

# THE BATTALION

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## Football, visitor parking revenue less than expected

**WEST CAMPUS PARKING GARAGE**  
The West Campus Parking Garage has sold 1,340 student parking permits of an anticipated 1,600.

Green parking permit, valid for 12 months, costs \$390

Game day parking spot in the garage costs \$15

The garage alone has generated \$31,438.05 and cost \$31,788,000 to construct

RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION  
SOURCE: TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

By Natalie Younts  
THE BATTALION

Although the construction of the West Campus Garage cost Transportation Services \$31.87 million, it has generated \$31,438 as of Sept. 28, said TS director Rodney Weis.

"Operationally, we are very pleased with the way things are going in the new garage and passageway," Weis said.

Weis said it is rare for a parking garage to break even, considering all the costs involved in the construction of a garage.

"Interest costs alone on the garage

amount to approximately \$700 per space annually," Weis said. "The cost per space of this garage is actually quite reasonable when compared to others built in the United States."

Most of the revenue the garage has generated comes from the sale of game day spaces at \$15 per vehicle for this fall's three home games. True visitor parking outside of football events is also included in this total, which has generated \$9,254.05, Weis said.

In addition to the visitor parking in the garage, 1,340 permits have been sold, generating another \$522,600 in revenue.

The green parking permits used for the West Campus Garage are valid

for 12 months and cost \$390. The nine-month red resident passes and nine-month blue commuter lot permits cost \$141.

"We anticipated selling 1,500 permits this year," Weis said. "I am very confident that it will fill as people realize it is a very convenient option for access to the (Memorial Student Center), Rudder Tower, Koldus and other high-use buildings on campus."

Kayla Cook, a business major, and Blake Mayerhoff, a computer engineering major, are two of the Texas A&M freshmen campus residents with green parking permits valid in the West Campus Garage.

Permit holders in the garage do not

have a parking area gated from visitor parking. They park on a first-come, first-serve basis, along with visitors.

Neither Mayerhoff or Cook have ever had to drive up or down a level to find parking in the seven-level garage.

"The \$390 12-month permit was a good investment because there is always a free space on the first floor," Mayerhoff said.

Cook said she likes having a West Campus Garage permit, even though it is a 16-minute walk from her Mosher Hall residence.

"I bought a bicycle so I could make

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## Gun control has limited effects

By Kristen Wyatt  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — A sweeping federal review of the nation's gun control laws — including mandatory waiting periods and bans on certain weapons — found no proof they reduce firearm violence.

The findings from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention could be used to undercut the gun-control movement.

The CDC said its report, released Thursday, suggests more study is needed, not that gun laws don't work. But the agency said it has no plans to spend more money on firearms study.

Some conservatives have said that the CDC should limit itself to studying diseases, and some have complained in the past that the agency has used firearms-tracking data to subtly push gun control. In fact, since a 1996 fight in Congress, the CDC has been prohibited from using funds to press for gun control laws.

Since then, an independent CDC task force reviewed 51

### Gun control laws questioned

A Center for Disease Control and Prevention review of gun control laws, including waiting periods and bans on certain guns, found no proof they reduce firearm violence. Gun-related injuries were the second leading cause of injury deaths in 2000.

**Gun-related deaths**  
Figures from 2000

Suicide	16,586
Homicides	10,801
Unintentional	776
Undetermined intent	500

#### Some of the laws reviewed

- Bans on specific firearms
- Prohibits purchase or possession of certain firearms or ammunition
- Waiting periods of gun purchase
- Requires that the purchase of a gun be delayed after application is filed. Allows time for a background check and a "cooling-off" period of buyer
- Guns in schools
- Requires participating schools expel for at least a year when students are found with a gun

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

published studies about the effectiveness of eight types of gun-control laws. The laws included bans on specific firearms or ammunition.

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## Crowd surfing



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Senior yell leader John Magruder surfs on Company E-1 before the yell Corps of Cadets holds arch yell every Thursday before an away football game. The A&M football team will play in Lubbock this Saturday.

See Tech on page 2

## Redistricting dispute solution close

By April Castro  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Sounding more conciliatory than usual, Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick indicated Thursday that the congressional redistricting dispute over West Texas may be nearing an end.

Senate negotiators, however, were far from optimistic.

"I think West Texas is pretty close to being worked out if it's not done," Craddick said.

Craddick has stood firm on his desire for a congressman to represent the Midland/Odessa

area, his home district. Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, has opposed a separate district, causing a clash between Republicans in the two chambers.

"I have a very strong feel that Midland/Odessa and Tom Green County and the West Texas area out there have not had fair representation for the last 40 years and we've not had any oil and gas representation and really want and deserve that," Craddick said.

The current map pairs Midland with Lubbock and is represented by Lubbock Rep. Randy Neugebauer.

While Craddick seemed positive, Duncan said that after meeting into the early morning hours Thursday, no progress had been made on the layout of West Texas districts. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said that Duncan and Sen. Todd Staples, R-Palestine, put forth several proposals Wednesday night that "every-one felt should have been quickly embraced."

"All of a sudden we saw additional requirements and at this late hour, I think we need to come together on a map that is

See Dispute on page 1

## Tech security increased for game

By Lindsay Broomes  
THE BATTALION

The Fightin' Texas Aggie Band will still perform during halftime at Saturday's football game against Texas Tech University in Lubbock despite recent concerns about security at the game.

Due to the incident in 2001 when Red Raider fans tore down a goal post and threw it into Aggie fans in the stands, there was concern about the band's safety.

"The band is definitely going to Texas Tech," said Director of Bands Dr. Timothy Ray.

The decision was finalized during a meeting held Tuesday

between University President Robert M. Gates and other University officials.

Tech has increased its security, and A&M will be traveling with four University police officers for extra security, Ray said.

Ray said many opinionated and verbally negative Tech fans create an unsafe environment.

The incident two years ago was an eye opener due to a lack of respect from Tech, said Ryan Knape, a senior band commander and finance major.

"With beefed up security, I don't think anything will go wrong," Knape said. "We are a disciplined organization and no matter what the circumstances are I believe we will still display that discipline."

Michael Bartle, a senior band member and political science major, said he was surprised by the violence at the Tech game in 2001.

"I remember my sophomore year before we went to Lubbock when people said it would be rowdy, but I never expected anything like them pulling up a goal post and trying to shove it in our fans' stands," Bartle said.

George Martinez, a senior band member and political science major, said the show for this weekend is intense and is one of the hardest shows he has ever been involved in.

"We have high expectations and will be holding ourselves to the highest standards this weekend," he said.

## Oldest Aggie grad Dabney dies at 103

By Lauren Smith  
THE BATTALION

Virgil C. Dabney, who was Texas A&M's oldest graduate, died on Sept. 28 in Kerrville, Texas, at age 103.

Born on Dec. 2, 1899, in Colony (Flatonia), Texas, Dabney, a Corps of Cadets member, graduated from A&M in 1923.

Dabney spent 38 years teaching engineering drawing, machine design, architectural drawing and wood shop at San Jacinto High School in Houston.

In 1965, Dabney and his wife, Katie Mae Wilcox Dabney, left Houston for Bandera County where the couple retired to ranching and farming, according to the Bryan-College Station Eagle. His wife died in 1991, and Dabney continued to farm until age 97.

He helped celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Corps in September 2001 and was honored during halftime of many football games at



FILE PHOTO • THE BATTALION

Virgil Dabney was presented an award during the 125th Anniversary of the Corps of Cadets in 2001.

Kyle Field as the oldest living Aggie.

Dabney is survived by his two sons, Robert C. and Thomas W. Dabney, five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. His sons attended A&M, as well as several of his grandchildren.

Funeral services were held yesterday in Houston. Donations may be made to the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Association Scholarship Program.

## FRESHMAN ELECTION RESULTS

The class of 2007 voted Wednesday and Thursday to elect its class council. Results were announced at midnight Friday.

Class of 2007 President	
CANDIDATES	VOTES
Griffin, Justin W.	70
Johnson, Thomas Kyle	43
Middlebrook, Kathryn Ann	55
Mikeska, Gregory Joel	78
Panter, Adam	106
Prochaska, Conner	333 <b>Runoff</b>
Wells, Kenya	119
Young, Mark Alexander	195 <b>Runoff</b>

Class of 2007 Treasurer	
CANDIDATES	VOTES
Nichols, Corey	420
Patzke, Meghan	507 <b>Winner</b>

Class of 2007 Social Secretary	
CANDIDATES	VOTES
Taylor, Bridgette Ann	210
Thompson, Morgan L.	190
West, Kristen Cherie	488 <b>Winner</b>

Class of 2007 Senator	
CANDIDATES	VOTES
Adami, Blake	285
Berry, Meagan	380 <b>Winner</b>
Brydie, Cory	141
Clayton, David Mardes	265
DeForrest, Ross L.	273
Dixon, Wesley R.	155
Dugat, William	38
Farmer, Andrew	413 <b>Winner</b>
Hollimon, Julie	298 <b>Winner</b>
Nichols, Cory	293 <b>Winner</b>
Piper, Curtis Austin	195

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SOURCE: TEXAS A&M ELECTION COMMISSION UNCERTIFIED RESULTS