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The twin towers of New York's World Trade Center rise over the World Financial Center in this view, from the air, in this June 23, 1999 file photo. Terrorists crashed

two planes into the World Trade Center and knocked down the twin 110-story towers Tuesday morning

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WTC

Continued from page 1A

"We are a tightknit community of Aggies by virtue of the fact that we are so far from home," Hurt said. "We became each other's support through everything. My faith is very important to me, and in the midst of something so tragic it was my bedrock. It is how I was able to survive. When something like that happens, people turn to their own comfort zones for support."
Aggie Peyton Mayes was at

work at the World Financial Center on the morning of Sept. 11 when he found out about what was happening right outside his office doors.

"I had heard a loud explosion but I didn't know what it was," Mayes said. "I looked out the window and saw people pointing toward the World Trade Center. My first reaction was that it was an accident. Everyone was in such shock it didn't set in though.

Mayes, the New York A&M Club president, evacuated his office and began receiving phone calls as other Aggies searched for their friends and offered to help in any way

they could.
"When everything happened on 9-11, the phones were going crazy," Mayes said. "Ags were trying to track down other Ags. We found out pretty quickly that all the New York Aggies were accounted for.'

Even though all of his rela-

FREE

like he still had family during those horrific times. Despite the comfort he finds in his Aggie family, Mayes said since that fateful day, he still worries about the future of the nation.

"There is a strong sense of togetherness between us, we always have something to do together. Aggies have never felt lonely here," Mayes said. "Even today, we think some-one could easily do something like this again. It's a different

world up here now. That day

the Aggie Spirit came out in

New York. Everyone was help-

ing everyone.' At the time of the attacks, Hurt's mother, Mindy, was worried about her son's safety as well as emotional well-being but her fears were assuaged

when she arrived in New York six weeks after the attack to find the support system set up

by the Aggies "If I ever had a second thought about someone becoming an Aggie it was erased by witnessing those young Ags watch over each other," Mindy Hurt said. "The Aggie family is

alive and well in New York.

Daniel Laasko, a senior poultry science major, will remember the second anniversary by wearing his "midnights" uniform, participating in "silent chow" and attending Echo Taps with the rest of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets. Laasko said he has seen the Sept. 11 attacks have a profound effect on the nation, including the Aggie community.

Laasko said. "The attack shook! nation's sense of safety to its for dation. The events also opened many students' eyes to the fact the there are people in the world wh hold a deep hatred for our country and way of life. It made the nation realize that we are not as safe as we once thought."

As many Americans get of their flags and other patriotic items, Laasko wishes people would have displayed their patriotism before Sept 11.

"I feel as though the natio has developed a greater sense of patriotism after the event, Laasko said. "At the same tim it bothers me that a national tragedy had to happen to inspire patriotism. I rememb most Aggies being shocked b the incident, but also angered by the fact that someone wou

Many Americans will take time from their day for a moment of prayer or thought for those lost in the Sept. 11 attack Heather Hiser, a junior educati major, will pause today in remembrance, she said.

"I couldn't believe what was happening. My original reaction was 'why is someone doing to us?'" Hiser said. "I didn't realize there were so many pe ple that didn't like the U.S."

Hiser said she now knows how lucky she is to live in this country and will no longer take her freedom for granted.

'I believe that everyone was affected by 9-11 in the same way," Hiser said. "Man people took our country for granted and 9-11 gives us a reality check."



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California thin Mick Haley st Coliseum this know exactly pent 17 years Texas into th Brazos," duri Southwest Con wo national c "It's a grea

aid, "Once I

times (to enc Driver') and ouder. You're A&M crowd.' Since grass Haley has recr in the Lone Sta be toting with defending nati take the floo Saturday nigh McDonald's T Since starting proved that it i

The Trojan nainline starte rom last yea secured themse all the nationa first six match 18 games Add the fact nents were top see why the

full this week play two other "Right nov Friday night's thinking about Lexi Beers. "W game strong an team we're play aren't playing o get beat.

The Aggies hard way last

