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NEWS IN BRIEF

Bandera turns 150 this year

BANDERA, Texas (AP) — More than a century ago when Bandera first became a town, there were no police cars to escort groups of cowboys driving longhorn cattle through town.
 But on Saturday, a squadron of police cars surrounded the 50 riders on horseback who were herding 50 head of cattle past the Bandera County Courthouse, quaint antique shops and modern convenience stores along Main Street.
 It was the 150th birthday celebration for Bandera, the "Cowboy Capital of the World." The town used to be a staging ground for cattle drives in the post-Civil War era.
 "Those really are long horns," said Joyce Ormond, snapping her camera at the animals whose horns can measure 6 feet from tip to tip.
 Seventeen Pony Express riders rode a relay all the way from Austin to bring a proclamation from the governor.

Dances with dogs



College Station Police Master Officer **Todd Van Dreser** and 2 1/2-year-old Dutch Shepard **Brando** participate in a field adjacent to the CSPD building. The new K-9 program includes explosive detection, item recovery, patrol deployment and tracking.

Fish

Continued from page 1A

preparing for Session F since February.
 "As you get more and more involved, you get more and more excited," he said.
 Surley said that even with three development programs, two summer workshops and four road trips, the preparations did not adversely affect his schedule.
 "Instead of watching TV, I did something worthwhile," Surley said.
 Surley said he was consistently amazed by the spirit and the enthusiasm of freshmen in his camp.
 "It's incredible watching them open up from day one to day three," he said. "They're developing the friends they're going to keep throughout their college career."
 Sarina Maples, a freshman attending Yellow Camp Grant, shared Surley's initial skepticism upon arriving at camp.
 "I just didn't want them to make me dress up like a crazy person," Maples said, referring to the costumes Fish Camp staffers wear while greeting arriving freshmen.
 Maples, a biochemistry major, said the time spent at Fish Camp has helped her feel like an Aggie.
 "(It) makes you want to be involved," she said.
 Kate Nagyvary, also from Camp Grant, said she attended to meet new people, but has already decided to apply to be a counselor.
 "I definitely want to apply. The counselors look like they have a blast," she said.
 Nagyvary, a biochemistry major, said Fish Camp is a once-in-a-lifetime oppor-

tunity for Aggies.
 "(Unlike other schools) A&M really does care about their freshmen," she said.
 Troy Sonnenberg, a counselor from Red Camp Shyrook, said that as a freshman he was too scared to fully appreciate his Fish Camp experience.
 "It wasn't until I became a counselor I realized I enjoyed it," Sonnenberg said.
 Sonnenberg, a junior political science major, said this was his second year to serve as a Fish Camp counselor. He said the experience of serving as a first-time counselor is different than a returning counselor. As a returning counselor and a leader of DG Diet Coke, Sonnenberg said he was able to not only help freshmen adjust to college life, but to aid counselors in developing their skills.
 "It's kind of hard to compare them," he said. "They're both amazing experiences."
 Sonnenberg said Fish Camp is a powerful tool to help freshmen become Aggies by providing them with a means to meet friends, learn traditions and let go of their fears.
 "By the time you're done with your yell practices and all the activities they have planned for you, you're ready to go out and take an active role at A&M," he said.
 Sonnenberg said he was unsure of himself last year when he discovered he would have a disabled student in his group. He said the student was shy when she arrived, but by the time she left she was dancing at the mixers. Sonnenberg still sees her on campus and said she is involved in many school activities.
 "It was amazing to watch how alive she became," he said.

Witnesses differ in elevator death stories

HOUSTON (AP) — Witnesses gave police differing accounts of the final moments of the life of Dr. Hitoshi Nikaidoh, whose head was severed just above his lower jaw after he became lodged in an elevator's doors two weeks ago.
 Dr. Canaan L. Harris, who was outside the elevator, told police Nikaidoh extended his arms "apparently to try and hold the doors open" and put his leg up to enter the moving elevator at Christus St. Joseph Hospital. Physician's assistant Karin Steinau, who was inside, said Nikaidoh became trapped as he entered the elevator and the doors closed on him.
 "I'm not going to talk about that," Harris told The Associated Press on Sunday. "You can review the police report and that will give you all the information you need."
 Attorney Howard Nations, representing Nikaidoh's family in a lawsuit against the elevator's manufacturer and maintenance company, disputed Harris' recollection of the 35-year-old surgical resident's actions on Aug. 16.
 "There is no indication of bruising on his leg," Nations said Sunday. "How do you get from the leg being inside a rising elevator to the head being trapped inside a moving elevator? It defies logic and it defies the physical facts."
 Nations suggested that Nikaidoh simply outstretched his arms in relief that the elevator was operating after being out of service for a few days.
 "I was told by a nurse ... that as Dr. Nikaidoh approached the elevator, he put his arms up and said, 'Ahh, it is working today,'" Nations said. "His arms were not extended to try and stop the elevator from moving."
 Nikaidoh died from multiple blunt force injuries to his head and body, the Harris County Medical Examiner's office ruled. No one at the medical examiner's office Sunday could discuss whether there were injuries to Nikaidoh's legs.

Alabama
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