," Socol said. "He had to borrow a shirt from one of our officers."

A friend at the scene said the couple had been dating for nearly two years and had lived together for about a year.

Police cut off Hawkins' electricity, gas and cell phone and redirected her home phone to a

closed line where police could control the channel of communications to bring the incident to an end.

Police also tried to establish a channel of communication by using a bullhorn to ask her to pick up the phone.

"If what you have to say is important, pick up the phone and talk," officers said to Hawkins. "I want to reason with you. I want to hear what you have to say."

Socol said convincing the woman to pick up the phone and speak with them was the biggest challenge.

Hawkins' mother and sister drove from their home in Wyoming to Salt Lake City, Utah, earlier this afternoon and

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JOSHUA HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Bryan Police, equipped with bulletproof vests and bullhorns, wait outside the home of Jennifer Hawkins Wednesday afternoon.

## Alcohol safety a top priority, officials say

By Natalie Younts  
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M faculty and staff should help prevent alcohol abuse among students by talking with them and setting a good example, said A&M executive associate provost Bill Perry on Wednesday.

"As faculty, we forget the impact that we have on students," he said. "For good or ill, we are role models."

Dave Parrott, dean of Student Life, encouraged faculty to eliminate joking references to drugs and alcohol, familiarize themselves with signs of drug and alcohol abuse and talk about alcohol during Alcohol Awareness Week, Oct. 20-24.

Beki Lovelady, a resident adviser at Schumacher Hall, told the faculty and staff to relate to students when talking about the dangers of alcohol, at the Improving Undergraduate Education by Addressing Alcohol Abuse on College Campuses forum held in Rudder Tower.

"Try and make it fun and show you're not trying to beat them over the head with it," she said.

In addition to a panel, faculty and staff received written recommendations at the forum that included holding class and scheduling tests on Friday to reduce Thursday night drinking.

Faculty members were also encouraged to mention alcohol safety at the end of Thursday and Friday lectures beginning in the fall.

Dennis Gorman, associate professor of the School of Rural Public Health, said that alcohol abuse programs work only when the entire community is targeted.

He said the community approach works because it attempts to change the social, political and physical environment, not the people themselves.

The community approach includes stricter alcohol-related laws and increased local media coverage of alcohol issues.

"Most people don't know that they are being intervened upon," Gorman said.

A survey taken by the Class of 2005, showed that 91.9 percent of Aggies believe the average student consumes alcohol once a week or more, but only 56 percent actually consumed alcohol. University Police Department Sgt. Allan Baron said he would like to encourage students to make good choices by sticking together and looking out for one another when drinking.

Baron said most public intoxication offenses

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## A pet's best friend

### Despite roadblocks, Beaver became veterinarian, AVMA president

By Jodi Rogers  
THE BATTALION

Though a long way from her family farm in Minnesota, pioneering woman veterinarian Bonnie Beaver shares her love of animals with people around the world as one of the pioneering women veterinarians.

"I grew up on a small farm," she said. "I did the same kind of thing that every kid does. I took swimming lessons and had horses so I got to ride."



Beaver, a professor of veterinary medicine in the Texas A&M Small Animal Clinic and world-renowned animal behaviorist, said she grew up in a rural community and came into contact with various animals, so studying veterinary medicine was a natural choice.

"Animals were everything that I had an interest in," she said. "So I could not tell you when I consciously decided I would be a veterinarian. To me it probably always was."

Veterinary medicine was a difficult profession for women to get into, Beaver said.

"There were at least one to two women per class max," she said. "It had nothing to do with grades. I was told by my high school counselor that women could not be veterinarians."

Beaver said that classmates told her they would not be friends with her once she reached vet school.

"I knew that was a bunch of hocus pocus because you don't turn off and turn on friendships like that," she said.

She said at the time women had to fight to take the place of male veterinarians and challenge the idea that women should be married with children as well as have a job.

Federal legislation declaring sex-based discrimination changed that, Beaver said, and more women were accepted to veterinary schools across the nation.

By the 1980s, women had more role models, Beaver said.

"It's appropriate that we have equal opportunities for men and women," she said. "But if veterinary medicine becomes an all-female profession, that is no better than having it as an all-male profession."

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association Web site, Beaver is the first woman to be elected president while on the association.

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RANDAL FORD • THE BATTALION

Bonnie Beaver stands next to Loretta, a fourth-year veterinary student's dog, in an operating room at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medicine Small Animal Clinic. Beaver was recently named one of the first woman president-elects of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

## Campus construction projects slated for fall finish

By Lindsay Broomes  
THE BATTALION

Most of the construction around campus will be completed at the end of August before school starts in September, officials said.

Construction on Coke and Throckmorton Street that began in June is scheduled to be completed soon, according to the Transportation Services Web site.

Construction on the two right lanes of West Lamar in front of the Memorial Student Center is scheduled to be completed Aug. 15.

"Many campus streets have been closed or affected by construction in some way over the past two years," said Doug Williams, associate director of Transportation Services. "Ross Street

will continue to be closed to westbound traffic and Spence Street is closed at the intersection with University Drive to accommodate construction of the Chemical Engineering Building."

Williams said commuters will soon reap the benefits of the construction.

"There have been very few complaints about the construction," he said. "I believe that we have done a good job communicating with the public. People seem to accept the construction as long as they are aware of the work prior to implementation."

The only lingering problem involves the relocation of the gates at the Central Campus Parking Garage. The traffic created by the change has created challenges.



SHARON AESCHBACH • THE BATTALION

Road construction on West Campus has Old Main Drive narrowed to a single lane of traffic.

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## Iraqis name first council president

By Steven R. Hurst  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — After weeks of struggling to choose a leader, Iraq's U.S.-picked interim government named its first president Wednesday — a Shiite Muslim from a party banned by Saddam Hussein. U.S. troops, meanwhile, pressed the hunt for the ousted dictator and officers said it was "just a matter of time" before he is caught.

"He's going to start making mistakes, and we're going to catch him," a 4th Infantry Division spokeswoman, Maj. Josslyn Aberle, told The

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